

Merry Christmas
from our families to
yours

Mount Vernon

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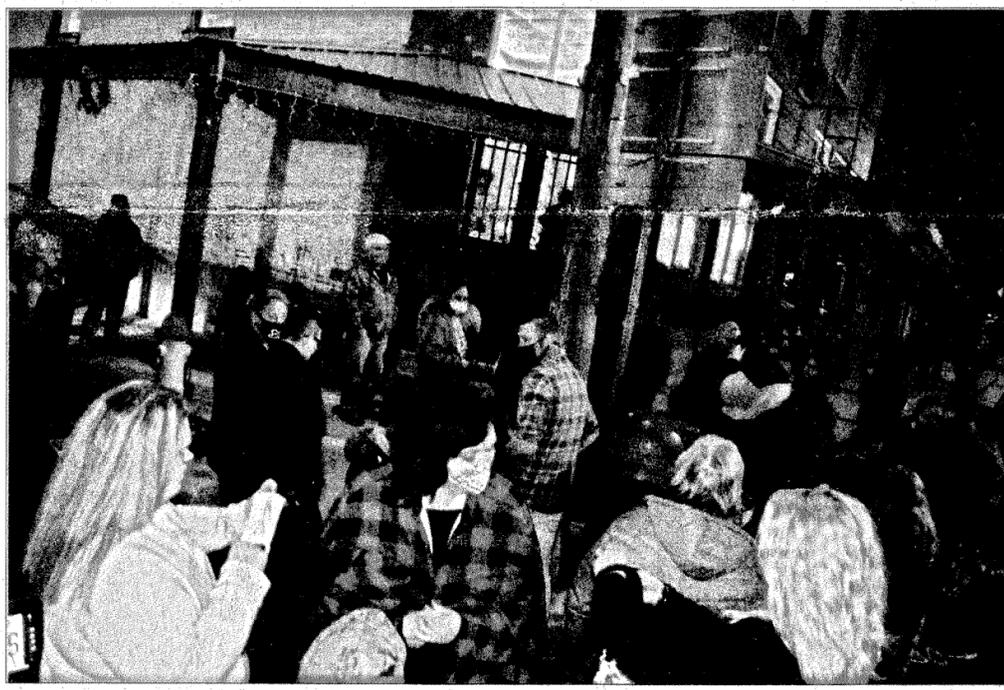
Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - (606) 256-2244 Volume 134 • Number 48 .50 per copy Thursday, December 24, 2020

Santa comes to Livingston



Jeffrey Carpenter, AKA Santa Claus, rode down Main Street in Livingston during the annual Livingston Christmas Parade last Saturday evening. Shown below, a large crowd waited their turn to visit with Santa after the parade. A gift was given to each child after they visited with Santa and snacks were provided to all who attended the event.



RCIDA Director gets 25% raise County sets aside \$125,000 toward Delta pipeline here

By: Mike French
Editor

"After three years of hard work and 30 years of hoping, it looks like we have a wonderful opportunity here."

Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority Executive Director Jeff VanHook spoke those words after the fiscal court made a motion to pursue a Delta natural gas pipeline for the county at a special called meeting Tuesday. "This is the first step in having natural gas in our county and that opens doors that would never have been opened otherwise," VanHook said earlier.

VanHook says a gas line in the county will provide a greatly increased incentive for larger manufacturing companies to locate here. That, in itself, according to VanHook, will have a ripple effect increasing the opportunity for smaller businesses, housing growth and economic development as well as many other benefits.

According to Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr. the county accepted a motion to make \$125,000 available to help with that gas line when Delta begins to move into the area.

"No money is being used or tied up right now," said Holbrook. "We are simply letting them know that we are willing to do our part, along with Lincoln County who also put up

(See "Delta" on A10)

Covid cases

According to the Cumberland Valley District Health Department, Rockcastle County now has 577 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 with an additional 256 probable cases. Seven deaths have been connected to the COVID-19 virus in Rockcastle County. There are currently 102 active cases and over 700 people have recovered in Rockcastle, according to the department.

I-75 construction

The I-75 widening project has now moved south of the Rockcastle County exits and continues between Exit 59 and Exit 41 near London in Laurel County.

In several locations, the highway is restricted to single lanes divided by concrete barriers. Motorists are urged to allow extra time for travel south of Exit 59 and to use extra caution in the area.

Mount Vernon receives CARES Act funds

—Water basin still planned

By: Mike French
Editor

Once again, the City of Mount Vernon held their regular monthly meeting via Zoom on Thursday, December 17.

Though the agenda was short, it dealt with vital issues for the city.

During the financial report, City Administrator

Josh Bray informed council members that the city had received \$176,000 CARES Act funding and has applied, and received preliminary approval for, an additional \$54,000.

The funding, which has been placed in a rainy day fund, must be used for COVID-19 issues mostly through the

Though the money was placed in a rainy day fund, it will be used to reimburse funds to the police department for their expenses related to COVID 19.

In other big news, Bray announced that he had

received the 150-page approval from the Army Corps of Engineers to submit the design for the new water basin that is expected to solve the water taste and odor problem of the Mt. Vernon Water Department. After the de-

cadec-long battle, Bray said the design will now be submitted immediately for state approval but he doesn't expect that process to take nearly as long.

(See "CARES" on A10)

City Administrator to stay on board in Mount Vernon

By: Mike French
Editor

Josh Bray is a well-known name in the City of Mount Vernon. Partly because of his close work with Mayor Mike Bryant, RCIDA Executive Director Jeff VanHook, County Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr. and many others. During his tenure as Mt. Vernon's City Administrator, Bray has played a major role in many extremely success-

ful endeavors within the city and county.

Those include: the new water basin project, expected to remove the bad taste and odor from Mount Vernon's water system; new state legislation allowing an alcohol regulatory fee to be collected by the cities; the expansion and development of property near exits 62 and 59, the Farmers Market building project; Chapin Indus-

tries; Microfoodery; Kentucky Pharmaceuticals; improvements at the water and sewer department; increased funding for the local police department; countless grants obtained for these projects and other city projects and many other endeavors.

In November, his accomplishments were recognized by voters throughout the district

(See "Stay" on A10)

Local holiday hours announced

By: Mike French
Editor

Business hours in Rockcastle County through the holiday season, vary slightly depending upon current closures due to COVID-19 restrictions

Hours of operation for

government entities during the holiday season are as follows.

County Judge/Executive.

The County Judge/Executive's office is currently open to the public but the number of visitors

(See "hours" on A10)

Of Special Note Inside

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- Mount Vernon Parade C Section
- Brodhead Parade D Section
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ramblings...

by: perlina m. anderkin

It's the most wonderful time of the year...

It actually is, except maybe the second most wonderful after Thanksgiving. It is also one of the reasons that I don't consider Winter an entire time of purgatory for me.

With 13 grand and 5 great grandchildren it's still fun to watch the joy they take in the season and the fact that I'm not entirely responsible for bringing that joy to them makes the season just a little sad.

Physically it's better because I'm certainly not in a physical shape to rush around trying frantically to fulfill the dreams of this many children -- five and then two at one time fulfilled that phase for me and my husband quite well. So, at this point, I get to sit back and watch my children carry on with the effort required to make the holiday wonderful for their children/grandchildren while I get to enjoy the season with little or no effort.

We spent our first Christmas here in 1966. Rick was five, Jamie three and Jane was on the way. It's been a good life, a busy one filled with joys and heartaches just as every life is if lived to its fullest.

I'll make this column short and sweet (giving you all a rest this week from my usual gloom and doom thoughts) because I mainly want to say how much we have enjoyed and appreciate the support of our readers and advertisers through the years and hope to continue to be a part of your lives for the foreseeable future.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Paige, Spencer, Mike, Jimmy and myself.

Aces Over

By: Mike French



Dear Santa,

The truth is, I haven't been the best boy this year. I have made a lot of mistakes in 2020.

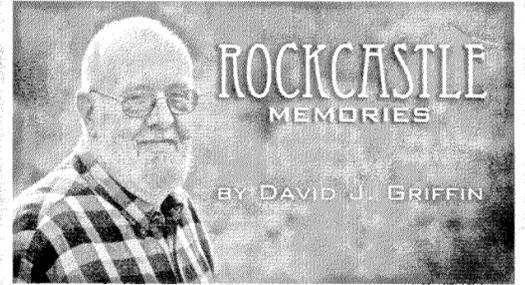
There were times I could have given more to someone in need. There were times I could have done more for someone that needed help. There were times I could have been more understanding and less judgmental.

There were times I could have shown more

compassion and been slower to anger. There were times that I could have been more humble and I know I could have been more uplifting to some.

There were times in 2020 when I didn't even consider the idea that I may have been wrong. There were times when I let a very little problem grow into something bigger.

(Continued on A3)



Love of Trains

My love of trains began in 1950, when I was six-years-old. It was one of my most memorable Christmases. My aunt Ruth (Bee's sister) and Uncle Charles arrived at our house on Christmas Eve to celebrate with our family. We had our Christmas dinner in the early evening and then

dispersed to the living room in order to open packages.

Uncle Charles suggested that I begin by opening a gift from him and Aunt Ruth. I anxiously ripped open the package to discover a Lionel electric train. I was thrilled beyond words. The set contained

(Continued on A3)

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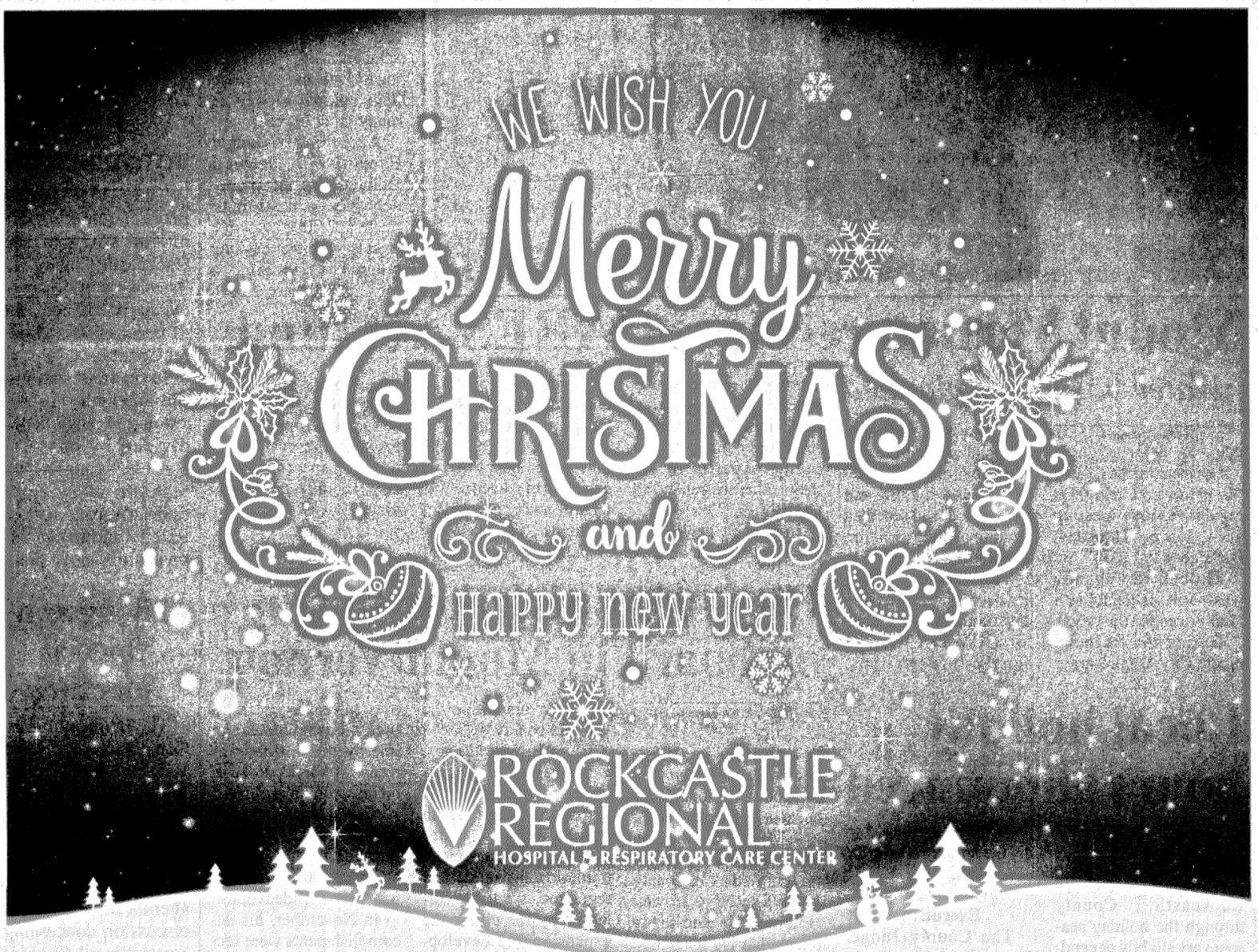
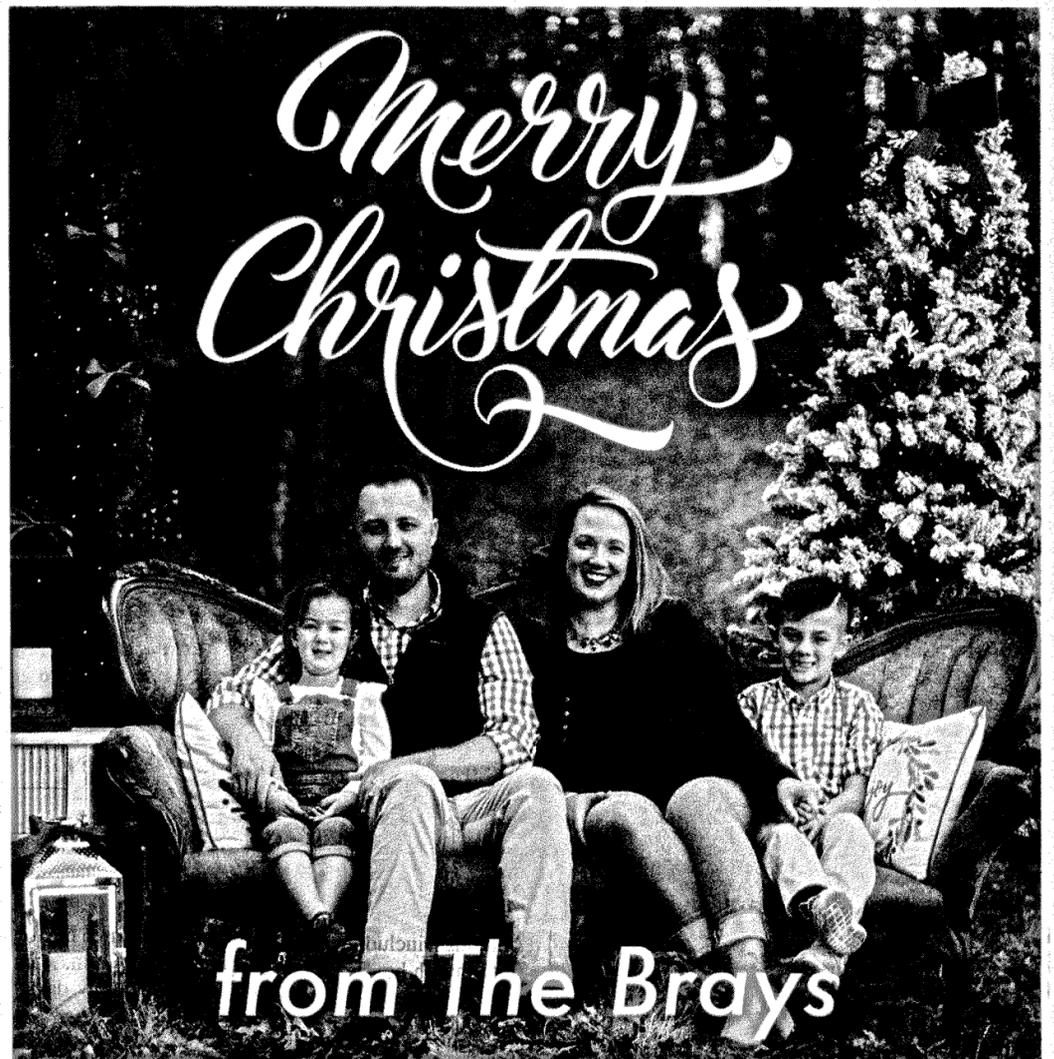
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Rockcastle Family Dental Center
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Points East

By Ike Adams



My closest friend, when I was growing up on Blair Branch, was Truman Caudill. Actually Truman was my best friend off and on because his parents moved around a lot and often spent 1 or 2 years at a time in Indiana before his mom would move back home for 3 or 4 years while his dad would rent a room in a boarding house to stay up there and work. Truman's mom simply could not tolerate city living for any long stretches of time, but his dad had a better job than he could find in KY and made monthly, weekend trips back home. He also had ample vacation time to come home through the holidays and during the summer.

There was an old saying that the further you went up Blair Branch, the meaner it got and Truman Caudill lived in the last house. There were a few times, before and even after Truman's folks lived in their old place when I lay claim to that dubious honor but I never lived up to it anywhere near Truman's bent for mischief and even that was largely unearned.

The fact of the matter was that Truman would give you the shirt off his back unless you happened

to be a teacher he didn't like and he didn't like very many. The sentiment was mutual. If a teacher sat down on an upturned thumb tack, she didn't even question the rest of us. Truman took the paddling and swore that hearing her scream when flesh connected with needle sharp tack was worth every lick of it.

One particular teacher had a paddle about 2 feet long and half an inch thick with holes drilled through the middle that spelled out BOARD OF EDUCATION. Truman took great pride in having the boys meet him at our outdoor toilet to see how many words we could find on his rear end when he dropped his pants. I don't believe she ever caught onto the fact that, instead of punishment, she was giving him a badge of honor.

At Christmas I was often more anxious to see what presents Truman had received than I was in getting my own, more modest haul. Truman was an only child and, as previously mentioned, his dad had a good a good job with steady work. My dad was a miner and during the winter months his work often depended on whether or not coal trucks could get to and from the mines. Santa Claus's fi-

nanial position on Blair Branch usually depended on how well the mines were working.

While my brothers and I were often thrilled with Tonka toys and new jeans, Truman usually had a new bicycle, the newest Daisy BB gun on the market, a shiny new bobsled or all 3. We usually got to play with Truman's stuff as much as he did. At least while it lasted, because Truman was rough on stuff. His mom used to say that he could tear up an anvil. His Christmas bike was often beyond repair before the weather was warm and dry enough for it to have a lot of utility on the muddy, rutted roads of Blair Branch, but he rode it anyway.

Truman was 3 years older than me and several inches taller. His widow, Margie, my classmate for 12 years, recently sent me an internet photo of the two of us when I was about 10 and Truman about 13. In the photo he and I are standing side by side and I am wearing a pair of his hand-me-down jeans with the waist line pulled up nearly to my arm pits. Loretta took one glance at the picture and said I looked like Urkle on the old tv show, Family Matters.

As Tom T. Hall might have said, "I thought he was a hero and I used to follow Truman around." I simply can't let December go by without fondly remembering my late, dear friend. It simply does not feel like Christmas without Truman Caudill in it.

Station in D.C., approximately 30 miles from their house.

At its inaugural on April 30, 1932, the George Washington was C&O's top-notch train. It was one of only two all air-conditioned, long-distance trains operating in America. Just before we decided to take the ride, it was completely refurbished by Pullman and by C&O. Tracks Magazine reported, "The newly redesigned George is a sizeable train with its engine, three baggage cars, a diner, three coaches, and four Pullman cars."

I was thrilled to take an excursion on such a special train. When we boarded, Bee and I stashed our bags, settled down, and tried to contain our excitement when we felt the engine pull out of the L & N Depot. It was late afternoon, and we watched the familiar scenery through our window as we headed east.

After dark overtook our view, we settled down into the comfortable seats and were lulled to sleep by the sound of the wheels on the track. After a short nap, it was difficult for me to stay in one place while on board this exciting ride. With Bee sleeping, I quietly got up and walked to the back of the last car where you could go outside and see the tracks disappear into the darkness. I stood there for a long time just feeling the train as it rocked gently from side to side. Occasionally, I could get a glimpse of the engine as it traveled through a curve.

In 1960, I was able to ride the George Washington one more time. Al and Eva had visited Mt. Vernon and invited me to go home with them. After spending a few days in Manassas, I boarded the George to make my way home to Kentucky. The trip was completely different because I was familiar with the train. But I again found myself standing on the back of the last car watching the tracks slipping away. I was mesmerized by the sight, sound, and feel of being on a train. I am so glad that my older brother provided a reason for me to spend time on the George.

