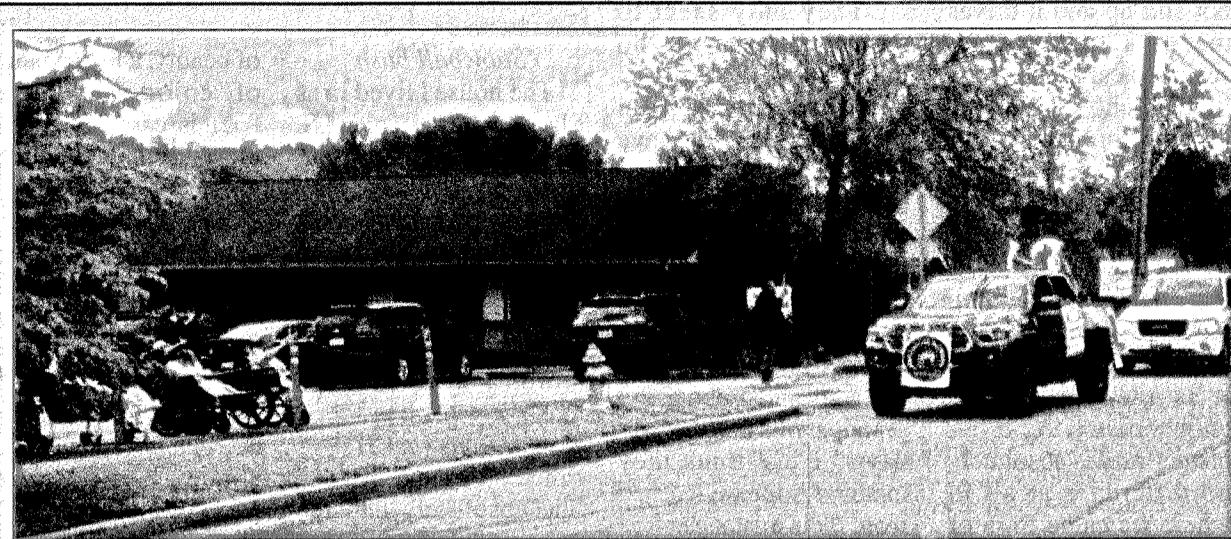


113 CRLOT 0345A R007
ROCKCASTLE LIBRARY
60 FORD DR
MOUNT VERNON KY 40456-2148

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 • (606) 256-2244 • Volume 134 • Number 18 • 50 per copy • Thursday, May 28, 2020



Residents of the Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Center in Brodhead sat in the sun Friday, May 22 as friends and family had the chance to drive by and wave during the Family and Community Parade. Families have been unable to visit their loved ones in centers across the state as restrictions have been in place since March due to the Coronavirus.



Residents of the Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Center in Brodhead sat in the sun Friday, May 22 as friends and family had the chance to drive by and wave during the Family and Community Parade. Families have been unable to visit their loved ones in centers across the state as restrictions have been in place since March due to the Coronavirus.

City/County about to begin the reopening

By: Mike French
Editor

The reopening process is about to begin in Rockcastle County.

Due to orders by Governor Andy Beshear, businesses, state and local buildings, parks, family reunions, church gatherings and most of the state in general has been closed or greatly restricted since the beginning of March due to Beshear's fears of the spread of the Coronavirus.

However, since the predicted surge of cases never materialized, hospitals across the state have dismantled their surge facilities, parks are beginning to reopen, businesses are beginning to bring workers back and public buildings are reopening.

Rockcastle County Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook says he is looking forward to getting

closer to a "normal" way of life.

"We are planning to reopen our parks and public buildings beginning June 1," said Holbrook. "Some things will be handled differently than they were before the closings, but overall, the county is open for business."

Holbrook says the Rockcastle County Courthouse has never been completely closed. "We never closed completely, we simply started asking people to call and schedule an appointment before coming to the building," he said. "As a matter of fact, that has worked very, very well."

So well, that Holbrook says he plans to continue that method of business. "Until after the elections, we are still asking people to call in and set up an

(See "reopen" on A5)

City Council holds on to hopes for the Blast in the Valley event

By: Mike French
Editor

Editor's note: In last week's issue of the Signal, we reported that the City of Mount Vernon and the Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority (RCIDA) had approved a two month loan extension request from Microfoodery Manufacturing. In fact, the City of Mount Vernon had not voted to approve the

loan extension. Only the RCIDA had approved the request and the fiscal court denied the request at their regular May meeting. We apologize for the error.

There was a lengthy discussion about the apparent cancellation of Blast in the Valley during last week's Mount Vernon City Council Zoom meeting.

Officials said during a recent fiscal court meeting that the event had

been cancelled but the court voted to pay \$5,000 in advance for next year's event in order to keep the 2020 (less expensive) pricing schedule.

However, officials and councilmembers of the City of Mount Vernon were unaware of the cancellation.

"I didn't know it was cancelled until I read it in the paper," said Mayor Mike Bryant. "I would truly like to know who decided to cancel it without so much as mentioning it to the ones that are paying for it. The Blast is our city's biggest event and our citizens love it. It is a way we can all give back to the citizens of Mt. Vernon and the county. I wish we could have simply postponed it."

During the Zoom meeting, Bray told members that Fire Chief David Bales had said it was the fireworks company who had cancelled the event and it was assumed that it was cancelled because

of the Coronavirus restrictions.

However, Councilmember Jamie Bryant and Shelly Raines-Lewis and Mayor Bryant said they greatly preferred holding the event at a later date.

Mayor Bryant said he

would discuss the issue with the county, the tourist board and Renfro Valley in an attempt to reschedule the Blast rather than cancel it for 2020. "Even if we have to hold the event without the fire-

(See "Blast" on A5)

May bid new water basin in June

City holds annual budget first reading

By: Mike French
Editor

Mt. Vernon City Administrator Josh Bray presented the first reading of the City of Mount Vernon's fiscal budget to councilmembers during Thursday's regular monthly meeting.

Bray says the budget is "extremely conservative" and includes some "guesswork" this fiscal year since the effects of the state's Coronavirus mandated restrictions have not been fully realized as of yet.

"We have created a worst case scenario budget just to be safe and fiscally responsible," he said. "We are trying to prepare for the worst and hope for the best. I think we have done that. I do

believe this budget reflects a worst case scenario and things will not be this bad but we have to budget this way right now."

The overall annual budget for the City of Mount Vernon totals slightly over \$6.65 million, according to Bray. "We have cut in every way we can in order to be able to continue with the projects we need to work on and still remain responsible. But I believe we will be better off than this budget suggests."

With a \$300,000 carry over, the general fund balance will start at \$355,000 since this budget shows a

(See "City" on A5)

Fiscal court is planning tight 2020/21 budget

By: Mike French
Editor

The \$8,311,488 Rockcastle County budget has a lot of possible shortfalls that County Treasurer Joe Clontz is keeping a close eye on. "We are going to have to watch what we do very closely," he said.

Members of the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court held a special called meeting Thursday, May 21 to approve the municipal road aid fund of \$975,937 and hold the first reading of the 2020/2021 fiscal budget.

Clontz reminded members of the court that "Now is a very good time to tighten the belt" on the budget since officials have no way of knowing

exact numbers yet due to the COVID-19 restrictions and business closures.

"We have been very

(See "County" on A5)

US 25 Yard Sale postponed to Oct.

By: Mike French
Editor

The annual 100-mile US 25 Yard Sale, that travels through Rockcastle County, has been rescheduled.

According to officials with the event, the yard sale will now be held October 2 and 3 and will also

include a route change since Grant County will not be included this year.

Officials say the date change was made due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The event is also planned for only two days this year instead of the usual three-day period.

(See "Sale" on A5)

No new cases

According to Health Department reports, Rockcastle County is holding at 15 total positive reported cases in the county of the Coronavirus COVID-19. All 15 cases have recovered

Vote on or before June 23

Those wishing to vote by absentee ballot must request your ballot by June 15 at the County Clerk's office. See next week's Signal for information about polling locations, dates and optional methods of voting.

RCIDA meeting

The Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority (RCIDA) will hold their regular monthly meeting Tuesday, June 2 at 11:30 a.m.

Drivers testing

The Kentucky State Police announced that the KSP Drivers Testing Branch will begin facilitating permit testing after June 1 at selected locations. Times and dates will be determined later.

Of Special Note Inside

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

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

- Salute to Seniors Pgs. A6&7
- Classifieds Pgs. B2&3
- COVID-19 Hotline • 606-256-7385

Call
606-256-2244 for
Advertising &
Subscriptions



ramblings...

by: perlina m. anderkin

I was rather worn out last night when I finally dragged myself off to bed. It had been a busy few days with the decorating of graves and two wonderful days of visiting family just about wore these old bones out.

Youngest daughter Allison exhausted me just watching her going through her cleaning regime of my house which she does every time she visits. If I didn't appreciate the effort so much I might inquire as to why she thinks my house needs it so badly but, then, I look at my house and realize that it's pretty apparent why she does it.

A big family is a blessing and one that I am most thankful for. But, the weekend started with the annual "decorating" of graves and that is a sad period in itself. It doesn't matter that you think of lost loved ones every day of your life anyway but it just seems sadder somehow to visit their graves and realize how much more fulfilling your life would be if they were still with you.

Jamie and I made the rounds this year, starting here, of course, then onto Berea for my husband's parents and his sister and then continuing to Versailles for my mom and dad, sister and brother.

