

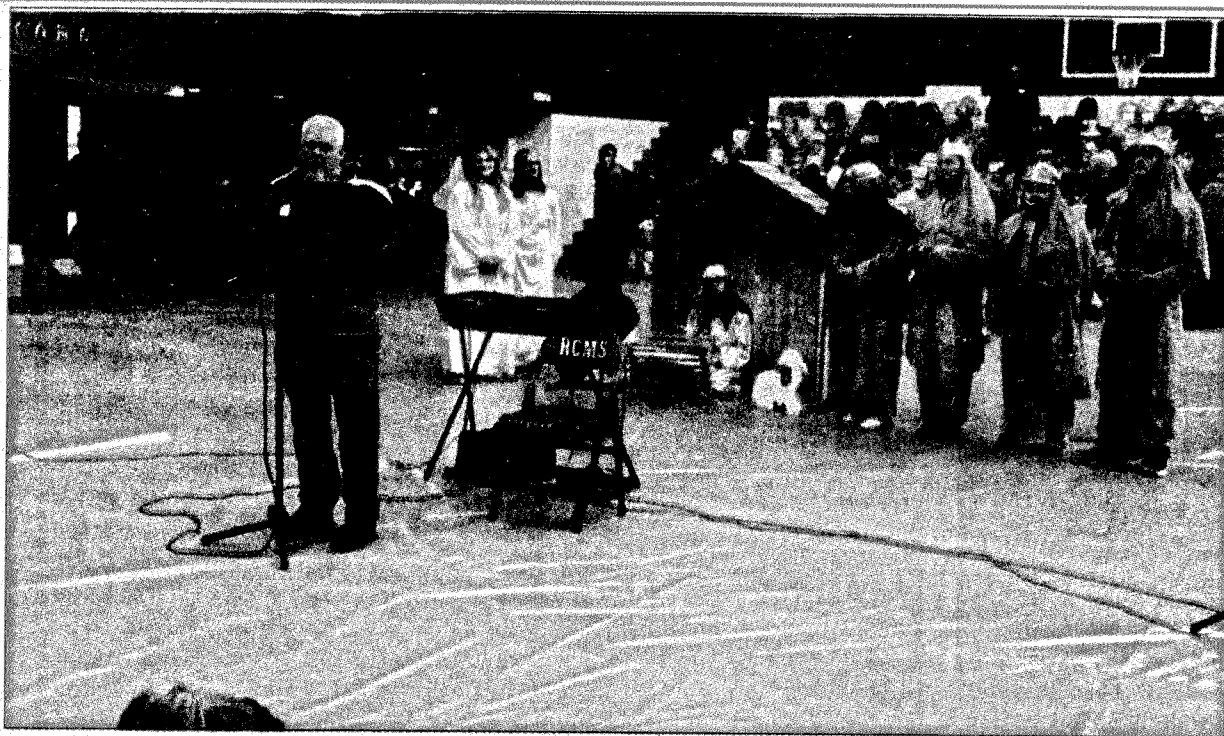
Merry Christmas from our family to yours

Mount Vernon

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Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - (606) 256-2244 Volume 133 • Number 48 • 50 per copy Thursday, December 19, 2019



Dennis Wilder, with First Baptist Church, was one of many who spoke to those in attendance at the annual Give Hope last Saturday at the middle school. The ministry of compassion is sponsored by the Rockcastle Baptist Association and the Community Mission Team and provides children with backpacks, blankets and toys for Christmas.

Inmate is beaten while strapped to chair inside jail

— Former deputy accused

By: Mike French
 Editor

According to a federal indictment, a former Rockcastle County Deputy Jailer is accused of having a local inmate secured to a restraint chair, and then ordering another inmate to assault him while he was restrained.

The indictment says former Deputy Derek Steven Clark is charged with conspiracy, aiding and abetting, deprivation of civil rights, obstruction

of justice and making false statements, after he (See "Beaten" on A10)

No paper next week

The Mount Vernon Signal will not publish a newspaper the week of December 26 in observance of the Christmas holiday. Today, Thursday (December 19) will be the final issue of 2019.

Mount Vernon Council

The Mount Vernon City Council regular monthly meeting will be held tonight, December 19 at 6 p.m. at City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Years ago in history

According to officials, it was about this time next week a child was born in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago. Merry Christmas from the Mount Vernon Signal.

St. Claire History Garden underway

Chamber office coming

By: Mike French
 Editor

The City of Mount Vernon, Rockcastle Development Board, DAR, Chamber of Commerce, Friends of Boone Trace and more have joined hands to create the new St. Claire History Garden.

The new city park on the old St. Claire property is about to be something everyone can be proud of, according to Lynn Tatum, Director of the Rockcastle County Development Board and Manager of Vitalize Mount Vernon.

The property is seen by nearly everyone who travels through Mount Vernon and had become run down and, according to Tatum, the city had been trying to purchase the property.

Sheriff's Report

The Rockcastle County Sheriff's office has released their monthly action report. According to Sheriff Shannon Franklin, his office received 400 total calls in November.

Of those calls, 18 were resident alarms and seven were commercial alarms.

There were 28 total arrests in November, five of which were traffic arrests and seven were criminal felony arrests.

There were also 10 criminal misdemeanor arrests.

then sold the property to the City of Mount Vernon for a mere \$20,000, about a quarter of the asking price, and Tatum immediately started putting to-

gether ideas for the use of the property. "The city didn't have an immediate need at the time so we began thinking of the best way to use the property,"

she said. "We needed an area to be proud of and to represent our community."

After many meetings and discussions, all those involved decided upon the St. Claire History Garden which will serve as a tourist stop and destination for anyone traveling through the area.

According to Tatum

the area will now fill several needs the city has had for quite some time. One of those needs is a new Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce office.

"Most cities have a chamber office but we didn't have one," said Tatum. "Once the building is finished it will house a Vi-

(See "Garden" on A10)

Shop with a Lion is rewarding for more than kids

By: Mike French
 Editor

"This is a wonderful chance to make a positive difference in people's lives and that's the whole reason so many people work so hard to make this happen," said Rockcastle County Sheriff Shannon Franklin about the "Shop with a Lion" Program. "Smiles were everywhere we looked."

Last Saturday, the Shop with a Lion event took 18 young people from Rockcastle County to the Mount Vernon Pizza Hut and then to Wal Mart in Berea on a Christmas shopping spree.

The youngsters get to travel with a police officer and pick out their own Christmas gift and each year many law enforcement officials say it is their favorite part of their job.

"Our deputies, Mount Vernon Police officers, Our sheriff's department personnel and their families joined hands with the Lions Club and the entire community and had a

wonderful day," said Franklin.

As always, officials say some of those selected for the event may not have had a Christmas celebration at home and this program not only reinforces the relationship between law enforcement and the community, but it

(See "Lion" on A10)

Drive sober or get pulled over campaign underway here also

By: Mike French
 Editor

Rockcastle County Sheriff Shannon Franklin and his deputies are taking part in the national campaign against drunk

drivers.

"Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" is a national campaign established to lower the number of deaths per year due to

(See "Drive" on A10)



Four people were injured and taken to the Berea Hospital after a two vehicle crash near the Rockcastle County/Jackson County line Sunday. (Photo courtesy of Dougie Jones of the Lily Fire Department.)

Four injured in two car crash at the county line

On Sunday, December 15, the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Dept. was called to investigate an injury accident that occurred on Hwy 421 (Big Hill) on the Rockcastle/Jackson line.

Upon officer's arrival it was determined that a Green 1996 Ford Explorer, driven by Patsy L Stone of McKee, had been traveling North on US 421 and had pulled off on the North shoulder of the road.

The Explorer then attempted to make a u-turn from the shoulder and turned into the path of a northbound 2015 Chevrolet Equinox driven by Caitlin M. Schoen of Tyner.

This impact caused the Equinox to roll completely over and end up back in the upright position.

The driver of the Explorer had to be extracted from

(See "Crash" on A10)

KBC needs blood for winter

A blood drive will be held Tuesday, January 7 from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium of the First Baptist Church at 340 West Main Street in Mount Vernon.

Donors will receive a KBC hoodie to help keep warm this winter.

Officials with KBC say donations decrease each year at this time but the need for blood usually increases.

All who are willing are urged to give.

Of Special Note Inside

- Viewpoints Pg. A2
- Church News Pg. A8
- Obituaries Pg. A4

Contact us at: mvsignal@windstream.net
 Deadline submission is Noon Tuesday

- Courthouse News Pg. B2
- Sports Pg. A6
- Classifieds Pgs. B7&8

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ramblings...

by: perlina m. anderkin

Another Christmas season has rolled around, way too quickly for my taste. By my accounting, it's my 53rd chance to wish our readers a *Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year*.

It's also a bittersweet time. The grief over the loss of loved ones seems to be more pronounced during the holiday season particularly with the memories of past Christmases coming to the forefront.

But, the continued growth of our family, granddaughter Megan just announced that she will produce my fifth great this summer, is always something to be so thankful for and to celebrate.

It was a busy happy weekend last week when granddaughter Alaina and Brad Taylor tied the knot. The whole family gathered for the occasion and a good time was had by all. Thankfully, I am at an

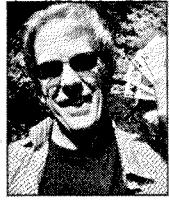
age when my only duty to these occasions is to show up when and where I'm told to and usually someone is delegated to make sure that happens.

I don't know the political affiliation of all of my extended family -- I know what I hope it is -- but mainly I hope they realize how important family is, right behind God. I have noticed that politicians tend to put the order as God, country, family but I feel that a strong

(Continued on A3)

Aces Over

By: Mike French



Excitement filled the air. The room, covered in old wallpaper, was cold enough to freeze water in the cup beside the bed. But the boy was toasty warm under his mother's handmade quilts.

Cracks in the wooden walls allowed tiny points of air to whistle through so the boy's toes had to stay under the quilts all night.

But on this morning, in his long underwear, he leaped from the bed and

ran to the living room and got next to the wood burning stove. Crumpled into a ball with his arms folded to preserve heat, he sat next to the old stove as his brothers and sisters made their way into the same room. Each one by one, they huddled next to the stove which was next to the Christmas Tree.

Finally, all were present as the old stand-up radio played holiday songs and the old man

(Continued on A5)

Points East

By Ike Adams



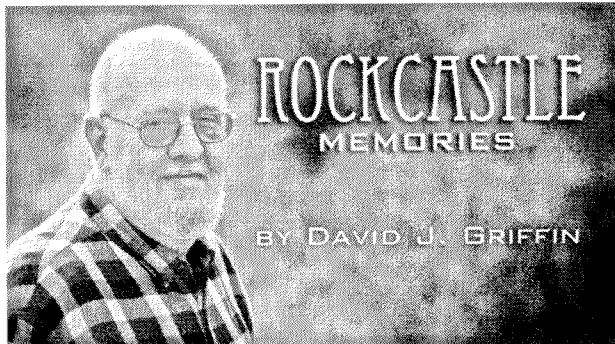
One of the biggest problems with writing a weekly newspaper column, for nearly forty years in a row now, is that I sometimes write, again, about the same old memories from long ago. The problem is that I have numerous readers who have been reading this column for as long as I've been writing it.

I'd rather not get into specific instances, but a few astute readers have

told me, over the years, that I'd just told the same story, in a current column, that I'd used several years ago, in a previous article. Then they told me that my facts had changed from one story to the next.

I simply tell these readers that my memory is a lot like good whiskey. The older it gets, the better it's supposed to be. Of course, it has been so

(Continued on A3)



Memorable Italian Fare

One of my favorite hangouts as a teenager was a spot called Little Mama's, which served

something listed on the menu as "pizza pie." Little did I know that this new dish would become one of my preferred adult meals.

Bertha Fish was the owner's name, but everyone called her Frau. Understand that this was my first time to taste what was purportedly real Italian food. The only pies that I had ever encountered were for dessert. This new item was filled with meat, tomato sauce, spices, and cheese covering a thin pie crust. It was something very unusual for teenagers from Rockcastle County. We were hooked! From that point on, droves of us piled into our cars and spent our weekend nights with "Little Mama" in nearby Berea.

(Continued on A3)

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AND A HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



FROM THE PHYSICIANS, PROVIDERS AND STAFF OF



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T.J.'s Journal
By: Tonya J. Cook



The Vanishing Landline

Dear Journal,

The old landlines of yesterday had a very distinctive ring. Too bad the newer generations will never hear it. I remember when I was a kid, you would have to listen to see if anyone else was on the line before you started to dial. It was known as a party line. Some lines had up to four or five houses on it. It was just force of habit to listen. People got mad if you dialed over them. I occasionally listen before dialing even now. A phone in the house was considered a luxury for many. A small community may not have had over three or four phones. It was common to leave a number where you could be reached and if your neighbor felt like it, they would bring a message to you. Between eavesdropping and messengers, the community knew your business as

much as you did. Back then, most people didn't have much to hide so they didn't care. Our family had a phone and you had to be a certain age to answer it. Sometimes I'd sneak and call the operator just for company.