Since my first encounter with trains, I have loved them—the look, the sounds, the sight, and even the smell of them. I consider it a gift from the good Lord above that I experienced an actual trip on the George Washing-

ton Special.

It has been quite a while since I have taken any train rides. But I have rarely passed the on the chance – even if it was a tourist-inspired short jaunt up, down, or around a mountain. To me, there is nothing like the feel and sound of being on the rails.

(You can reach me at themtnman@att.net or you can drop me a line at 30 Johnson Avenue - Mt. Sterling, KY 40353. I appreciate your comments and suggestions.)

Aces

(Continued from A2)

In 2020, there were days that I just wasn't in a good mood. With the family, loved ones and health I have, why would I ever be in a sour mood? Yet, I was at times.

I'm sure there were days that I didn't give someone the personal attention they were seeking or perhaps, needing. There were days when I didn't comfort someone who was telling me of a problem they had.

There were times that I could have smiled, but didn't. Times when I could have laughed, but didn't. Times when I could have said "thank you," but didn't.

This year there were moments when I could have said something good about someone, and I let it pass. Moments when I could have taken up for an underdog, but I just sat quietly.

There were times that I was impatient and times that I was not tolerant. Times that I judged others and was prideful.

Yes Santa, I could have been a lot better person this year. Then again,

I guess that goes for every year.

My guess is that most of us on earth could say all the same things. Surely, there was a moment that everyone could have been a better person.

I suppose there will never be a year when I can't say the same things again. It's a shame really. I tried to do all these things right. But over and over, I failed.

I had an aunt (Sissy) with Downs Syndrome who passed away years ago. I think about her every year at this time because she may be the only person I ever met who may not have had these same weaknesses.

She sat in the living room floor for 40 years with her doll and ate light bread every day.

She didn't own anything except a doll and a loaf of bread. It's all she had and it was all she wanted. She was perfectly content.

Though I couldn't understand her much, she never spoke an ill word about another person. Never seemed jealous. Never missed a chance to smile.

Still, every time I walked in, she would offer me her bread and hand me her doll.

To me, that is the spirit of giving and compassion and love, and kindness. She offered me less than anyone I knew. But she was the only person to offer all she had.

Yes Santa, I could have been a lot better person this year.

What do I want for Christmas?

Give me a heart like Sissy's.

Merry Christmas to all.

Rockcastle Community Bulletin Board

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Rockcastle County Bookmobile Schedule
Library is open 9:30 to 4:30 Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays. Bookmobile Schedule: Monday, Dec. 28th: No service. Tuesday, Dec. 29th: Ottawa and Bee Lick. Wednesday, Dec. 30th: Spiro, Level Green, Willailla, KY 3245, Bryant Ridge. Curbside service is still available for books and DVDs. The library will be closed December 24, 25 and 26 for the Christmas holiday and December 31, Jan. 1 and Jan. 2 for New Year's. Merry Christmas! Pam Chaliff and library staff.

Rockcastle Health Dept.

The Rockcastle County Health Dept. will be closing for the Christmas holiday at 1:30 p.m. on 12/23/2020 and will be closed until 12/28/2020 reopening at 8 a.m. We will be closing for the New Years holiday at 1:30 p.m. on 12/30/2020 and be closed until 1/4/2021 reopening at 8 a.m. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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, those qualified to be members and family members. Currently the post is closed, other than for monthly meetings or by appointment only, because of COVID-19. Monthly meetings are held on the third Saturday of every month at 5 p.m. Those wishing to contact the VFW for help, information or any need, please contact Post Commander William B.J. Thomason at 859-358-2882 or Adjutant Glenda Botellos at 606-386-9360.

Rockcastle County Recovery Meetings

Monday-Celebrate Recovery-Brodhead: Community Outreach Center, two sessions - Monday, 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Leaders: Nathan DeLeon 859-230-9590/Kathryn Pope 606-308-3099/Tammy McGuire 606-308-1614.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous: 7 p.m. on Williams St., Mt. Vernon.

Wednesday-Celebrate Recovery Step Studies. Men Only. Northside Baptist, 606-256-5577, Wednesday, 7 p.m. Please call by 4 p.m. if you need a ride on the church van.

Thursday-Celebrate Recovery-Step Studies - Women Only. Community Outreach Center, Brodhead, Thursday, 6 p.m. Leaders: Kathryn Pope, 606-308-3099 and Tammy McGuire 606-308-1614.

AA Meeting, 8 p.m. Open Share at the Brodhead Center.

Friday-Celebrate Recovery-Livingston School Cafe. Leader: J.R. Cornelius, 859-314-7828. Friday, 6 p.m.

Saturday - Celebrate Recovery: Crosspoint Church of God, 211 Industrial Park Road, Mt. Vernon. 10:30 a.m. Saturday. Leaders: John Burton 606-308-8226, Joanie Mink 606-308-3190.

Memories

(Continued from A2)

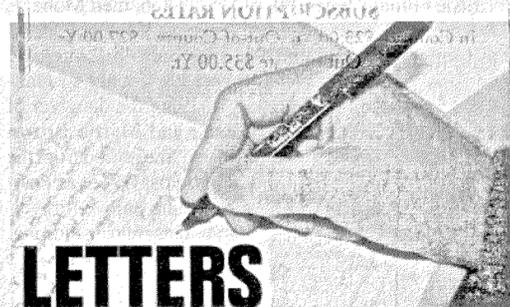
an oval track with several buildings, including a depot, church house, and a courthouse.

Uncles Charles helped me set up the track properly and showed me how the train worked. That train had a working headlight, a train whistle, and smoke that arose from the stack! It might have been my all-time favorite toy.

Later, when I was about eight-years-old, I would go with my grandfather (Pop) when he placed his grocery orders with the Louisville and Nashville 11:00 pm train. Pop was a drummer for Louisville Grocery Company and Aubry Feed Mills. He covered Mt. Vernon grocery and feed stores on Mondays. On Tuesdays, he covered Brodhead and that section of Rockcastle County. On Wednesdays, he took orders in Livingston and beyond to London and other areas in Laurel County.

After dinner, Pop would complete the paperwork for his orders, and he allowed me to ride with him when he took his orders to the L&N Depot. I loved seeing the big, black train pull into Mt. Vernon and then pull out as it headed to Louisville and beyond. That train seemed so powerful to a young boy.

Years later, my mother (Bee) and I boarded the majestic train called the George Washington Special to Washington D.C. when I was 14 years of age. The year was 1958. We departed from the Lexington station for a visit with my elder brother and his wife, who had recently moved to Manassas, VA. He was a pastor there for the Woodbine Baptist Church. The George did not unload passengers in Manassas, so Al and Eva would meet us at Union



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year..

Dear Editor,
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to these four fine gentlemen: Delmas Bullock, Ernie Bowling, Kenneth Parsons and Howard Saylor.

The first three have worked on most of their neighbor cars, trucks, tractors, farm machinery, lawnmowers over many years.

The fourth, Howard Saylor, has helped cure a lot of men and women in Rockcastle County thru his pharmacy work.

The best in the county. Thanks to all four of them. good luck and God bless all of them.

Bob Lunsford

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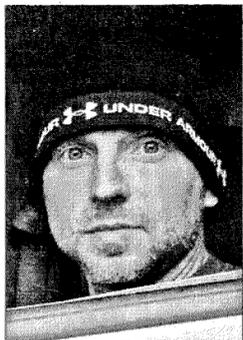
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Obituaries

Donnie Andrew Barron

Donnie Andrew Barron, 40, of Mt. Vernon, died Thursday, December 17, 2020 at the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington. He was born in Rockcastle County on January 15, 1980, the son of Russell and Mattie McFerron Barron. He enjoyed fishing, ginseng and mushroom hunting, trading, and making others laugh. He loved his dog, Daisy, making pecan pies, and taking drives back in the hills, no matter the weather.



He was united in marriage to his loving wife, Sheila Bowers Barron, on March 13, 2014. Other survivors include: a step-daughter, Candice Scalf and husband Jon of Mt. Vernon; his mother, Mattie Barron of Mt. Vernon; four brothers, Roger Barron, Bobby Barron and wife Carolyn, and Ricky Barron, all of Mt. Vernon, and Billy Barron and wife Karen of Scaffold Cane; two sisters, Brenda Cromer and husband Skeeter, and Linda Callebs and husband Mark, both of Mt. Vernon; two step-grandchildren, Zaydon and Amiyah Scalf, both of Mt. Vernon; nieces, Normagena Carpenter and Tiffany Hayes, both of Mt. Vernon, and Elizabeth Barron and Katelyn Barron, both of Scaffold Cane; nephews, Danny Barron, Justin Barron, Thomas Jones, and Mitchell Jones, all of Mt. Vernon; a great niece, Aivyn Barron of Mt. Vernon; and great nephews, Nathaniel Carpenter and Elijah Carpenter, both of Mt. Vernon.

He was preceded in death by: his father, Russell Barron; two brothers, James Russell Barron and Danny Wayne Barron; his paternal grandparents, Edward and Evie Swinney Barron; his maternal grandparents, William and Mae Cromer McFerron; a niece, Rebecca Lynn Barron; and a great nephew, Braxton Ray Barron.

Funeral services were held December 21, 2020 at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home Chapel by Bro. Marcus Reppert. Burial was in High Dry Cemetery. Please visit www.DowellMartin.com or Dowell & Martin Funeral Home's Facebook page to view online obituary.

Elsie Gilliam Jones

Elsie Gilliam Jones, 90, of Livingston, died Monday, December 14, 2020 at the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington. She was born in Lamero in Rockcastle County on January 4, 1930, the daughter of Claude and Myrtle Brown Gilliam. She retired from the Lamero Post Office as Postmaster. She enjoyed traveling, fishing, and swimming. She was a member of Livingston Christian Church.

She is survived by: her children, James E. Jones and wife Eula Jayne of Orlando, and Sharon Gail Jones of Livingston; and two brothers, Clarence Gilliam of Livingston, and Kenneth Gilliam of London. Also surviving are five grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, and three great great grandchildren. In addition to her parents, Claude and Myrtle Gilliam, she was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Jones, a brother, and two sisters.

Funeral services were held December 18, 2020 at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home Chapel by Bros. Phillip Doan and Jason Medley. Burial was in Red Hill Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: David Gilliam, Troy Johnson, Eddie Jones, Janelle Jones, Charles Mullins, and Mazzie Rudder.

Please visit www.DowellMartin.com to view online obituary.

For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord

This day is the topic of a lot of discussion, that is on what day was Christ born? Obviously, the scripture does not put a calendar date on this event.

Isaiah the Prophet foretold this event some 700 years before it happened. *Isaiah 9:6-7*. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace, there shall be no end, upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will perform this.

What should be important to all of us is that this prophecy was fulfilled in Christ. *Luke 2:11* That scripture tells us that a Saviour was born. Christ lived and preached his gospel during his ministry. He was crucified for the sins of all of humanity. In *Matthew 28:18*, it says All power is given unto me in Heaven and in earth.

Yes, Christ's birth was a very important occasion but more important was his sacrificial death on Calvary's Cross that we might have forgiveness of sins and a hope of an eternal abode with our Saviour and Heavenly Father when this short life is over.

Everyone Welcome
Robby Cable - 606-305-8452

109 Providence Cemetery Rd. • Brodhead

Providence
CHURCH of CHRIST

Fannie Mae Wallin

Fannie Mae Wallin, 77, of Mt. Vernon, died December 16, 2020 at Baptist Health in Richmond, after a long illness. Fannie was born in Mt. Vernon on February 11, 1943, the daughter of the late Robert "Bob" and Rose Jones Jasper. She was a school teacher in Owen and in Rockcastle County for 31 years. She loved singing, playing music, writing songs, writing poetry, reading, and traveling. She was a baptized member of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Mt. Vernon.



Survivors are: one daughter, Regina (Philip) Hull-Brown of Mt. Vernon; siblings, Shelby Shockley of Conway and John Jasper of Crab Orchard; sister-in-law, Rosa Lee Jasper of London; four grandchildren, Brandy (Matthew) Smith, Brandon (Kirbie) Reynolds, Rachel Killen, and Caleb Price; nine great grandchildren; and one very special great great niece, Patience Gleissner. She was preceded in death by: her husband, Tom E. Wallin; a daughter, Tomina Price; a son, Thomas F. Wallin; and siblings, Carroll Gilliland and Wayne Jasper.

Graveside services were conducted Saturday, December 19, 2020 at Elmwood Cemetery and services were private.

Pallbearers were: Brandon Reynolds, Matthew Smith, Caleb Price and Phillip Hull-Brown.

Honorary pallbearers were Jasper Reynolds and Beckham Smith.

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

Beulah Lear

Beulah Lear, 90, of Berea, died Monday, December 21, 2020 at the Terrace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center.

Funeral arrangements are by Dowell & Martin Funeral Home and are incomplete.

Bro. Don Stayton

Bro. Don Stayton, 74, husband of Donna, of Mt. Vernon, died Sunday, December 20, 2020 at Rockcastle Regional Hospital in Mt. Vernon. Visitation will be Saturday, December 26, 2020 from 5-8 p.m. at Bible Baptist Church. Funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, December 27, 2020 at Bible Baptist Church.

A complete obituary will be posted as soon as it is available.

Condolences may be made at www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com

Keith Rigsby

Keith Rigsby, 90, of Brodhead, died Thursday, December 10, 2020 at the Terrace Nursing Home in Berea after a long illness. He was born November 17, 1930 in Rockcastle County, the son of the late Clyde and Margaret Harris Rigsby. He was a retired farmer and licensed Funeral Director, was a former Brodhead Fire Chief, he enjoyed collecting toy tractors and playing Santa Claus, and was a member of the Union Chapel Church. The joy in Keith's heart these past few years came from his love for the Lord and the joy he received from his grandchildren. Dalton Keith, Bailey and Brittney were loved with everything he had.

Survivors are: Kaye Rigsby, Buford Parkerson, Sharon McKinney, Anna Lee Huddleston, and Faye Rigsby; five step-children, Charles and Paula DeBorde, Wayne DeBorde and Vicki Reynolds, Betty Brown and David, all of Brodhead, and Robert and Ginnie DeBorde of Mt. Vernon; and seven grandchildren. Besides his parents, he was also preceded in death by: his wife, Susie Rigsby; Glen Rigsby, and Lucy Rigsby Harns.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 12, 2020 at Cox Funeral Home with Bro. Buford Parkerson officiating. Burial followed in Piney Grove Cemetery. Services were private.

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

Higher Praise Ministries Chris Davidson, Pastor & Gracious Giving

would like to give our thanks to our donors who helped make this event possible.

We would like to say Thank You to WalMart, Crazy Johns, Family Dollar, Mt. Vernon Signal and for the community donations.

To everyone we were able to serve during this event, you all were an absolute blessing. We love each and everyone of you.

God Bless

Linda Kay Tackett-Fielder

Linda Kay Fielder, 77, went home to Jesus after a brief illness on December 13, 2020, one day after securing 57 years with her beloved husband. She was born August 2, 1943.



She is survived by her: husband, Ed Fielder; her son, Wayne Fielder (Angela Estep Fielder); her beloved kitty, Goldy; and her granddog, Jojo.

She was the daughter of Wilhelmena and Arthur Tackett of Boyd County. After graduating high school, she attended King's Daughters' Hospital School of Nursing graduating as a Registered Nurse. This officially began a life of healing and saving others. Beginning her career as a student nurse at Eastern State Hospital in Lexington, she met Ed Fielder and they were soon married. They had a son, Wayne Edward Fielder in 1967.

Kay lived a life of service and family. Leading the charge in the Home Healthcare industry, she helped to found the Rockcastle Home Healthcare system. After hanging up her Nursing hat, she became an entrepreneur with her husband. As owner of Keepsake Record Shop and Country Meadow Soap Company, based in Mt. Vernon, she pursued her passions with a fire as bright as her vibrant red hair.

Funeral services were held Friday, December 18, 2020 at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bruce Ross officiating. Burial was in Cresthaven Cemetery.

Condolences may be made at www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com

James L (Lloyd) Burton

James L (Lloyd) Burton, 85, died December 5, 2020, peacefully at home surrounded by his family. He was born in Somerset to the late Grover and Mattie (Hurst) Burton.

He was a member of the Loveland Heights Church of Christ and a faithful Christian for 66 years. We take comfort knowing he is resting in the arms of Jesus. He retired from General Motors in Norwood after 30 years of service. He loved his family and greatly enjoyed his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He will be deeply missed by all those that knew and loved him.

He is survived by: his wife of 66 years, Violet (June) Burton (nee Carter); and three children, Doug (Cathy) Burton, Jim (Rae Lynn) Burton, and Paula (Jeff) Middendorf. He adored his eight grandchildren, Michaeline Bailey, Matt and Nicholas Burton, Brandy (Shannon) Grubb, Ashley (Dewayne) Stanifer, Chelsey (Adam) Pettyjohn, Emmalee Middendorf, and Maggie Burton. He also took great pride in his nine great grandchildren, Elizabeth Burton, Logan, Alexis, and Kody Grubb, Owen, Oliver and Sydney Stanifer, Trevor and Harper Pettyjohn. He is also survived by two sisters, Berniece (Jearl) Cromer and Ruth (WA) Owens, and two sister-in-laws, Billie Burton, and Edie Raines.

He was preceded in death by: two brothers, Ronnie and Carl Burton; and one brother-in-law, Floyd (Bill) Raines.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 10, 2020 at Hodapp Funeral Home. There was a short visitation at the Fairview Church of Christ in Somerset on Friday, December 11 and a graveside ceremony following at Fairview Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Hospice of Cincinnati. They were an amazing comfort to us in Dad's last days.

The Birth of Jesus

We find the birth of our Lord and our Savior had been prophesied, many hundred years ago by Isaiah 9:6-7 For unto us a child is born, unto us a child is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom.

Isaiah prophesied of the names our Lord would be called, Wonderful in that he was conceived by a virgin. *Matthew 1:23* The virgin shall be with child and they shall call his name Immanuel, meaning God with us. How wonderful it is to have the Son of God with us to live among us as John declares in *John 1:1* In the beginning, was the word and the word was with God and the word was God.

Isaiah 28:29 Speaks of Jesus being wonderful in his counsel, and excellent in his working. Jesus came to show us how we must live to be pleasing in the eyes of the Father. He is our Guide, Teacher, Counselor, our Intercessor, our Helper in time of trouble. What a blessing Isaiah declares Jesus to be at all times.

What a blessing it was when Jesus came into this world, He brought peace to those who would receive it. *Luke 2:14* Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. This promise of peace was not made to the world, it was made only to the children of God. We find in *John 14:27* Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Putting our trust in the Lord, while we wait for the blessed hope, gives us peace knowing that our Lord is the Almighty God. *Titus 2:13* Looking for that blessed hope, and that glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.

There stands One who has come to deliver us, forgive us and save us. He is the bread of life. He is the light of the world. He is the reason for our rejoicing, Not just this season. But every day we live, he should be the reason we rejoice, and we have peace in our hearts.

Remember that peace that Jesus gives, is a peace that passes all understanding. Let us share that peace with those that we love, our friends, our neighbors, anybody that will listen.

Thank you for reading this message, I pray God keeps you safe and your holidays are happy.

(It is a shame, a change in the weather is talked about more than our risen Savior.)