Of course, we had to stop in Lexington for a little shopping (after all, I haven't had a new pair of shoes for a couple of months) and were reminded forcibly of the new "norm" when most people were running around in masks (which

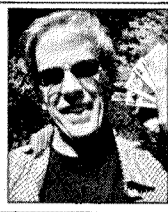
always makes me think of an old-timey B Western movie for some reason) and sales clerks were busy "sanitizing" credit card machines after each use. I told Jamie that procedure always makes me feel like they think I'm Typhoid Mary.

I hesitated before going into church Sunday because I had forgotten my mask at home but then decided a torn off paper towel, a roll of which I happened to have in the car, would serve that purpose. Besides, once I managed to get inside, we were spaced "socially distanced" from each other which always begs the question to me of, if masks work why do we need social distancing and if social distancing works why do we need masks?

(Continued on A3)

Aces Over

By: Mike French



There are things about our history that simply do not add up and it drives me nuts that no one seems to care.

Somehow, over the later years of my life, I have become extremely curious about the world and how we got to where we are as a human race. But when I talk about it, those around me roll their eyes and apparently think it is the epitome of unimportance. As if our history makes absolutely no difference at all in where we came from or where we are going.

I believe strongly in knowing one's history at least a little. I guess I have reached an age where I see so many things in life repeat itself, but only to those who have not been through it before. Rarely does the

same bad things happen to a person several times.

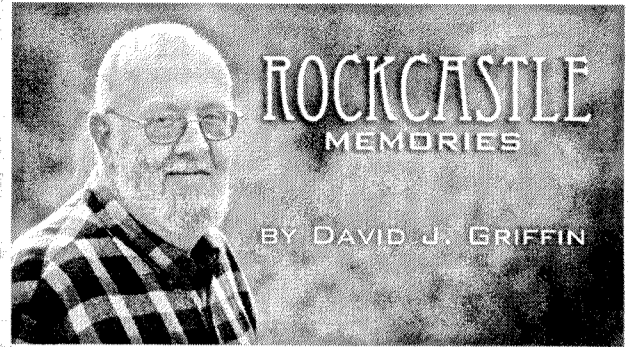
They only seem to happen to people who didn't know what to expect and no experience in the matter. If you have lived through an event and it turned out bad and caused you pain, you most likely will avoid doing that thing again. We learn from the past.

This is partly why I write so much about my grandparents and the "old days." I just think they matter. I hope we learned from their mistakes.

But stuff like Stone Henge seems like it should be a human's first, most important research project ever.

Somehow, people without electric, gasoline,

(Continued on A3)



Snowball bush

The house I lived in as a boy was just off old U.S. 25, two miles south of Mt. Vernon. It was surrounded by a large yard, which was covered with beautiful flowers planted by my grandmother, a remarkable woman who we called "Mommie Katie." She absolutely had the greenest thumb of anyone I have ever witnessed.

Anything and everything that Mommie planted became something to behold. Our yard was filled with a variety of flowering plants, strategically planted by her own hands. It was a thing

of beauty, a living palette of colors. Countless friends came to see her blossoms on a regular basis.

The house was bordered on two sides with an L-shaped porch. Two swings were situated on the porch so that we could sit in the shade and view Mommie's flowers. In one corner of the yard, she planted a large snowball bush, which at one time was about twelve feet tall and possibly fifteen feet wide. In late spring, the white, round flowers created a beautiful centerpiece for her assorted plants in the yard. The blooms lasted until mid-summer. In the fall, the leaves turned purple before they fell to the ground. Therefore, the bush was stunning during both spring and fall.

My wife and I moved to our new home in Mt. Sterling just before Thanksgiving 2019. Before we purchased the property, I walked the huge yard several times in order to try to determine the names of the dormant shrubs and bushes.

One particular shrub avoided my plant classification. I kept an eye on that one bush as it sprouted leaves and grew fuller and denser. One day after a late breakfast, I walked into my backyard and witnessed a most beautiful sight.

There in our new yard was a snowball bush! I ran back into the house to immediately inform my wife. She had heard me describe Mommie Katie's snowball bush many times, and she could tell by my tone of voice how excited I was. For me, it was like

(Continued on A3)

Points East

By Ike Adams



I had a US postal, hand-written, letter last week from a lady who lives near Whitesburg, in Letcher County. She is compiling a book about the history of Letcher County schools, past and present, and was asking if I'd be willing to share anything I remembered about the schools I had attended in my youth. I only have her snail mail contact information but I believe she may be onto something that needs doing. Next week I hope to

have a better way, than snail mail, of seeing if we can do something to assist her effort.

In the meantime, I thought I'd get a column out of her request because, thanks to Mr. Parkinson and the residual effects of at least three strokes, I can only type with the middle finger and thumb of my right hand and I haven't been able to write anything legibly with pen and paper for over a decade. Writing is slow going for me. A column that used to require an hour or two of time and effort now requires the better part of three days. I'm simply too stubborn, at least so far, to give up the habit, but it isn't getting any easier.

What I really need to do is locate at least a dozen old columns I have written, over the last 40 years, about my school days, but that is much easier said than done. The first 10 or 15 years of those columns did not involve a computer but there are carbon copies of them around here somewhere.

(Continued on A3)

T.J.'s Journal

By: Tonya J. Cook



Our Whippoorwills

Dear Journal,
Several nights ago a whippoorwill came to serenade us. The serenade began just after we had gone to bed and were almost asleep. Then, all of a sudden, "Whippoorwill!, Whippoorwill!" I hadn't heard a whippoorwill in a long time. They seem to be rather rare and they tend to stay pretty far out in the country, too.

This whippoorwill began his concert about nine-thirty, just a little after dark. He sang for about ten minutes or longer, keeping us awake. I wondered if there might be a pair of whippoorwills and if they might be raising a little family there in our backyard. This fellow seemed no more than a few feet from our window, he was so loud. Now that I was awake, an old Hank Williams song came to mind,

"I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry". This song speaks of a lonesome whippoorwill. I don't know if this one was lonesome or not but he sounded rather cheerful. In another country song, it speaks of a whippoorwill. This one is Randy Travis' "Deeper than the Holler". This song speaks of "longer than the song of the whippoorwill" In this video, there is a picture of a whippoorwill. It is a small brownish, speckled-looking bird. I'm surprised, an old rock and roller from way back and disco queen such as myself knew such information.

About the same time as their original arrival, one morning at least two hours before daylight, I heard the whippoorwills singing again. I was in

(Continued on A3)

Mount Vernon Signal

Publication Number 366-000
Periodical Postage Paid in Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456
606-256-2244

Published every Thursday since November, 1887. Offices in the Mt. Vernon Signal Building on Main Street in Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456. Postmaster, send address changes to P.O. Box 185, Mt. Vernon, Kentucky 40456.

James Anderkin, Jr., Publisher Emeritus
Perlina M. Anderkin, Publisher
Paige Bengé, Advertising/Composition Manager
Mike French, Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

In County - \$23.00 Yr. Out-of-County - \$27.00 Yr.
Out-of-State \$35.00 Yr.

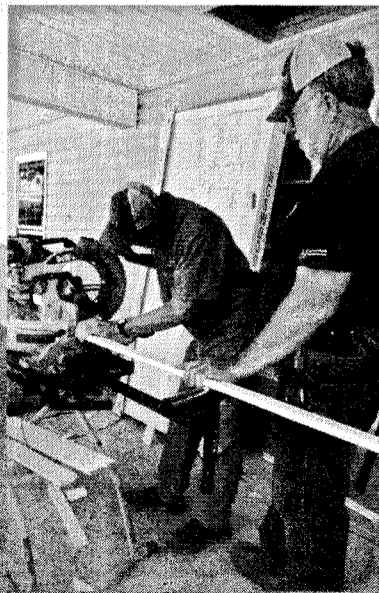
e-mail address - mvsignal@windstream.net

We've Got YOU Covered

Construction | Financing | Home Repair | Credit Counseling

Need to make repairs on your existing home?

Highlands Housing can help you with rehabilitation and increase your home's value by adding energy-efficient features.



Highlands Housing CORPORATION

hhfirst.org | (606) 864-5175



Let our homebuying experts connect you with the resources you need!

ABSOLUTE ONLINE ONLY Auction

House & 1 Acre M/L
Furniture, Household & Personal Property
Bidding Ends: Tuesday, June 9th at 6:00 p.m.

Bid Online: www.fordbrothersinc.com

212 McHargue Branch Rd., Mt. Vernon, Ky.

Directions: From Mt. Vernon, follow Hwy 25 south for 2 miles. Turn left on Hwy 1004. Go 1/10 mile, turn right on McHargue Branch Rd. Go 1/10 mile, property located on left. Auction signs are posted. If you're looking for a home, rental or simply an investment opportunity, please be sure to mark your calendar to preview this property and BID ONLINE.

This 1-1/2 story home contains 1,432 sq. ft. of living area and features an eat-in kitchen, living room, 2 bedrooms, bath and utility room on the 1st floor and 2 bedrooms upstairs. Also has an enclosed rear porch, covered front porch, 3 out-buildings, gas furnace, city water and septic system situated on a 1 acre m/l lot.

Personal Property: Whirlpool refrigerator - Speed Queen washer & dryer - 3 & 3 piece bedroom suites - hutch - pot belly heating stove - cabinets - tables - Signature sewing machine - Emerson console stereo - window air conditioners - mirrors - lamps - prints - chests of drawers - Troy-Bilt riding mower - Anton Breton fiddle w/ case - quilts - quilt rack - linens - bed frames - clocks - glassware including milk & depression - cast iron skillets - kitchenware - tools - push mowers - crosscut saws - and much more.

Preview: Tuesday, June 2nd & 9th from 4-6 p.m. When attending preview, please adhere to CDC guidelines for social distancing. Pickup: Wednesday, June 10th from 12-6 p.m.