I'll bet the younger generation doesn't know what an operator is...or directory assistance, for that matter. You had to know when the long distance rates changed and ask for a three minute call if you wanted one. You learned to put a lot of words into three minutes. Then, there was the person-to-person call, but that is another story. In other words, you had to know the "ropes".

By the time I was in my twenties or thirties, they came out with all of the "star" stuff. You could block certain numbers, have call forwarding and about a dozen more by pushing "star" and two numbers. I wonder if they

still have that feature on landlines. That was the smartphone of the day. When I would go out for a bit and come back home, it would ask, "Who are you and what do you want?"

A few years ago Stanley bought me one of those new phones with all of the features. After hearing the sales pitch and all of the things it could do, I got the salesman's goat. I asked him if you could make and receive a call on it. People are always calling me on it. Unless I'm away from the house, it probably isn't even turned on. I should have recorded, "I have a wonderful operational landline at home and if you would call it, I'm at home and will speak to you".

Stanley showed me an article telling that most homes don't have a landline anymore. You know that you will eventually need one. When you lose your cell phone, you'll have to call the cell to find it. Where we live the signal is poor at best. In order to make a call without being dropped, you have to go outside, climb way up in a tree, stand on your head and hold your mouth just right. That is only on a Tuesday afternoon after two.

"Memories"

(Cont. from A2)

The food at Little Mama's was simply outstanding. We were not accustomed to real Italian food, and we could not get our fill. The place became so popular that on Saturday nights you had better arrive either very early or very late. Teenagers kept the road hot between Mt. Vernon and Berea.

On nights when we were financially strapped, we ordered her awesome bread sticks with that fabulous garlic butter. All of this was completely novel to us at the time. Because we had discovered the place, we considered it ours. We had found a spot that was fresh and contemporary. What else could we need: pizza pie, cokes, music, and "Little Mama" to watch over us?

Recently, my wife and I moved to Mt. Sterling and have rediscovered a restaurant that we once frequented. It, too, is an authentic Italian dining establishment. The name of the place is Melini Cucina.

The description of the business listed on-line is as follows: "Melini Cucina Italian Restaurant is a family owned restaurant that has been serving for over ten years. The Italian restaurant started out in Grayson, KY and branched out into three other locations: Morehead, KY; Mount Sterling, KY; and Ironton, OH. We provide our guests with an authentic Italian dining experience. We serve everything from Pasta, Pizza, Calzones, to Soup and Salads."

Not only does the establishment provide awesome Italian fare, the ambiance is warm and cozy. My wife and I both love one of their special dishes called Gamberi Scampi. The menu describes the meal as: "Shrimp with fresh garlic in a traditional scampi sauce of lemon, butter, and white wine." Because it is real Italian, you have the choice of several types of pasta. We emphatically prefer the "Angel Hair" pasta for this particular dish. It is served with the most wonderful Italian bread sticks and Mariana sauce, a great salad, and homemade dressings.

As a couple, we have already made this our choice of restaurant for a date. In other words, we will be frequenting this establishment for what we consider to be special occasions—even if they are only special to us. We are always more than satisfied when we leave, and we have never had a disappointing meal at Melini Cucina.

In spite of the fact that my wife is not exactly a fan of Italian cuisine, I will never have any difficulty getting her to Melini Cucina—and I will be taking full advantage of the many tasty dishes that they offer. That, of course, will include one of those "pizza pies" that I learned to love so long ago.

Please Note: My address has changed and is 30 Johnson Avenue - Mt. Sterling, KY 40353. You can still reach me at themtnman@att.net also. I appreciate your comments and suggestions.

"Points East"

(Cont. from A2)

long since I've tasted any whiskey that I wouldn't swear to that. Not that I have anything against whiskey other than I'm not supposed to drink it with most of the medicines I have to take two or three times every day.

Anyway, if you are among the readers who remember a previously told "Letters to Santa" story in this space, please don't get upset if my memory has improved in the one I'm about to tell.

When I was growing up, at Blair Branch Grade school in Letcher County, during the 1950s, one of the favorite Christmas Season activities, for us kids, was rushing home, after school let out, and turning on the radio to see if our letters to Santa were going to be read "on the air".

Of the thirty-something households with school-age kids on Blair Branch, in those days, the number with televisions could have been counted on the fingers of one hand and two or three digits would have been left over. Our only form of electronic entertainment was the family radio and it had limited capabilities. During daylight hours we were limited to fewer than half a dozen stations we could actually hear and, on Blair Branch, the only reliable, day-time station was WTCW, the 500 watts broadcaster in Whitesburg.

Every afternoon, between 4:00 and 5:00 pm,

starting the week after Thanksgiving until Christmas Eve, announcers would read "Letters to Santa". Anyone who mailed a letter, addressed to the station, in care of Santa Claus at The North Pole, had a chance of getting their Christmas wishes read to anyone everyone tuned in to the station.

A postage stamp only cost three cents, throughout my first three years of school, but the population of Letcher County, at that point in time, was over 35,000. The population of Santa soliciting grade school kids was far too large for all the letters to get read on the air, but we were assured that they would all get to The North Pole, regardless of any potential radio notoriety.

A, now deceased, WTCW radio personality once told me the station received over 1,000 Santa letters every year but they only got to read about one fourth of them.

Some of us letter senders quickly discovered that if we promised to leave the jolly old elf a bottle of RC and a big Moon Pie, under the tree, our chances for getting our letters read on the air. Royal Crown Cola Bottling Company and Kerns Bread, the Moon Pie distributor, sponsored the one-hour program. Plugging both companies, in our letters, was simply good for business.

RC also bottled Upper Ten, Nehi and Diet Rite Colas. It was not unusual for letter writers to leave all four brands under the tree. I recall mentioning that I'd heard Mrs. Claus was trying to lose weight and was leaving a 16 ounce bottle of Diet Rite for Santa to take home for her.

That letter got read, but to this day, I still don't understand why anybody ever tried to drink more than one serving of Diet Rite Cola.

Finally, if this column differs much from previous ones, about letters to Santa, I promise you that I have not been sampling from the whiskey jug. My memory is simply evolving.

ramblings...

(Cont. from A2)

family unit is essential to a strong country.

Anyway, if I continue in this vein much longer I will get terribly maudlin and depressed and I'm getting enough of those sensations simply by the sound bites from the Democrats determination

to rend this country asunder with their foolish persecution of our President masked in their "No one is above the law" rhetoric. Of course, they never add except for Hillary Clinton, Joe Biden, Jim Comey, etc.

I was watching a news report last night of a homeless man going into a grocery store in San Francisco, getting a roll of toilet paper and defecating in a food aisle, "in front of God and everybody" as my mom used to say when she was particularly outraged by someone's conduct.

It seems that House Leader Nancy Pelosi, in whose San Francisco district this occurred, might better spend her time in trying to guarantee a reasonable quality of life to her constituents in that area than in trying, ever since he went into office, to bring down a sitting President.

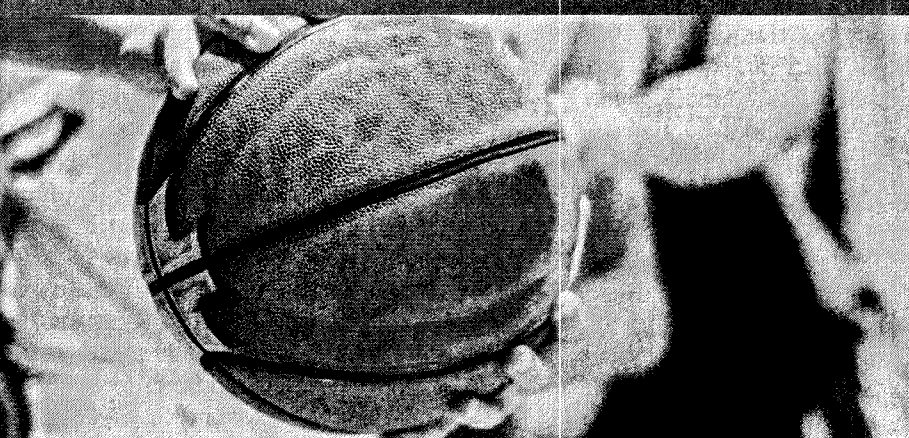
You would think that recent polls which have shown that President Trump has been gaining in popularity since these impeachment proceedings started would have some effect on their actions but evidently they are too blinded by their anger at Trump's insistence on bringing the corruption of our political system to light.

I, personally, would love to see the list of congressmen who used taxpayer money to pay off sexual harassment complaints released. If there are Republicans on it, which there probably are since I don't see any of them demanding the release of the names, then so be it. This is an outrage and should be one of the first "perks" for congress exposed and done away with.

I have gotten a long way away from what I intended to do originally which was to thank our readers for their loyalty through the years and to promise that we will continue to provide the news of our county -- and my unsolicited opinion on many subjects. And, for those of you who usually don't agree with my opinion, there's even a silver lining there -- I turned 78 in November and you probably won't be subjected to them much longer (how's that for a guilt trip?).

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Bookmobile Schedule
Mon., Dec. 23rd: Spiro, Level Green, Willailla, Ottawa, Bee Lick, Hwy. 3245 and Bryant Ridge. No service the remainder of the week.
Extension Service Holiday Hours
The Rockcastle County Extension Service will be closed December 23rd through January 1st and will reopen January 2nd, 2020.
Holiday Schedule for Circuit Clerk's Office
Circuit Court Clerk Eliza York-Hansel has released the following Holiday schedule for her office. Closed December 24th and 25th. Closed December 31st and January 1st. No permit or driver testing, due to training, on January 2nd, 2020.
Celebrate Sobriety Service
CrossPoint Church of God will host a monthly Celebrate Sobriety Service on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. We are located at 211 Industrial Park Road (across from the high school) in Mt. Vernon, KY. Call 859-582-2553 with any questions.
Chamber of Commerce Meetings
The Rockcastle County Chamber of Commerce meets once a month, on the third Tuesday, at noon at Limestone Grille. All members are encouraged to attend.
VFW Post Item
VFW Post 5908 at Lake Linville welcomes all members and is also looking for new and associate members. New hours are: Wed. - Sat., 5 p.m. to ? Call 606-386-1490 for more information.
Rockcastle County Recovery Meetings
Monday-Celebrate Recovery-Brodhead: Community Outreach Center, 6 to 8 p.m. Leaders: Nathan DeLeon 859-230-9590/Kathryn Pope 606-308-3099.
Tuesday-Celebrate Recovery-Mt. Vernon - Northside Baptist Church, 606-256-5577 Tuesday, 6 to 8 p.m. •••Please call by 4 p.m. if you need a ride in the church van.
Wednesday-Celebrate Recovery Step Studies. Men Only, Northside Baptist, 606-256-5577, Wednesday, 7 p.m. Men Only. Small group.
Thursday-Celebrate Recovery-Step Studies - Women Only. Community Outreach Center, Brodhead, Thursday, 6 p.m. Leader: Kathryn Pope, 606-308-3099. AA Meeting, 8 to 9 p.m. Men and Women, everyone welcome!
Friday-Celebrate Recovery-Livingston School Cafe, Leader: J.R. Cornelius, 859-314-7828. Friday, 6 to 8 p.m.
DAR Meetings
The Rockcastle Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution meets the first Monday of each month, September-May at 6 p.m. at First Christian Church in Mt. Vernon. All prospective members are welcome to attend.
Brodhead Lodge Meeting
The Brodhead Masonic Lodge #566 meets every third Saturday at 7 p.m. on Main Street in Brodhead above Brodhead Pharmacy.
Alcoholics Anonymous
Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon.
Kiwanis Club Meetings
The Rockcastle Kiwanis Club meets every Thursday at noon at the Limestone Grill. Everyone is invited.
American Legion Post 71
American Legion Post 71 meets the second Thursday at 6 p.m. of each month at the Limestone Grill. Commander Rick Bobo (308-2271) invites all Rockcastle veterans to join this organization that honors American soldiers, sailors and airmen.

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Obituaries

Glenna Margaret Coffey

Glenna Margaret Coffey, 90, of Mt. Vernon, passed away on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at Hospice of Cumberland Nursing & Rehab in Somerset. 2 Corinthians 5:8 "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord" became joyous reality for Margaret.

Margaret was born to Joe William and Louanna Stokes Cromer and graduated from Mt. Vernon High School. She was a lifelong servant of the Lord and a member of Cornerstone Church of Mt. Vernon where she was the secretary for many years. Margaret enjoyed church, her family, sewing, crocheting and quilting. She was a homemaker and a retired employee of Hiatt's 5 & 10 in Mt. Vernon.



On June 10, 1950, she married Henry Josh Coffey. They were married for 64 years and from that union came two children.

Survivors include: a daughter Janice I. (Roger) VanZant of Mt. Vernon; a son, Dr. Henry Dale (Phyllis) Coffey of Burnside; two grandchildren, Morgan Blair (Dustin) Poynter of Burnside and Austin Madison (Erin) Coffey; two great granddaughters, Amelia Rose and Sophia Marie of Ward, Colorado; one brother, Gary Ray (Janie) Cromer of Mt. Vernon and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Henry Josh Coffey; one sister, Christine Coffey and three brothers, Robert, Jack and infant brother Billy Cromer.

Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 13 at Dowell and Martin Funeral Home with Addison Atkin and Tom Atkin officiating. Burial followed in Elmwood Cemetery in Mt. Vernon.