You can call us at these numbers: If you would like to talk to someone from the Church: Bro. Dale McNew-859-582-4021-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

News from the Rockcastle Courthouse



Marriage Licenses

Shelby Lynn Loverle Woodall, 24, Brodhead Marathon and Jonathon Coy Broughton, 26, Brodhead, INDFAS. 12/15/20

Dorothy Lou Robinson, 56, Berea, housewife and Raymond John Mueller, Berea, 65, retired. 12/18/20

Deeds Recorded

Doris J. Lamb, property on US 25, to Michael Wayne and Julia K. Lamb. No tax

Codey Stewart and Raychel McKinney, prop-

erty on KY 461, to BaD Property Holdings LLC. Tax \$28.50

Daphne Renee and Jeffrey Dean Durham, property on Wildie School Road, to Chelsea Lakay and Joseph Kyle Riddle. Tax \$175

Stephany Hancock, property in Dusty Trails Subdv., to Barbara Pitman. No tax

Willene Burton, property on KY 70, to Matthew and Tara D. Brown. No tax

Andrew C. and Tricia Beth Nelson, property in Rockcastle County, to Mitchell R. and Jenni M. Weaver. Tax \$180

Robert T. Hayden, property in Rockcastle County, to Rose E. Hayden. No tax

Douglas and Loretta Mink, property in Rockcastle County, to Frankie

and Joanie Woodall. No tax

Jason Dale and Jeannette Raye Scoggin, property in Rockcastle County, to Marshall Dale and Gail Scoggin. No tax

Glenda Gentry, property in Happy Acres Subdv., to Judy D. Harris. No tax

Raymond Griffin, property in Livingston, to David and Betty Newcomb. Tax \$13

Sylvia H. Waddle and Lewis Dale and Pamela Holcomb, property on US 150, to Benny Ray and Sharon G. Burchett. Tax \$134

Howell H. Holbrook, Jr. and Lena Gail Holbrook and Jeffrey T. and Twila C. Burdette property on KY 1505, to Steve and Patricia Taylor. Tax \$1

Walter Reusch, property on US 25, to Jeffrey King and Treena C. Burdette. Tax \$7.50

Edith Smith, Trina Coffey and Porter and Ashley Smith, property on KY 1249, to Cromer Smith, Jr. and Jeffrey Smith. No tax

Kevin L. and Angela A. Cole, property in Rockcastle County, to Troy R. and Jessica Baker. Tax \$235

KBR Enterprises LLC, property on Laswell Farm, to Stephen C. McClure. Tax \$100

Sallie G. Stallworth, property on Rose Hill Road, to Sallie G. and Wayne Combs. No tax

Joshua Reed and Destiny Kesler, property on the banks of Rockcastle River, to David and Tammy Gibbs. Tax \$6

Pactiv LLC, property in Rockcastle County Multi-County Industrial Park, to Rockcastle County Industrial Development Assn. and Rockcastle County Fiscal Court.

Rockcastle County gifting hope this holiday season

For many Kentuckians, the holiday season is bittersweet. Families across the commonwealth are praying for a gift that cannot be found wrapped under the tree –

the gift of life. The Kentucky Circuit Court Clerks' Trust For Life encourages everyone to spread holiday cheer by joining the Kentucky Organ Donor Registry.

Families like Eden's, a liver recipient from Harrison County, will make new memories this year because of a generous donor family. Eden was born with a liver disease and was extremely sick. Her family was told that a liver transplant was their only option. "Because of Eden's transplant, we can do normal things as a family without having to run back and forth to the hospital," said Ashley, Eden's mom. Knowing that time with her is priceless, Eden is now a special part of holiday memories that will last a lifetime!

Boosting holiday cheer at home during socially distant season

(StatePoint) Unfortunately, many Americans will be unable to celebrate the holidays with their extended family and friends in person this year, making it all the more important to boost holiday cheer at home. Here are a few festive ideas for getting into the holiday spirit during this unusual kind of socially distant season.

barely larger than the keys themselves. Integrated Bluetooth audio lets you connect your device wirelessly to the musical keyboard, so you can play all your favorite holiday music through its powerful stereo-amplification system.

• Don't skip out on the decorations: You may not be hosting any houseguests, gatherings or big meals, but this shouldn't be the year to skip out on the full-scale decorating you typically enjoy. Lights, trees, garlands, stockings and wreaths can evoke favorite memories of past seasons and invite hope for future ones all season long. You can even set up a video conference to enjoy the camaraderie of decorating with far-off loved ones.

• Add favorite aromas: Now that you have the sights and sounds of the season covered, don't forget its delicious scents. Your nose will know the holidays have arrived when you bake that first batch of gingerbread cookies or light candles in scents like evergreen and peppermint. You can even try simmering a pot of water and add aromatic ingredients to it such as cloves, cinnamon sticks and rosemary.

• Deck the halls with music. Add a digital piano to your holiday-scape to help elevate the mood with Christmas carols and other seasonal tunes. Consider Casio's line of PX-S console digital pianos, which have a striking design that fit any room, décor and mood. A glossy top panel and unibody case evoke a luxurious acoustic grand in a sleek case that's

• Send season's greetings: Set aside an afternoon to compose and send holiday cards. This end-of-year tradition allows you to reconnect with the people you care about most and can help lend the season a touch of normalcy.

White you may not be making your usual visit to relatives or throwing your annual bash, there are many creative ways to make the most of the season and create happy memories for years to come for you and your entire family.

"This year 60,000 Kentuckians have joined us in our mission to save lives through organ donation. Time with those we love is priceless; give the gift of health and hope by saying 'yes' to joining the registry!" says Eliza Jane York-Hansel, Rockcastle County Circuit Court Clerk.

With nearly 1,000 Kentuckians waiting on a transplant this holiday season, the need is great. Everyone can register online as a donor to bring hope to those, like Eden, who are in need.

To join the TFL mission, you may join the Kentucky Organ Donor Registry by using any of the following methods below.

- Online 24/7 at RegisterMe.org
- Driver's License Renewals: Check with your local Circuit Court Clerk and KYTC office to confirm renewal processes by visiting <https://bit.ly/driverlicenseky>.
- Using your Apple iPhone, toggle to "organ donor" through the Health App

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

Kent Smith & the agency staff at

INSURANCE AGENCY

would like to thank all of their Rockcastle Co. customers for their business with them in 2020.

We wish everyone a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Auto * Life * Home * Motorcycle * ATV * Business * Farm

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 toll free
 844-426-8420

Kentucky Growers

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



Hot Rodders 2020
 Hot Rodders shown in the above photo are, front row: Jasper Mason, Randell Reynolds, Corbin Hacker, Castiel Miller, Emery Reynolds, Madison Reynolds, Natalie Smith, Drake Gibbons, Albeni Mason, Amyla Foster and Jackson Cruise. Second row: Destiny Reynolds, Emma Reynolds, Zoey Hughes, Nolan Cecil, Macy Ann Code, Lillie Proctor, Stephanie Proctor, Aliva Smith, Emma Vincent, Destiny Allen, Tanner Mason. Back row, coaches Perry Mason, Jr., Brandon Reynolds, Doug Proctor, Jason Proctor, B.J. Thomason. Not pictured: Brittani Coffee (announcer), Chris Bengel (coach), Jaxon Burton, Sadie Gibbons, Korbin Gibbons, Adalin Horick, Kalijah Higgins, Adalin Hedrick, Elijah Miller, Corbin Thacker, Donovan Higgins, David Pearson, Maci Surface, Kale Thompson and T.J. Mason.

Hot Rodders hold picnic and give awards at VFW Post

Due to COVID 19 restrictions, the Rockcastle Hot Rodders league was postponed to the fall this year but there was still a pretty good turnout and a good year.

The picnic was held on October 31st at the VFW Post and the children came in their Halloween costumes. Everyone got a trophy and a toy.

Even with all the shutdowns, businesses and individuals gave generously to help get the toys and we

thank everyone who contributed.

Sponsors were: Citizens Bank, Best Little Hair House In Town, Marcella's Farm to Fork, New Visions, Terry Morgan Plumbing, Circuit Clerk Eliza York-Hansel, County Judge Howell Holbrook, Jr., County Clerk Danetta Allen, R. Marlene Lawson, Brodhead Farm Mart, Lone Star, Big Tease Hair Salon, Los Cazadores, Mary Mathis Insurance Agency, Marvin Owens Home for Funerals

and Monuments, Pam's Flowers and Gifts, Cox Funeral Home, Lambert and Lambert PLC, Dicie Allen, Limestone Grille, Deno's Bar and Grill.

Also a thank you to our yearly sponsors: Rockcastle Professional Pharmacy, Mt. Vernon Signal, KFC, Wendy's, Marathon, Galaxi Screenprinting, Mt. Vernon Drug, Brodhead Pharmacy, Collins Respiratory Care, Inc., Back Porch Smokehouse, Foster Trophies, Barbara Ann's Photography, Rockcastle Memorial VFW Post 5908.

Also a big thank you to the City of Mt. Vernon for the use of the field at the lake.

Merry Christmas

We'd like to send our greetings for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our neighbors and friends!



Lone Star Farm & Home

Hwy. 150 between Mt Vernon & Brodhead

606-256-0234



Thank you for your patronage in 2020 and we are looking forward to serving you in 2021!

Los Cazadores
 MEXICAN RESTAURANT
 Main St • Mt. Vernon

Rockcastle County Recycling Center open for recycling drop-offs

The Rockcastle County Recycling Center is located at 2528 South Wilderness Rd (US 25 South) next to the Rockcastle County Road Department Garage and is open Monday thru Friday from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. (closed on major holidays).

The following items may be recycled:

Newspapers w/inserts, magazines, catalogs, office paper, junk mail, shredded paper (needs to be bagged), books, phone books (paper products cannot be plastic lined or coated), cardboard (both corrugated and slick), plastics #1 Pet or Pvc, plastics #2 HDPE, (no sheet plastics or plastic bags of any kind; no buckets or totes, no matter what number is on it), metal cans, aerosol cans, aluminum cans, aluminum foil, aluminum pie plates, glass bottles and glass jars (lids must be removed and discarded), old cell phones, car batteries, empty printer and toner cartridges, old computers (no monitors of any kind) and all related accessories, telephones, radios, digital clocks, (no televisions of any kind), rechargeable batteries (if the battery says rechargeable on it, then it is recyclable), and large bulky metal items.

Clean used motor oil may also be dropped off at the Rockcastle County Road Department.

Recycling Drop-Off Trailers are available for use at:

- Brodhead (at the back baseball field)
- Conway (by Brindle Ridge Volunteer Fire Dept.)
- Livingston (between Liv. Fire Dept. & City Hall)
- Pongo (by Pongo Volunteer Fire Dept.)
- Climax (by Climax Volunteer Fire Dept.)

Violations may be issued for putting trash in the recycling trailers!!!

If you have any questions, you may call the Rockcastle Solid Waste Office at 606-256-1902.



Funded in part through a grant from the Kentucky Pride Fund. Division of Waste Management.

For That Hard to Buy For Person



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Mail to: Mt. Vernon Signal • PO Box 185 • Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

New Whitley County Welcome Center open to visitors

Governor Andy Beshear recently announced the official grand opening of a new welcome center in southeastern Kentucky located at mile marker 1.5 in Whitley County off I-75 North.

In response to the spread of COVID-19, federal and state public health officials advised that travel should be limited throughout the nation to slow the spread of COVID-19. As Kentucky continues its fight to defeat the virus, state officials have remained committed to ensuring travel and tourism can safely resume in the commonwealth.

Once travel can safely resume across the nation, the welcome center in Whitley County will serve as a major point of entry for tourists traveling north into Kentucky from Tennessee, and a thoroughfare for commercial drivers passing through the Bluegrass State.

As we remain diligent in our fight to defeat COVID-19, our administration continues to work tirelessly to ensure travel can safely resume in the commonwealth, said Gov. Beshear. This new, modern facility will provide the nearly 30,000 vehicles per day that cross into the southern portion of I-75 a safe, welcoming first impression as travelers enter the commonwealth.

Construction of the new facility is a collaborative effort between the Transportation Cabinet, Finance and Administration Cabinet, and Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet. The Finance Cabinet oversaw the construction of the new ADA facility, while the Transportation Cabinet will manage the day-to-day operations, and tourism employees will provide staffing for the center.

The construction of the welcome center was funded with 80 percent federal funds and a 20 percent state match. D.W. Wilburn of Lexington was awarded the \$5.5 million contract to design and build the new welcome center, which is similar in design to one located in Shelby County on I-64 East.

The new centers design is ADA compliant and includes enhanced safety features, such as high mast lighting at entrance and exit ramps, as well as parking areas. The exterior features rail fencing, ample bench seating and family-friendly picnic areas. Inside, numerous TV screens will feature videos highlighting Kentucky's famed tourist attractions and lush natural scenery.

The facade of this new welcome center is not only visually appealing, the facility is also very efficient, said Finance and Administration Cabinet Secretary Johnson. An energy recovery ventilator improves indoor air quality while decreasing energy expenses. High-efficiency plumbing fixtures and LED lighting also help reduce recurring operational costs, saving taxpayer dollars.

Kentucky's ideal geographic location puts it at the confluence of the Northeast, Midwest and South, giving it proximity to key populations, and centers of industry and commerce. Although COVID-19 has limited travel throughout the

country, commercial drivers continue to transport essential goods nationwide through our highly developed logistics and distribution infrastructure.

The new Whitley County center features expanded truck parking, which allow commercial drivers to rest in a safe location instead of stopping on ramps or shoulders. Increased restroom capacity and improved vending amenities are also sure to be appreciated by road-weary travelers.

This welcome center offers travelers a safe, inviting place to stop, rest and relax a while, said Transportation Cabinet Secretary Gray. Its been a collaborative effort on the part of our cabinets and the Federal Highway Administration, and it will provide many years of service to the traveling public.

As one of the states largest economic factors, Kentucky tourism is an \$11.8 billion industry in

the commonwealth and serves as a mechanism for helping stimulate the economy in local communities. The Whitley County welcome center will serve as a gateway to some of the most popular tourism destinations in southeastern Kentucky including Cumberland Falls, Lake Cumberland and Big South Fork.

Welcome centers often times serve as our first touchpoint with guests who are traveling through Kentucky, said Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet Secretary Mike Berry. The opening of the new welcome center creates an opportunity for Whitley County and the southeastern Kentucky region to benefit from the revenue generated by tourism and travel spending in the commonwealth.

The new Whitley County welcome center replaces a 1971 rest area that had deteriorated and was frequently closed to the public for costly maintenance and repairs. The center is expected to

welcome nearly 70,000 80,000 visitors annually.

For travelers planning a Kentucky getaway, discover the Bluegrass State by downloading the Kentucky Official

Visitors Guide. Travelers are encouraged to follow all public health safety guidelines including Red Zone Reduction Recommendations. For a list of welcome

centers in Kentucky, visit kentuckytourism.com. To learn more about the Whitley County welcome center, visit <https://youtu.be/2fdmVe401rU>.



from the folks at

Snack Shack



Glenda McFerron Smith - Owner
Closed Christmas Day



Community Drive-Up COVID-19 Testing

DECEMBER 21 - 25

MONDAY 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richmond - White House Clinics: 9:00am-5:30pm McKee - Baptist Church: 9:00am - 5:30pm Irvine - White House Clinics: 9:00am-5:00pm
TUESDAY 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richmond - White House Clinics: 9:00am-5:30pm Berea - Folk Center: 9:00am - 5:30pm Mt. Vernon - White House Clinics: 9:00am-5:00pm
WEDNESDAY 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richmond - White House Clinics: 9:00am-5:30pm Berea - Folk Center: 9:00am - 5:30pm Lancaster - Garrard Co Health Dept: 9:00am-1:00pm
THURSDAY 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLOSED in observance of the holiday. Testing will resume on Monday, December 28th.
FRIDAY 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLOSED in observance of the holiday. Testing will resume on Monday, December 28th.

No Out-of-Pocket Cost!
Please bring Photo ID and Insurance Card (if you have one).

No Appointment Necessary.
Testing available for all ages.

*Winter Weather Plans will be announced as needed.



Community Drive-Up COVID-19 Testing

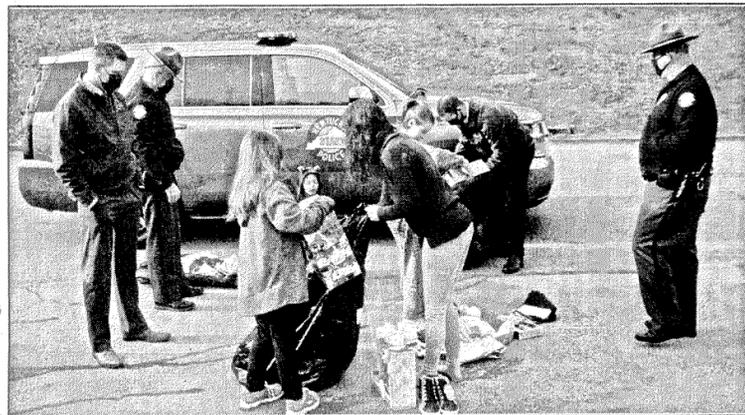
DECEMBER 28 - JANUARY 1

MONDAY 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richmond - White House Clinics: 9:00am - 5:30pm McKee - McKee Baptist Church: 9:00am - 5:30pm
TUESDAY 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richmond - White House Clinics: 9:00am-5:30pm Berea - Folk Center: 9:00am - 5:30pm Mt. Vernon - White House Clinics: 9:00am-5:00pm
WEDNESDAY 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Richmond - White House Clinics: 9:00am-5:30pm Berea - Folk Center: 9:00am - 5:30pm Irvine - White House Clinics: 9:00am-5:00pm
THURSDAY 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Berea - Folk Center: 9:00am - 5:00pm McKee - McKee Baptist Church: 9:00am - 5:00pm Lancaster - Garrard Co Health Dept: 9:00am-1:00pm
FRIDAY 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLOSED in observance of the holiday. Testing will resume on Monday, January 4th.

No Out-of-Pocket Cost!
Please bring Photo ID and Insurance Card (if you have one).

No Appointment Necessary.
Testing available for all ages.

*Winter Weather Plans will be announced as needed.



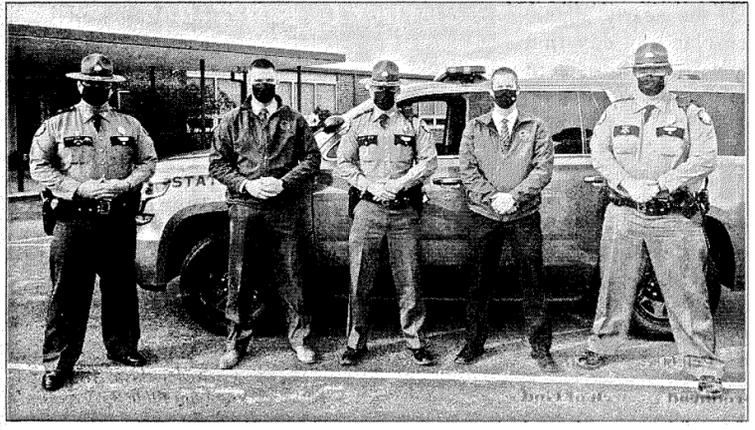
Shop With a Trooper

Due to COVID-19, Shop With A Trooper looked a little different this year.

Troopers didn't take children shopping, instead they were able to play Santa and deliver all of the gifts!

Kentucky State Police were busy Thursday, December 10th spreading cheer to children across Rockcastle County.

In the bottom photo, representing the KSP were, from left: Scottie Pennington, James Royal, Chris Pruitt, Jordan Hopkins and Adam Hensley.



Mamaw's Kitchen

By Regina Poynter Hoskins



BLACKBERRY JAM CAKE

After Will and I moved to California, Mum asked me what I wanted for Christmas. My reply was "A blackberry jam cake with no raisins and lots of frosting." She searched until she came upon this recipe. This was much better than any present she could have gone out and bought for me. All ingredients should be at room temperature.

1/2 cup shortening
2 cups sugar

5 eggs
1 cup buttermilk
3 and 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon cloves
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon allspice
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons vanilla
2 cups blackberry jam
1 cup walnuts
Preheat oven to 300°. Grease and flour 10-inch tube pan. Cream together shortening and sugar until light. Add unbeaten eggs. Mix well. Stir in 1 cup

buttermilk. Sift together flour and spices; add to egg mixture. Mix until well blended. Then add vanilla, jam, and walnuts. Mix well. Pour into a greased and floured tube pan. Bake about 1 and 1/2 hours in 300° oven or until toothpick inserted comes out clean.

CARAMEL FROSTING

1 stick butter
1 cup light brown sugar, packed
1 cup milk
1 pound powdered sugar
Mix butter, brown sugar, and milk together. Put on stove and cook until butter is melted. Take from heat and add powdered sugar. Beat until blended. Let cool. Spread on cooled cake.

BOURBON BALLS

It wasn't Christmas if Mum didn't make these.
1 cup pecans, chopped
3 tablespoons Kentucky bourbon
1 stick butter, at room temperature
1 pound powdered sugar
1/2 bag (12 ounce) semi-sweet chocolate
1/2 rectangle paraffin
Combine pecans and bourbon; wait at least 3 hours for pecans to absorb bourbon flavor. Cream butter and powdered sugar with mixer. Add bourbon and pecan mixture to butter mixture. Mix well. Roll mixture into small balls and chill in refrigerator for 1 and 1/2 hours. Melt chocolate in double boiler, adding shaved paraffin. Heat until thoroughly melted. Using a toothpick or long skewer, dip balls into chocolate and put on waxed paper to dry.

Merry Christmas

May the beauty of this joyous Christmas season bring you joy and happiness all year round.



Brodhead Farm Mart

5215 Hwy. 150 • Brodhead
606-758-4938

GREETINGS OF THE SEASON

May you and your loved ones enjoy all the splendor of this very special time of year.