Note: The purchaser of a single-family residence built before 1978 has a maximum of 10 days to inspect the property of lead-based paint. The period for inspections begins May 30th through June 8th. The successful bidder must sign a waiver of the 10-day inspection period.

Buyer's Premium: A 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to the winning bid to determine the final sale price to both real estate and personal property.

Terms: Real Estate- 20% down due within 48 hours of close of bidding, with balance in 30 days with deed. Personal Property- Payment in full due at time of pickup in the form of cash, check, Visa or MasterCard with an additional 3% processing fee (\$3 minimum).

Auctioneer/Broker/Seller Disclaimer: The information contained herein is believed to be correct to the best of the auctioneer's knowledge. The information is being provided for the bidder's convenience and it is the bidder's responsibility to determine the information contained herein is accurate and complete. The property is selling in its "as-is" condition with no warranties expressed or implied.



AUCTIONEERS: SAM FORD & JEFF CROMER



www.fordbrothersinc.com
Mt. Vernon, KY
606-256-4545 • 800-435-5454



**Rockcastle Community
Bulletin Board
Sponsored By
Cox Funeral
Home**

Family Owned & Operated Since 1907
80 Maple Drive, Mt. Vernon, Ky. Ph. 256-2345
Toll Free 1-888-825-2345 • 24 Hour Obit Line 256-5454
www.coxfuneralhomeky.com

Rockcastle Library Informky

Rockcastle County Library closed until further notice; however, the library is now offering **limited curbside service** for books and DVDs only. A reopening date for the library has not been determined as yet. Call 256-2388 for more info.

First RCHS Alumni Banquet Rescheduled

The first annual Alumni RCHS Alumni Banquet has been rescheduled for Saturday, October 24th from 6 to 10 p.m. for the classes of 1973 through 1985. For more information, go to rchs.alum.assoc@gmail.com or visit the Facebook group page at Rockcastle Co. High School Alumni Association.

Applications being taken for LIHEAP

In response to the COVID-19 emergency, Community Action Agencies across Kentucky are now taking applications for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Spring Subsidy. Eligibility requirements have been expanded to allow more Kentuckians to qualify. No disconnection notice is required. For more information and to apply, call your local office at 606-256-5315.

Celebrate Sobriety Service

CrossPoint Church of God will host a monthly Celebrate Sobriety Service on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. We are located at 211 Industrial Park Road (across from the high school) in Mt. Vernon, KY. Call 859-582-2553 with any questions.

Chamber of Commerce Meetings

The Rockcastle County Chamber of Commerce meets once a month, on the third Tuesday, at noon at Limestone Grille. All members are encouraged to attend.

VFW Post Item

VFW Post 5908 at Lake Linville welcomes all members and is also looking for new and associate members. New hours are: Wed. - Sat., 5 p.m. to ? Call 606-386-1490 for more information.

Rockcastle County Recovery Meetings

Monday-Celebrate Recovery-Brodhead: Community Outreach Center, 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.

DAR Meetings

The Rockcastle Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution meets the first Monday of each month, September-May at 6 p.m. at First Christian Church in Mt. Vernon. All prospective members are welcome to attend.

Brodhead Lodge Meeting

The Brodhead Masonic Lodge #566 meets every third Saturday at 7 p.m. on Main Street in Brodhead above Brodhead Pharmacy.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon.

American Legion Post 71

American Legion Post 71 meets the second Thursday at 6 p.m. of each month at the Limestone Grill. Commander Rick Bobo (308-2271) invites all Rockcastle veterans to join this organization that honors American soldiers, sailors and airmen.

“Aces”

(Cont. from A2)

heavy construction equipment, helicopters, technology or even the written word, moved stones that weighed 50 tons from 120 miles away and then placed it on top of other stones six stories in the air.

Man! If we knew how they did that with zero heavy equipment or mechanical power, imagine what we could do now that we DO have electricity and heavy equipment. It seems critically important to me that we figure that out.

There are thousands of other examples including the Pyramids and underground caves and monolithic structures. But if we could figure out how they did that, surely our ability to build or create now would multiply logarithmically.

We (humans) just don't seem to learn from our past. Even watching past dictators turn their country into a socialist, dictatorship, we stand by and watch our government seemingly trying to do the exact same thing and we smile and say "thank you," and speak the same words those poor people spoke. "Oh, it couldn't happen here."

I just happen to believe that if we actually learned from our history and took advantage of what we should have learned from our past, the world would be a much better place for everyone.

It is so easy to forget traditions, ethics, moral values and lessons.

I wish we could discover how people used to do so much more with so much less and put that information to good use. I also wish we could remember what has happened in our past and recognize it when it is on its way again.

Here's hoping that tomorrow, we don't make the same mistakes we made yesterday. As of now, to me, we seem anxious to do so.

“ramblings”

(Cont. from A2)

Anyway, I'm not sure that our country will ever return to the old" normal. I've already heard several stories of people refusing to go back to work because then they will lose their \$600 a week, above their regular 80% employment, which is to be paid through June, I believe. And, I even heard something briefly on the news today about the government might try a \$450 incentive to get people to go back to work. Whether this is per week for a period of time

or a one time "incentive" I'm not sure but the \$600 seemed a little excessive to me since people could draw 80% of their wages anyway. But, once enacted into law, people are not stupid, why should they go back to work before the additional \$600 runs out and take a cut in income?

I have read that the additional \$600 in weekly income might be extended through January of 2021. That should guarantee a continued slowdown of the economic recovery into the next year, a development which Democrats hope will work in their favor in the November election for President.

I don't really expect any major disruption of my life over this CoronaChinavirus unless I come in contact with someone who gets the disease and then the "contact tracers" have to contact me to try to trace the disease and I refuse to cooperate and embarrass my children.

But, that's probably a *ramblings* for another week.

“T. J.’s”

(Cont. from A2)

the kitchen letting the dogs out this time. Evidently, they have this thing about just after dusk and just before dawn. I've decided it is the whip-poorwills who wake up the roosters and remind them to crow every morning. If you had both at your house, you might as well forget about sleeping.

“Memories”

(Cont. from A2)

Mommie, Katie, had put her stamp of approval on our yard.

I will never forget Mommie's dedication to both her outdoor and indoor flowers. Our yard and kitchen were always displaying some sort of natural beauty. I loved watching her take pride in her plants, and I can still picture her on her knees in the yard, wearing a full apron and a bonnet on her head. I think some of her love of plants has rubbed off on me.

For Mommie, her gardening work was just as much a spiritual endeavor as it was a menial one. She was devoted to her tasks and to the excellent performance of them all, whether in the physical world or the spiritual. It is for this reason that I sometimes wonder if she gardens a small patch of heaven somewhere. It wouldn't surprise me one bit—and I'd bet that there is a snowball bush

amongst it all.

(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 suggestions and comments.)

“Points East”

(Cont. from A2)

I wonder how many people, under 40 years of age, have ever seen an actual "carbon copy"? Or, for that matter, a typewriter used to make one? By 1982, even I had usually had easy access to a Xerox Machine. On the other hand, I doubt that anybody, under 40, actually reads this column.

I spent all 8 years of "elementary school", commencing in the fall of 1955, at Blair Branch Grade School, decades before middle schools had come into vogue. When I was in first grade school, Blair Branch had 3 rooms, about 100 students and three teachers. One room housed about 2 dozen first and second graders for 1 teacher. The so-called "middle room", for third, fourth and fifth graders had upwards of 3 dozen students for 1 teacher as did the "big room" for sixth, seventh and eighth graders.

By 1963, our school was down to an enrollment of about 70 and my eighth grade class, in the spring of 1963, was the last one to graduate Blair Branch. Eighth graders, that fall, were bused to Letcher Elementary. Over the next 3 years the remaining Blair Branch students were "consolidated" with Letcher. Both Letcher Elementary and Letcher High School were named for the community of Letcher, not the county. Letcher is a small community in Letcher County, and this can be very confusing to folks who don't live there.

In the 1950s there were still upwards of 40 or more, small community grade schools, similar in size, to Blair Branch, scattered throughout Letcher County. In fact there were 3 other schools located less than 3 miles from ours. By the mid 1960s there were fewer than a dozen elementary schools, county wide. In the 1960s Letcher County had 5 high schools. Now we have 2 and one of them is an independent school system that is not governmentally affiliated/operated with the county schools.

I am not going to argue whether or not this consolidation was good or bad. I do believe strongly that it forever, negatively changed the ways the community residents cared for one another and interacted socially. On the other hand, it drastically improved the quality, content and economic efficiency of education. There is simply no way that the school system could financially afford that many schools today and still maintain any semblance of the academic opportunities we now enjoy.

I know that hundreds of central Kentuckians, from numerous counties are Letcher County natives who spent at least a few of their early years in schools similar to Blair Branch or one of Letcher County's high schools.

Please be thinking about it. If I am able to track my letter writer down, let's see how many photos of old Letcher County school buildings, as well as personal experiences we had within them, we can come up with.

I hope to make this easy for you in next week's paper.

Subscribe to the
Mount Vernon Signal
606-256-2244

**Looking for 20/20 Vision
in the Year 2020?**

Call us for an appointment

859-986-7027

King's Eye Care

Dr. Sarah King

Dr. Kevin Skidmore

Dr. Gary King

—Optometrists—

109 Boone St. • Berea, KY 40403

www.eyedoctorberea.net



- ✓ 100% Pro-Trump
I support our President and will put America and Kentucky first.
- ✓ 100% Pro-Life
Perfect Rating from Kentucky Right to Life
- ✓ 100% Pro-Second Amendment
Perfect Rating from the NRA
- ✓ 100% Conservative Results
The only candidate with proven results for Rockcastle County.