Pallbearers were: Austin Coffey, Jessie Ray Coffey, Todd Cromer, Jackson Cromer, Bryson Atkin and Dustin Poynter.

Joel Deatherage

Joel Deatherage, 37, of Mt. Vernon, died Monday, December 9, 2019 at his home. He was born December 25, 1981 in Somerset, the son of Joe and Phyllis Bishop Deatherage of Mt. Vernon. He was a bridge builder, enjoyed hunting, fishing, wood-working, and was a member of the First Baptist Church. He loved football and was #56 for the Rockets.



Survivors besides his parents are: his wife, Bethany Clark Deatherage; two sons, Aaron Thomas Deatherage, and Hayden Deatherage; two daughters, Ava and Anabealla Deatherage; and one brother, Lee Deatherage, and (Ashley), all of Mt. Vernon.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday December 14, 2019 at Cox Funeral Home with Bro. Chad Burdette and Bro. Zandell Hasty officiating. Burial was in Hansel Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Jeremy Adams, Jake Childress, Matt McClure, Matt Renner, Mickey Lee McClure and Wesley Fain.

Honorary pallbearers were: David Lynn King, Coman Deatherage, Jonas Adams, Barry McClure, Kyle Hayes, Matthew Hayes, Tommy Bussell, Doug Phillips, Chayse McClure, Brandon Chase and Faith Burdette.

View the complete obituary, sign the guest registry, or send condolences to the family online at www.coxfuneralhomeky.com.

John Henry Jones

John Henry Jones, 89, of Orlando, died Saturday, December 14, 2019 at his home. He was born in Clay County on January 11, 1930, the son of Gilbert and Edna Griffint Jones. He was a retired carpenter for Sadler & Wiseman Homes.

He is survived by: two daughters, Carol Watterman of Lexington, and Teresa Hobbs of Danville; and two brothers, Tommy Jones and Bobby Jones, both of Indiana. Four grandchildren and six great grandchildren also survive. He was preceded in death by: his wife, Marie Jones; a daughter, Phyllis Salyer; a son, Ricky Jones; three brothers; and four sisters.

Per family request, there were no funeral services. Interment was in Bluegrass Memorial Gardens.

Dowell & Martin Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Please visit www.DowellMartin.com or Dowell & Martin Funeral Home's Facebook page to view Mr. Jones' online obituary.

VFW Christmas awards and special dinner

All military personnel (prior service or currently serving), all first responders and family members are invited to a Christmas dinner at VFW Memorial Post 5908 on Saturday, December 21 from 3 to 5 p.m. The event will be held at the post's facility at 32 Mt. Zion Road, Mt. Vernon.

Those businesses and individuals in Rockcastle County, who have made it possible for the VFW to be here and give back to our community, will also be honored during the event.

If anyone would like to bring a favorite dish, that will be fine but is definitely not required.

Rita Jone Harris Cash

Rita Jone Harris Cash, 84, of Brodhead, died Friday, December 13, 2019 at the Hospice Care Plus Compassionate Care Center of Richmond. She was born



October 2, 1935 in Spiro, a daughter of the late John E. Harris and Edith Jones Harris. She was a member of the Providence Church of Christ, was a loving and devoted mother and grandmother, who found great enjoyment in her family. She will be most remembered from her 30+ years serving her many customers who visited Brodhead

Hardware. She also served as her daughter's Girl Scout Troop Leader and she loved her church family.

Those left to celebrate her life are: her daughters, Allison Elaine Cash (Roger) Reynolds of Brodhead, Lorrie Anne Cash (Steve) Parker of Lexington; grandchildren, Jason Dale (Ashley) Reynolds of Mt. Vernon, and Loren Elaine Reynolds (Matt) Maples of Brodhead; one great grandchild, Trinity Grace Reynolds; three sisters, Katherine Bradley of Brodhead, Jennie (Jackie) Payne of Mt. Vernon and Judy Carter of Lexington; one sister-in-law, Mabel Cash of Brodhead; and a host of nieces/nephews, friends and neighbors.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by: her husband, David Franklin Cash; and three brothers-in-law, Jackie Cash, Frank Bradley and Floyd Carter, Jr.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at the Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals Chapel with Robbie Cable and Danny McKibben officiating. Burial was in Providence Cemetery.

Casketbearers were: Jason Reynolds, Matt Maples, Dennis Harris, Shannon Cash, John Payne and Kevin Fletcher.

Honorary casketbearers were: Dean Jones, Larry Harris, Paul Cash and Gene Roach.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice Care Plus Compassionate Care Center of Richmond, KY.

Condolences to the family may be made at www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com

Tommie Horace Thompson

Tommie Horace Thompson, 74, of Tyner, died Sunday, December 15, 2019 at Veterans Hospice Facility in Lexington. He was born in West Palm Beach, FL on September 21, 1945, the son of Tommie Watson and Lillie Mae Hutchison Thompson.

He served in the US Army for over 22 years with two tours in Vietnam. He enjoyed horse-back riding along with raising cattle and German Shepherds. His volunteer service to the Kent County Youth Fair in Lowell, MI was a great joy to him. He will always be remembered for being straightforward with his opinion, his direct view of politics, storytelling, and his great sense of humor. Tommie will be greatly missed by family and friends.

He is survived by: his wife of 40 years, Doris "Cricket"; two daughters, Cheryl (Ted) Goins of Salisbury, NC, and Stacey (Cail) Towns of Ft. Bragg, NC; two sons, Mark (Teresa) Thompson of Hamlet, NC, and Bobby John Thompson of Breckenridge, CO; and two sisters, Carolyn (Johnny) Felme and Patricia Russom. Six grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews, also survive. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, December 20, 2019 at 11 a.m. at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home Chapel by Bros. David Wilson, Travis Gilbert, and Jeremy Ellis. Burial will follow in Camp Nelson National Cemetery in Nicholasville.

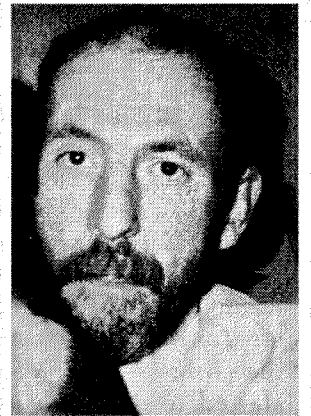
Friends may call at Dowell & Martin Funeral Home after 10 a.m. Friday.

Please visit www.DowellMartin.com or Dowell & Martin Funeral Home's Facebook page to view online obituary.

Doyle Eldon Allen

Doyle Eldon Allen, 55, of Riverside, Ohio, passed away Monday, December 9, 2019. He was born April 17, 1964 in Dayton, Ohio to Jesse and Freeda Allen.

Doyle loved his family and his dog, Windsor. He was loving, caring and would literally give the shirt off his back for anyone. He always wanted to help people and there wasn't anything he wouldn't do for anyone. It was important to Doyle to put smiles on people's faces by joking and laughing with them. He was a good cook and enjoyed hunting, fishing and spending time outdoors. He is loved and will be missed by many.



He was preceded in death by his mother, Freeda and nephew, James Michael Allen. Survivors are his father, Jesse (Romy) Allen; his brother, James (Terri) Allen; a sister, Unavee (Darla) Allen; nephews Isaac, Tommy and Aaron; great nieces and nephew, Kylie, Kaylie, Kenzie, Kyle, Alexia, Natalie, Makenzie, Lauren, Alexandria, Jenna, Gabriella; aunts, Lola Shelton and Jean Henson and uncle Arley Allen.

Kathy Sue Ramey

Kathy Sue Ramey, 59, of Crab Orchard, died Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at Ephraim McDowell Regional Hospital in Danville. She was



the wife of Michael J Ramey, whom she married on January 2, 1987. She was born in Indianapolis, IN on February 13, 1960. She was the daughter of the late Floyd and Joyce Faye (Burton) Payne. She was the former owner and operator of The Past Time Cafe in Crab Orchard and previously worked at Palm

Beach and Red Wing.

Survivors include: her husband of 32 years, Mike Ramey of Crab Orchard; a daughter, Katrina (Todd) Salyers of Stanford; a son, Chris Ramey and companion Tiffany of Charleston, SC; a step son, Bryn (Jolene) Ramey of London; three grandchildren, Zachary Salyers and Dustin and Devin Ramey; sisters, Deborah (Buddy) Adams of Crab Orchard and Connie (Mark) Denny of Brodhead; and a brother, Ricky (Marilyn) Payne of Crab Orchard.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Tonya Marlene Payne.

Funeral services were held Saturday, December 14, 2019 at McKnight Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Randall Adams officiating. Burial was in Crab Orchard Cemetery.

Merry CHRISTMAS

From the Families and Staff of Dowell and Martin Funeral Home and Sparks Flowers & More

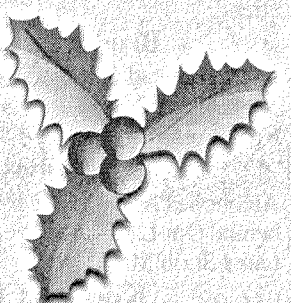
we would like to wish you and yours a very blessed Christmas and thank you for your continued trust and confidence.



Roy and Pamela Martin
Steve Martin

Dowell & MARTIN Funeral Home

Sparks Flowers & More



West Main St.
Mt. Vernon
606-256-2991
606-256-2485

Summer programs for middle and high school

The Center for Rural Development is accepting online applications for its 2020 Rogers Scholars, Rogers Explorers, and Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute (ELI) summer youth leadership programs for students in grades 8-11.

"Each of our youth leadership programs gives students a chance to build their skills and become the best they can be in school and in life," said Lonnie Lawson, President and CEO of The Center for Rural Development. "These young people are our future leaders and entrepreneurs and our hope for a better tomorrow. Each program also instills in students a commitment to service and dedication to serve others."

Rogers Scholars:
Deadline to apply Jan. 24, 2020

Rogers Explorers—The Center's flagship youth program—is open to rising juniors in Southern and Eastern Kentucky. The program provides valuable leadership skills and exclusive college scholarship opportunities to help students realize their potential as the region's next generation of business and entrepreneurial leaders. Students apply during their sophomore year.

If selected, students will attend camp in one of two locations—Lindsey Wilson College in Co-

lumbia, KY, or Morehead State University in Morehead, KY.

Rogers Explorers –
Deadline to apply is Feb. 7, 2020

The Rogers Explorers program is an intensive three-day, two-night program for rising ninth graders that focuses on cultivating skills in leadership, technology, math, science, and community service.

Rogers Explorers is developed, coordinated, and supervised by The Center in partnership with the University of the Cumberlands, Lindsey Wilson College, Eastern Kentucky University, Asbury University, Morehead State University, University of Pikeville, and Union College.

Students apply when they are in the eighth grade and attend before the start of their freshman year. Rogers Explorers learn what it is like to live and study on a Kentucky college campus. They actively participate in practical college courses, fine-tune leadership skills, and develop a network of friends and resources throughout Southern and Eastern Kentucky.

Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute (ELI):
Deadline to apply is March 6, 2020

The purpose of ELI is to develop future business leaders and entrepreneurs in Southern and Eastern

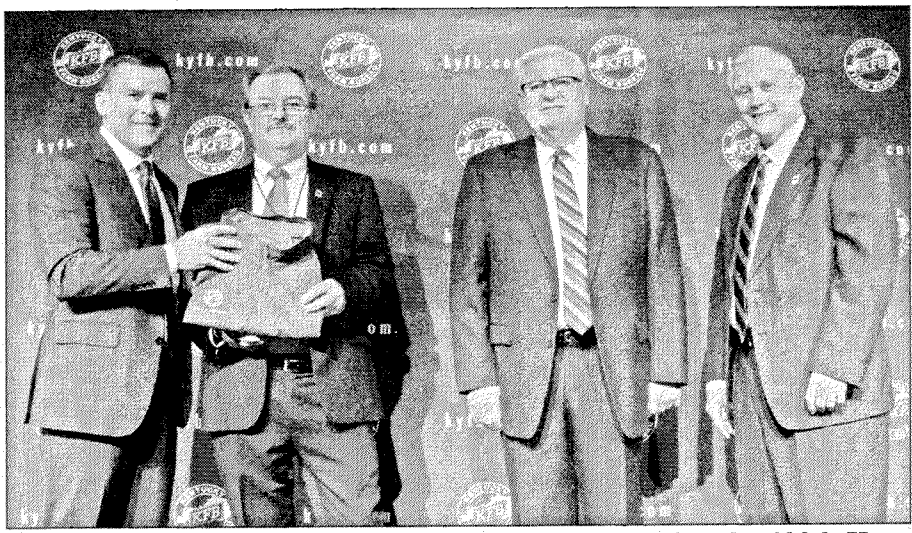
Kentucky.

ELI, a one-week summer leadership camp, is open to high school freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. Participants are encouraged to develop their creativity, work as a team, and build their business and leadership skills.

The Institute is developed, coordinated, and supervised by The Center and held at its facility in Somerset, KY. ELI will conclude with a team business concept competition and the chance to compete for a college scholarship.