It's been a pleasure serving you.

From all of us at



KFC closing Christmas Eve at 6 p.m. • Closed Christmas Day
Open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. New Year's Eve and New Year's Day

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
bhoph@gmail.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
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.

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
centralbaptistky.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

Church of Christ at Chestnut Ridge
2 miles south of Mt. Vernon
Turn left off US Hwy 25
Sundays 10:00 a.m.
Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Bro. Ova Baker
Bro. Dale McNew
Bro. Philip 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: Dewayne 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 Razor, 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.fbcmvky.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.

Fountain of Life United Pentecostal Church
80 Sally J Rd., Mt. Vernon
Sunday 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Everyone Welcome
Pastor: James Blanton

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 Church
Pastor: Josh Hasty
606-392-3809

Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Children's Church 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 6:30 p.m.

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 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.

Mareburg 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.mareburgbaptist.org
mareburgchurch@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.newheightskv.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
Pastor:
Bro. Chad Burdette

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.

United Gospel of Christ 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

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

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
Sand Springs Baptist
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 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
R 606-758-4373 R

Howard Saylor Pharmacist	Open: 9:30 to 5:30 Mon. - Fri.	David Collins Owner
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Insurance & Medicare Accepted
Owners: David Collins & Shelly Clements

At Citizens Bank we are a team and we are with you every step of the way.

Citizens Bank

Brodhead 606-758-8212	Mount Vernon 606-256-2500	McKee 606-287-8390	Somerset 606-451-2274
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24 Hour Information Line 1-800-530-8561

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or church gathering --
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10 a.m. to 10 p.m. • 7 Days a Week
U.S. 25 N - Mt. Vernon
606-256-4910



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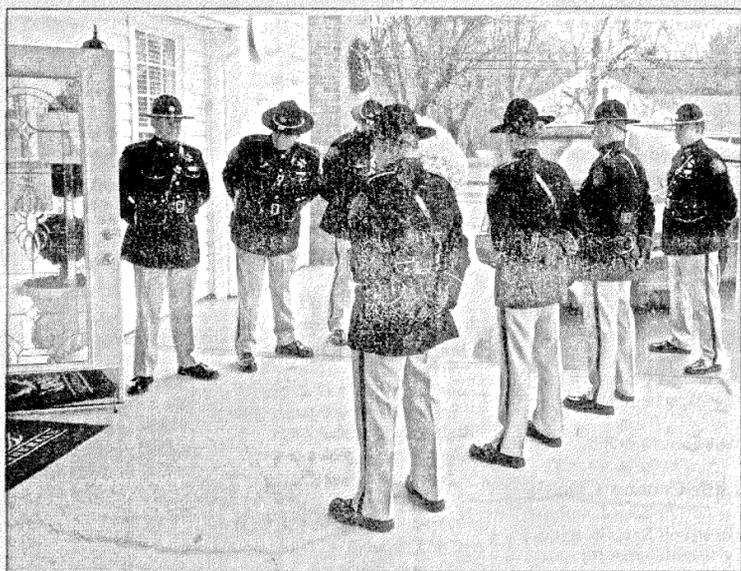
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Breathing Life into healthcare

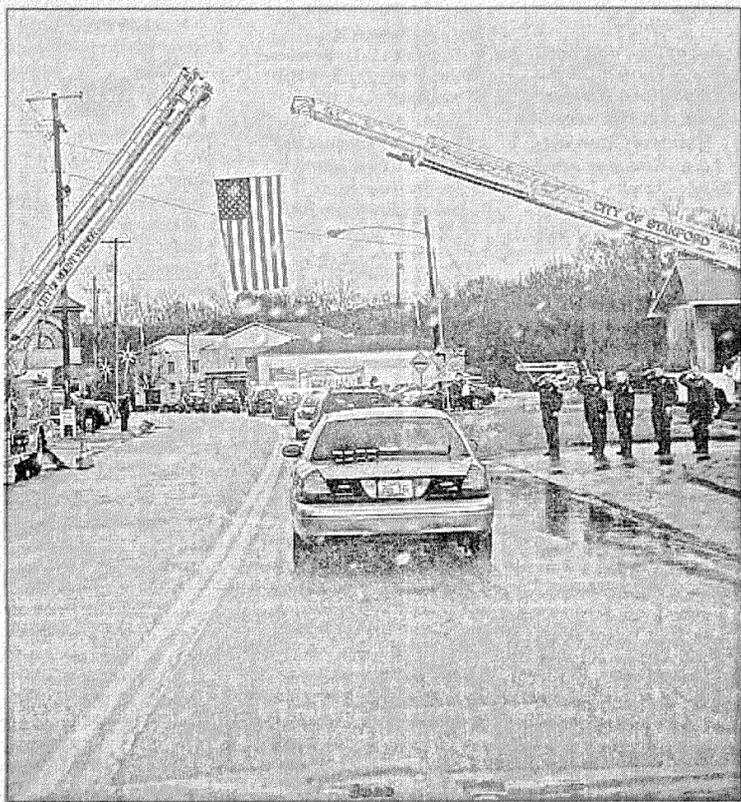
BEST NURSING HOMES US NEWS & WORLD REPORT
Kentucky Hospital Association
WOMEN'S CHOICE AWARD

www.rockcastleregional.org

Deputy Sheriff passes away in Rockcastle



Shown above the Madison County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard stood at attention for the funeral of Rockcastle County Deputy Sheriff Ronald Bradley last week at the Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals. Shown below, the streets were lined with officers and first responders from all local forces honoring the late Bradley who had volunteered for 17 years as a Rockcastle County Sheriff's Deputy after retiring from the Kentucky State Police Vehicle Enforcement Department. Rockcastle County Sheriff Shannon Franklin performed the services for Bradley. Bradley's fellow officers said it has been an honor to work with Bradley over the years in law enforcement.



By: Mike French
Editor

Badge Number 1114 has been set aside as Rockcastle County Deputy Sheriff Ronald (Ronnie) Bradley passed away on December 13.

According to his friends and family, Bradley had retired from the Kentucky Vehicle Enforcement agency in 2003 but immediately returned to police ser-

vice when he joined the Rockcastle County Sheriff's office.

According to Sheriff Shannon Franklin, Bradley passed away of "duty-related illnesses."

According to Scottie Pennington, Public Relations Officer for the Kentucky State Police, Bradley had served as a volunteer with the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department for 17 years. "Deputy Bradley is a

prime example of service above self," said Pennington.

Bradley's funeral was conducted by Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals. He was buried Wednesday, December 16 at Piney Grove Cemetery. The funeral was officiated by Sheriff Franklin with many members of law enforcement included in the ceremony.

"Delta"

(Continued from front)

\$125,000."

According to Holbrook, the county already has a \$500,000 ARC grant for the project should the gas line come to Rockcastle but the additional \$125,000 will help the company when they approach state and federal entities in an effort to bring the line to Rockcastle.

"All we are doing here is letting them know that we will do our part."

VanHook said some have worked on getting a gas line in Rockcastle County for 30 years and this money will provide funds for a right of way and the surveys needed. "Fortunately, we don't have to spend any money at all until Delta has already done the work," said VanHook. "We just have to show that we will be willing and able to do our part."

VanHook said there are countless industries and businesses that will

be much more attracted to the area if gas is available.

"We are working with companies right now who are simply not willing to locate here because we do not have natural gas but if we can tell them it is coming, doors suddenly begin to open for our community."

VanHook said the gas line would be routed through both industrial parks and into Renfro Valley when it comes to the county.

"This is a major first step in getting that line to Rockcastle County and providing an avenue for economic development that we could never have otherwise," he said.

The motion to provide the funds eventually if needed passed unanimously.

In other action, the court voted to approve an RCIDA request to increase VanHook's salary from \$60,000 to \$75,000 per year.

Members of the RCIDA Board met with fiscal court members in a

closed session Tuesday to recommend the pay raise for VanHook.

Though Magistrate Mike McGuire voted against the increase, saying, "On behalf of all the other county employees who did not get a 25 percent raise this year, I vote 'no,'" the motion passed with all other magistrates voted in favor of the raise.

"Jeff does a great job and he was hired in at a lower rate than most executive directors," said Holbrook. "We just voted to support the RCIDA budget at their request and provide this salary adjustment. But it's the RCIDA budget, not the fiscal court budget."

Holbrook said all members of the RCIDA "strongly supported" the pay raise for VanHook.

The court also dealt with several other issues but since the meeting was held at presstime, other discussions/actions will appear in the next issue of the *Mount Vernon Signal*.

"Hours"

(Continued from front) at the same time are being restricted.

Officials say a deputy at the door will only allow a few visitors at the same time. Others may wait in their car until called.

However, the office will be closed December 24 and 25 and will reopen on Monday, December 28. The office will close again on Friday, January 1 in observance of New Year's Day.

Rockcastle County Clerk

The Rockcastle County Clerk's office is currently open to the public with a limited number of visitors allowed at one time.

The office will close December 24 and 25 and will reopen on Monday, December 28.

The office will be closed again for New Year's on Thursday, December 31 and Friday, January 1.

Regular office hours will resume on Monday, January 4.

Circuit Clerk

The Circuit Clerk's office in the courthouse is currently closed to in-person customers except for certain required in-person business. Call the clerk's office for details.

The Circuit Clerk's office will close Thursday and Friday, December 24 and 25 in observance of Christmas.

The office will close again on Thursday and Friday, December 31 and January 1 in observance of New Year's.

City of Mount Vernon

The City of Mount Vernon is currently closed to in-person visitors due to COVID restrictions. However, the drive-thru window is open and bills may also be paid by phone and at Community Trust Bank.

The office will close for business Thursday, December 24 and reopen on Tuesday, December 29.

The city will then close again for New Year's Day on Friday, January 1, 2021 and open again Monday, January 4.

Brodhead City Hall

Brodhead City Hall is currently open to the public by appointment but will be closed from noon Wednesday, December 23 until Monday, December 28 for the Christmas holiday.

In observance of New Year's, the city will be closed December 31 and January 1 and will reopen on January 2.

Livingston City Hall

The City of Livingston will close city hall, in observance of Christmas, at noon on Thursday, December 24 and be closed all day Christmas Day.

The city will reopen on Monday, December 28 and close for New Year's on Thursday, December 31 at noon and remain closed New Year's Day.

Livingston will reopen City Hall on Monday, January 4, 2021.

"CARES"

(Continued from front)

"I would guess that we should be able to turn over some dirt by spring," he said. "It won't take nearly as long for state approval to begin work. I am very excited about this. It has been an issue since I was a child in Mount Vernon and I am so glad to see this finally happening."

The final news came as Police Chief Brian

Carter reported changes to the police department policy, as required by new state and federal laws.

Legislatures recently decided to greatly reduce or restrict an officer's ability to protect themselves in the line of duty, partly because of complaints from the Black Lives Matter organization.

Though Carter did not refer to the organization or comment on his views over the new anti-police regulations, his, and all police departments, are forced to adopt the new mandates by state and federal law.

The new regulations address chokeholds and neck restraint and do not allow police to use such maneuvers unless no other option is available. There is also additional mandates on an officer's duty to intercede.

"This is not something we have an option to accept," said Mayor Mike Bryant. "We must adopt these policies by state and federal regulations."

The motion to accept the new regulations passed unanimously.

The council then entered closed session to discuss a personnel issue.

The meeting was reopened shortly when Mayor Bryant asked for a motion to hire Bray on a professional contract to continue his work with the City of Mount Vernon even after he begins his new position of Kentucky State Representative in January. (see related story).

The motion was unanimously approved.

Before closure of the meeting, Mayor Bryant performed his duty of swearing in all six current council members whose term in office will run through 2022.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

"Stay"

(Continued from front)

when he won his bid for Kentucky State Representative in a tight race against incumbent R. Travis Brenda.

However, state law forbids anyone from working as a state Representative while serving as a City Administrator for a city.

But Josh loves his hometown of Mount Vernon and did not want to give up his involvement on local projects. Luckily, officials with the City of Mount Vernon also recognized this and, after working with the Kentucky League of Cities, City Attorney Bobby Amburgey and other state officials, Mayor Bryant says they found a way.

"We held a closed session to discuss this matter with the full city council and we have decided to hire Josh on a contractual basis," said Mayor Bryant. "Josh has worked for the City of Mount Vernon as a tax commissioner and the city administrator and several other duties (including alcohol administrator). Through this contract, he can keep providing the same service to us even after he is sworn in as Kentucky State Representative."

Mayor Bryant said he

and others gave the issue a lot of consideration and made the choice carefully. "This is not just something the mayor wanted to do or the council wanted to do," he said. "This move is in the best interests of the citizens of Mount Vernon. We don't want to miss a step in moving forward."

Mayor Bryant said he thinks this was a good decision by the council. "Josh has done a wonderful job for us all and we know he will continue to do so."

According to Bryant, Bray will not be paid by the city of Mount Vernon for any hours he is working in his capacity as a Representative. "The details have been worked out carefully and we will only be paying him for the hours that he is working for the City of Mount Vernon," the mayor said.

How to separate those hours has been a point of discussion. But Mayor Bryant, and Bray say those details have been worked out to the benefit of the citizens of the district and of Mount Vernon.

"My time working for the City of Mount Vernon will only be day-to-day operations outside the scope of a representative's duties," said Bray. "Things like managing specific projects like the new water treatment basin, overseeing finances, auditors, planning events, writing grants and such activities will be part of my work for the City of Mount Vernon. This arrangement allows the momentum to continue. The projects the city has underway won't skip a beat."

The city has not paid Bray for any time he has spent working in Frankfort on anything related to his campaign or representative duties. "I have been taking vacation time and comp time when I do work outside the scope of my city obligations," he said. "The only time I will be paid by the City of Mount Vernon is when I am doing work specific to the city itself," he said. "My main goal here is getting some of these needed projects across the finish line."

Some of those projects, including the water basin, have been a goal of his for many years. "The City has been in need of this water basin since before I was born," he said. "I am looking forward to completing that project and helping provide the citizens of Mount Vernon with good tasting water. I can't wait till that project is completed and I won't stop until it is."

Actually, this agreement with the City of Mount Vernon is common across Kentucky, according to Bray. "This is a common arrangement across the state and has been vetted through the Kentucky League of Cities and their attorneys as well as our own city attorney."

So in the future, if you see a young man sitting in a seat in the halls of Frankfort wearing a suit and tie, don't be surprised if the next day you see the same man in muddy jeans holding a shovel at the Mount Vernon water plant.

Merry Christmas from the staff and management of The Mount Vernon Signal

State reminds drivers to plan safe rides this season

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's (KYTC) Office of Highway Safety is joining the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and law enforcement nationwide in the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign Dec. 16, 2020 through Jan. 1, 2021.

It's been a tough year for all Kentuckians and I want us to have a great Christmas and New Years holiday, said Gov. Beshear. But to keep each other safe, I've got to ask you two things. First, please celebrate safely avoid travel, significantly limit gatherings and use precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 while with anyone from outside of your household. Second, please get home safely. Drive sober or plan a safe ride home with someone else to protect yourself and everyone on the road.

According to NHTSA, impaired driving-related

crashes tend to increase during the holidays.

While our holiday celebrations may look a little different this year, our message stays the same: Always plan for a sober ride home, said KYTC Secretary Jim Gray. If you are under the influence of any substance and choose to get behind the wheel, you put everyone on the road in danger, including yourself.

In Kentucky, 547 impaired driving-related crashes resulting in 276 injuries and 10 deaths occurred during the Christmas and New Year holidays over the last five years.

Drugs and/or alcohol not only hinder your ability to drive, but also affect your judgment about whether you can or should drive, said KYTC State Highway Engineer James Ballinger. This is why we ask that you make a plan before drinking begins. No matter what you choose a sober

friend, taxi service or ride booking company we want you to arrive to your destination safely.

To prevent impaired driving-related tragedies this holiday season, the KYTC recommends the following:

1. Before festivities begin, plan a way to safely get home at the end of the night;

2. If impaired, use a ride-booking company or taxi, call a sober friend or family member, or use public transportation to get home safely;

3. If you see an impaired driver, safely pull over and contact law enforcement. You may dial the KSP toll-free line directly at 1-800-222-5555 or call 911.

4. If you know people who are about to drive or ride while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get them safely to where they are going.

5. Wear a seat belt! It is not only the law, it is the best defense against an impaired driver. Buckling up helps prevent injury and death if involved in a crash.

Impaired driving-related crashes are 100 percent preventable, said Ballinger. All we ask is that you make safe choices this holiday season and celebrate responsibly.

For more information on drunken driving visit <https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving>. For more information on drug-impaired driving visit <https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drug-impaired-driving>.

Millions of Americans are facing hunger this season

(StatePoint) Millions of people nationwide face hunger every holiday season. And this year, the COVID-19 pandemic thrust even more Americans into this vulnerable position.

Before the COVID-19 crisis began, one in nine people, including 10 million children, already lived in a food insecure household. Communities of color are disproportionately affected by both poverty and hunger. For example, one in four Native American and Alaska Natives experience food insecurity. One in five Blacks and one in six Latinos experience food insecurity. As a result of the pandemic, unemployment has soared and the need for food assistance has increased.

"Unfortunately hunger impacts Americans every day of the year, but we know that this holiday season will look much different than last. More families are accessing food banks than ever before, and many of them for the very first time, which is why it's really important for everyone to come together to help fight hunger this holiday season," says Casey Marsh, chief development officer for Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization.

Fortunately, efforts are being made to meet the sharp rise in food insecurity. As part of its "Many Hearts, One Community" holiday campaign, Wells Fargo is fulfilling its commitment to help provide 82 million meals to families in need through the Feeding

America network of 200 food banks by year-end. This is a continuation of Wells Fargo's decade-long relationship with the Feeding America network which, since the start of the pandemic, has included efforts such as turning Wells Fargo corporate properties and branch locations into mobile food distribution centers. Additionally, during this holiday season, grants will be made internationally to food banks operating in Wells Fargo's global footprint.

"It was life-changing," says Andrea Thomas, a single mother who received food assistance in Mesa, Ariz. "I didn't have to figure out if I was going to pay for groceries or pay for rent to keep my household afloat."

So how can you get involved? There are 200 Feeding America member food banks across the country, many of which need volunteers to help pack food boxes, distribute food at drive-through pantries and more. Feeding America food banks have adjusted their practices to ensure social distancing to keep everyone safe. Contact your local food bank to see how you can help families in need. You can also join the fight to end hunger by making a donation. For more information, visit feedingamerica.org.

While the issue of hunger is timely during the holidays, it doesn't stop once the season is over. Year-round philanthropy, volunteerism and innovative efforts like drive-up food banks, can help meet the needs of families across America.

A SHOT OF RELIEF.



The COVID-19 vaccine does more than keep you from getting sick. It will get folks all across Kentucky back to work. Get kids back to school. Get our economy back on track.

As the FDA-authorized vaccines arrive, all you have to do is keep doing your part. We can't all get the vaccine at once, but we'll all get a turn. You can get all the facts at kycovid19.ky.gov.

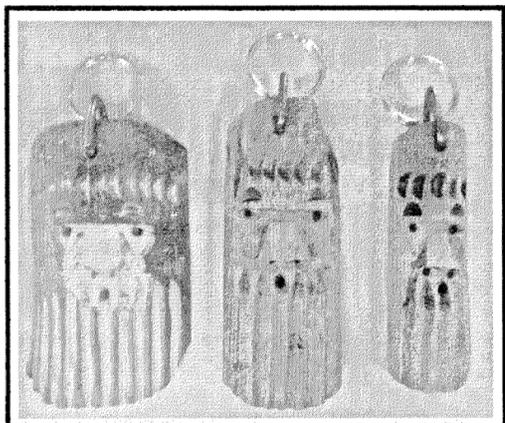


Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



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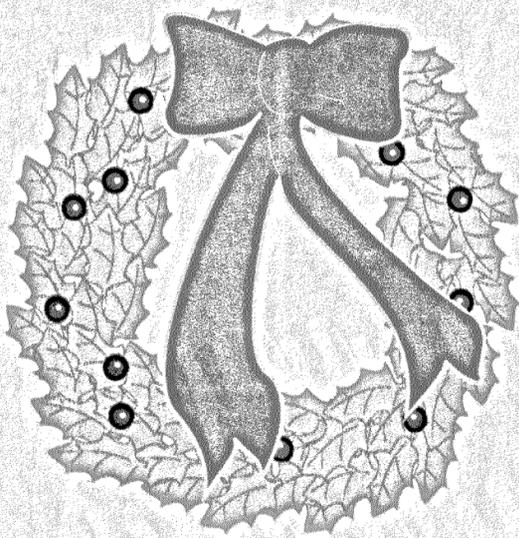
Call John Holbrook - 606-256-2996



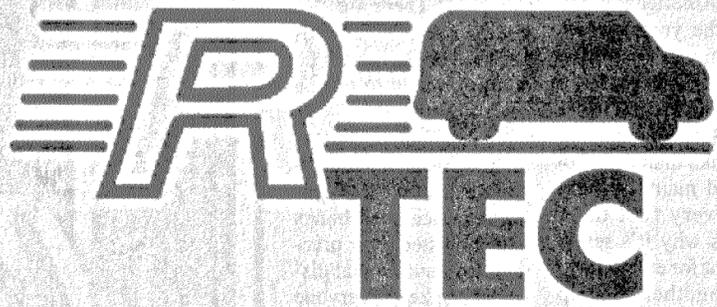
WE WISH YOU
a very
MERRY
CHRISTMAS



Happy New Year



*from all the
employees at...*



Mount Vernon Signal

Second Section

Thursday, December 24, 2020

Scenes from 2020 Livingston Christmas Parade



Livingston Mayor Dwane King and city employees led the Livingston Christmas Parade down Main Street.