**JOSH
BRAY**

Conservative Republican for State Representative

[f@BrayforKentucky](https://www.facebook.com/BrayforKentucky) - BrayForKY.com

Printed for the Josh Bray for State Representative

Obituaries

Della Mae Taylor

Della Mae (Napier) Taylor, 61, of Brodhead, died Thursday, May 21, 2020 at Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center in Danville. She was born March 1, 1959 in Mt. Vernon, to Paul and Helen (Proffitt) Napier. She had worked at SumiRiko Tennessee Inc., was of the Baptist faith, enjoyed her jewelry, her Mustang, and spoiling her nieces and nephews.



Those left to celebrate her life are: her parents, Paul (Helen) Napier; one brother, Larry (Debbie) Napier of Ottawa; three sisters, Rose (Price) Todd of Richmond, Melody Lunsford of Junction City, Paula (Chester) Day of Ottawa; nieces and nephews, Doug Day, Shannon Day, Brandon Day, Stacey Erlanson, Andrew Napier, Ashley Loosemore, Tyler Napier, Angela Day, Lindsey Elliott and Isaac Day; and close friend, Jim Hagerman.

Funeral services were held Sunday, May 24, 2020 at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Dr. Michael Hail officiating. Burial was in Napier Cemetery.

Casketbearers were: Doug, Shannon, Brandon, and Isaac Day, Tyler Napier, and Justin Loosemore. Honorary pallbearers were Andrew Napier and Jim Hagerman.

Condolences may be made at:
www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com

Linda Gail McCarthy

Linda Gail McCarthy, 72, of Huntington WV, died Thursday, May 21, 2020 at Rockcastle Regional Hospital and Respiratory Care Facility. She was born in Gallagher, WV on July 1, 1947, the daughter of Clarence Everett and Bessie Mae Moore McCarthy.

In accordance with Ms. McCarthy's wishes, she was cremated and returned to family in West Virginia.

Dowell & Martin Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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

Billy Ray McLemore

Billy Ray McLemore, 62, of Mt. Vernon, husband of Teresa McLemore and father of Jeffrey McLemore and Jennifer McLemore, died Friday, May 22, 2020 at Rockcastle Regional Hospital.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home Chapel by Bros. Raymond Offutt and Jim Miller. Burial was in Cresthaven Memorial Cemetery.

A complete obituary will appear in next week's Signal.

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

• New deadline •

Due to changes at printing plant,
Mount Vernon Signal's
deadline is now 4 p.m. Monday

Lived In The Flesh

Of the great accomplishments of the Son of God, one stands out as a monumental strength building reality for the help of mortal man. The accomplishments the life in an earth-suit that Jesus successively lived, and that life was without sin. Hebrews 4:15 For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the spirit.

The spiritual battles of men are many. The devil is a deceiver, the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience, the serpent, the roaring lion, and has been able to start and multiply false teachings, and false religions many times over. One of his many lies has centered around whether or not Jesus was the Son of God, whether he came in the flesh, whether he was resurrected, and host other fancies and fables of deception. If one takes God's Word as absolute and inerrant, this, as well as all spiritual inquiries can be answered. The Bible clearly shares the truth about the humanity of Christ.

The Father sent the Son to live in this world of sin and disappointment to show us how much He cared and how much He could share. Jesus understood setbacks and temptations. He was in all points tempted, yet without sin. 1 Peter 2:22 Who did know sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.

Jesus took the nature of mankind and is able to relate to the problems we have in life, our living, our troubles, our temptations, our fears, and our sufferings. Hebrews 2:16-17 For he took not on him the nature of angels, but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren. He was totally acquainted with the life all men face, that he might be a faithful high priest. He was the word made flesh. John 1:14.

He was the seed of David according to the flesh. Romans 1:2 He was God manifest in the flesh. 1 Timothy 3:16 He was the seed of the woman that would bruise the head of the serpent. Genesis 3:15

We have a great Captain of Salvation, who walked here, taught here, suffered here, and died here, and was resurrected to the right hand of God in Heaven. Our Lord know what it is like to live on this earth as a human being. 1 Corinthians 10:13 there hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man, but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able, but will with temptation also make away to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. Praise God for such great blessings. (These are many things in life we cannot be, but we can be faithful if we are Christians).

Thank you for reading this message, I pray you are blessed with the things you need, and you give God the glory. If you would like to get in touch with someone from the Chestnut Ridge Church of Christ about this message or you have some other question, you can call us at these numbers - Bro. Dale McNew at 859-582-4021 or Bro. Ova Baker at 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

Cemetery Notices

Maple Grove Cemetery

Maple Grove Cemetery is asking for donations for the upkeep and mowing of the cemetery.

Anyone that would like to help, please go to Community Trust Bank and make a deposit in the Maple Grove Cemetery account or donations may be sent to: Penny Cameron, 37 Bob white Lane, Brodhead, Ky. 40409.

We would like to ask that anyone with a loved one buried there, please help us to keep it up. If everyone would give a little it wouldn't hurt anyone.

Johanna Cemetery

If anyone would like to donate to the mowing and upkeep of Johanna Cemetery, please deposit donation at Community Trust Bank to the Johanna Cemetery account.

You may also mail your donation to the bank at: Community Trust Bank, 120 E. Main St., Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

Roberts Cemetery

Donations needed! Please help keep Roberts Cemetery (old Freedom Cemetery) mowed.

Send donations to: Roberts Cemetery, c/o Nancy Meadows, 20 Trinity Lane, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

Pittman Cemetery

Donations are being accepted for maintenance of the Pittman Cemetery, located on East Fork Skaggs Creek Road, Chestnut Ridge, Mt. Vernon, Ky.

Please send donations to: Betty Mullins, 46 Lilac Circle, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456. Telephone: 859-893-8881.

Oak Hill Cemetery

Donations are being accepted for the upkeep of Oak Hill Cemetery.

Anyone wishing to help should mail donations to Oak Hill Cemetery, c/o Bill Lear, 60 Hope Drive, Orlando, KY 40460.

To contact Bill his phone number is 606-308-3244. Donations will be accepted at the cemetery May 22th - 25th.

Thanks to everyone for your support, it doesn't go unnoticed.

Livesay Cemetery

Please send donations for mowing and upkeep of the Livesay Cemetery to: Gloria Seals, 5394 Brindle Ridge Road, Brodhead, Ky. 40409.

Mareburg Cemetery

Please send donations for mowing and upkeep of the Mareburg Cemetery to: Gloria Seals, 5394 Brindle Ridge Road, Brodhead, Ky. 40409

McKinney Cemetery

Our Annual Meeting for Memorial Day Weekend will be postponed this year, due to COVID 19. The date for the meeting will be announced as soon as we can safely do so.

Any donations for the mowing and maintenance of the cemetery should be sent to: McKinney Cemetery, P.O. Box 1404, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

Phelps Cemetery

Donations for upkeep of Phelps Cemetery may be sent to Phelps Cemetery, co Randy Renner at 605 Steep Hollow Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

Comments can be addressed to Randy Renner at 606-392-9763 or randyrenner76@gmail.com

All donations are greatly appreciated.

Briarfield Cemetery

Donations for the upkeep of Briarfield Cemetery can be mailed to: Timothy Robinson, Briarfield Cemetery, 5408 Big Cave Road, Orlando, Ky. 40460 or Kenny Reams, Briarfield Cemetery, 4145 Hwy. 490, East Bernstadt, Ky. 40729.

Please make checks payable to Briarfield Cemetery.

Thank you for helping with upkeep of the cemetery.

Sand Hill Cemetery

Please send donations for upkeep and mowing of Sand Hill Cemetery at Sand Hill Baptist Church to: Brady Hensley, 2683 Sand Hill Road, Livingston, Ky. 40445.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

Maret Cemetery

Donations for upkeep will of the Maret Cemetery may be mailed to: Sandra D. Ramsey, 245 Sunset Ridge, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

Freedom Cemetery

Donations for the upkeep of Freedom Cemetery may be mailed to Ronnie McKinney, 335 McK Farm Rd., Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Three Links Phillips Cemetery

Please send all donations for the mowing and upkeep of Three Links Phillips Cemetery to: Joyce Phillips, 3967 Three Links Rd., Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, FSA Director

Farmers and Ranchers to Receive Direct Support for Losses Related to COVID-19

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced details of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), which will provide up to \$16 billion in direct payments to deliver relief to America's farmers and ranchers impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. In addition to this direct support to farmers and ranchers, USDA's Farmers to Families Food Box program is partnering with regional and local distributors, whose workforces have been significantly impacted by the closure of many restaurants, hotels, and other food service entities, to purchase \$3 billion in fresh produce, dairy, and meat and deliver boxes to Americans in need.

"America's farming community is facing an unprecedented situation as our nation tackles the coronavirus. President Trump has authorized USDA to ensure our patriotic farmers, ranchers, and producers are supported and we are moving quickly to open applications to get payments out the door and into the pockets of farmers," said Secretary Perdue. "These payments will help keep farmers afloat while market demand returns as our nation reopens and recovers. America's farmers are resilient and will get through this challenge just like they always do with faith, hard work, and determination."

Beginning May 26, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), through the Farm Service Agency (FSA), will be accepting applications from agricultural producers who have suffered losses.

Background: CFAP provides vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-percent-or-greater price decline due to COVID-19 and face additional significant marketing costs as a result of lower demand, surplus production, and disruptions to shipping patterns and the orderly marketing of commodities.