To apply for Rogers Scholars, Rogers Explorers, or ELI, visit www.centeryouthprograms.com. For questions or more information, call Allison Cross at 606-677-6000 or email amail@centertech.com.

The Center's youth programs are offered at no cost to students in the following counties: Adair, Bath, Bell, Boyd, Breathitt, Carter, Casey, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Elliott, Estill, Floyd, Garrard, Green, Harlan, Jackson, Jessamine, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Lincoln, Magoffin, Martin, McCreary, Menifee, Metcalfe, Monroe, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Rowan, Russell, Taylor, Wayne, Whitley, and Wolfe.



Rockcastle County Farm Bureau was recognized during the 100th Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) annual meeting in Louisville for its outstanding membership and program achievement in 2019. The award honors county Farm Bureau offices who meet the company's profitability requirements and whose insurance policy growth meets or exceeds its annual growth goal. Terry Lawson, President of Rockcastle County Farm Bureau (center left), accepts the award from John Sparrow, Executive Vice President and CEO of KFB Insurance (left), Mark Haney, President of Kentucky Farm Bureau (center right), and Drew Graham, Executive Vice President of the KFB Federation (right), during a Dec. 6 recognition and awards program.

"Aces"

(Cont. from A2)

said something like "okay, go ahead." All of them leaped up from the warmth to rip their stockings off the wall behind the stove. Sitting back on the floor in their pajamas, each of them reached into the stocking for the annual orange, apple, handful of walnuts and candy cane.

Oh the joy they felt. Oranges were quite the treat and the idea of a candy cane was indescribable to them. It was so rare that sweet sugar filled their palates but every Christmas that was their gifts.

Sometimes, my dad would share his candy cane with his younger brothers or sisters. But in those days, they shared most everything. What one needed, the other found. What one wanted, the other gave.

They would nurture that candy cane like it was the only one they would get. Because it was, until next Christmas.

When I was a young lad I got such things as electric race tracks, bicycles, even motorcycles. in my later years. But to them, that candy cane and orange were just as special as my big, shiny new bicycle was to me.

How they must have enjoyed those rare treats.

I'm not sure when things changed and Christmas became the marketing tool that it is today. It must have been right in that generation. About 50 years ago it seems.

Life went from appreciating the small things that were rare, to taking for granted the big things that were expected.

Somehow we moved from appreciation to expectation. From celebrating Jesus to targeted markets. From somber and grateful fellowship

to ribbons and bows. From bowed heads in thankfulness to tinsel and trinkets.

I think it started about the time television reached every home in America and marketing companies discovered that telling people they aren't a good parent unless they buy their child a certain toy, actually worked.

At that point, we became more involved in the hooplah and keeping up with the Jones than we were with the spirit of the event.

Me too. I'm one of them. One of the Jolly Old Consumers resting in a memory foam mattress who barely acknowledges the straw and swaddling clothes in the manger.

I've done what I had to do again this year. Under my tree, my kids all have the biggest and best of what they wanted. Mostly thanks to mom's help. I tried to remember my friends and get something that seems as though I am a thoughtful person.

My tree is decorated, lights adorn my porch, and a feast is being prepared.

Here's hoping that this year, as we rush to our presents on Christmas morning, in our warm and comfortable home, with our bellies full, that we reach out towards each other as much as we reach for the gifts.

And here's hoping whatever you open, means as much as a fresh orange did to my dad. Not because of which store it came from, but because of which heart it came from.

But my biggest Christmas wish is just this. After the tinsel is taken down and the lights are turned off, and all the ribbons and bows are put away until next year, May we all continue to share our candy cane.

The
Mount Vernon
Signal office
will be closed
December
20-27 in
observance
of the
holidays



and many thanks to our good friends,
everywhere!

Happy Holidays from everyone at

Mt. Vernon Drug

Richmond St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-3447



From left: Andrew Nelson, Amanda Mastin, Margaret Crabtree, Charlotte Hansel, Savannah Bullock, Melissa Slone, Samantha Bullock, Kendall Kilbourne.

Not pictured: Lisa McClure



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Quid Pro Quo?...

Dear Editor,

I am told the new governor promised each teacher a \$2,000 dollar pay raise if they would vote him into office. Look out!!!

Remember, one week before the election, I said we should have a primary opponent for Mr. Brenda. We now have a good one. Get behind and help elect a good leader in Josh Bray. He's from a good family.

Bob Lunsford

SPORTS

Lady Rockets are now 5-0

The Lady Rockets are undefeated thus far this season beating the Somerset Lady Briarjumpers last Friday night 52-37 and the Boyle County Lady Rebels 68-46 Tuesday night.

In the Somerset game, the Lady Rockets jumped out to an early 11-4 lead at the end of the first quarter and were ahead 23-11 at the half. The Lady Rockets were up 34-24 at the end of the third quarter, and had stretched the lead to 14 points in the fourth quarter when the Lady Briarjumpers went on a scoring run and cut the Rockets lead to three points. However, the Lady Rockets survived that reality check and won 52-37.

Freshman Keelee King led the scoring for her team with 13 points; senior Shelby Newland got 10; junior Casey Coleman and senior Kenzi Himes each scored eight points; freshman Hallie Brown got six points; junior Lindsey Jones scored five and junior Aliyah Lopez scored two points.

Against Boyle County Tuesday night, the Lady Rockets once again got off to a great start, leading the Lady Rebels 19-12 at the end

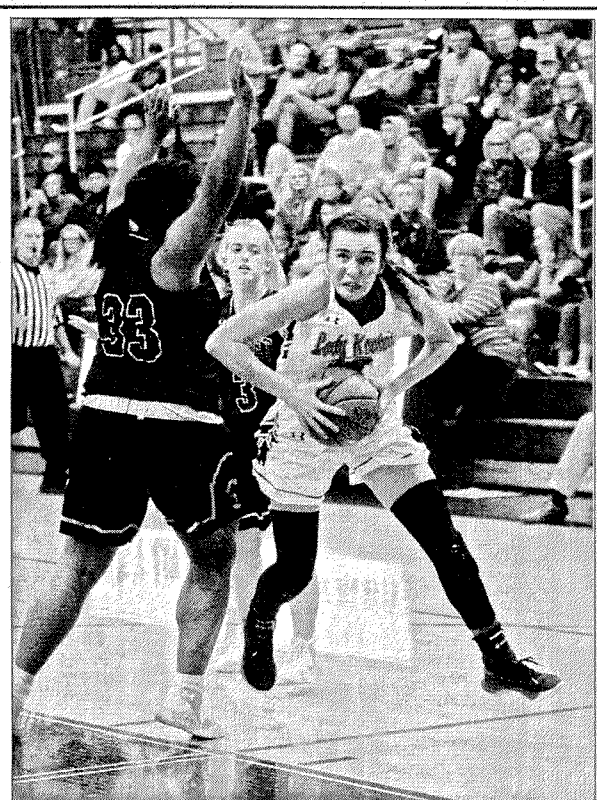
of the first quarter and 35-22 at the half. Senior Kenzi Himes poured in eight of her game high 17 points in the third quarter to give her team a 16-10 edge in that period.

Himes, with her 17 points, led the team in scoring and she also added five rebounds. King got 15 points, including one of the two three point baskets her team got in the game; Newland added 12 points and three steals; Jones got eight points, including the other three point basket, and four steals; Brown and Aliyah Lopez each scored six points and Casey Coleman added four points, along with six assists and seven rebounds.

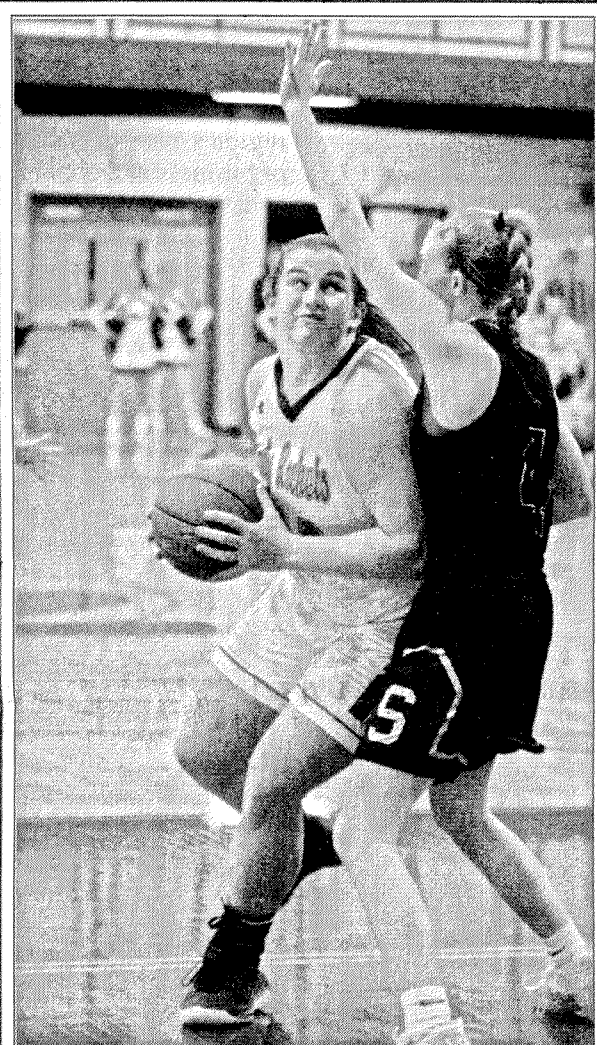
The Lady Rockets will journey to Madison Central Thursday night to play Henry Clay in the Jack Burford Chevy Christmas Classic at 5:45 and will play another team (TBA) the same night.

On Friday night, they will play the Casey County Lady Rebels in a home game doubleheader with the Rockets and on Saturday will return to Madison Central to play Bourbon County. On De-

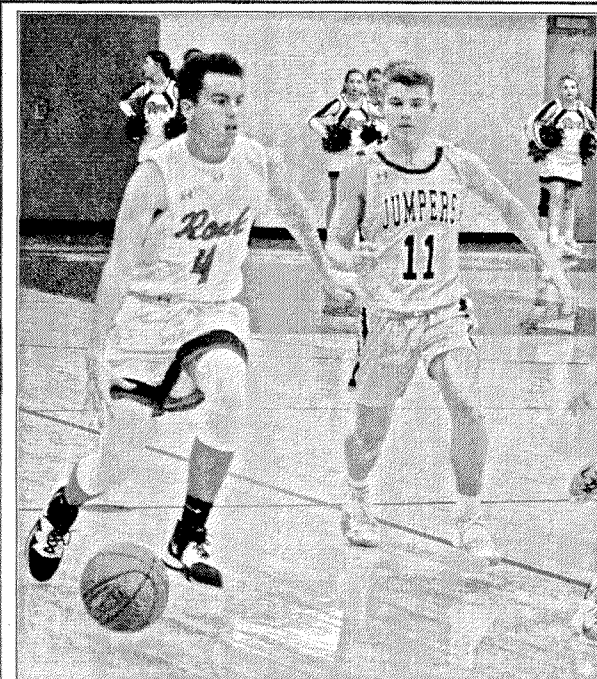
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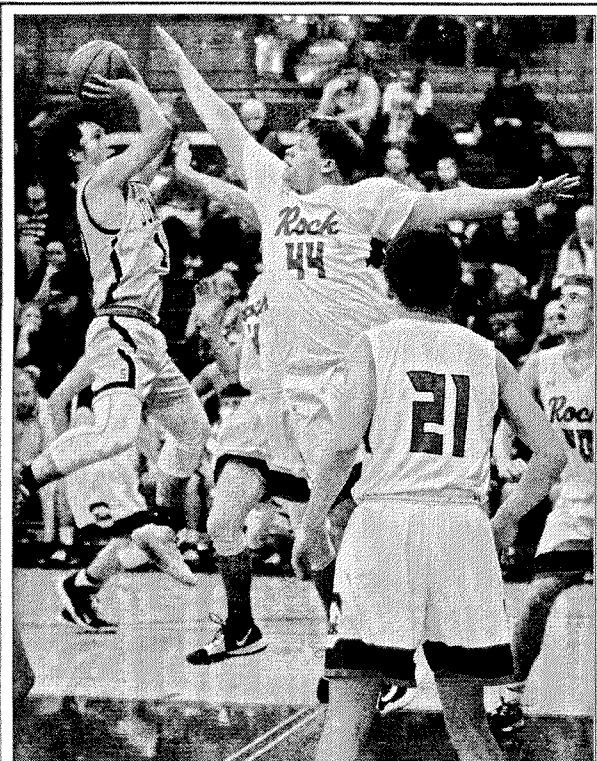
Casey Coleman works hard to get to the basket in the Lady Rockets' 52-37 win over Somerset.



Kenzi Himes works to get around a defender in the Lady Rockets' win over Somerset last Friday.



Jacob Loudermilk runs a fast break during the Rockets' loss to Somerset Friday night.



Jake Sanders goes for a block during the Rockets' loss to Somerset. Also pictured are Daniel Mullins and Will Bishop.

Rockets are 1-6 on season

The Rockcastle Rockets are having a hard time getting it together this season, starting out with one win against six losses.

After an opening win over McCreary Central, the Rockets have dropped games to Lincoln Co., Anderson Co., Somerset, Western Hills and Boyle County.