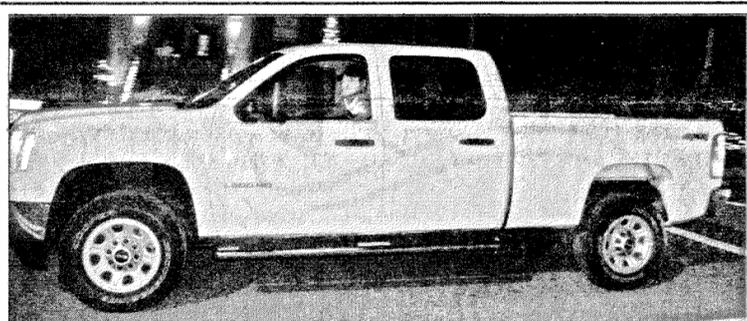
Livingston Fire Dept. engines had sirens running as bystanders enjoyed the Livingston Christmas Parade.



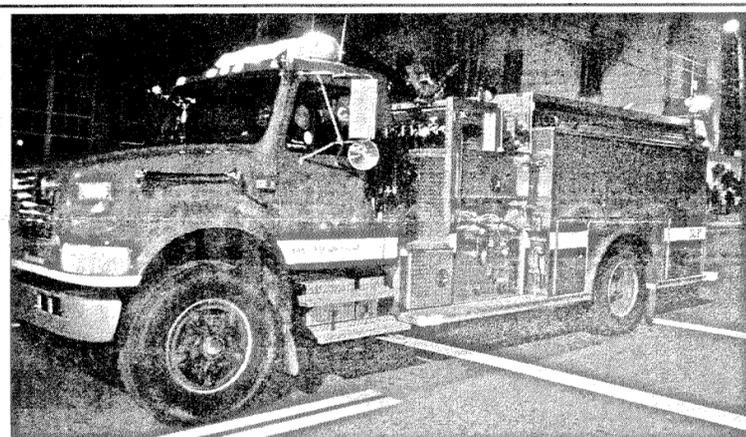
Rockcastle Recycling Coordinator James Renner pulled one of the floats down Main Street in Livingston during the annual Christmas Parade.



Members of the Livingston Baptist Church rode down Main Street waving at the bystanders lining the streets during the Livingston Christmas Parade.



Magistrate Mike McGuire took part in Livingston's annual Christmas Parade.



Tony Bullock drove a Pongo Fire Department engine down Main Street during the Livingston Christmas Parade.

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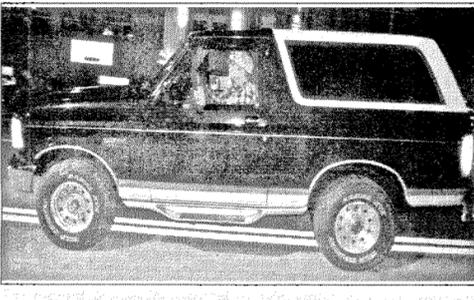
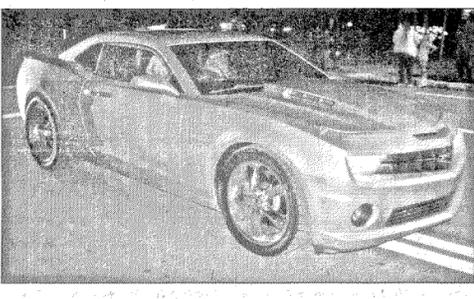
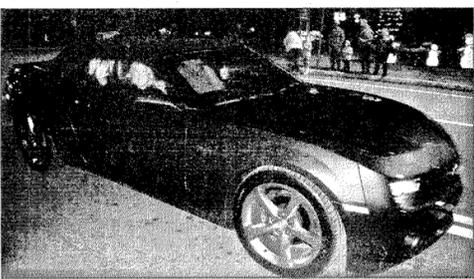
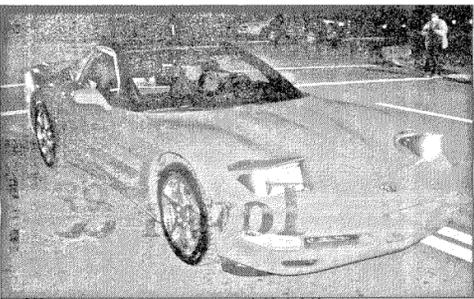
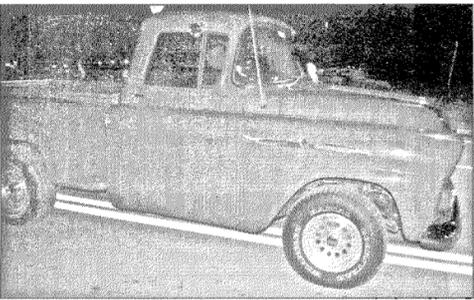
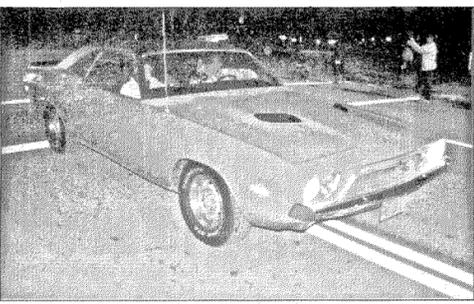
"Downtown Brodhead" • 758-9532



Woodall Tree Service took a boom truck down Main Street during the annual Livingston Christmas Parade.



Kentucky State Representative R. Travis Brenda drove an antique tractor with a tobacco setter attached in the annual Livingston Christmas Parade.



Classic cars played a big part in the annual Livingston Christmas Parade as antique vehicles cruised down Main Street throughout the event.

All parade photos by Mike French



Climax Volunteer Fire Department played their part in the annual Livingston Christmas Parade.

Merry Christmas

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Members of the Brodhead Fire Department rode down Main Street during the annual Livingston Christmas Parade.



Members of the Mount Vernon Fire Department joined the floats and other fire trucks during the Livingston Christmas parade.



Rockcastle County Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr. drove his decorated truck down Main Street in the annual Livingston Christmas Parade.



Rodney Hensley joined youngsters grabbing candy tossed from parade participants during the Livingston Christmas Parade.



Merry Christmas, neighbors.

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Teresa Jackson, Agent
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Bus: 606-256-2119
teresajacksoninsurance.com

I wish all my neighbors peace, joy and love this Christmas season and beyond. I'm blessed to be part of such a wonderful community.

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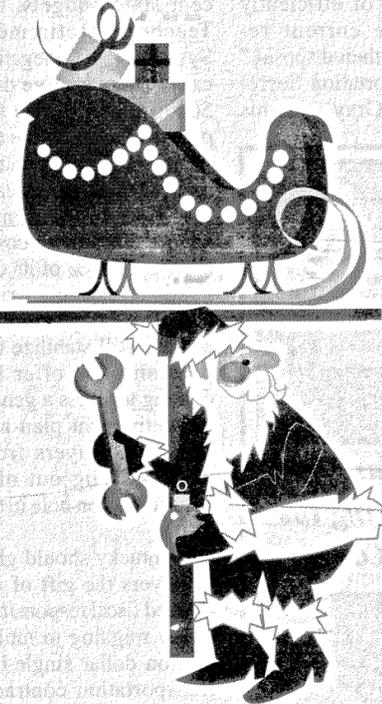
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from

County Clerk Danetta Ford Allen

and staff

Gifts to make Kentucky taxpayers smile

By Jim Waters

What's in Santa's bag for Kentucky this Christmas?

Will he even want to stop and fill up his sleigh here, considering powerful forces in business, government and politics are colluding to push through a whopping increase in the gas tax that will disproportionately affect working and lower-income Kentucky families?

Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce President Brent Cooper's comment to WCPO-TV recently that "nobody would've noticed" a 10-cent increase in Kentucky's gas tax seems like an out-of-touch comment, especially during the challenging economic circumstances many are facing during the coronavirus pandemic.

Raising the tax by a dime on each gallon of gas would result in more than an additional \$150 coming out of the pockets of working Kentuckians who fill up twice weekly over the next year.

That would fill many working families' car trunks with bags full of groceries and get them through another week of the current craziness.

Those driving the tax-hike truck claim more fuel-efficient vehicles combined with a drop in fuel prices have reduced the amount of tax revenue

in Kentucky's road fund.

Therefore, they argue, the dollars needed to build new roads and bridges and repair existing ones just aren't there.

Missing from their narrative is the fact that Frankfort plucks millions each year – including \$113 million last year alone – from that fund to spend on unrelated programs.

Plus, the big-business and big-government groups colluding to raise the gas tax on hard-working Kentuckians seem to have little interest in addressing the waste generated by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's (KYTC) single-bid practices.

Bluegrass Institute Visiting Policy Fellow Andrew McNeill reports the KYTC in November awarded more than \$14 million worth of contracts which had no competition and exceeded the estimates of the KYTC's own engineer.

The month's largest single-bid contract of \$10.5 million to repave 11 miles of Interstate 75 in Whitley County was more than \$600,000 above the cabinet's internal estimate.

McNeill says it's just one of many examples of "a bureaucracy seemingly incapable of efficiently using the current resources at their disposal."

Transportation Secretary Jim Gray with his

business background has a real opportunity to apply private-sector practices and make the cabinet more efficient – beginning with a full audit of its bidding practices.

Such a review could provide taxpayers with more information about why, for instance, Kentucky spends \$1 million per interstate mile of concrete repairs.

Another item that should be on every Kentucky taxpayer's Christmas list is a new retirement plan for future teachers, which will begin to address Kentucky's huge unfunded pension liabilities while ensuring those who teach our children receive adequate benefits in their twilight years.

Apparently, Santa's doing his best to find that gift as the Interim Joint Committee on State Government heard testimony regarding a proposal to create a new plan for new teachers that provides them with a safe retirement income yet with the portability that better fits a modern workforce and will be preferred by younger teachers while also protecting taxpayers from shouldering the full risk and burden of the system's liability.

Despite record amounts of funding in recent state budgets, the Teachers' Retirement System's (TRS) negative cash flow was more than \$600 million during the past two years, while the system's level remains under 60% funded, meaning it doesn't currently have the assets to cover more than 40% of its obligations to beneficiaries.

This new approach, if passed, will stabilize the pension plan, offer incoming teachers a generous retirement plan and protect taxpayers from having to dig out of a deeper pension hole in the future.

Kentucky should give taxpayers the gift of increased fiscal responsibility by reigning in multi-million dollar single-bid transportation contracts and stabilizing the teachers' pension system.

Just the prospect of those measures alone makes for a much merrier Christmas indeed.

Jim Waters is president and CEO of the Bluegrass Institute for Public Policy Solutions, Kentucky's free-market think tank. Read previous columns at www.bipps.org. He can be reached at jwaters@freedomkentucky.com and @bipps on Twitter.

Merry CHRISTMAS

from all of us at

Touch of Class

Angela Hines, Sabrina Bishop, Katie Brown, Sara Williams, Amy Allen, Brittany Kirby, Madison Stewart



We truly appreciate all of our clients. Without you, we wouldn't be able to do what we love in our hometown. Thank you for your patience and support this year.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Merry Christmas

May peace and joy come to you during this holy season



Daniella Graves, Mary Mathis, Lori Blanton

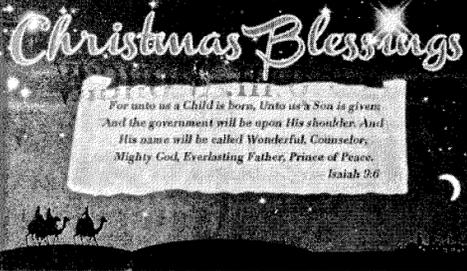
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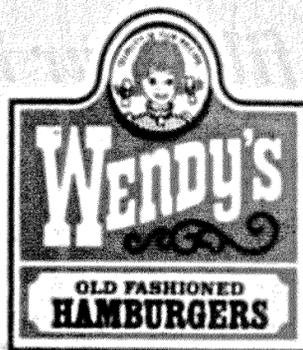
Shannon, Jill, Maggie & Valerie Franklin

Shannon Franklin

Rockcastle Sheriff

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Posted

Posted: No hunting or trespassing on property of Shelby and Eric Eversole (formerly known as the Ab Ramsey property) and located at 85 Pennington Cemetery Road. Violators will be prosecuted. 47x3p

Posted: No hunting or trespassing on property belonging to Brian and Angela Burdine and located at 428 Black Bear Lick Lane, Livingston. Violators will be prosecuted. 47xntf

Posted: No hunting or trespassing on farms, belonging to Gary and Peggy Roberts, on KY 3245. Violators will be prosecuted. 47x50p

Posted: Absolutely no trespassing on land belonging to L.J.L. Honeycomb LLC for any reason. Formerly known as Christ Outreach for the Blind. Violators will be prosecuted. 35x51

Posted: No hunting or trespassing on land belonging to Orville and Bernice

Burkhart on Cove Branch, Livingston, Mt. Vernon. Violators will be prosecuted. 27x51p

Posted: No trespassing on land belonging to James and Dorothy Rash heirs on Rash Branch Road off Chestnut Ridge. No hunting, camping, ATVs, trespassing for any purpose. Not responsible for accidents. Violators will be prosecuted. 30x51

Posted: No trespassing of any kind on land belonging to Eugenia Cykowski Heir(s) at 402 Albright St., Brodhead, Ky. 17xntf

Posted: Property belonging to Don and Kitty Reese on Smallwood Road at Roundstone. All trespassers will be prosecuted. 49xntf

Posted: No hunting or trespassing on land belonging to Glen Roberts at 560 Dix River Branch Road, Brodhead. Violators will be prosecuted. 35xntf

Posted: No hunting, trespassing or ATVs on land belonging to Jason and Sara Coguer at Roundstone. Not responsible for accidents. **Posted:** No trespassing on Crawford Place - Old Brodhead Road. Danny Smith. 47ftn

Posted: No trespassing, hunting or fishing on land belonging to Rachel Denney on Hwy. 3245 (former Reggie Bengé property). **Posted:** No trespassing on property known as C.B. Owens Farm across from Fairgrounds in Brodhead. Violators will be prosecuted. 25ftn

Help Wanted

Lisa's Little People now accepting applications. Must be 18 years, high school diploma or GED required, available, flexible hours Monday-Friday. Apply in person 100 Crawford Lane, Mt. Vernon. 45xntf

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Notice is hereby given that Melissa Wagers, 85 Woodland Place, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 has been appointed Administratrix of the Estate of Steven Kirby, deceased. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Melissa Wagers or to Hon. Jeremy B. Rowe, 205 Richmond St., P.O. Box 1250, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before June 14, 2021 at 11 a.m. 47x3

Notice is hereby given that David L. Broughton, 234 Taylor Banks Road, McKee, Ky. 40447 has been appointed Executor of the Estate of William C. Broughton on the 14th day of December, 2020. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, verified according to law, to the said David L. Broughton or to Hon. John D. Ford, P.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before June 14, 2021 at 11 a.m. 47x3

Notice is hereby given that Rhonda L. Smith, 1641 Doc

Adams Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 has been appointed Administratrix of the Estate of James M. Smith on the 14th day of December, 2020. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Rhonda L. Smith, or to Hon. John D. Ford, Coffey and Ford, PSC, P.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before June 14, 2021 at 11 a.m. 47x3

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Miscellaneous For Sale

Registered Black Angus Bulls. Have four that are 14 months old. all have had all their shots and been dewormed. Had BSE's and Semen checked. All are calving ease and low birth weight with lots of growth. DNA tested for enhanced EPDs. Priced according to pedigree and DNA numbers. From \$1800 to \$3500. For more info, call 606-308-3670. LA Angus Farms, Rick Bryant.

Cemetery Plot in Cresthaven Cemetery. Asking \$500. Call Larry at 513-659-4547 or 513-607-0116. 29xntf

Cresthaven Cemetery Plots. Contact Billy Dowell, 606-308-1058. 39xntf

Registered Black Angus Bulls For Sale

Have four that are 14 months old. All have had all their shots and been dewormed. Had BSEs and Semen checked. All are calving ease and low birth weight with lots of growth. DNA tested for enhanced EPDs. Priced, according to pedigree and DNA numbers, from \$1800 to \$3500.

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LA Angus Farms, Rick Bryant

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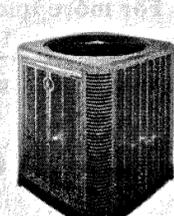
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Berea College Dean's List

Michael Allen and Julian Kirby, both of Mt. Vernon, were among more than 509 Berea College students named to the Fall 2020 Dean's List.

A student is named to the Dean's List who achieves a GPA of 3.4 or higher while passing at least four total credits, a course load equivalent to 16 semester hours.

No paper next week!

*Signal office will be closed
December 24th - January 3rd*

Hasty named to President's List

The academic honors' President's List for the Fall 2020 semester has been announced by Dr. Donna Hedgepath, Campbellsville University's provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Kali Hasty, of Mt. Vernon, has been named to Campbellsville University's President's List for Fall 2020:

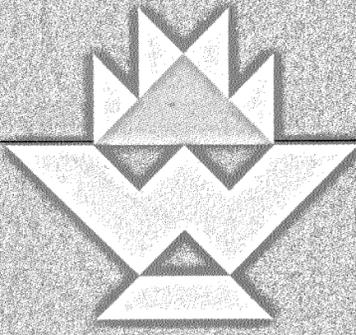
The academic honors' list recognizes students who achieve a grade point average of 3.50 or above for the semester with a course load of at least 12 hours. The Fall 2020 academic honors' list includes a total of 837 students, with 366 named to the President's List for achieving a 4.0 grade point average, and 471 named to the Dean's List for achieving a 3.5 to 3.99 GPA.

McKinney named to Fall Dean's List

The academic honors' dean's list for the Fall 2020 semester has been announced by Dr. Donna Hedgepath, Campbellsville University's provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Elijah McKinney, of Brodhead, has been named to Campbellsville University's Dean's List for Fall 2020:

The academic honors' list recognizes students who achieve a grade point average of 3.50 or above for the semester with a course load of at least 12 hours. The Fall 2020 academic honors' list includes a total of 837 students, with 366 named to the President's List for achieving a 4.0 grade point average, and 471 named to the Dean's List for achieving a 3.5 to 3.99 GPA.