Farmers and ranchers will receive direct support, drawn from two possible funding sources. The first source of funding is \$9.5 billion in appropriated funding provided in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Stability (CARES) Act to compensate farmers for losses due to price declines that occurred between mid-January 2020, and mid-April 2020 and provides support for specialty crops for product that had been shipped from the farm between the same time period but subsequently spoiled due to loss of marketing channels. The second funding source uses the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act to compensate producers for \$6.5 billion in losses due to on-going market disruptions.

Non-Specialty Crops and Wool: Non-specialty crops eligible for CFAP payments include malting barley, canola, corn, upland cotton, millet, oats, soybeans, sorghum, sunflowers, durum wheat, and hard red spring wheat. Wool is also eligible. Producers will be paid based on inventory subject to price risk held as of January 15, 2020. A payment will be made based 50 percent of a producer's 2019 total production or the 2019 inventory as of January 15, 2020, whichever is smaller, multiplied by the commodity's applicable payment rates.

Livestock: Livestock eligible for CFAP include cattle, lambs, yearlings and hogs. The total payment will be calculated using the sum

of the producer's number of livestock sold between January 15 and April 15, 2020, multiplied by the payment rates per head, and the highest inventory number of livestock between April 16 and May 14, 2020, multiplied by the payment rate per head.

Dairy: For dairy, the total payment will be calculated based on a producer's certification of milk production for the first quarter of national adjustment to each producer's production in the first quarter, calendar year 2020 multiplied by a national price decline during the same quarter.

Specialty Crops: For eligible specialty crops, the total payment will be based on the volume of production sold between January 15 and April 15, 2020; the volume of production shipped, but unpaid; and the number of acres for which harvested production did not leave the farm or mature product destroyed or not harvested during that same time period, and which have not and will not be sold. Specialty crops include, but are not limited to, almonds, beans, broccoli, sweet corn, lemons, iceberg lettuce, spinach, squash, strawberries and tomatoes. A full list of eligible crops can be found on farmers.gov/cfap. Additional crops may be deemed eligible at a later date.

Eligibility: There is a payment limitation of \$250,000 per person or entity for all commodities combined. Applicants who are corporations, limited liability companies or limited partnerships may qualify for additional payment limits where members actively provide personal labor or personal management for the farming operation. Producers will also have to certify they meet the Adjusted Gross Income limitation of \$900,000 unless at least 75 percent or more of their income is derived from farming, ranching or forestry-related activities. Producers must also be in compliance with Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation provisions.

Applying for Assistance: Producers can apply for assistance beginning on May 26, 2020. Additional information and application forms can be found at farmers.gov/cfap. Producers of all eligible commodities will apply through their local FSA office. Documentation to support the producer's application and certification may be requested. FSA has streamlined the signup process to not require an acreage report at the time of application and a USDA farm number may not be immediately needed. Applications will be accepted through August 28, 2020.

Payment Structure: To ensure the availability of funding throughout the application period, producers will receive 80 percent of their maximum total payment upon approval of the application. The remaining portion of the payment, not to exceed the payment limit, will be paid at a later date as funds remain available.

USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only, and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.



Let the Bible Speak

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

Rockcastle County Recovery Meetings

Monday-Celebrate Recovery-Brodhead: Community Outreach Center, 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 859-621-9881, Joanie Mink 606-308-3190.

“Blast”

(Continued from front)

works. The Blast is a major event,” said the mayor.

Council member Bryant said “Surely we could move it to a later date. Even if we had to do some things differently.” Mayor Bryant agreed. “If they can reschedule the Kentucky Derby, surely we can reschedule the Blast in the Valley.”

In other action, Mayor Bryant announced the city’s plans to open the city by June 1, including all city buildings and parks.

Mayor Bryant said the city is having highly traveled areas, where customers would frequent, steam cleaned or power washed and the city is planning to “open up across the board” beginning this week. “A local business has offered their services to clean our counters and other areas and we plan to take advantage of that kind offer,” said Mayor Bryant.

In fact, City Administrator Josh Bray said he even hopes to open the Splash Pad, though there are still many regulations about pool openings. “Technically, it’s not a pool because the water doesn’t circulate and it is big enough to meet distancing requirements,” he said. “We are hoping we can open the Splash Pad when we open the parks. We believe we can open the area for our citizens in a safe manner.”

The mayor also said he is looking into having glass placed over all the customer counters at city hall to better ensure the safety of citizens. “Plans are to open the city on June 1,” he said.

Councilmember Jamie Bryant said she had noticed city workers at the local parks and asked if the areas would be ready to open soon. Bray explained that recent flooding has caused damage to the park systems in Mount Vernon and workers are cleaning up the areas and preparing them for reopening.

Council members heard many details of the monthly financial reports from City Administrator Josh Bray. He explained that the reports may be slightly skewed due to the uncertainties involved during the Coronavirus restrictions. “We still have a decent surplus and things seem to be about as expected at this point,” said Bray. “But we will not know how these restrictions have affected us until later.”

Councilman Clifford Mullins asked if the city will be eligible for extra funding due to the Coronavirus restrictions and closures. “We are going after every single dollar we can get,” said Bray. However, Mayor Bryant said there may not be a lot available and officials should not expect that type of funding to make a big difference in the 2020 budget. “We are blessed that our three biggest organizations are essential workers so we haven’t suffered as much as some cities,” he said. “The School, the hospital and Rtech as well as our dollar stores, grocery stores and convenience stores were able to continue working.”

During old business, Councilmember Shelly Raines-Lewis brought up the issue of the Microfoodery loan extension request. “I don’t recall us approving that loan ex-

ension request,” she said. “I read in the paper that we had approved it but I don’t remember that.” Mayor Bryant said the city had not officially approved that request. “It was an innocent misunderstanding but we did not officially approve that request,” he said. “I’m not saying Microfoodery was not justified in asking, but the Judge (Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook) and I had some serious reservations about that request. We have worked well with them but it has been a long, long time and there comes a time when it’s just too much.”

In other action, the council discussed the first reading of the City of Mount Vernon’s 2020/21 budget (see related story) and Bray told councilmembers this budget includes some “guesswork” since the full affects of the state mandated shutdowns cannot be fully calculated yet.

Mayor Bryant said he expects the next city council meeting to be held “the old fashioned way” in council chambers, in person. “It will be good to see everyone again and the room is big enough that we can observe most any restrictions that are still in place at that time,” he said.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 18 at 6 p.m. at City Hall. Currently, the public is invited to attend.

“City”

(Continued from front)

\$55,000 surplus. “We started with a pretty good nest egg and that is a big help,” he said.

One of the many cuts in revenue listed during the presentation was the budgeted \$700,000 in occupational tax revenue. “We usually budget \$775,000 in a normal fiscal year,” said Bray. “Our net profit revenue went from \$55,000 to \$45,000 and we lowered our insurance premium tax (estimate) significantly.”

Bray said the campground revenue will also be down noticeably this next fiscal year. “We have already seen a drop there,” he said. “But our fire department is killing it coming up with revenue. That is a big help to the city also.”

Bray said the Bittersweet account remained the same at \$32,000.

On the expense side, Bray said the revenue gained from the new alcohol tax will appear in different places in the budget, in accounts where the revenue can be used by law. “Most of that money will appear as though we are increasing wages,” he said. “But we aren’t. Our auditors and I agreed that placing the alcohol tax revenue in those funds will make it much easier to track and be more transparent.”

Revenue from the alcohol tax can be used for any expense the city has that would not be present if there were no alcohol sales in the city, according to Bray. “Some of the money will show up in the police department budget, for example, because 10 percent of that money can be used for police department expense in administering and dealing with the sale of alcohol,” Bray said.

Bray discussed flooding issues in the city as well and listed several projects the city has planned to help drainage and relieve future flooding. Bray said the cleaning of the lagoon near the

water plant can be skipped in 2021 since it is only done every 18 months. “This helped drop water fund expenses \$150,000,” he said. At the same time, the sewer department budget is increased greatly since grant money has been placed in that budget for the pump station project through FEMA.”

A greatly anticipated project is the new water basin that is expected to remove the taste and odor from the drinking water in Mount Vernon. “The algae causing the bad taste in our water is kicking our butt right now,” said Bray. “We are getting complaints about every day, but we believe we can bid the project out in June of this year. The red tape involved has been ridiculous. We have been on top of it for 18 months now and we fight through red tape constantly. But now, we are supposed to receive final approval to bid out the project in June.”

Bray and Mayor Mike Bryant say the new basin is expected to “solve the issue” of the bad taste and odor in the local water system.

Bray says nearly every year there are no changes in the budget between the first and second reading, but he expects some changes this year before next month’s meeting. “Some of these numbers will change as we get more information about how we have been affected by the recent restrictions,” said Bray.

Mayor Bryant said he and Bray, and others in the city, have worked diligently to prepare the budget. “We have definitely been affected by this Coronavirus situation, we just don’t know yet how badly we have been affected,” he said. “This has certainly been challenging for us all but I think the City of Mount Vernon has fared well through it all and we will be okay.”

The second reading of the budget is expected to be held during the June regular meeting on June 18 at 6 p.m. at city hall.

“Reopen”

(Continued from front)

appointment because of the obvious rush we will see.”

The Judge says reopenings continue to have restrictions mandated. “We hear about things opening back up but there are still a lot of mandated restrictions in place,” he said. “This will not be just back to normal. Even those who have an appointment at the courthouse will have to answer a few questions and have a temperature check before they come inside. And there are other restrictions as well. Those restrictions may change and we will deal with them as they come.”

Holbrook says March and April are two of the biggest months for license tag renewals as well as driver’s licenses and other public needs at the courthouse. “When we do open back up, we are going to be rushed with those people who have been waiting since March so we are asking that everyone continue to set an appointment for now.”