At Anderson County on December 10th, the Rockets were defeated 40-30.

Sophomore Daniel Mullins led the scoring for the Rockets with 11 points, including the only three for the Rockets; senior Logan Noel and eighth grader Will Bishop got six points each and sophomores Silas Shaffer and Matthew Chasteen each scored two points.

The Rockets were five for 10 from the free throw line.

Against district-foe Somerset last Friday night, the Rockets were

trounced 62-38 with no Rockets scoring in double figures.

Sophomore Drew Hopkins led the scoring with 9 points; Mullins got 6; Chasteen, senior Jake Loudermilk (who got the only three point basket in the game for the Rockets) and sophomore Jake Sanders all scored four points each; sophomore Reese Coguer got three and Noel, senior Bentley Taylor, Bishop and Shaffer each scored two points.

The Rockets were seven of 12 from the free throw line.

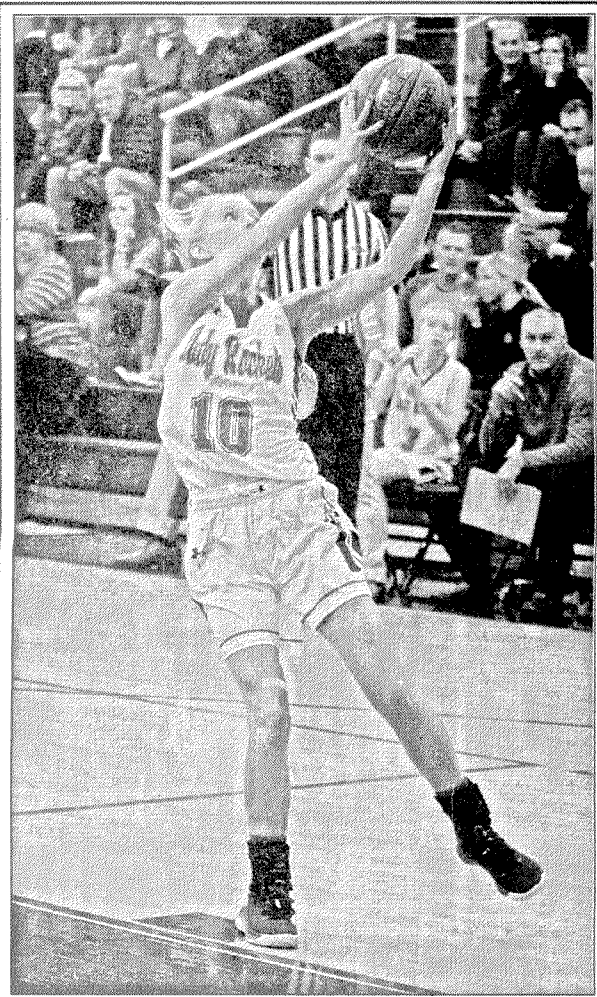
At Sayre Saturday, in the Jim Lankster Classic against Western Hills, the Rockets lost by 17 72-55.

Hopkins led the scoring in that game with 17 (hitting five of six free throws); Bishop got 11; Mullins got nine; Noel scored eight points; Sanders three; Taylor and

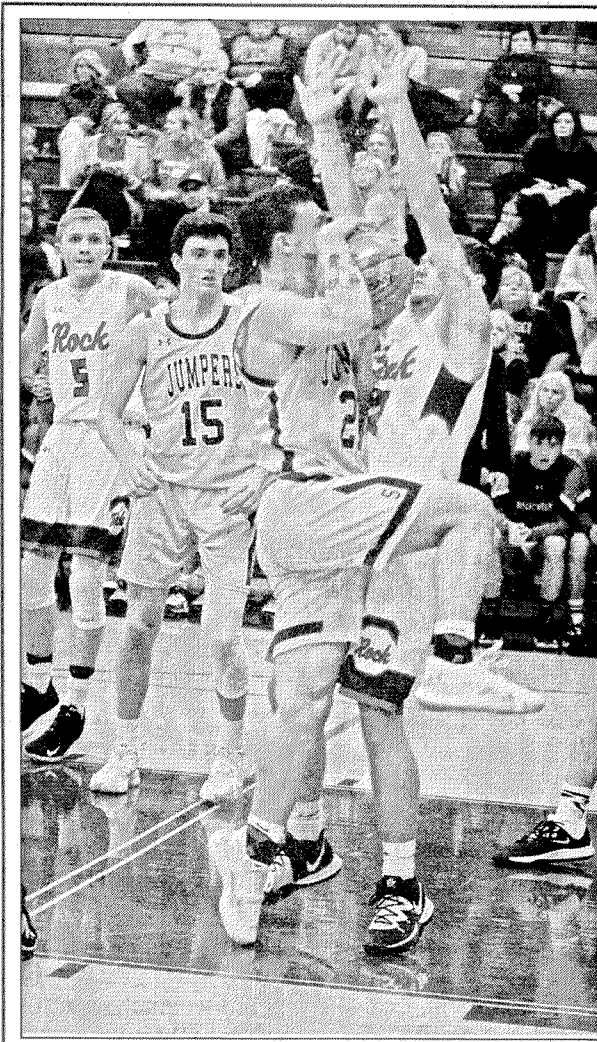
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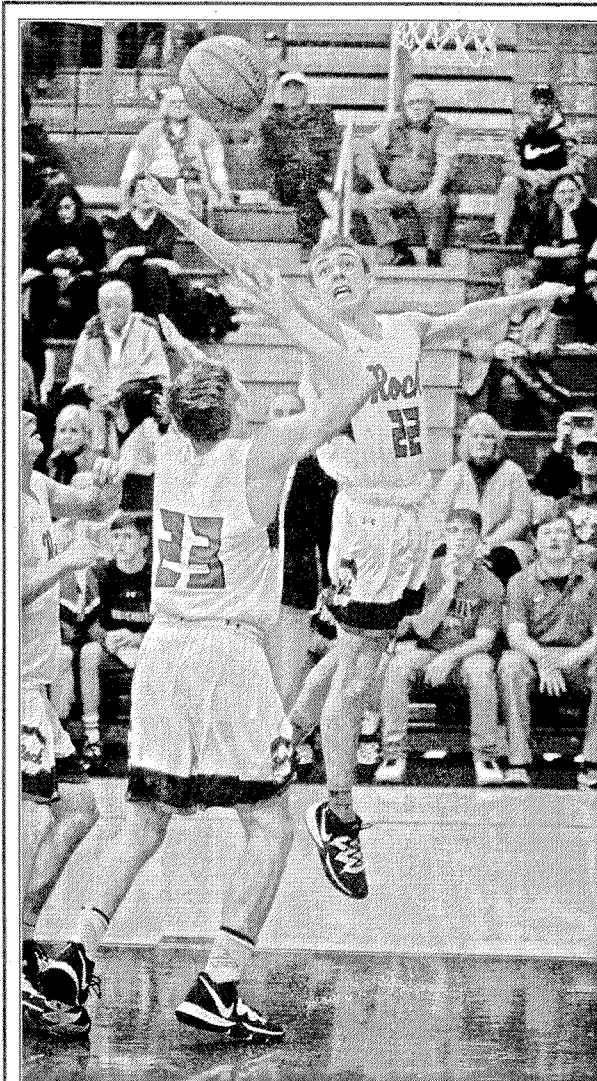
Aliyah Lopez fights for a loose ball in the Lady Rockets' 52-37 win over Somerset last Friday.



Lindsey Jones catches a pass on a fast break during the Lady Rockets' 52-37 win over Somerset last Friday.



Bentley Taylor stops a driving Briarjumper in the Rockets' loss to Somerset last Friday.



Reese Coguer goes up for a rebound in the Rockets' loss to Somerset last Friday. Also pictured is teammate Matthew Chasteen.



RCHS Cheerleaders were busy supporting the Rockets and Lady Rockets during their district matchup with Somerset last Friday night.



Sixth grader Colin Hamilton competed on the sixth grade All-Star team and had a strong showing with a 2-1 record beating a Connecticut and Utah All-Star team and losing to a New Jersey All-Star team.

“Rockets”

(Cont. from A6)

Shaffer two each and Loudermik one. The Rockets hit four

three point baskets in the game and converted 15 of 19 free throws.

Monday night, the Rockets hosted the Southwestern Warriors and again took it on the chin 76-59.

Bishop led the scoring in the game for the Rockets with 15 points; Noel got 14; Shaffer had 10 points; Mullins 9; Chasteen six; Sanders and Loudermik two each and Coguer one.

The Rockets hit seven three point baskets in the game, three by Shaffer and 14 of 23 free throws.

Tuesday night, the Rockets hosted the Boyle County Rebels and picked up their sixth loss of the season 61-52.

Bishop had a team high of 24 points, including going 2-11 from the free throw line and he was the only Rocket in double digits. Chasteen picked up eight points; Hopkins got six; Mullins and Noel had five each and Sanders and Coguer each scored two points.

The Rockets will next be in action Friday night when they host the Casey County Rebels. They will then not see action again until Friday night, Dec. 27th when they journey to Greenup to play in the Stultz Pharmacy Holiday Classic against East Carter and in the same tournament on the 28th against a team to be announced. They will play a doubleheader with the Lady Rockets at Somerset on January 3rd and at Knox Central at South Laurel in the Raymond Reed Classic at 3 p.m.

“Lady Rock”

(Cont. from A6)

December 26th, they will take part in the Andrew Johnson Bank Ladies Classic in Greenville, TN and will then travel to Somerset for a doubleheader with the Rockets on January 3rd before playing Rowan County at Lincoln County in the Patriot Classic on January 4th.

Subscribe to the Signal Call 256-2244

Mt. Vernon Message

School News

Spirit Cards are available for individual purchase. We have Mt. Vernon, Somerset, London/Corbin and Berea/Richmond cards available. Please contact Linda Hamm or Cindy McCullough to purchase.

Class News

As part of their 12 Days of Christmas Kindness activity, Mrs. Kaci's and Mrs. Kathy's first grade classes were challenged to "Fill the Firemen's Firehouse Fridge" with soft drinks. The students brought in 415 cans/bottle of pop which they proudly presented to members of the Mt. Vernon Fire Department.



As part of their 12 Days of Christmas Kindness activity, Mrs. Kaci's and Mrs. Kathy's first grade classes were challenged to "Fill the Firemen's Firehouse Fridge" with soft drinks. The students brought in 415 cans/bottles of pop which they proudly presented to members of the Mt. Vernon Fire Department.



Wishing you and your family peace, love and joy during this holy season.

From
Rockcastle County Jailer Nathan Carter
and the entire staff of the
Rockcastle County Detention Center

May your heart and home be filled with peace, hope, and love this Christmas season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

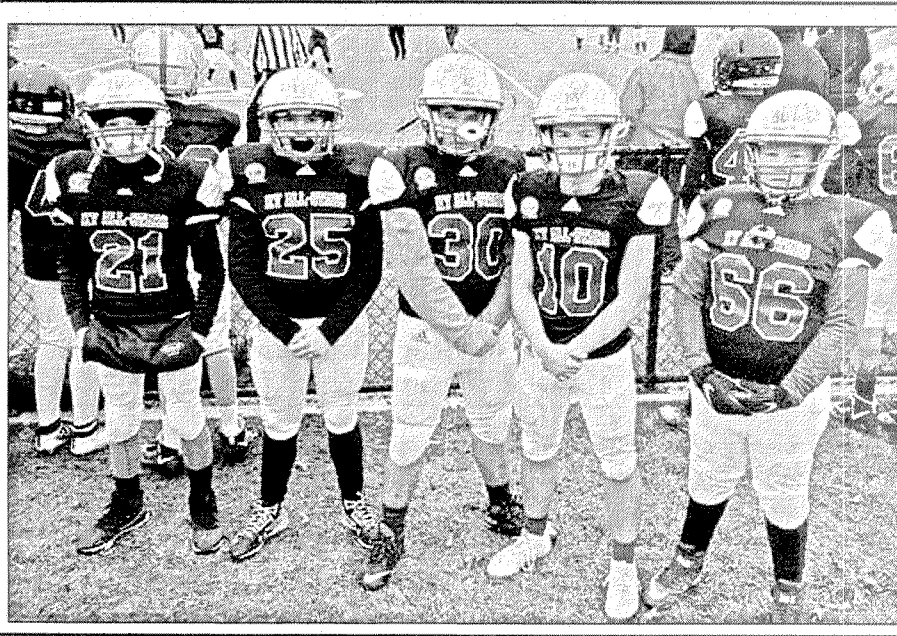
HOWELL HOLBROOK
ROCKCASTLE COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE



Howell, Hope and Gail Holbrook



Paul and Natalie Holbrook



RCMS seventh graders Carter Powell, Dylan Lefler, Corey Day, Rex Parkey and Jacob Leger competed with the KY All-Stars team at the Pro Football Hall of Fame National Youth Championships and finished with a 2-1 record for the tournament beating Connecticut and Indiana All-Stars before losing to Indiana Select, a team who won the championship.