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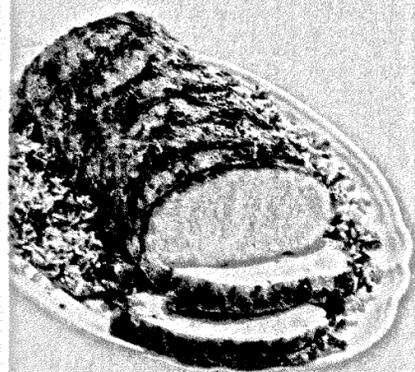
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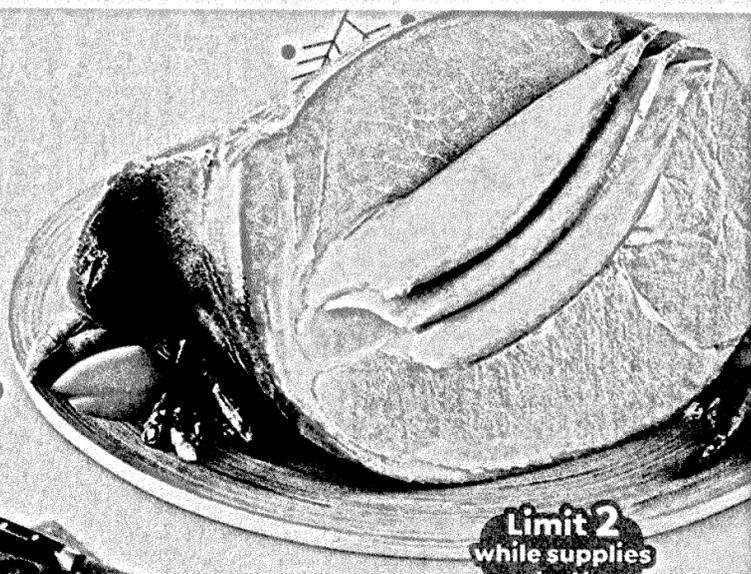
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16.5 oz



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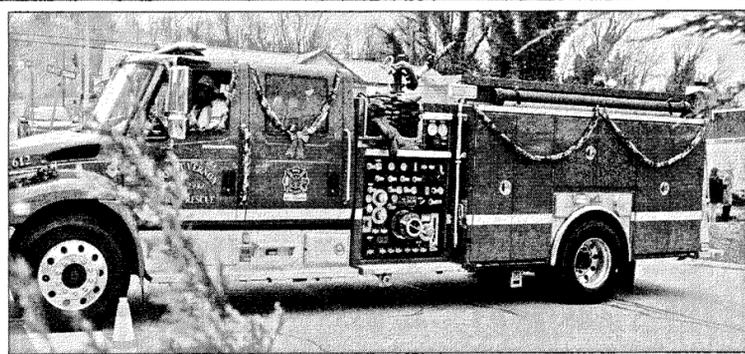
910 W. Main St. - Mt. Vernon - 606-256-9810

Mount Vernon Signal

Third Section

Thursday, December 24, 2020

Scenes from Mount Vernon Christmas Parade



Steve Griffin and daughter Makayla had sirens screaming as they rode down Main Street during the annual Mount Vernon Christmas parade.



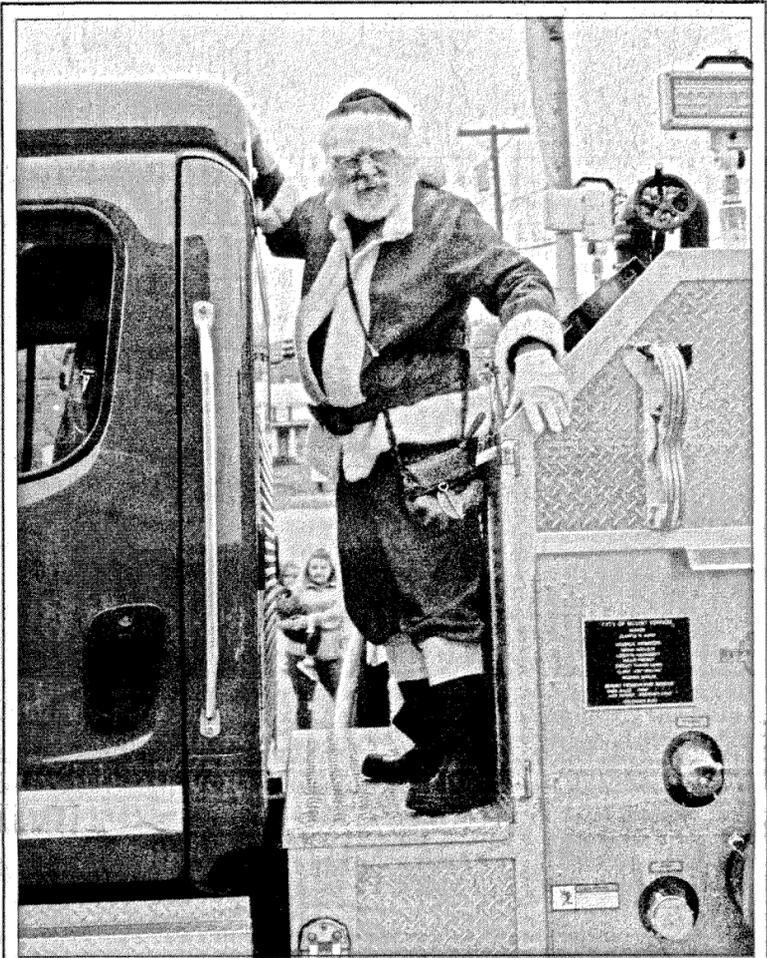
Crystal Rush and her daughter, Kinley Raye, drove down Main Street during the Mount Vernon Christmas parade. Mayor Mike Bryant rode along wishing a Merry Christmas to all.



Dawn Stallworth, along with Xavier and Maryanna, rode through Main Street in the Mount Vernon Christmas Parade. Though the rain held off for the parades, the cold air caused many to bundle up.



Mount Vernon Fire Chief David Bales drove a department truck down Main Street during the Mount Vernon Christmas parade.



Steve Thorn, aka Santa Claus, waved at children and bystanders of all ages during the Mount Vernon Christmas Parade.



Merry Christmas

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HOLIDAY SEASON
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• MERRY & BRIGHT
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David Collins, Owner

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Howard Saylor, Pharmacist



Rockcastle County Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook waved at bystanders as he drove down Main Street in the Mount Vernon Christmas parade.



Jordan Smith, of Rockcastle Weather, waved at bystanders during the Mount Vernon Christmas Parade as his grandfather Gary Parker drove the side-by-side. Main Street was lined with vehicles as residents enjoyed the parade.



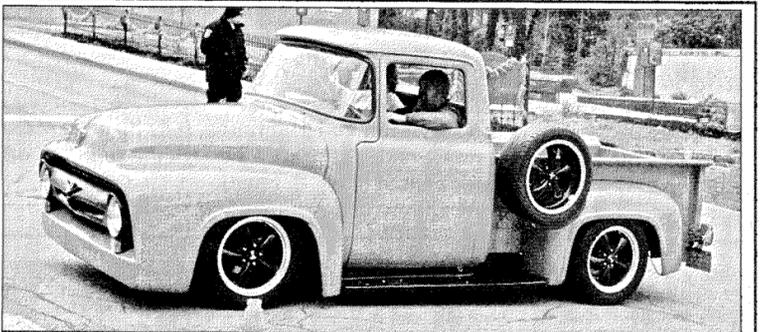
Kentucky State Representative Travis Brenda drove an antique tractor during the annual Mount Vernon Christmas Parade.



Brodhead Mayor Walter Lee Cash drove his classic Chevrolet Impala down Main Street in the Mount Vernon Christmas parade.



One of the many parade participants cruised down Main Street during the annual Mount Vernon Christmas Parade sharing stuffed animals. Streets were lined with spectators enjoying every parade participant.



Sherman and Jennifer Cook cruised down Main Street during the Mount Vernon annual Christmas parade.

No paper next week!

Signal office will be closed December 24th - January 3rd

MERRY
Christmas
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Climax Volunteer Fire Department firefighter Steve Pheanis took part in the Mount Vernon Christmas Parade in one of the department's utility trucks.



Rockcastle County Sheriff's Deputy Kirk Mays represented the department as he rode down Main Street during the annual Mount Vernon Christmas Parade.



The Boreing family joined many who enjoyed the Mount Vernon Christmas Parade. Cova Boreing (shown here with the stuffed animal) and her brother Ryder wound up with one of the teddy bears that were given away during the event.



Jeff S. Carpenter represented his department in a Livingston Fire Department truck during the Mount Vernon Christmas Parade.



RTEC was represented by volunteers cruising Main Street in one of the transportation vans during the Mount Vernon Christmas Parade.

A Hillbilly Christmas

Twas the night before Christmas
 And far from my home,
 A little bit scared as I traveled alone,
 I stopped to rest and rented a cabin,
 Late in the night, unsure what might happen.
 I settled in quick and went right to bed
 Happy at last to just lay down my head,
 When all of a sudden somewhere on the mountain,
 The Hillbillys began singing, dancing, shoutin'.
 The sound was like thunder, it woke the whole town,
 The Hillbillys were having a Christmas Ho-Down.
 Me in my cabin unable to sleep,
 Standing in nightshirt and only sock feet.
 No hope for rest I decided to go,
 So I dressed myself warmly, and walked out of my
 cabin
 And into the cold.
 Walking in the moonlight on a new fallen snow,
 Passing through the woods to a place I didn't know.
 I arrived at the cabin not sure of the time,
 It was a very big cabin much larger than mine.
 The inside was well lit and gave off a glow,
 That shone out the windows and on to the snow.
 Taking a breath, I knocked on the door,
 The host was a man I had never seen before.
 After looking me over, saying get on in here!
 Once inside I knew I had nothing to fear,
 Even hillbillys won't shoot you this time of the year.
 The festival inside was wonderful to see,
 The hillbillys were happy as happy could be.
 In the corner an old jug band was playing a song,
 In the center of the room a great dance going on.
 I was invited to dance, but danced very little,
 When I saw a great table just loaded with vittles.
 After filling my plate and a jar of country wine,
 I sat with the hillbillys and started to dine.
 After eating and dancing for most of the night,
 I realized these hillbillys are really all right.
 Growing tired and sleepy, and ready to go,
 I thanked my new friends as I walked out the door.
 As I headed toward my cabin the stars as my light,
 I was filled with new hope on this wonderful night.
 Arriving back home and warm in my cabin,
 I pondered this night, and all that had happened.
 Lying in bed, I thought of this place,
 My heart filled with joy and warmth of God's grace.
 So for all of earth's people, and all of life's faces,
 And for those far from home, staying in strange
 places,
 I prayed to our Lord on this most Holy of Nights,
 Take care and watch over us and help us do right.
 Merry Christmas, God Bless...and to all a Good Night!!
 L.H. Bennett

No paper next week!
 Signal office
 will be closed
 Dec. 24th - Jan. 3rd

MERRY CHRISTMAS

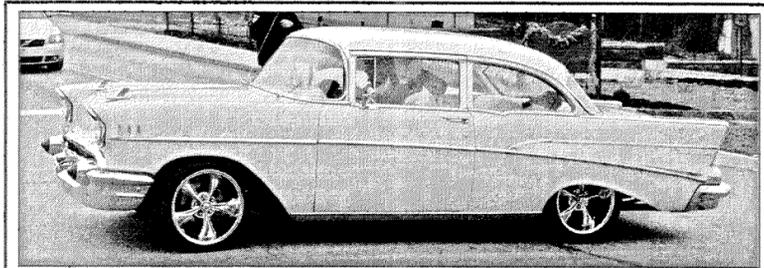
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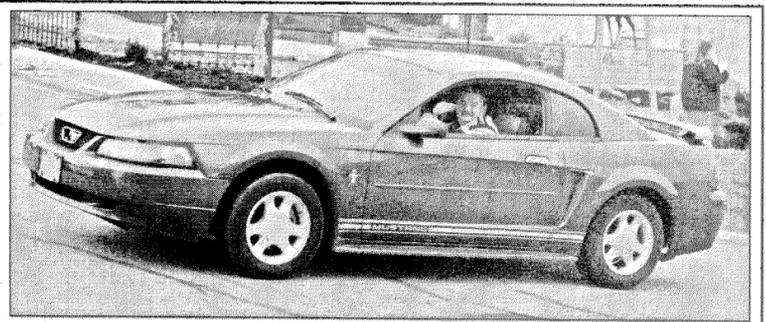
Cecil and Judy King took those in attendance back in time with a 1957 Chevy Belair, 2-door hardtop during the Mount Vernon Christmas Parade.



James Renner, Rockcastle County Solid Waste Coordinator, pulled a float through the Mount Vernon Christmas Parade.



Brodhead Volunteer Fire Department's Engine 11 joined the festivities during the Mount Vernon Christmas Parade.



Eugene McCoy idled down Main Street in his Mustang during the annual Mount Vernon Christmas parade.



Lonnie McGuire drove a Camero down Main Street during the Mount Vernon Christmas parade.



Brindle Ridge Fire Department volunteers joined in the fun during the Mount Vernon Christmas parade.

Gifting your child a mobile device? What to know

(StatePoint) Does your child's holiday wish-list include a mobile phone or other electronic device? With kids and teens spending more time online than ever these days due to social distancing guidelines and remote-learning, you may feel the time is now to gift them their very own device.

However, as a result of all that additional screen time, families should be doubly sure that kids use their devices safely and responsibly. After the holiday gift-giving excitement settles, consider these tips:

- Driver's safety: While no one should ever text and drive, newer drivers need to be especially mindful of the road and the operation of their vehicle. Have a serious discussion about distracted driving. Cell phone usage was responsible for 12 percent of moderate-to-severe crashes of teen drivers studied by AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety in 2015.

- Extend the device's life: Let's face it, devices are highly breakable and easily lost. Extend the life of your child's device by ensuring the gift is accompanied by a protective case and warranty. Talk to your child about what to do if the device gets wet, and have a backup plan for the event that it's lost and your child needs to reach you. Installing a location monitoring app can help you locate the device in a pinch.

- Set ground rules. A few ground rules can help

ensure your child uses their new device responsibly. These rules may involve schedules for when the device can be used for purposes unrelated to school, as well as limits on what apps and sites your child can access.

Talk to your kids about such topics as healthy digital habits, the need for screen-free time each day, and how and why to report cyberbullying and other inappropriate or abusive online behavior.

- Make your rules stick. In so many areas of parenting, creating rules is easier than getting your child to follow them. However, a parental guidance app can help make your digital rules effective. For example, OurPact allows you to remotely set up automated schedules for when internet, apps and the device itself are unavailable. Features include URL whitelisting and blacklisting, daily screen time allowances and iMessage/SMS blocking, helping you ensure your ground rules stick and that all the apps installed on your child's device pass your approval. Available at the iOS App Store and Google Play Store, parents can also sign up for an account at www.ourpact.com.

- Lead the way. Don't text during dinner. Put your phone away when you are driving. Build goodwill and mutual respect by following the same rules you give your child.

If a digital device is in your child's future this holiday season, be sure that gift comes with the know-how to use it safely and responsibly.

*No paper next week!
Signal office will be closed
December 24th - January 3rd
Merry Christmas!*

M E R R Y
Christmas!

from

Rockcastle Circuit Court Clerk

Eliza Jane York-Hansel

Wishing you and your family all the gifts of this magical time of year.

For your friendship and support, we are deeply grateful and look forward to serving you in the year ahead.



Front row from left: Sam Alcorn, Marcia Olinger, Sandra Hamm, Priscilla Napier and Stephanie Allen.

Back row from left: Brenda Miller, Brittnay Mullins, Kim Denny, Renita Blanton and Eliza Jane York-Hansel.

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VFW holds annual Christmas dinner/Awards Banquet

The VFW was able to feed about 40 people in the county at their community Christmas dinner/Awards Banquet, as well as hand out awards to county officials, businesses, students, public safety individuals, and teachers.

Those who received awards were: Mt. Vernon Signal, WRVK, IGA, Save-A-Lot, Judge-Executive Howell Holbrook, Sheriff Shannon Franklin, County Attorney Jeremy Rowe, Post Commander B.J. Thomason from his members, Bill Barrett for Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, Steve Griffin for Firefighter of the Year, Traci Storms for EMS worker of the Year, Holly Robinson for High School Teacher of the Year, Sheila Johnson for Middle School Teacher of the Year, Blake McKinney for Elementary Teacher of the Year, Enrique Botellos for

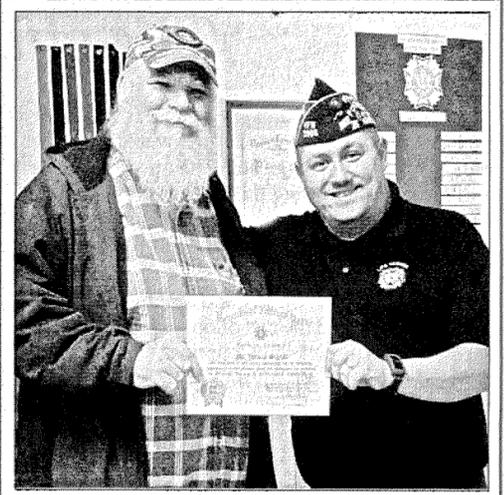
VFW's Voice of Democracy essay contest, and Conor Oldridge for the VFW's Patriots Pen essay contest.

All teachers and public safety individuals not only won their respective title for Rockcastle County, but also won for the VFW's District 11 level which encompasses Rockcastle, Laurel, Pulaski, Whitley, McCreary, Estill, Garrard, Lincoln, Jackson, and Powell counties. They will now be competing at State level, hopefully to advance on to National level.

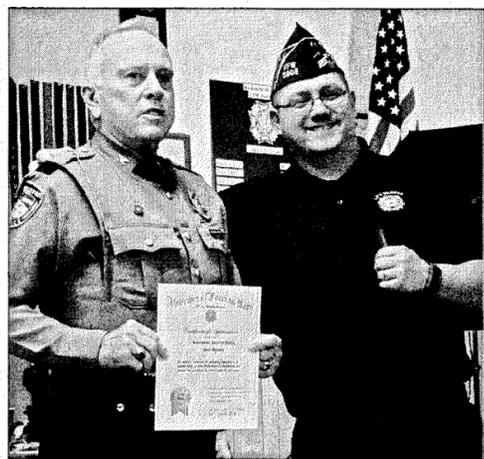
The VFW wishes all the teachers and public safety individuals best of luck as they represent Rockcastle County as they compete for the titles of Teacher of the Year in each of their grade levels, and the Law Enforcement/Firefighter/EMS Worker of the Year, for the State of Kentucky.



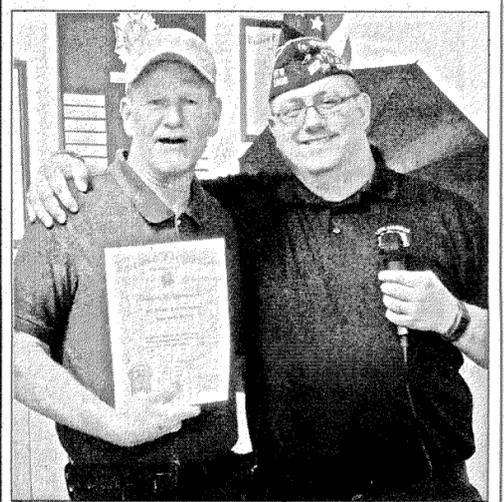
Post Commander B.J. Thomason was recognized and received an award from members of the VFW. Presenting the award was Chad Oldridge.



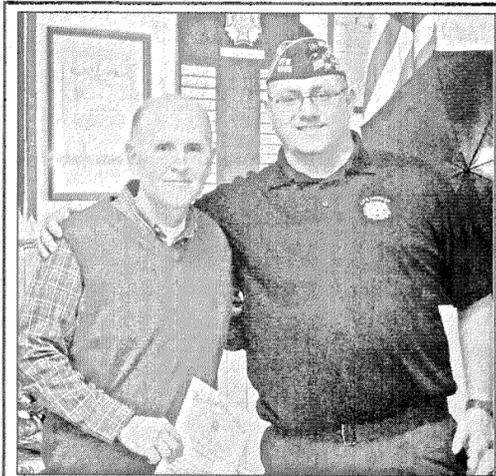
Spencer Bengel, Mount Vernon Signal, and Post Commander B.J. Thomason.



Bill Barrett, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, and Post Commander B.J. Thomason.



Steve Griffin, Firefighter of the Year, and Post Commander B.J. Thomason.



Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Howell Holbrook and Post Commander B.J. Thomason.



Sheila Johnson, Middle School Teacher of the Year, and Post Commander B.J. Thomason.



Conor Oldridge, VFW's Patriots Pen essay contest, and Post Commander B.J. Thomason.



Traci Storms for EMS worker of the Year, and Post Commander B.J. Thomason.



During this holiday season and throughout the year, may God quiet you with his peace, comfort you with his presence and bless you with his love.

Merry Christmas from the staff at

Collins Respiratory Care

Owners: David Collins & Shelly Clements

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The gift of giving

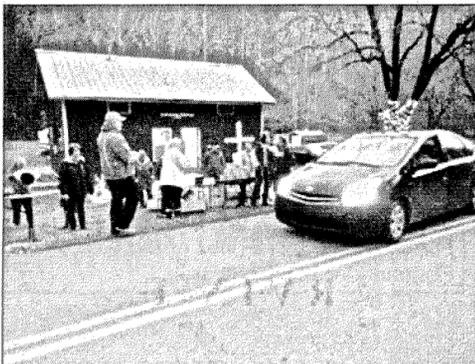
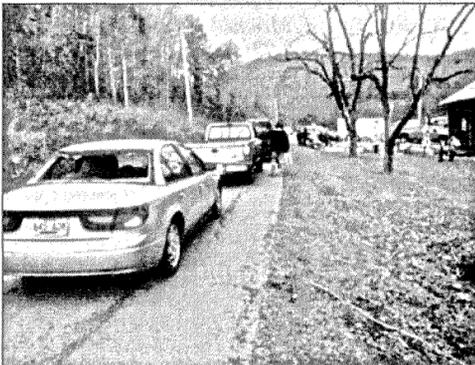
The below pictures are from our Saturday, December 18, 2020 Christmas gift delivery and drive-thru. We had 237 families that went through our drive-thru. The Christmas gift drive-thru was held on Highway 1912 at the Johnetta one room school house. We started at 3 p.m. and closed at 8 p.m. with 21 volunteers doing traffic control, handing out gifts and reloading the tables.