Holbrook says he plans to reevaluate county schedules later in July.

Josh Bray, Mount Vernon City Administrator, says the city plans to be “completely reopened on June 1.”

Yet Bray also says it will not be business as usual. “Although things will not be completely back to normal, there will be some semblance of normalcy,” he said. “We didn’t lose any employees but we had to get creative with our scheduling to remain in compliance with the governor’s orders but we were able to do that.”

Bray also says planned projects are about to receive attention as well. “Some of our projects were put on hold during all of this, but I’m excited to get things going again,” he said. “The people of our community have handled all of this in stride.”

Holbrook agreed. “We all owe a great deal of thanks to our business owners, health care workers and the citizens who have worked so well with their fellow citizens,” Holbrook said. “Our community needs to continue to help each other and support each other and show our unwavering Rock Pride.”

“County”

(Continued from front)

lucky that Rockcastle County’s two biggest employers were considered essential services and did not have layoffs during this pandemic,” said Clontz. “So our occupational tax will not be as strongly affected as most counties.”

However, though the county may not be as strongly affected, Clontz says there will indeed be some affect from the recent closures as well as due to I-75 construction. “We just don’t know the extent of the affect it will have on our revenue and we had better plan on the worst and hope for the best,” he said.

The county is expected to lose some revenue gained through the

occupational tax due to layoffs and closed businesses but Clontz is also concerned about the completion of the I-75 improvements.

“Workers on the I-75 construction project are scale wage workers and that makes a noticeable difference in our revenue. Are they finished in Rockcastle County? No,” he said. “But they will be.”

The occupational tax Clontz is watching closely is vitally important for the 2020/21 budget because department shortfalls are even bigger this year than last and the general fund includes that tax, according to Clontz.

In fact, the jail budget alone shows a \$751,076 shortfall, meaning predicted revenue from the jail will be \$751,076 less than required to operate the jail, Clontz said.

But the detention center isn’t the only fund that will need to draw from the general fund.

The LGEA fund shows a shortfall of \$62,869 and the fairgrounds fund shows a shortfall of \$4,250. Even the 911 fund shows a shortfall of \$122,581 in the new budget.

Overall, the 2020/21 fiscal budget shows shortfalls totalling \$941,526, all of which will have to come from the general fund, according to Clontz.

Clontz discussed several areas where revenues have fallen, including the lack of state inmates in the local jail. But other areas have fallen over the years as well.

“We get revenue from phone calls over landlines, but people don’t use landlines anymore,” he said.

Magistrates discussed a possible “usage fee” added to electric meters or water meters in the county to make up that

difference in revenue.

“That is something we can look into. But one way or another, we need to make that revenue up,” said Clontz.

The budget shows the general fund with an estimated \$500,000 surplus from the 2019-20 fiscal year and \$3,969,878 in estimated revenues with \$941,526 to be transferred out to other funds.

“The fact is, some of the numbers right now are completely unpredictable,” said Clontz. “We don’t know how long I-75 construction will last. We don’t know the affects of the governor’s restrictions on our occupational tax yet. We don’t know where we will make up the landline shortages. It is possible that next year’s budget is when the bigger problems will show up.”

Still, Clontz is hopeful about the county’s future. “There are a lot of positive things going on in our county and we are very hopeful,” he said. “Next year, we will know much more about how all these things have affected our county’s budget.”

The first reading of the budget was approved unanimously.

“Sale”

(Continued from front)

A press release says this year’s sale will begin in Georgetown and run along US 25 to Corbin and will skip Fayette County.

Officials say thousands of vendors will exhibit their wares and food trucks are expected to be found all along the route.

For more information about the yard sale, contact Randy Coffey at (859) 779-3005 or go to the newly created Facebook page called “New US 25 Yard Sale - 2020.”

Re-Elect **R. Travis BRENDA** for STATE REPRESENTATIVE

The ONLY Republican State Representative Candidate for District 71 with the

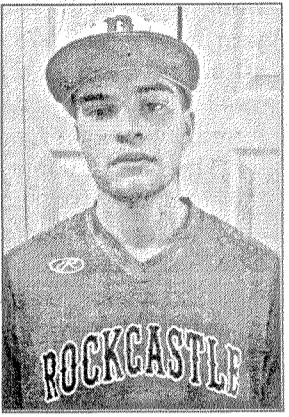
NRA Endorsement and “A” Rating

and **Kentucky Right to Life Endorsement**

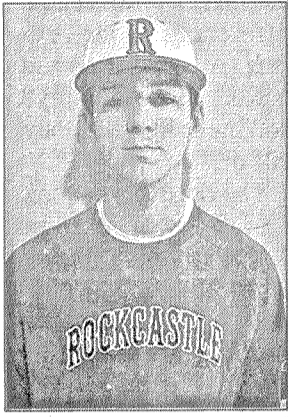
Paid for by R. Travis Brenda for Kentucky

RCHS Salutes Senior Rockets

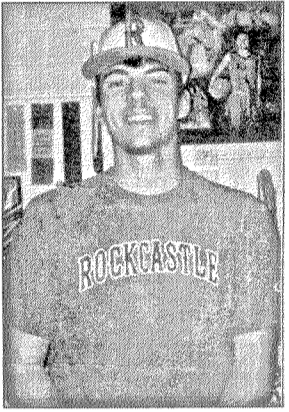
• Baseball •



Aidan Cain



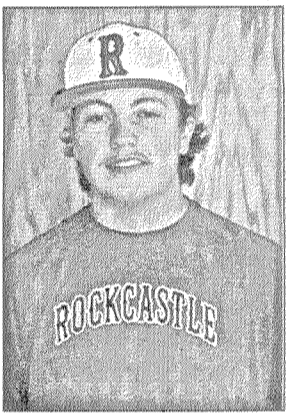
Colby Price



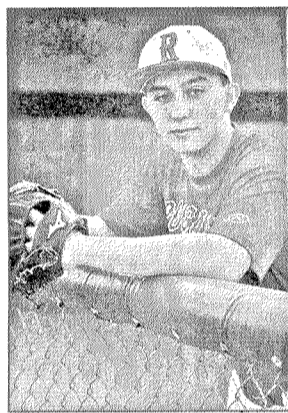
Jacob Loudermilk



Jacob Hunt



Logan Bowman



Rylee Denney

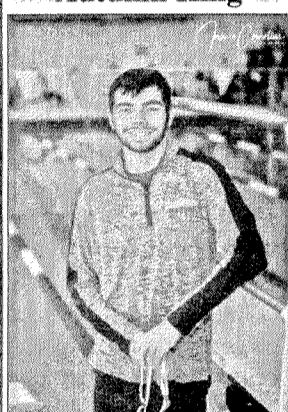
• Swimming •



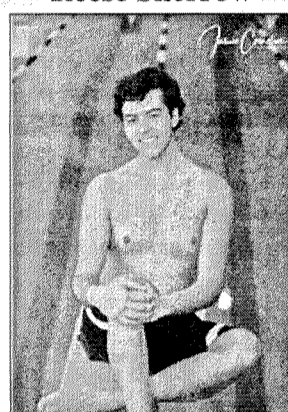
Autumn King



Reese Sherrow



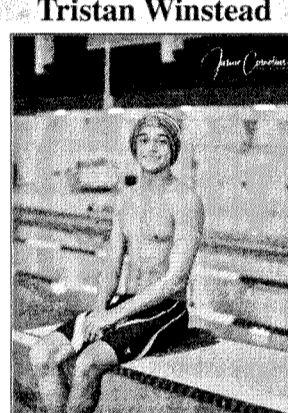
Dawson Nicely



Tristan Winstead

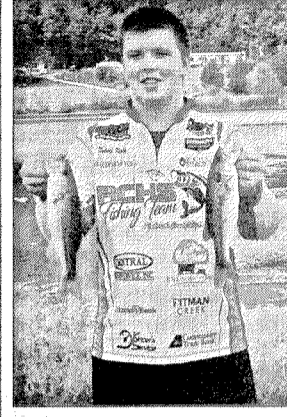


Emilee Thomas

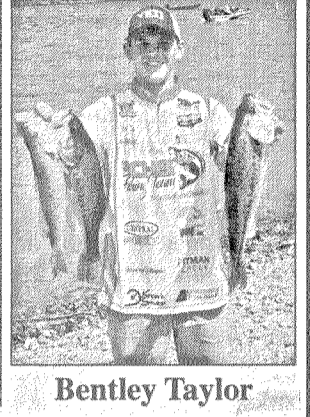


Vashaun Alexander

• Fishing •



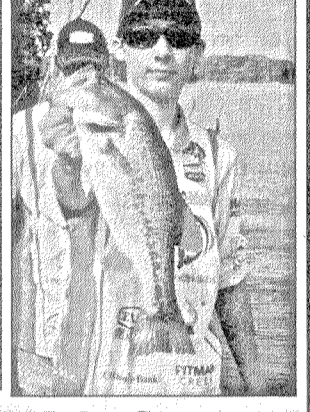
Dakota Kirby



Bentley Taylor



Logan Noel



Jaden Carpenter



Hope Clontz



Logan Smith

Girls' Track Cross/Country

...
Tori Dotson

• Tennis •

Jaclynn Chadwell

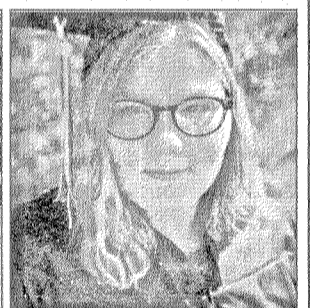
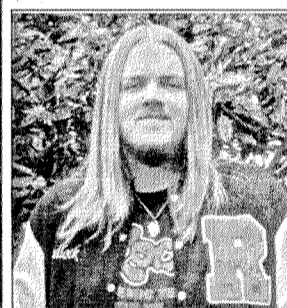
• Esports •