No paper next week!
Signal office will be closed
December 20 - 27

M and M Trading
860 Richmond Street
open Monday, Thursday and Friday 10-5
Big Sale Friday, December 20
EVERYTHING
in store is
20% OFF
We have tools, household items and Christmas decorations
We will be closed on December 26 and December 27 for Christmas

Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!
McKinney
Income Tax Service
Ronnie and Virginia McKinney

CHURCH NEWS

Let the Bible Speak

Tune in to "Let the Bible Speak," with Brett Hickey, on Sunday mornings at 6:30 a.m. on LEX18.

Rockcastle County Recovery Meetings

Monday-Celebrate Recovery-Brodhead: Community Outreach Center, every 6 to 8 p.m. Leader: Nathan DeLeon 859-230-9590/Kathryn Pope 606-308-3099.

Tuesday-Celebrate Recovery-Mt. Vernon. Northside Baptist Church, 606-256-5577, Tuesday, 6-8 p.m. **Please call by 4 p.m. if you need a ride on the church van.

Wednesday-Celebrate Recovery-Step Studies. Northside Baptist, Mt. Vernon at 7 p.m. 606-256-5577. Men and women, small groups.

Thursday-Celebrate Recovery-Step Studies - Women Only. Community Outreach Center, Brodhead, every 6 p.m. Leader: Kathryn Pope 606-308-3099.

Friday-Celebrate Recov-

ery-Livingston at Livingston School cafeteria. 6 to 8 p.m. Leader: J.R. Cornelius, 859-314-7828.

Live Nativity at CrossPoint Church

Join us for a Live Nativity on Saturday, December 21st from 6 to 8 p.m. at CrossPoint Church, 211 Industrial Park Drive.

Hot cocoa and cider will be served. Pastor Matt Griggs and congregation invite everyone.

Christmas Eve Mass

Christmas Eve Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church will be Tuesday, December 25th at 10:30 p.m. Everyone invited.

FBC Christmas

Join us this Christmas season at First Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon as we celebrate His birth!

The Christmas Worship Service will be Sunday, December 22nd at 10:45 a.m.

The Christmas Eve service will be held Tuesday, December 24th, beginning at 5 p.m.

DAR presents awards at Christmas Dinner

The Rockcastle Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution recently met and celebrated the holidays with their annual Christmas dinner

and presented awards to students and members of the community.

Chapter Regent, Karen Adams and Chapter Historian Tonya Cook

presented the following awards: Mrs. Melissa Benson Owens of RCMS received the chapter award for Outstanding American History Teacher. Mrs. Owens' application has been sent to the state society for further judging. RCMS students Anna Chaliff and Ella McKinney were this year's 7th and 6th grade winners of the American history essay contest. Aedan Owens of Roundstone Elementary School was the 5th grade winner. All recipients received American History medals and certificates. Their essays have been sent to state for further judging.

can History Award was posthumously awarded to Mrs. Zivra Tackett Graves for her work on the National Task Force V1 B-2 on Voluntary Action by women. This task force was appointed by President Nixon to focus national attention on the nutritional needs and problems of all Americans, especially the poor. The award was accepted by Mrs. Graves' daughter, Polly Abney.

An annual chapter fundraiser auction concluded the evening's festivities raising funds for the proposed American Revolutionary war patriots of Rockcastle monument.

The Women in Ameri-



The Women in American History Award was posthumously awarded to Mrs. Zivra Tackett Graves for her work on the National Task Force V1 B-2 on Voluntary Action by women. The award was accepted by Mrs. Graves' daughter, Polly Abney. Also pictured are Karen Adams (left) and Tonya Cook (right).



RCMS students Anna Chaliff (above) and Ella McKinney (below) were this year's 7th and 6th grade winners of the American history essay contest. Also pictured are Karen Adams (left) and Tonya Cook (right).



Aedan Owens of Roundstone Elementary School was the 5th grade winner of the American history essay contest. Also pictured are Karen Adams (left) and Tonya Cook (right).



Mrs. Melissa Benson Owens of RCMS received the chapter award for Outstanding American History Teacher. Also pictured are Karen Adams (left) and Tonya Cook (right).

Earning Salvation

The question asked? If we must do something to gain salvation, how will we know when we are saved? The Bible does not teach we earn salvation, but it does plainly teach we cannot be saved without faithful obedience to the word of God. It is a constant work that we do to make our calling and election sure. Hebrews 6:1-3 It is going on to perfection each and everyday. (It is spiritual maturity.) We have studied this grace point before but let's look again.

The original question is assumed to be unanswerable, but is it? Can one know he is a friend of Jesus? John 15:14 Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you. Can one know positively that he loves Jesus? John 14:21 He that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me.

Can we know that we are Jesus's disciples? John 8:31 If ye continue in my word ye are my disciples indeed. Can we be positive we know the Lord? 1 John 2:3 Hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

If we can know these things that we have just considered, it is not unreasonable that we can know we have been saved from our sins and that we have the hope of Heaven. How? Let the Bible speak. The murderers of Jesus Christ asked in their sinful guilt, what shall we do? The inspired apostles replied. Acts 2:38 Repent and be baptized for the remission of your sins. This does totally free us from our past sins, but does this save us eternally? Revelations 2:10 Be thou faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life. It is impossible for sinful man to be perfectly faithful. Correct. 1 John 1:8-9 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(The pulpit and the pew, is the blending of God's plan for edification, each blessing the other.)

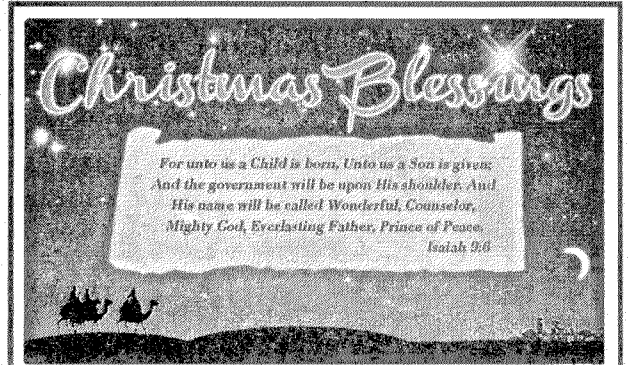
Thank you for reading this article, I pray it sheds a little light on the gospel plan of salvation. If you have any questions about this article or any article submitted by the Chestnut Ridge Church of Christ. Please give us a call at the numbers listed below, we would be happy to discuss those things from God's word that are a concern to you in love. You can reach one of the brethren at these numbers listed: Bro. Dale McNew-859-582-4021 or Bro. Ova Baker-606-878-8104

• Chestnut Ridge Church of Christ •

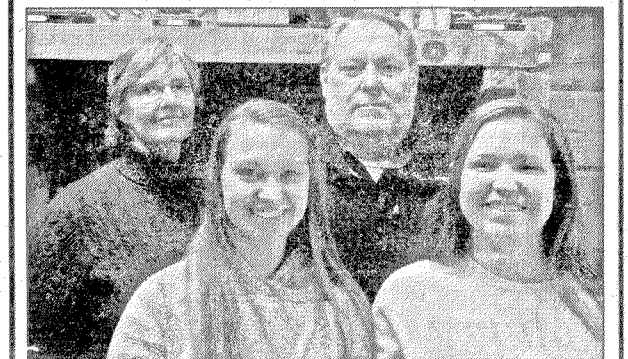
Sundays @ 10 a.m. & Wednesdays @ 7 p.m. • Everyone Welcome

Bro. Ova Baker 606-878-8104 • Bro. Dale McNew 859-582-4021

Church is located 2 Miles South of Mt. Vernon on Hwy. 25



Merry Christmas and thank you for the privilege of serving the citizens of Rockcastle County



Shannon, Jill, Maggie & Valerie Franklin

Shannon Franklin

Rockcastle Sheriff

"The Depot"
Friday Night Gospel Singing
Proudly Presents!

"The Praise Singers"

Christmas Special! Potluck Finger Food

Free Admission
Friday December 20th @ 7pm
Livingston KY.

Refreshments will be served following Mass

Special Music Prior

O, Come all Ye Faithful and

Join us as we worship and praise our Heavenly father for the gift of His Son. Let us come together to celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Christmas Eve Mass
Tuesday, Dec. 24 @ 10:30 p.m. at
Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church
Williams Street • Mt Vernon, Ky.

The people of Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church wish each and everyone a Blessed and Holy Christmas and a Faith Filled New Year.

Church Directory

Believers House of Prayer
156 Scenic View Lane
U.S. 25 N. left at 18 mile marker
Renfro Valley, Ky.
Sabbath School Sat. 10-11 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 7 p.m.
Wednesday 7 p.m.
Pastor: **Bill Davis**
bhob@ymail.com

Berea Gospel Tabernacle
231 US 25 South
Berea, KY
Tuesday Night 7 p.m.
Sunday Night 6 p.m.

Bible Baptist Church
100 Higher Ground (off US 25)
Mount Vernon, Ky.
Church Phone 606-256-5913
e-mail: www.biblebaptist.org
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship/Children's
Church 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Worship 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7 p.m.
Video services Tues., Thurs., &
Sat. at 11 a.m., 4 p.m. & 9 p.m.
Channel 3 - New Wave
Cable Channel 5 in Berea and
Richmond 1 p.m. Wednesdays
Pastor: **Travis Gilbert**
Associate Pastor/Youth:
Bro. **Jeremy Ellis**
Secretary: **Jo Roberts**
Music Director: **Dan Dull**

**Blue Springs
Church of Christ**
7 miles south of Mt. Vernon on
Hwy. 1249 (Sand Springs Rd.)
Services:
Sundays 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Preaching Brethren
Marcus Reppert
Contact Info:
Marcus Reppert
606-308-2794
199 E. Fork Skaggs Rd.
Mt. Vernon, Ky.
marcusreppert24@hotmail.com

Brodhead Baptist Church
Corner of Silver & Maple St.
Brodhead, Ky. 40409
606-758-8316
Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
(Nursery Provided)
Sunday Youth Bible Study
5 p.m.
Wednesday Adult & Youth
Worship/Bible Study 7 p.m.
Children's Programs:
RAs & GAs
Mission Friends and
Creative Ministry
Ralph Baker, Pastor
Brodhead Christian
237 W. Main St. Brodhead
606-758-8721
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
Tracy Valentine, Preacher
606-758-8662
Cell 606-305-8980

Brodhead Church of God
Hwy. 3245 • Brodhead
758-8216
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday evening 7 p.m.
Terry Orcutt, Pastor
**Brush Creek
Holiness Church**
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Tuesday Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Lonnie R. McGuire, Pastor
Buffalo Baptist Church
Located 15 miles south of
Mt. Vernon on Hwy. 1249
(Sand Springs Rd.)
606-256-4988
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:15 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.
Bill Hall, Pastor
Bill Mink, Asst. Pastor
Calloway Baptist Church
76 Calloway Branch Rd.
(Off US 25) • Calloway
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.
George Renner, Pastor
606-224-4641

Central Baptist Church
86 Maintenance Rd.
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456
606-256-2988
centraltbaptistky.org
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning 11 a.m.
Bus Sunday School 5 p.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
"Central Time" Radio
Broadcast
WRVK: M-F 11:15 a.m.
WOPW: M-F 9:15 a.m.
Transportation and Nursery
provided for all services
Home of Well of Pure Water
Radio - 93.3 FM
Mark Eaton, Pastor
**Church of Christ at
Chestnut Ridge**
2 miles south of Mt. Vernon
Turn left off US Hwy 25
Sundays 10:00 a.m.
Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.
Bro. **Ova Baker**
Bro. **Dale McNew**
Bro. **Phillip Scott**

**Church of Christ on
Fairground Hill**
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
Different speaker each
Sunday
Clear Creek Baptist
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Climax Christian Church
Hwy. 1912
308-2806 • 256-4138 • 256-5977
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Climax Holiness Church
Sunday Night Worship 6 p.m.
Thursday Nights 7 p.m.
3rd Sat. of every month at
7 p.m.

**Community Worship
Church of God**
758 Hwy. 3245 • Crab Orchard
Bro. **Jeff Warren, Pastor**
Worship Service
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship
11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
www.cwchurchofgod.com

**Conway Missionary
Baptist**
116 Meadow Lark Lane
Berea, KY 40403
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship
11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service and
Bible Study 7 p.m.
Youth Meetings:
Sunday 5 p.m.

Wednesday 7 p.m.
Bobby Turner, Pastor
606-758-4007

Crab Orchard Pentecostal
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Tuesday Evening 7 p.m.
Pastor: **Donald King**
606-355-7595

CrossPoint Church of God
211 Industrial Park Rd.
Mt. Vernon, KY
Sunday 2 p.m.
Thursday Evening 7 p.m.
Pastor: **Matt Griggs**
859-582-2553

**Crossroads
Assembly of God**
Hwy. 150 • Brodhead
Bro. **Ralph Reynolds, Pastor**
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night 7 p.m.