A big thanks to all the volunteers for the many hours they worked in the cold weather to give joy to others. A special note of thanks goes to Denise May (School Teacher) who traveled many miles most of the day Saturday going door to door handing out hand sanitizer and other items. Note the picture of her attached ribbons and a note around each sanitizer bottle.

We will send the rest of our inventory to our local churches and needy families in Eastern Rockcastle and Western Jackson Counties.

Thanks to CAP for making this happen.

Ken Holt
Community Care Center in Climax, KY



Related to COVID-19 pandemic Kentuckians support liability protections for businesses

Kentuckians overwhelmingly support liability protections for businesses related to the COVID-19 pandemic, recent polling shows. When asked if businesses that act in good faith when reopening during the COVID-19 pandemic should or should not be provided protections from lawsuits, 67% agreed that they should while 22% did not support such protections.

Support was mainly even among all Kentucky regions, age, gender, and party registration.

Republicans support liability protections the most at 73%, with strong support from Democrats at 63% and Independents at 65%.

Partnership for Commonsense Justice spokesperson Greg Thomas said, "These poll results show that there is strong support for meaningful COVID liability

protections all across Kentucky. Our elected leaders should take note as we begin the 2021 legislative session."

He added, "Job creators, healthcare providers, educators, and taxpayers understand that in order to get Kentucky's economy back up and running, we must have pandemic liability protections in place for everyone that is opening back up safely. The Legislature must act soon to provide certainty for Kentucky's businesses and healthcare providers."

The poll was conducted by the firm Mason-Dixon and was paid for by the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. Additional details of the survey are available upon request.

Find more information about the Partnership for Commonsense Justice at <http://kylegalreform.com>.

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Signal office will be
closed December 24th -
January 3rd*

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May your days be merry and bright with the light of God's love.

We thank you for the privilege of serving you and look forward to your continued friendship

from

Rockcastle County Attorney

Jeremy Rowe

& staff



Front row: Kathy Robinson. Back row from left: Assistant County Attorney William Leger, Selena Thompson, County Attorney Jeremy Rowe, Julie Adams, Kathy Burgin and Meredith Gross.

Richmond St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-2728

LG&E and KU offer support to fellow utilities

When Mother Nature packs a punch, leaving downed power lines and damaged equipment in the wake, utilities – including Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company – are among the first stepping forward to assist communities and fellow utility partners in need.

In a record-setting year, more than 1,200 LG&E and KU employees and resident contractors have responded to support 18 fellow utilities in repairing damage left behind after two ice storms, eight severe thunderstorms and tornadoes, and six hurricanes and tropical storms. These individuals are linemen, vegetation crews, damage assessors and support personnel.

Most recently, more than 150 contract partners returned this month from assisting Alabama Power and Oklahoma Gas and Electric in the aftermath of Hurricane Zeta and an historic ice storm in the Great Plains state. An additional 95 contract partners returned after assisting AEP Ohio and Consumers Energy in Michigan restore service for customers after a significant windstorm swept through their areas.

“In our industry, we know when Mother Nature delivers the worst, it often means we must be at our best to restore power and vital services for these impacted communities,” said Steve Woodworth, director of Distribution System Operations & Planning for LG&E and KU. “This year presented its own

challenges as we all pivot to accommodate necessary pandemic guidelines, and we had employees stepping into and excelling at new restoration leadership roles for the first time.”

Communities across the U.S. are still overcoming impacts from devastating natural disasters that caused more than \$1 billion in estimated damages, and it’s also one of the busiest Atlantic hurricane seasons on record amid a global pandemic. This year marks the second time the official alphabetical list of hurricane names was exhausted, requiring forecasters to use Greek letter names, as hurricane season along the Atlantic coast officially comes to an end Nov. 30.

Before sending crews, LG&E and KU ensure there are ample resources on hand for everything from routine maintenance to emergency situations. The company takes many factors into consideration – including the weather heading toward our service territories – when allocating resources.

This coordination takes place through the company’s participation in Great Lakes Mutual Assistance, chaired by Woodworth; Midwest Mutual Assistance; and the Southeastern Electric Exchange. The company also participates in mutual assistance through the American Gas and Southern Gas associations. These mutual assistance groups represent a collection of utilities

who provide access to invaluable resources and hundreds of crews from more than 20 states when mobilizing for potential large-scale restoration efforts.

In turn, many of these same utilities have offered mutual assistance support to the company when restoring customers’ power following historic storms and weather events that impacted our LG&E and KU service territories.

“We’re thankful to be in an industry where so many partners are willing to lend a hand,” said Woodworth. “This year was no exception, and we know many of these partners would be there if we needed them like in 2018.”

This year’s support posed additional challenges to ensure crews could follow pandemic guidelines and take additional safety precautions. Crews left equipped with necessary safety equipment including masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and thermometers. Host utilities provided any additional protective equipment that might be needed. Additional adjustments accommodated COVID-19 precautions: smaller staging sites limited interaction between other, non-LG&E and KU crews; crews worked separately from other utilities; and box lunches replaced buffet-style meals.



For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be called
Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

We’re proud to join you and your family in sharing the miracle of Christmas.



Brodhead, KY • 606-758-9600 • 1-877-600-9601

Mamaw's Kitchen

By Regina Poynter Hoskins



WHITE CHOCOLATE PEPPERMINT FUDGE

3 C white chocolate chips
1 can (14 ounce) sweetened condensed milk
1 C chopped candy canes
1 t. peppermint extract
1/4 teaspoon sea salt
crushed peppermint candies for topping

In a large microwavable bowl, mix the white chocolate chips and the condensed milk together. Microwave for 15 second increments, stirring between each set, until mixture is melted. Should take no more than 1 minute max. Stir in peppermint extract, salt, and chopped candy canes. Pour into a greased, foil-lined 9 x 9 or 8 x 8 baking pan, smooth with spatula, and top with peppermint candies. Allow to cool completely before slicing into 1-inch pieces

PEPPERMINT LUSH

3 cups sugar cookie or shortbread cookie crumbs
1/3 cup butter, melted
1 package (8 ounce) cream cheese, softened
1 t. peppermint extract
1 cup powdered sugar
1 container (16 ounce) Cool Whip® whipped topping, thawed
1 cup crushed peppermint candy canes or candy mints
2 boxes (3.4 ounces each) white chocolate instant pudding
3 cups cold milk
Mix cookie crumbs with melted butter until well blended. Press firmly into bottom of ungreased 13 x 9 dish. Set aside. In large

bowl, beat cream cheese, peppermint extract, and powdered sugar with electric mixer on medium speed until smooth, scraping side of bowl frequently. Beat in 2 cups whipped topping. Stir in 1/2 cup of the crushed candies. Spread over cookie crust. In medium bowl, beat dry pudding mixes and milk with whisk about 2 minutes or until thick. Spread evenly over cream cheese layer. Drop remaining whipped topping by spoonfuls over pudding layer; spread evenly. Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours. When ready to serve, sprinkle remaining crushed candies on top. Cover and refrigerate any remaining pieces.

CREAM CHEESE MINTS

3 ounces cream cheese, softened
1 t. peppermint extract
1/4 cup all-vegetable shortening
4 cups powdered sugar
Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. In a medium bowl, beat cream cheese, shortening, and peppermint oil with a mixer until smooth. Gradually add powdered sugar, beating until well combined. (Dough will be soft and elastic.) Roll dough into small balls and place each ball on prepared baking sheet. Press fork into each ball to flatten. Cover baking sheet with plastic and chill overnight.



from

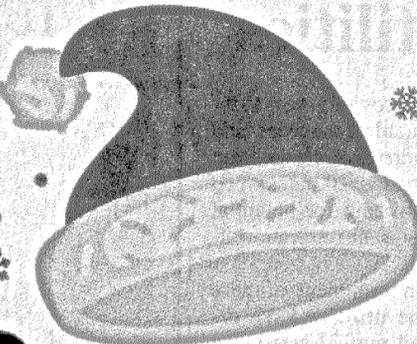
Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance

Mt. Vernon • 256-2050



From left: Katy Chrisman, Marlene Lawson, Crystal Griffin, Christa Taylor, and Ashley Harding.

Office Closed December 24th & 25th and January 1st



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Warmest wishes of the season and best wishes for happiness in the new year with Christmas blessings

Law Office of James L. Cox, PSC

Law Office of Jerry J. Cox, PSC

Law Office of Heidi Weatherly

115 Richmond St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-5111



From left: Amanda Brown, Heidi Weatherly, Jerry Cox, James Cox, Shari Proctor

Mount Vernon Signal

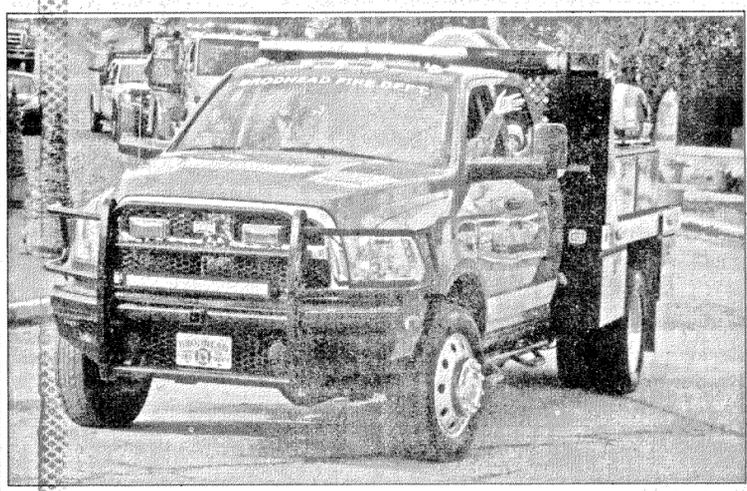
Fourth Section

Thursday, December 24, 2020

Scenes from 2020 Brodhead Christmas Parade



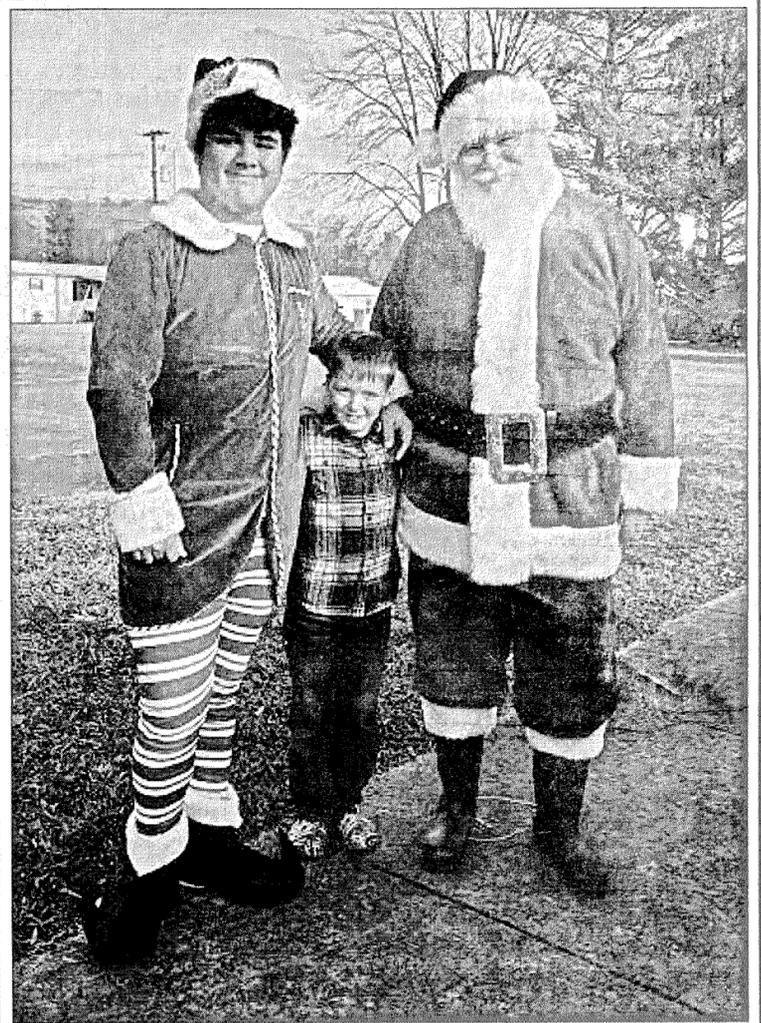
Brodhead Mayor Walter Lee Cash drove his classic Chevrolet Impala through the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade. Cash purchased the car brand new in 1967.



Kaitlin, Ryder and Pyper Mason, Deborah and Zoey Todd and Sydney Holcomb ride in one of Brodhead Fire Department's vehicles during the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade.



Rockcastle County Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr. drove down Main Street wishing all citizens a Merry Christmas during the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas parade.



Santa Claus and his elf, Patrick, visited with Noah Denney after the EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade in Brodhead.

*No paper next week!
Signal office will be closed
December 24th -
January 3rd*

From Our Family to Yours

*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year*



Citizens Bank

Mount Vernon
256-2500

Brodhead
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Somerset
451-2274

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www.citizensbankrb.com

citizensbankrb.mobi





Brodhead Fire Department's Engine 12 made its way through Brodhead during the annual EJ Taylor Christmas Parade.



Bobby Phelps with the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department took part in the EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas parade.



Jarred Blair of the Brindle Ridge Volunteer Fire Department drove a fire truck through Brodhead during the annual EJ Taylor Christmas Parade. Brylee Mullins rode in the back during the event.



Bryan Mullins of the Brindle Ridge Volunteer Fire Department drove the department's all terrain multi-purpose vehicle through Main Street in Brodhead during the parade.



Mt. Vernon Volunteer Fire Department firefighters Brandon and Kim Evans along with their daughters, Jasmine and Olivia Evans took part in the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade driving the MVFD's ladder truck.



RTEC volunteers rode down Main Street in Brodhead during the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade.

Merry Christmas

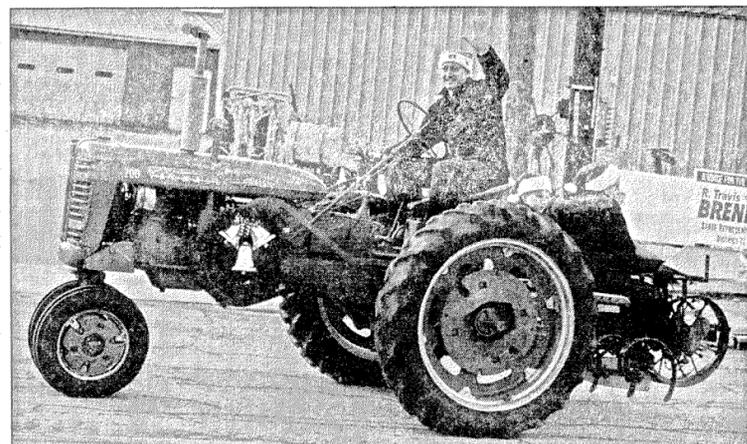
from Rockcastle County Chamber of Commerce

- | | | |
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| Ace Hardware | Community Trust Bank | People's Bank |
| Berea Chamber of Commerce | Cox Funeral Home | Plastisud |
| Christian Appalachian Project | Cumberland Workforce Development | RCIDA |
| Citizens Bank | Daniel Boone Community Action | Renfro Valley Entertainment |
| Citizens Insurance | Design & Service | Rockcastle County Board of Education |
| City of Brodhead | Enterprise Rent-a-Car | Rockcastle County Circuit Clerk's Office |
| City of Livingston | EST Tool | Rockcastle County Development Board |
| City of Mount Vernon | Exit 62 RV Service | Rockcastle County Fiscal Court |
| | Ford Brothers/Weichert Realtors | Rockcastle County Tourist Commission |
| | Goff Excavating | Rockcastle Health & Rehab |
| | Hospice Care Plus | Rockcastle Regional Hospital |
| | Jackson Energy | Rose Brown |
| | Kentucky American Water | RTEC |
| | Kentucky Farm Bureau | Seek & Learn Child Development |
| | Kentucky Utilities | Snack Shack |
| | KFC of Mount Vernon | Tamara Clontz, CPA |
| | King Bottling | Valley View Apartments |
| | Lifeline Home Health | Victory Counseling |
| | Limestone Grille | White House Clinic |
| | Lumber King | |
| | Mahaffey Quick Lube | |
| | Mink Apartments | |
| | Mount Vernon Eye Center | |
| | Mount Vernon IGA | |
| | Mount Vernon Marathon | |
| | Mount Vernon Signal | |
| | Owens Funeral Home | |





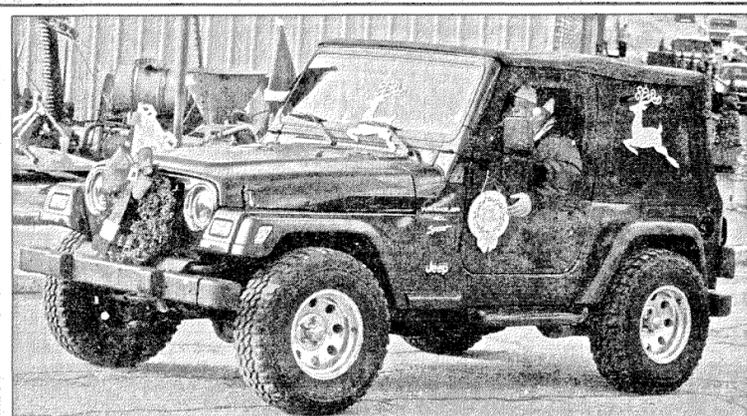
Zach Pheanis with the Climax Volunteer Fire Department made his way down Main Street during Brodhead's annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade.



Kentucky State Representative Travis Brenda drove an antique tractor during the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade.



Newly-elected city commissioners Harold Taylor and Teddy Rose drove a classic Chevy through the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade.



Newly-elected Brodhead city commissioner Jerry Adams drove a Jeep decorated for the holidays through the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade.

Tips to redeem credit card rewards

(StatePoint) During a holiday season that by all counts will be unlike any other experienced in recent history, shoppers may be looking for creative and nontraditional ways to celebrate and share the festive spirit, while at the same time carefully managing tight budgets in an especially challenging economy.

Offering gift cards during the holidays is nothing new, but the options people have for purchasing and using them are evolving.

Each year, PNC Bank sees a spike in credit card award redemptions during the holidays, and this year, there are more opportunities than ever to exchange points for gift cards without any additional expenses, according to Tammy McIntosh, head of credit card rewards at the bank.

"This year we are seeing more demand as credit card holders are finding new ways to give," she said. "Given social distancing guidelines, there are far fewer holiday parties or other in-person engagements, so some may view awarding gift cards as a way to safely say thank you to a friend, newspaper carrier or hair stylist."

In addition to general merchandise cards that allow recipients to choose their own gifts,

other ideas this year include food delivery services, restaurant certificates for catering small gatherings and subscription services — things that may help the recipient offset costs for basic needs.

"In response to customer preferences, PNC and many other credit card issuers have changed their redemption policies to allow for more flexibility," McIntosh said.

This has been especially true with travel cards, as many are home-bound due to the pandemic's impacts on travel.

"Check with your issuer to see if it has expanded its redemption catalogue for travel card holders," McIntosh said. "Many can now convert their travel points into redemption options for a variety of items, including physical and digital gift cards for retail, grocery stores, drug stores, restaurant takeout and delivery, or even charitable donations."

Further, customers can add value by using their card company's online shopping portals to receive extra rewards through cash back on those purchases.

"Accruing points throughout the year and redeeming for holiday gift cards, merchandise and even cash, for your-

self or as a gift, is as trendy — and easy — as ever," McIntosh said.



We'd like to join you and your family in giving thanks to our Lord for His love and guidance, just as we thank you for your trust and support this past year.

Coffey & Ford, PSC Attorneys At Law

Willis Coffey and John D. Ford



From left: Willis Coffey, Nicole Roberts and John Ford (Not pictured: Jenni Ellis and Robyn Fain)

Main St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-4405

With Our Gratitude



To all our friends we hold so "deer," a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you for your kind patronage.