At left:
Caleb Burns

Bottom left:
Drew Bullock

Bottom right:
Nora Pulliam



Aaron Clark

Dylan Bullen

• Archery •

CJ Cameron

Logan Bullock

Boys' Track Cross/Country

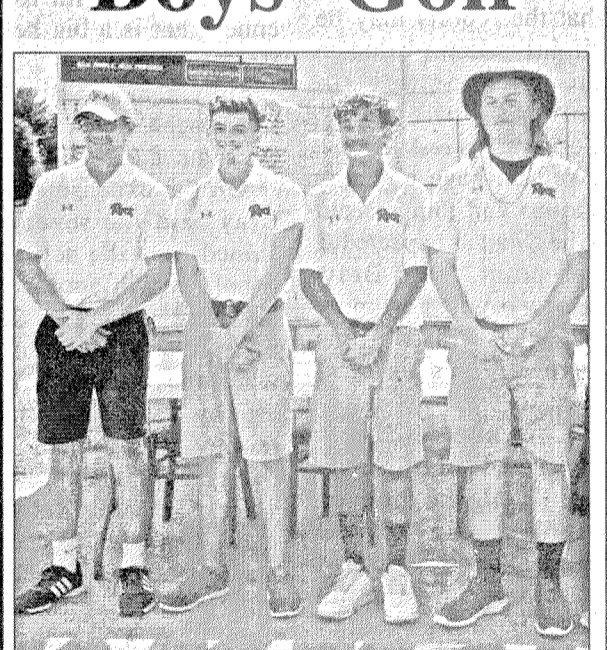
...

• Girls' Golf •



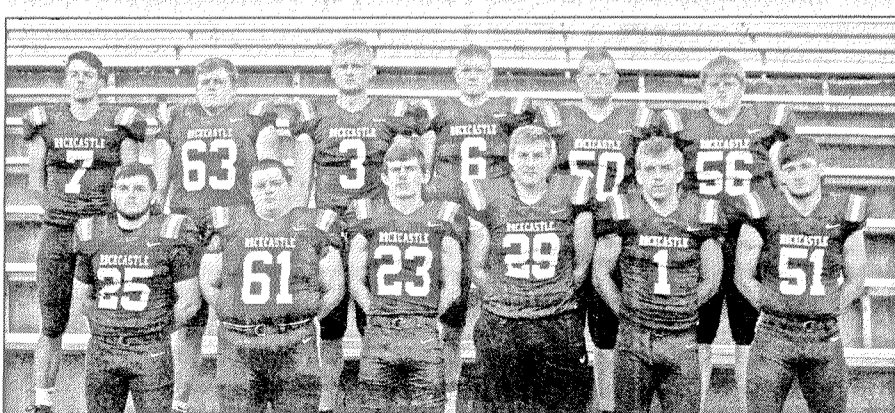
Autumn King & Gracelyn Owens

• Boys' Golf •



Aidan Cain, Will Isaacs, Vashaun Alexander and Logan Bowman

• Football •



Senior members of the 2019 Rocket football squad are shown above, front row from left: Zach Taylor, Daniel Mason, Noah Reams, Sam Philbeck, Josh Thacker and Dougie Collins. Back row from left: Jacob Loudermilk, Dakota Slavey, Trevor Todd, Chase Roberts, Blaine Rumsey and Austin Tillery. Not pictured: John Howard.

This page sponsored by....

Congratulations to all Rocket seniors

Citizens Bank

Serving the needs of Rockcastle, Pulaski and Jackson Counties

Member **FDIC**

Real People. Real Progress.

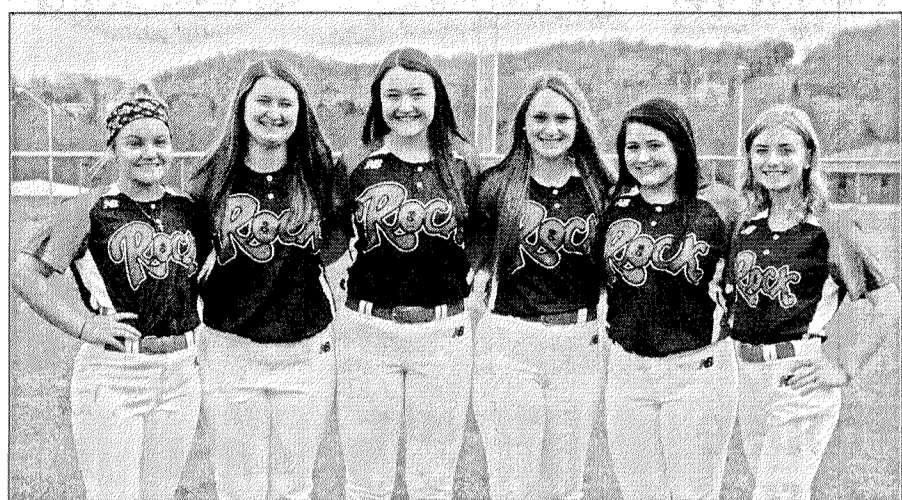


Mount Vernon 606-256-2500 Brodhead 606-758-8212 Somerset 606-451-2274 McKee 606-287-8390

www.citizensbankrb.com • citizensbankrb.mobi

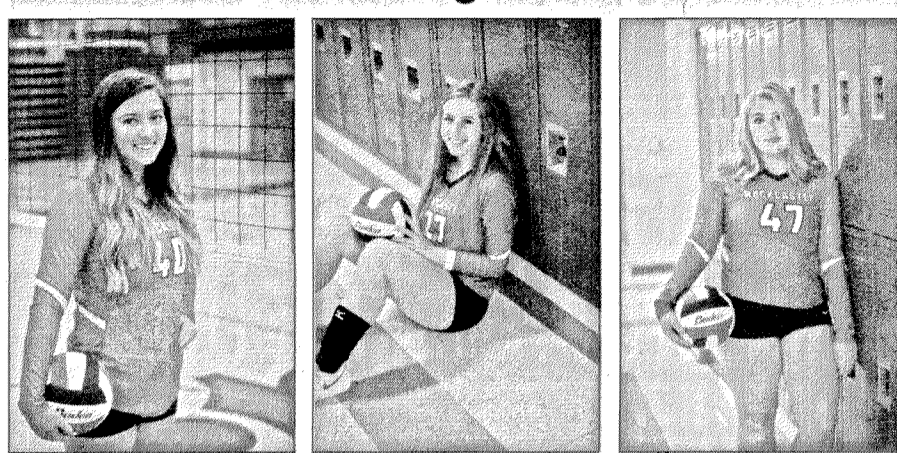
RCHS Salutes Senior Rockets

• Softball •



Senior members of the 2020 Rocket softball team are shown above, from left: Kaleigh Richards, Ashlyn Brock, Jaylon Ponder, Selicity Broaddus, Ravyn Bullens and Emma Smith.

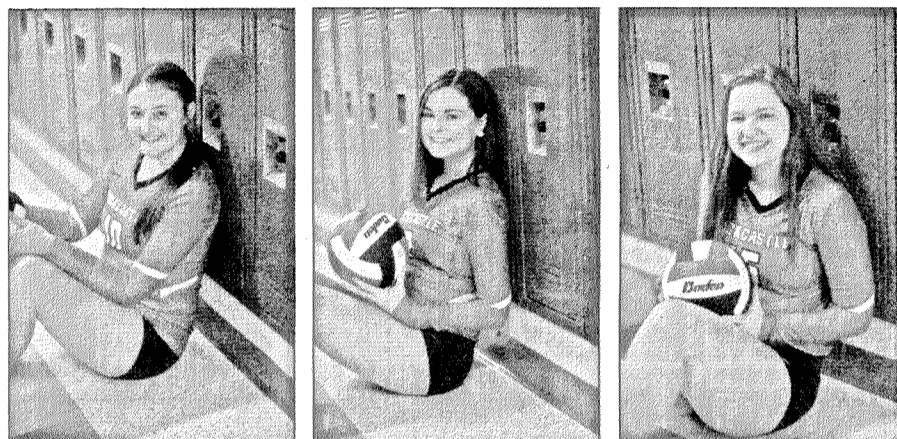
• Volleyball •



Autumn King

Callie Lewis

Emilee Thomas



Jaylon Ponder

Kylee Fain

Valerie Franklin

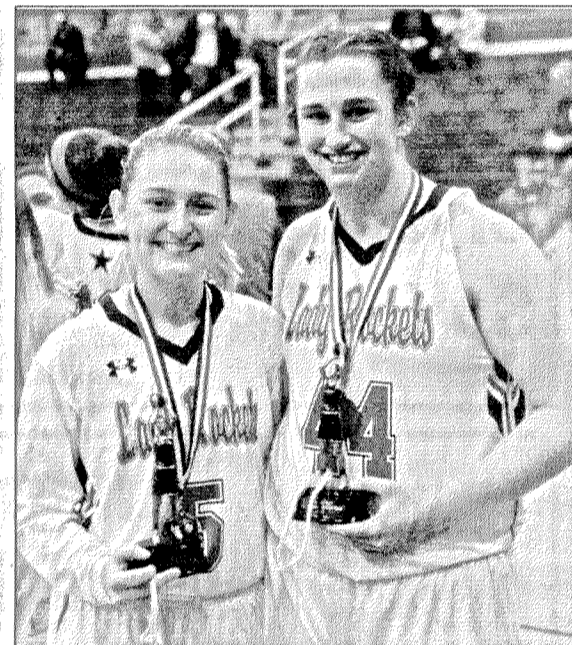
• Boys' Basketball •



Senior members of the 2019-2020 Rockets are shown above, from left: mgr. Spencer Begley, Bentley Taylor, Andrew Hurt, Jacob Loudermilk and Logan Noel. Not shown: Logan Bowman.