Cupps Chapel Holiness
Copper Creek Rd.,
Brodhead
Sunday 10 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Thursday Evening 7 p.m.
Pastor: **Dwayne Carpenter**

**Fairground Hill
Community Holiness
Church**
Sunday Evening Service
6 p.m.
Thursday Service 7 p.m.
Robert Miller, Pastor

Fairview Baptist Church
520 Fairview Loop Road
Mount Vernon, Ky.
Sunday Services
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Children's Choir 6 p.m.
Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m.
Sunday Adult Choir 8 p.m.
Wednesday Services
Creative Ministry 6 p.m.
Bible Study 7 p.m.
Youth Ministry QUEST 7 p.m.
RAs and GAs 7 p.m.
Mission Friends 6 p.m.
Vaughn Rasor, Pastor
606-256-3722
email: fairviewbapt@aol.com

Faith Chapel Pentecostal
S. Wilderness Road
Mount Vernon, Ky.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.
Saturday Service 7 p.m.
Jack Carpenter, Pastor

First Baptist Church
340 West Main Street
Mt. Vernon, Ky. 606-256-2922
Dennis Wilder, Pastor
Jesse Wright,
Assoc. Pastor/Youth
website: www.fbcmtvky.org
email: fbcmtvernon@newwave.net
Sunday School: 9:40 a.m.,
Sunday Worship:
10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesdays: AWANA and
Adult Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Live Broadcast WRVK 1460AM
Sundays at 11 a.m.
Broadcast on New Wave Cable
Channel 3 Tues., Thurs. & Sun-
day at 10 a.m., 3 p.m. & 8 p.m.

First Christian Church
West Main St. Mt. Vernon
606-256-2876
Bro. **Bruce Ross, Pastor**
Bro. **Josh Haines,**
Youth/Family Minister
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship
11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

**Flat Rock Missionary
Baptist**
504 Maple Grove Rd. Hwy. 1004
Orlando, Ky.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Fellowship Hour 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Freedom Baptist Church
Freedom School Rd.
Mt. Vernon
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Worship 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Prayer
Meeting 6 p.m.
Pastor: Bro. Barry Hurst
859-200-6331

**Hickory Grove
Pentecostal Church**
Hwy. 1505 (6 miles from Brodhead)
Brodhead, Ky.
Randal Adams, Pastor

Youth Pastor, **Scott Adams**
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wed. Evening 7 p.m.

Higher Praise Ministries
4896 Lake Cumberland Rd.
Mt. Vernon
Chris Davidson, Pastor
Sunday 11 am & 6 pm
Wednesday 7 pm
Bus Ministry call 606-392-8777

**Lighthouse Assembly of
God**
Hwy. 1004 • Orlando, Ky.
Tim Hampton, Pastor
606-256-4884 • 606308-2342
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship
11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Tues. Night Intercessory Prayer
7 p.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study
7 p.m.

Little Country Church
Jarber Rd.
Turn left off Rev. Green Loop
onto Jarber Rd.
Jack Weaver, Pastor
Sunday 6 p.m.
Wednesday 7 p.m.

Livingston Baptist
Worship Service 11 a.m.
Children's Church 11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
Wednesday 7 p.m.
Gary Parker, Pastor

**Livingston Christian
Church**
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Arthur Hunt, Minister

**Livingston Pentecostal
Holiness Church**
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.
Jim Miller, Pastor
606-256-1709

**Living Word
Community Church**
"About our Father's Business"
246 Sycamore St. • Brodhead
Sunday School 11 a.m.
Sunday Worship Noon
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.
Joe Bussell, Jr., Pastor
606-308-4312

**Macedonia Baptist
Church**
6567 Scaffold Cane Road
Mount Vernon, Ky.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Bro. **Jim Craig, Pastor**

Maple Grove Baptist
Hwy. 1004 (Big Cave Road)
Orlando, Ky. • 606-256-1873
Bro. **Jerry Owens, Pastor**
Home Phone 606-256-3075
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship
11 a.m.
WRVK Broadcast 2 p.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7 p.m.

**Maretburg Baptist
Church**
2617 New Brodhead Rd.
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456
Wayne Harding, Pastor
Phone: 256-8844
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sun. Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Sun. Discipleship Training/
Sunday Youth Missions
6 p.m.
Sunday Worship 7 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7 p.m.
www.maretburgbaptist.org
maretburgchurch@yahoo.com

**McNew Chapel
Baptist**
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.
Jerry Ballinger, Pastor
Mt. Vernon
Church of God
1025 W Main St.
Mount Vernon, Ky.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.
Bobby Owens, Pastor
859-986-1317

Mt. Zion Baptist Church
606-308-3293
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 5 p.m.

New Heights Church
316 Mini Mall Dr.
(off Richmond Rd., US 25 N)
Berea, Ky.
www.newheightsky.net
Sundays 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Worship & Children's Church
Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.
Midweek Gathering for all
ages; prayer & Bible study,
youth worship, and
Children in Action
Jon Burdette, Lead Pastor
Steve McDaniel,
Worship Leader

New Hope Baptist Church
Jct. 1797 New Hope Tower Rd.
Orlando
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7 p.m.
Philip "Worm" Johnson Pastor

Northside Baptist Church
777 Faith Mountain Rd.
(Off 461 bypass) Mt. Vernon
606-256-5577
Kenny Allen, Pastor
Sunday
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Children's Church 11 a.m.

Tuesday
Celebrate Recovery 7 to 9
Wednesday
Adult & Youth Worship 7 p.m.
Time Warner Cable
Tues., Thurs., Sun.
9 a.m., 2 p.m., 7 p.m.

**Ottawa Baptist
Church**
1074 Ottawa Rd. • Brodhead
Pastor: Bro. Michael Hail
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Children's Church 11 a.m.
Sunday Discipleship
Training 5 p.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Services
Service 7 p.m.
758-8453
ottawabaptist@windstream.net

**Our Lady of Mt. Vernon
Catholic Church**
525 Williams St
(across from MVES)
Mount Vernon, Ky.
606-256-4170
Mass Times:
Tuesdays at 5 p.m.
Sabbath Mass: Sat., 5 p.m.
Holy Days 5 p.m.
Father Gary Simpson,
Pastor
Jack Lawless, Groundskeeper
Tom Darst, Maintenance

**Philadelphia United
Baptist**
834 Bryant Ridge Rd. Brodhead
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.
Saturday Service 7 p.m.
Gordon Mink, Pastor
606-308-5368

Pine Hill Holiness
5216 S. Wilderness Rd.
Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sun. Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Thursday Night Worship
7:00 p.m.

**Pine Hill Missionary
Baptist Church**
81 Limeplant Hollow Road
Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456
Bro. **Clyde Miller, Pastor**
859-986-1579
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Discipleship Training 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting &
Youth Service at 7:00 p.m.
Prayer Partners Ladies Meeting
monthly every
2nd Tues. at 6:30 p.m.

Pleasant Run Missionary
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:30 p.m.

1st Sunday in Month Church at
2 p.m. at Rockcastle
Respiratory Care
Bro. **Chris Reynolds, Pastor**
Poplar Grove Baptist
145 Richlands Rd. • Brodhead
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7 p.m.

**Providence
church of Christ**
1 mile off Hwy. 70 on Hwy. 618
758-8524
Robby Cable, Evangelist
Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship
10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
www.WhatSaithTheScriptures.com

Red Hill-Union Baptist
4308 Highway 1955
Livingston, KY
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Bill Hammond, Pastor
606-392-1826
Everyone invited to come and
worship with us

Roundstone Baptist
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night 7 p.m.

Sand Hill Baptist Church
Sand Hill Rd.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night 5:00 p.m.
Thursday Night 6 p.m.
Pastor **Tommy Miller**
Directions: Take Hwy 1249, go
exactly 5 miles, church on right
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.
Pastor: Bro. **Eugene Gentry**

Scaffold Cane Baptist
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night 7 p.m.
Pastor: **Bro. James Hardin**

Skaggs Creek Baptist
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Pastor: **Bro. Richard West**
Everyone Welcome!
Tabernacle of Love
244 Old Somerset Rd.
Mt. Vernon
606-25605894
Sunday Worship 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.
Pastor: **Clyde Hodge**

Union Chapel Pentecostal
Pastor: **Eugene Webb**
1505 Union Chapel Rd.
Brodhead, Ky.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Thursday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Everyone Welcome!

United Gospel of Christ
4 miles off US 25 on Wildie Rd.
Church welcomes everyone
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

Valley Baptist Church
4482 Copper Creek Rd.
Berea, Ky. 40403
Organized in December, 1908
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7 p.m.
Jeff Draper, Pastor
**Wildie Christian
Church**
1478 Wildie Rd. • Wildie
606-256-4494
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:55 a.m.
Family Fellowship 6 p.m.
Bible Study 6 p.m.
Bro. **Gary Pettyjohn, Pastor**

Brodhead Pharmacy

Main Street • Brodhead

606-758-4373

Howard Saylor
Pharmacist

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Mon. - Fri.

David Collins
Owner

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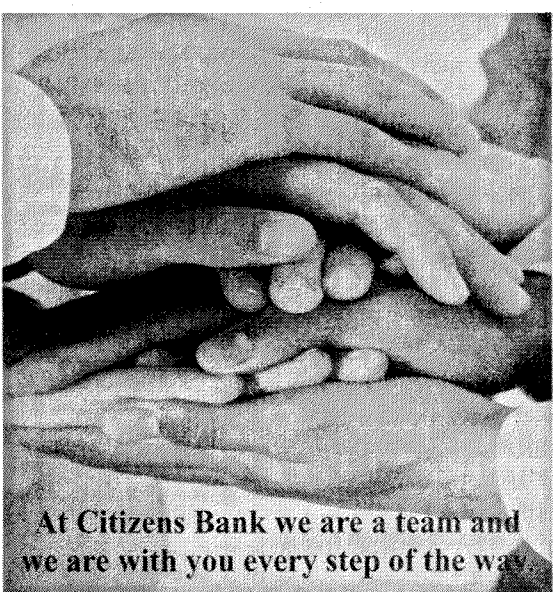
Collins Respiratory Care

Main Street • Brodhead

606-758-9333

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Insurance & Medicare Accepted

Owners: David Collins & Shelly Clements

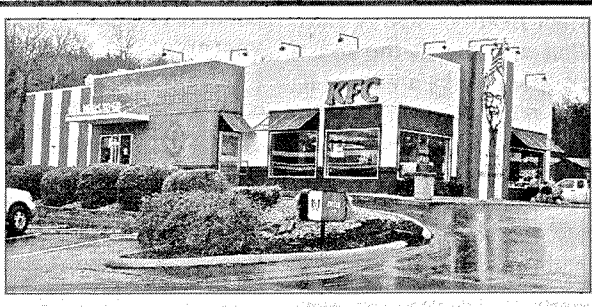


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24 Hour Information Line 1-800-530-8561



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www.rockcastleregional.org



Cash Express would like to say "Thank You" to the entire community for their cooperation in the recent Toy and Coat Drive. Because of everyone's generosity, Cash Express exceeded the list of needs and were able to benefit more children and families.

Yards to Paradise

By Max Phelps
LANDSCAPING: Smart Money Investment

Is landscaping a good investment? Does it add value over time to your home? Does it give instant return if you're wanting to sell the home? And how much, where and why might you want to invest in your property with wise landscaping? My readers should have quite a bit of new and useful information on landscaping as an investment by the time we conclude.

Spending 5% of the total value of your home on landscaping, doing it wisely, can add 15% or more to the value of your home, according to Smart Money magazine in its March 2003 edition. A caveat, poor design and installation could have the opposite effect, so wise use of money is needed in order to reap such nice gains. I am betting a chance to add \$30,000 in value to a \$200,000 home with a \$10,000 investment will encourage you to read on.

A Clemson University study found that prospective buyers value landscaping as adding up to 11.5% to their estimation of a property's worth versus a similar home that is not landscaped. Traditional thinking is that a kitchen or bath update or upgrade will return from 75 percent to 125 percent on the dollars spent. While it's not recommended someone wanting to market their home immediately spend on major landscape upgrades, minor work that delivers a positive curb appeal is a super idea. And, in time, a good landscape can deliver up to 200% or more in return. (Example: a tree that you buy and plant for \$100 or one you hire done for \$225—that tree, depending upon species and what part of the country you're talking about, may be valued by an appraiser at somewhere between \$1,000 and \$10,000 in a decade or two when it becomes a large tree, provided it's healthy and was planted in an appropriate spot to begin with.)

In the real estate sales

business they talk a lot about "comps" or comparable homes. Above average landscaping raises pricing 4-5 percent. However, landscaping below neighborhood standards can negatively affect price 8 to 10 percent!

Landscape improvements not only add value, they can help a property sell 5 to 6 weeks faster, according to the American Nursery and Landscaping Association. Again, we have to qualify this to modest expenditures that improve appearance of a home. Fancy or extensive new landscaping to a place you are selling is not wise, both from a cost/return perspective and also that the more elaborate projects will only appeal to a smaller portion of prospective new homeowners looking at your home with the 'for sale' sign. Fairly simple but tasteful is the key. Let the next owner do the big expensive stuff.

What about the homeowner who plans to keep his property for many years and wants to invest in the landscaping? There is more freedom here to do involved projects, and those that are on his family's need or wish list. A swimming pool or a jungle gym may not return full value at selling time, but if it means the kids and grandkids really have a good time and it makes for a much better quality of life, who is to say it isn't money well spent! (Not everything can be totaled up with a dollar value.)