Joseph B. Clontz, CPA
Main St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-3623



Jackie and Cagie McCoy rode down Main Street during Brodhead's annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade.



Rockcastle Solid Waste Coordinator James Renner pulled a float encouraging recycling through the EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade



Brodhead's annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade was filled with classic cars from several decades. Most were award-winning, antiques.





Peace & Joy
 TO ALL THE WORLD

**Merry Christmas &
 Happy New Year**

May God bless you and your family this holiday season.

Senator
Jared Carpenter



**HAPPY
 HOLIDAYS**

Celebrating Over
50 Years in Business!

*Thank you to all our
 loyal customers!*



David, Sr., David, Jr.,
Steve, Eric and Johnny

**Central Body
 Service**

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 Closed December 25th and January 1st

**MERRY
 CHRISTMAS**

It's Been Our Pleasure Serving You!
 Happy Holidays and many thanks for your kind patronage this past year.



Marcella's

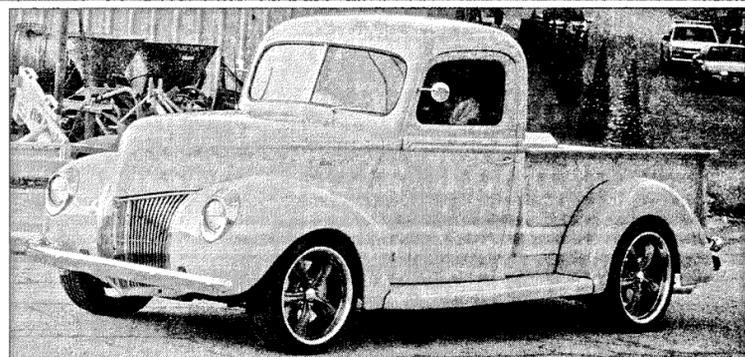
FARM TO FORK

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216 CEDAR RAPIDS RD. MT. VERNON, KY



Jordan Smith, with Rockcastle Weather, stood in the back and waved at the parade watchers as his grandfather Gary Parker drove through the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade in Brodhead.



Cecil and Judy King cruised down Main Street in a classic pick-up truck during the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade.



Current Brodhead City Commissioner John Burton drove his Mustang GT through town in the annual EJ Taylor Memorial Christmas Parade in Brodhead.



Jessica, Mia and Devon Cameron of the Brodhead Volunteer Fire Department rode a side-by-side down Main Street in Brodhead during the annual Christmas parade.



OUR WARMEST THOUGHTS AND BEST WISHES
 FOR A MAGICAL CHRISTMAS
 AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR!
**JUDGE KATIE & KEVIN SLONE
 AND TYLER WOOD**

*No paper next week!
 Signal office will be closed
 Dec. 24th - Jan. 3rd*

*May your heart and home be filled with peace, hope, and love this Christmas season.
 Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*

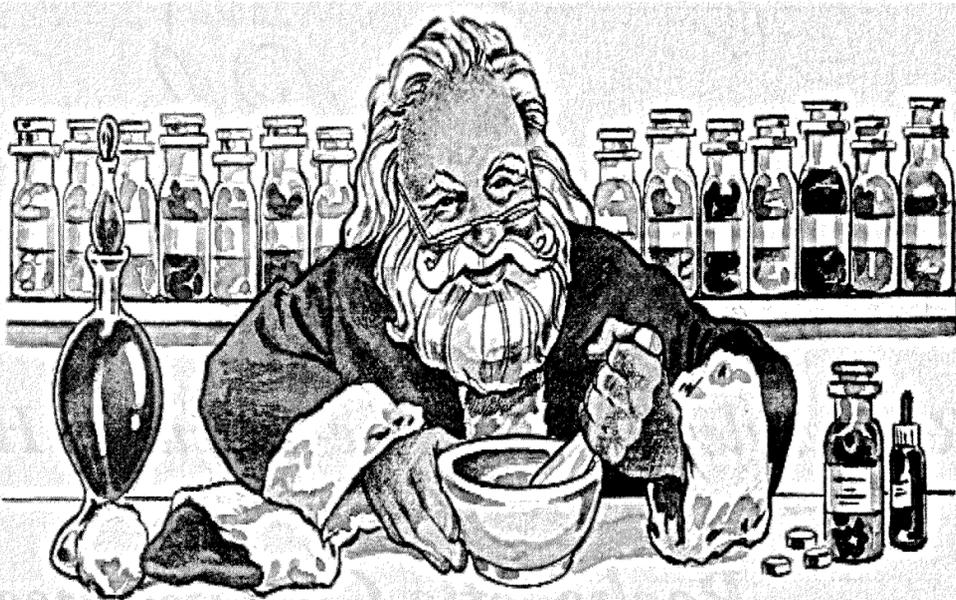
**HOWELL
 HOLBROOK**
 ROCKCASTLE COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE



Howell, Hope and Gail Holbrook



Paul and Natalie Holbrook



**Have a
 Happy and Healthy
 Holiday!**

We're dispensing our best wishes and they include a large measure of thanks to our loyal customers.

We truly appreciate your trust in us.

ROCKCASTLE
 PROFESSIONAL PHARMACY

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Yards to Paradise

By Max Phelps
Getting Motivated to
Landscape

Getting started on that landscaping project you've been wanting can be like a lot of other things in our lives; we kick the can down the road until we get disgusted or agitated enough to get up and do something.

Having a pretty yard is important to many of us. But, everyone these days seems to want a care-free landscape. Of course, the only care free one is a condominium or apartment where you don't have a yard. (And I assume few of those read my thoughts.)

Making your landscape simple and low maintenance is a good goal, especially if you're busy and rushed all the time. Either make it simple, or hire someone to keep it looking pretty. The lucky folks are those who enjoy the flowers, the gardens and the orchards and actually have the time to spend with them.

If your yard looks like the "black sheep" of the neighborhood, maybe this is the year you find the inspiration to change that. Or, if the whole neighborhood looks bad, maybe if you dress your yard up, some of your neighbors will copycat your actions? I don't know at the times over the years I've been working in a yard and the neighbor next door has a landscaper looking their yard over and giving an estimate! Gotta one-up the neighbors!

So, do you have a pretty yard? Does it have pretty trees and shrubs, and nice lawn grass? Or is it spotty grass, misplaced trees, and a pain to mow? If you have an older home, are the trees and shrubs overgrown, maybe even a threat in a wind or ice storm? Some just get tired of looking at the same yard, and want to mix things up with a new drive, walk, patio or garage, some new trees, and maybe build a pond

or plant a garden. What will stir you to coming up with a plan and then taking action?

A tree threatening to fall sometimes gets someone motivated. A wreck tearing up a fence or killing a tree sometimes stirs a homeowner up. Roots breaking a sidewalk, or salt from the road crews killing some plants, these sometimes induce us to take action. Maybe slipping on a steep slope and nearly getting seriously hurt causes us to plant the bank into something besides grass, or maybe to terrace it with a retaining wall.

For some, a need to sell a home forces us to realize it won't bring top dollar if we don't get it looking better. Others may have moved in a couple years ago, because we loved the fireplace, the kitchen, master bedroom or the basement. And the time has come to deal with a yard we never did like much.

Whatever the final straw is that motivates you and your family, most get around to the landscaping that needs attention sooner or later. It could even be that we are tired of red brick or cream colored vinyl—and something simple as a new paint job and a couple large planters with a shrub or some flowers that coordinate with our new color scheme is all that is required to update our home's appeal.

The best time to plan is actually while it's too cold or too hot to actually be outside working, so why not now?

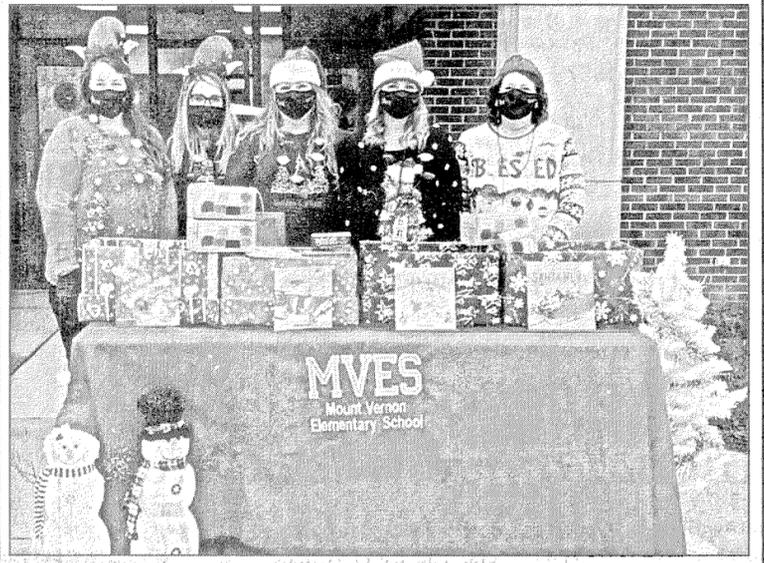
The author is a landscaper.
Contact Max (606) 416-3911
or visit www.rockcastles.net



Project LIFT Community Sponsors/Volunteers

A huge thank you to our community sponsors and Volunteers for making our 1st "Lift Off to Literacy" event a success! The MVES Literacy Team, teachers Kami Phillips, Cloia Collins, Kara Brown, and Robin Bowman, filled bags with a free age appropriate book, pencils, stress balls, candy, water bottle, cups, and tons of other goodies and gave those away to 350 Rockcastle children! We would like to thank these community sponsors and volunteers for helping to make this a success!

Rockcastle Public Library; Cumberland River Regional Prevention Center; RTEC; Kentucky Cancer Program; Rockcastle County Health Department; Kentucky Farm Bureau; Rockcastle County Extension Office; Rockcastle Regional Hospital; IGA; King Bottling/ Climax Water; MVES Family Resource Center; Climax Fire Department; Angie Parsons-Woods; Morgan Mason with MVES Americorps; Trina Thomas, Eric Eversole, Jeannie Kendrick, Roberta Richards; Thomas Coffey, MVES Principal; Rockcastle LIFT Coordinators Jennifer Mattingly and Wendy King; Rockcastle Storytime, Holly Robinson; Our Video Readers; Spencer and Marcos Bengé; Selena Thompson; ALL MVES staff who assisted in the LIFT project; AND OF COURSE Santa Claus, Patrick the Elf, and Mr. Grinch.



**Happy Holidays
to You and
Your Family**

Sigmon Farm

Bill & Nancy Sigmon and family

Merry Christmas

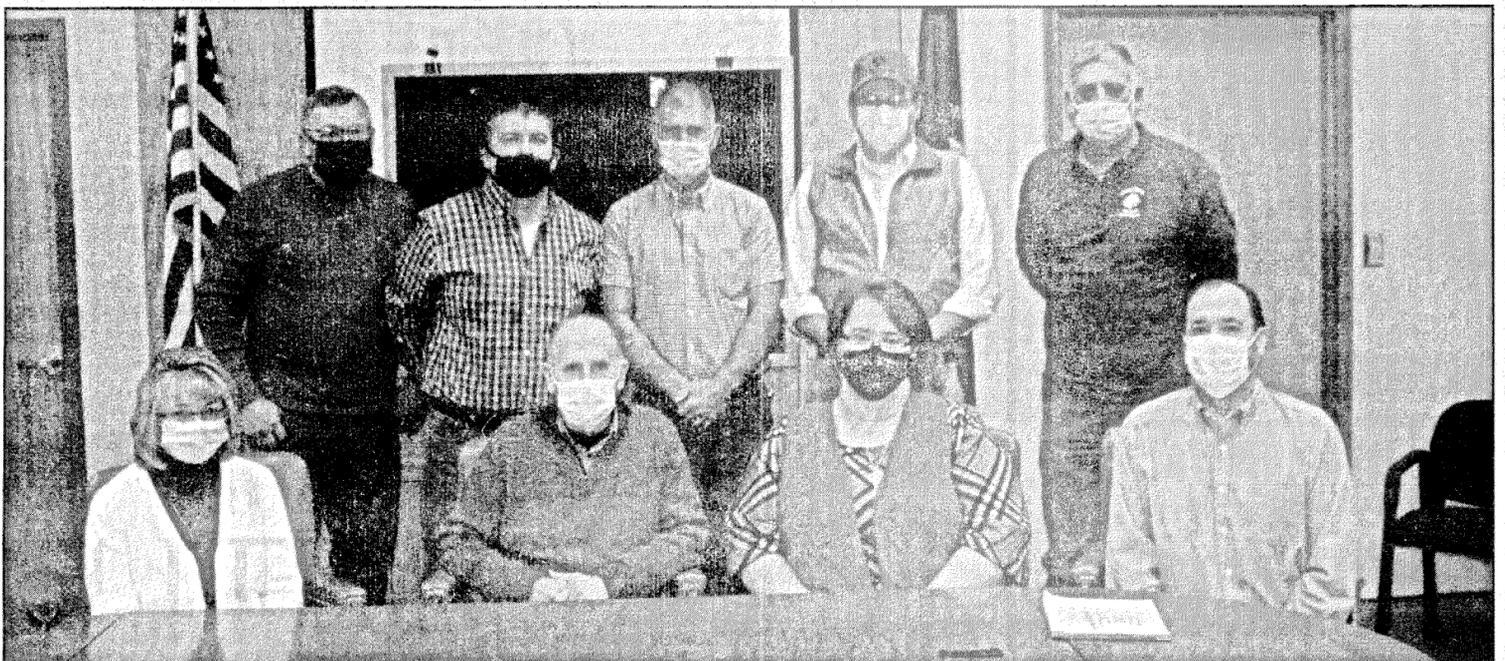
from

Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr.

and the

Rockcastle County Fiscal Court

May this great season find each of you in health and good will
for your neighbors and families.



Front row from left: Vicky Miller, County Judge-Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr., Wanda Coffey and County Treasurer Joe Clontz.

Back row from left: magistrates William Denny, Shane Thacker, Doug Prewitt, Mike McGuire and Shannon Bishop.

During season of giving

Quarles encourages Kentuckians to keep state's hungry in mind

In this season of giving, Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Dr. Ryan Quarles encourages Kentuckians to remember Kentucky food banks and their partners.

"In Kentucky, there are nearly 700,000 Kentuckians, including nearly 200,000 children, who struggle with hunger," Quarles said. "That means one in seven adults and one in five children in Kentucky lack access to enough food for a healthy, active lifestyle. If you're able, now may be the perfect time to think about donating to a local food bank."

This year's coronavirus pandemic has created an even greater need for food banks and the agencies that support them, as many Kentuckians have found themselves out of work and struggling financially.

By either donating money or volunteering time, Kentuckians can make a difference to those struggling to provide food for their tables.

In addition to money and volunteers, many food banks also rely on food donations from retailers, manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, processors, growers, trucking companies and community food drives.

In the spirit of giving aid to those in need, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) provided grants in April for refrigerators and freezers to 25 Kentucky food pantries across the state. The cold storage grants enabled food pantries to store more fresh Kentucky-grown produce donated from Kentucky farmers through the Farm to Food Banks program as well as meat, eggs and other frozen and cold-storage products.

The grants were provided by the Department's Hunger Initiative. The program was launched three years ago as a way to fight food insecurity in Kentucky. A first-of-its-kind effort in Kentucky, the Hunger Initiative brings together farmers, charitable organizations, faith groups, community leaders, and government to look for ways to reduce hunger in Kentucky.

In addition to the those grants, in October, the KDA worked to provide even more resources for Kentucky food banks by launching the Kentucky Cheese Cares, which lets consumers join the fight against hunger by purchasing award-winning Kentucky specialty

cheese products at participating Kroger locations. Kroger stepped in as a key operational partner as the state's largest purchaser of Kentucky Proud products. Kentucky Cheese Cares artisan cheeses can be found in select Kroger stores in Lexington, Louisville, Frankfort, Elizabethtown, and Richmond.

Fifty cents from each unit sold is used to distribute Kentucky dairy products through the Feeding Kentucky food bank network.

"At Kroger, we Live Our Purpose, to Feed the Human Spirit, in big and small ways through our Zero Hunger | Zero Waste plan. This is our commitment to help create Communities free of hunger and waste. I am so proud to be able to offer this incredible product to our Kroger customers that allows them to have an easy and local way to give back to their communities by simply buying great food at Kroger," said Ann Reed, President of the Kroger Louisville Division. "The 50 cents that is donated from the sale of each unit provides much needed funding to Feeding Kentucky and further moves our commitment to ending hunger in our communities."

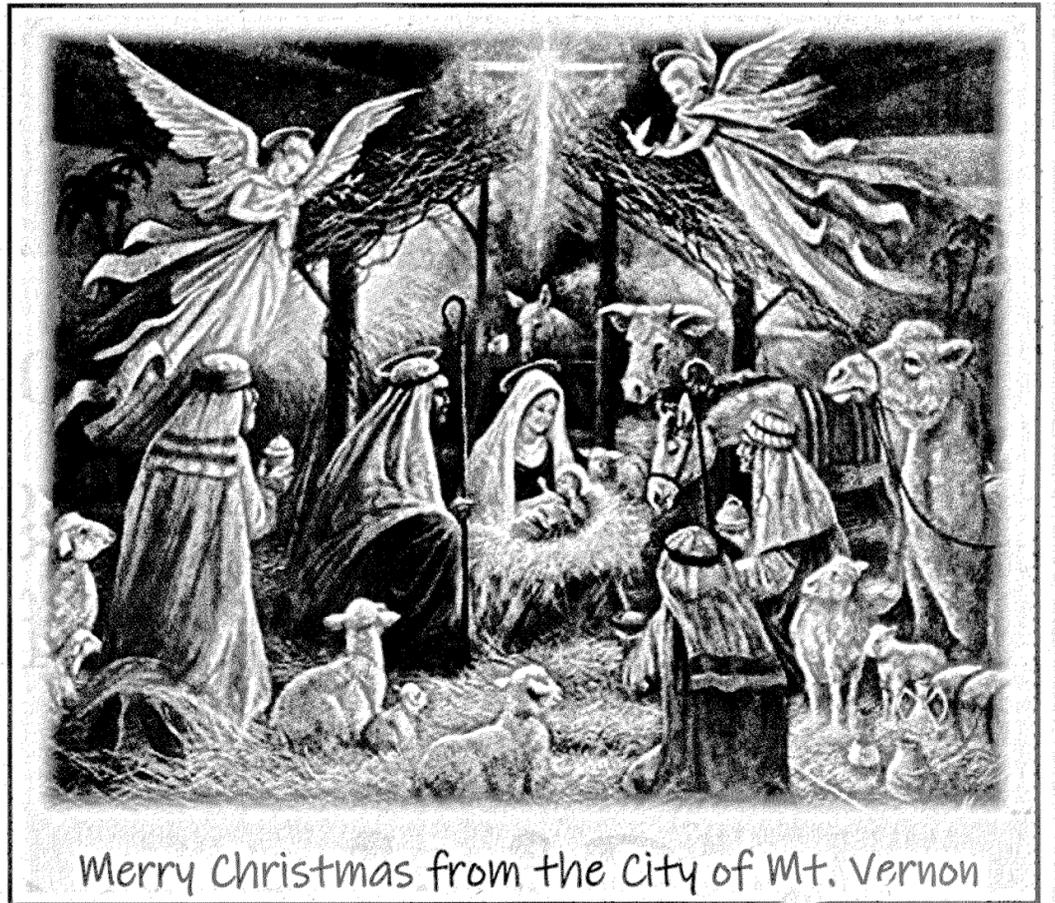
The new initiative increases access to dairy products for food-insecure families, with the added benefit of supporting Kentucky dairy farmers. The Dairy Alliance also provided key support for the project by purchasing the cooler units.

"We are honored to partner with these organizations to help nourish those in need," said Geri Berdak, chief executive officer of The Dairy Alliance. "Dairy farm families care passionately about helping their communities and are honored to give back to their neighbors through the Kentucky Cheese Cares program. We encourage Kentuckians to join the fight against hunger by buying or gifting cheese this holiday season."

The standalone coolers can be found in 10 Kroger stores across the state.

To find out more about the Kentucky Cheese Cares program visit feedingky.org/programs/cheese.

Whether it's donating your time, your money or simply buying cheese, consider helping Kentucky food banks help families in need this season.



May you and your family enjoy the many blessings that give true meaning to the holiday season.

We feel privileged and blessed to have you as our customers.

Thank you for your patronage.

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At this festive time of year,
we'd like to display our gratitude to
our neighbors and friends

Citizens Insurance Agency

*Donnie Singleton
Bryan Clontz, Janice Adams,
Tara Boone and Jessica Smith*

**210 E. Main St. • Mt. Vernon
(606) 256-2611**

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