Long term, some of the best return on money spent comes from planting small but healthy trees and shrubs, and they become much more valuable in time. Hardscaping such as patios, decks, terraces, swales, walks, water features and so on are also important to long term satisfaction and reward to the homeowners. The tough part for the beginning new homeowner is visualizing when they plant that shade tree that it shouldn't be planted in a certain spot if a pool or patio or new driveway or

a second garage will need to go there at some future date. Hiring a designer early on in this matter may be much cheaper than dealing with mistakes as time passes and some things have to be removed to make way for more projects at a later date. Planning is useful—so often I see people shopping for trees or shrubs and they have little idea until they get home how it is going to fit in some good looking scheme.

Right tree? Not only right size, right shape needs to be considered. What does your proposed tree look like in each of the four seasons? Will it bloom? Should it be an evergreen tree? Will it tolerate sun, shade, drought, swampy areas, poor soil, acid or alkaline soils? Will it survive salt trucks, salt mist or runoff water from treated streets that is salty?

Considering just the color of the leaves, or that it has such a pretty bloom can lead to poor choices and followed on by poor performance if planting conditions and other factors are not in line with the preferences of the tree you dream about. This could lead to negative return on your investment, or even death of the tree, not to mention the time wasted and the delay in having the dream tree you want.

The value of a good looking yard that also is functional and usable is huge. Broken sidewalks, rotten porches, unfenced yard with pets; these detract from values. A yard that appeals to the most people will be a winner if selling is in your future. Having all the little particulars you want are fine if you plan on staying awhile, your own comfort and preferences may be a good investment for you and your yard.

Trees and greenery relax people. So does the sound of water. And sometimes wind. Being able to swim, grow a garden, cook outdoors, all of these can be wise investments. They just may not return the same good returns if you are just looking at dollars return for dollars spent. Again, not everything can be priced as having a certain dollar value. Making your place the way you want it is money smart too. Doing things yourself

"Crash"

(Continued from front)

the vehicle. Both drivers and one passenger in each vehicle were transported to Berea Hospital.

Assisting at the scene was Kentucky State Police Post 11, Rockcastle County EMS, Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue, Brodhead Fire and Rescue, Climax Fire, Lily Fire and Rescue. (Brodhead and Lily had been covering calls in Jackson due to a first responder's funeral service).

"Beaten"

(Continued from front)

allegedly tried to place the blame for the attack on the victim, who was originally arrested on a D.U.I. complaint.

The indictment alleges that Clark gave false information to an investigator with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and made other false reports concerning the incident.

Clark apparently left his position as deputy Jailor shortly after the incident occurred in March of 2018.

Officials would not release the name of the victim or the inmate who carried out the alleged beating at this time but more information is expected soon.

will save money in the short run. And perhaps even long term, if you do your homework and do things with utmost care and attention. It will be easier, for sure, if you turn it over to someone experienced and reputable.

What if you do need expert help? Well, my first bit of advice is don't go to a garden center that also has a landscape crew. The more expensive stuff they sell, the happier they'll be. Instead try going to a place that sells yard furnishings, or a mulch and stone yard perhaps, someone who will feel responsible for it if they refer a poor choice to you. You'll get the best names such a business knows about usually.

Another tactic to insure you don't get a bad contractor or job? Go through some neighborhoods and ask who did the job for that home? And, especially, inquire who did the landscapes that you think look bad! If several homes on a street mention a certain landscaper, and you're looking at what's before your eyes, and you're overwhelmed with crooked, dead, mismatched or unsuitable choices for the location, you may realize going to that extra effort saves you from the error of calling the same company to do your work!

In conclusion, time is your friend. The right landscaping will gain steadily in value over the years. I believe landscaping, well planned and executed, will produce a positive return on your investment and will be money well spent. (And even if spending money on your property increased the value in an exactly equal amount to what you spent, you would still enjoy the new landscaping, and not for a few days like you would a vacation, or a few hours like a Superbowl, or a few minutes perhaps if you gamble those dollars away. Instead you accumulate equity in your home that will endure and grow as time passes.)

Evidence is abundant, good landscaping is a super investment.

The author, Max Phelps, is a landscaper. Your feedback is encouraged. www.rockcastles.net

Clark has pled not guilty to the accusations and a trial is scheduled to begin in February of 2020.

"Lion"

(Continued from front)

also provides Christmas gifts for some who may otherwise be left out.

"This is always a good day for law enforcement," Franklin said. "Yes, the kids had fun. But no more than we did."

Franklin says the effort strikes a personal note when he sees the gifts that some of the children choose. "You'd think kids would run for a toy or something children should be interested in," he said. "But when you see these kids so excited to be able to get a pair of shoes or a coat for the winter, that's when you know you are taking part in a good thing."

Franklin says the Lions Club is the foundation for the program but donations from several local businesses and private citizens make the difference and makes the event possible. "This is truly a community effort," he said. "Citizens, law enforcement, the Lions Club, and businesses such as Wal Mart and Pizza Hut, make all this possible."

The program was originally called "Shop with a Cop" but due to administrative reasons and auditing regulations, Franklin said the program was about to have to end. But, that's when the Lions Club stepped in, changed the name of the program and kept it going, according to Franklin.

"This is a very rewarding experience for everyone involved," said Franklin. "This event gives us all a chance to give back and yet it's actually us who receive the most reward."

"Drive"

(Continued from front)

impaired driving. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, over 10,000 Americans are killed each year due to drunk driving.

Franklin says he and his deputies are going to fight that statistic beginning immediately. "We will be watching closely," he said. "Drunk driving is a choice, that's why it is considered a crime and not an accident."

Franklin says the statistic is one of the most tragic circumstances law enforcement deals with.

"An innocent family losing a loved one because someone chose to drive under the influence is a terrible, tragic thing," he said. "And it is even worse this time of year if that's possible."

So, Franklin is taking the national campaign very seriously and deputies have received training concerning what to look for and how to spot a possible impaired driver.

There will also be checkpoints throughout the county by the set up by the sheriff's department and across the state by the Kentucky State Police.

"If you drink, drink responsibly, and don't drive. We can all live with that," he said.

"Garden"

(Continued from front)

talize Mount Vernon office, a Rockcastle

County Development Board office, a Chamber of Commerce office and a nice storage area for all the seasonal decor for the city."

Along with new sidewalks and the monument, which has been the talk of the town recently, there will be four raised garden areas, and about six signs telling about the history of the area.

"Tourists can stop and read about Stephen Langford who founded Mount Vernon," said Tatum. "Other signs will talk about how Mount Vernon was named and give a history of our area and the Wilderness Road."

The remodeled building is expected to have detailed architecture work that will beautify the park and, along with the gardens, the monument, and the history signs, Tatum says the area will provide information to many tourists who may use the park as a sort of Mount Vernon museum.

As for the new monument, many have wondered about the significance of the deer atop the 10-foot granite structure. "When Mount Vernon was established, it was used by pioneers who came here to hunt for deer hides," said Tatum. "Deer are an important part of our town. Some towns have hands displayed to represent their art-centered community. We have a deer to remind everyone of Mount Vernon. We chose a deer because we are a pioneer town and longhunters came here because of our deer population."

Tatum enthusiastically tells anyone about the new park and tourism in the area. "Mount Vernon was an important stop in 1796 along the Wilderness Road," she said.

As for funding, the City of Mount Vernon is helping with the projects but Tatum says all those involved are also helping with expenses. In fact, the Development Board has already obtained a \$5,000 ARC grant and other entities are also seeking grants or other funding to help with the projects. "This is mostly being done with tourism dollars and everyone working together," she said.

Once completed, all the projects together will make up the St. Claire History Garden and officials expect the area to be a huge addition to Mount Vernon. Tatum expects the park to be completed sometime next spring. "This will be a beautiful addition to our community and everyone who travels through our city will see it and possibly learn more about our historic town," said Tatum. "We have a lot of history and a lot to offer. This garden is one way to let people know that."

The Signal office will be closed December 20-27 in observance of the holidays

Scott Thompson named CEO for Hospice Care Plus

Scott Thompson has been announced as the new CEO at Hospice Care Plus, Rockcastle County's provider of hospice, palliative and bereavement care.

At its December 10 meeting, the organization's Board of Directors unanimously approved a resolution naming Thompson as CEO. He follows Gail McGillis, RN, MSN, who announced her retirement earlier this year after 26 years of service.

Hospice's board initiated a CEO search in August. According to board president Donna Angel, after interviewing several strong candidates from around the country, Thompson emerged as the most qualified choice.

"We agreed right away that he had the experience and preparation to lead us," Angel said. "Just as importantly, he brings humility and compassion to his leadership style, which is essential for our organization."

The fact that Thompson resides in the organization's service area was an important factor as well.

"It was appealing to us that Scott has called Mount Vernon home for his entire life, that he worked for so many years in Madison County, and that he's very familiar with Estill, Jackson, Lee and Owsley counties as well," said Angel. "His understanding of our service area, and his record of being very involved with and supportive of our communities, made him an even stronger candidate in our minds."

Thompson comes to Hospice Care Plus from Russell County Hospital in Russell Springs, Kentucky, where he served as CEO. Prior to that position, Thompson spent 11 years at Saint Joseph Berea Hospital, holding several positions before being promoted to director of operations.

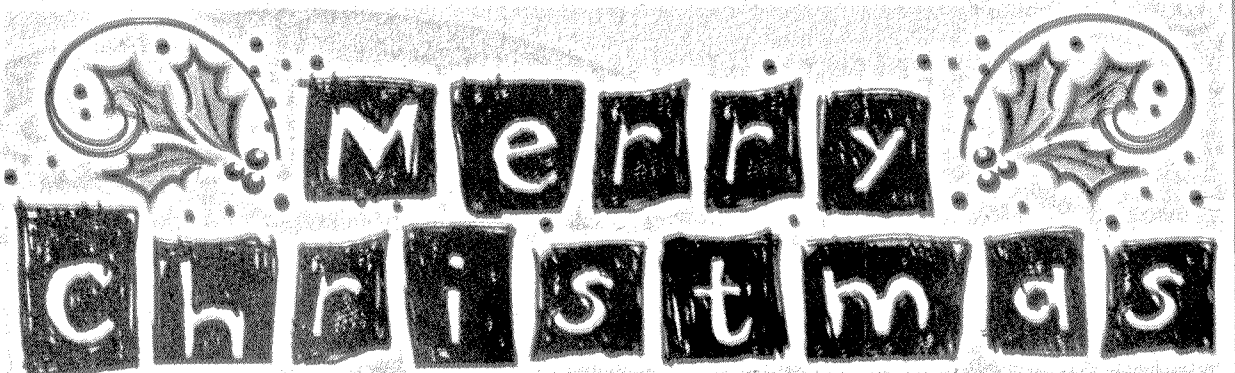


Scott Thompson

"Hospice has always held a very sacred place in my heart and mind," said Thompson. "During almost 30 years in healthcare, I have seen the impact these selfless individuals make in the lives of the people they serve. It will be an honor to move alongside the staff, volunteers, leaders, providers, board, and advisory members at Hospice Care Plus as they continue to honor and care for those who need us so much. I am excited for this opportunity and realize the weight of the responsibility and the blessings that will surely accompany it."

Thompson is currently in orientation with McGillis and will assume full CEO responsibilities at the end of December.

Hospice Care Plus is a non-profit organization serving Estill, Jackson, Lee, Madison, Owsley and Rockcastle counties. Services include hospice care, palliative care, bereavement outreach, and hospice inpatient care at the Compassionate Care Center in Richmond. All services are provided regardless of insurance status or ability to pay. For more information, visit hospicecareplus.org.



Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Front row from left: Danny Ford, Michelle Bullock, Sam Ford.

Back row from left: Matthew Silcox, Seth Hembree, Billy Wayne Bryant, Jerry Ham, Ben Allen, Jeff Burdette, Paul Playforth.

Not pictured: Jeff Cromer, Darrell Tate, Phil Herald, Roy Adams.



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Front row from left: Lois Hayes, Shirley Cummins and Freda Parsons.
Back row from left: Tyler Burris, Heidi Parman, James Phillips, Kim Evans, Sheila Stallworth, Randy Lewis and Jaime Martin.



Front row from left: Mike Dixon, Lorrie Santo, Becky Bullock and Jake Kerr.
Back row from left: Tonya Chasteen, Shonda Singleton, Jamie Stanley, Bridget Clark and Tammy Jo Colbaugh.



From left: Shondale Philbeck, Anita Shehan, Karen Carillo, Jessica Coates, Michelle Robinson, Leslie Burdette, Rebecca Hammond, Anne Weber, Sandy Deubel, Richard Heath, and Abram Taylor.



From left: Dale Shelton, Darlene Harris, Stella Newcomb, Angie Mullins, Chris Meece and Mat Getsi.



Front row from left: Karen Carrillo, Lesley Burdette and Jennifer Northern.
Back row from left: Michelle Robinson, Jessica Coates, Abram Taylor, Rebecca Hammond, Anne Weber, Anita Shehan and Shonda Philbeck.



From left: Betty Rowe, Peggy Dickerson and Sheila Owens.



Front row from left: Denise Watson, Sandy Hale, Frank Stewart and Eddie Hayes.
Back row from left: Charles McDaniel, Randy Renner, Chris Hansel and James Morgan.

*from all the
employees at...*