Girls' Basketball

•••
Shelby Newland
and
Kenzi Himes

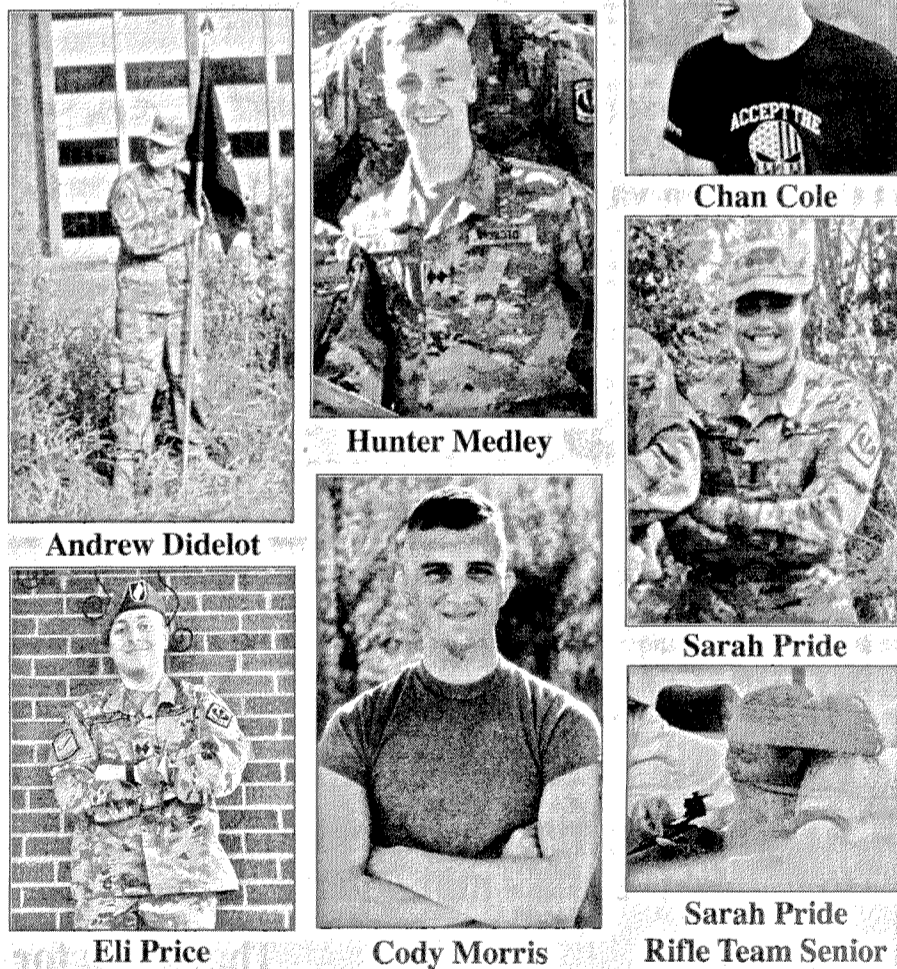


• Marching Rockets •



Senior members of the 2019 Marching Rockets are shown above, front row from left: Lizzie Dixon, Tarrylton Dunn and Shelbie Baker. Back row from left: Madison Webb, JJ Clouse, Hayley Graves, Zach Robinson, Dakota Kilby and Emily Alexander.

• Raider Team •



Chan Cole

Hunter Medley

Andrew Didelot

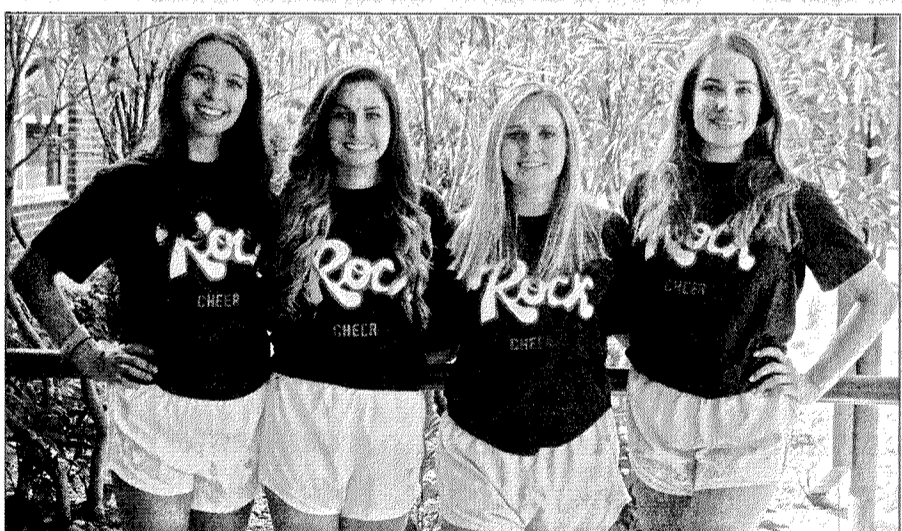
Sarah Pride

Eli Price

Cody Morris

Sarah Pride
Rifle Team Senior

• Cheerleading •



Shown above are seniors for the Rocket cheerleading squad from left: Riley Betsworth, Lebrana Sparks, Ashley Garrett, and Kaylee Brock.

This page sponsored by...

Congratulations Senior Rockets



Attorneys:
James L. Cox,
Heidi Weatherly
and
Teresa Whitaker

Staff:
Shari Proctor &
Amanda Brown

Legal Services Provided in the Following Areas:

Civil, criminal, domestic, probate, estate planning, property transfers,
loan closings and general legal document preparation

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

Congratulations Rockets

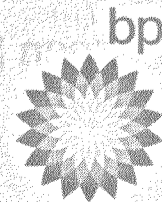
from

Peg's Food Mart

1681 S. Wilderness Rd.

Mt. Vernon

606-256-5933



Save a Lot

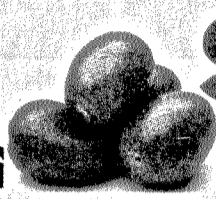
Food Stores

MEMORIAL DAY




Sale


Fresh Produce Items

Roma Tomatoes  **\$1.29** lb.

 **2/\$5** Cherries **\$3.99** lb.

Peaches  **.99** lb.

Crystal Geyser Spring Water  **\$4.19** ea. 16 oz. 35 pk.

 **Hungry Jack Instant Potatoes** **\$1.69** 15 oz.

Ice Cream **\$5.49** One gallon variety flavor

Doritos Variety Flavors **2/\$6** 7 oz. Lays Variety Flavors **2/\$6** 7 oz.

Maxwell House Coffee  **\$7.49** 36 oz.

Grissoms Mill Hot Dog or Hamburger Buns  **\$1.19** 8 pk.

Red Gold Tomato Juice  **\$1.89** 46 oz.

Zesta Crackers  **\$2.19** 16 oz.

4/\$10  **3/\$10** 6 Packs 12 Packs

Little Debbie Zebra Cakes  **3/\$5** 13 oz.

3/\$5  **4/\$9** 2 Liters 6 Packs

Freezer Pops **\$2.00** 24 pk. Styrofoam Cooler **\$2.99** 28 qt.

ATTENTION CUSTOMERS

Thank you for putting your trust in us to supply your families during this unprecedented time. We are asking our customers to limit their purchases on the following items. This will allow us to help serve many more members of the community as possible.

Thank you for your understanding!

- Toilet Paper & Paper Towels - (2) any size
- Meal/Flour (1 bag per each item)
- Can Vegetables (6 per variety)
- Fresh Hamburger/Ground Chuck (2 Packs)
- Water (2) cases or gallons
- Butter (1) pack sticks or tubs
- Any type of cleaning supplies - (2)

Exclusive senior & disabled shopping time.

We invite these customers to shop the store each day during our first hour open. We appreciate customers respecting this change and ask that you plan your shopping trips around this timeframe.

Per the Governor all customers are required to wear a mask

8am-9am

Per the Governor all customers are required to wear a mask

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT ITEMS. NO PRODUCT SOLD TO DEALERS. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. WE ACCEPT WIC, EBT, DEBIT, VISA, MASTER CARD & PERSONAL CHECKS FOR AMOUNT OF PURCHASE.

Open Sunday through Saturday 9am - 7pm

visit us at savealot.com    

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

Mount Vernon Signal

Second Section

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Class of 2020 Senior Parade this Thursday

Because all of the traditional ceremonies normally held to honor the graduating class of RCHS each year did not happen, there have been several innovative ways used to give this year's class the recognition they deserve.

One of these ways will be held this Thursday, May 28th, beginning at 7 p.m. when the Class of 2020 Senior Parade will be held.

The parade will begin at Rockcastle County Middle School and all seniors are asked to report there by 6:45 p.m.

Seniors are welcome to decorate their vehicles, but please keep decorations appropriate.

Seniors may wear cap and gown or anything that represents your time at RCHS, whether that be on an athletic team, JROTC, academic team, a club, etc.

Graduates must stay in their car at all times during the parade's duration.

Several of the graduates' former elementary and middle school teachers will be at the middle school and at Mt. Vernon Elementary School, to greet graduates, during the parade.

Members of the community have assembled gift bags for the seniors, with many surprises, including cash, donated by the many supporters of the RCHS Class of

2020. Each graduate will receive a gift bag as they drive through RCHS.

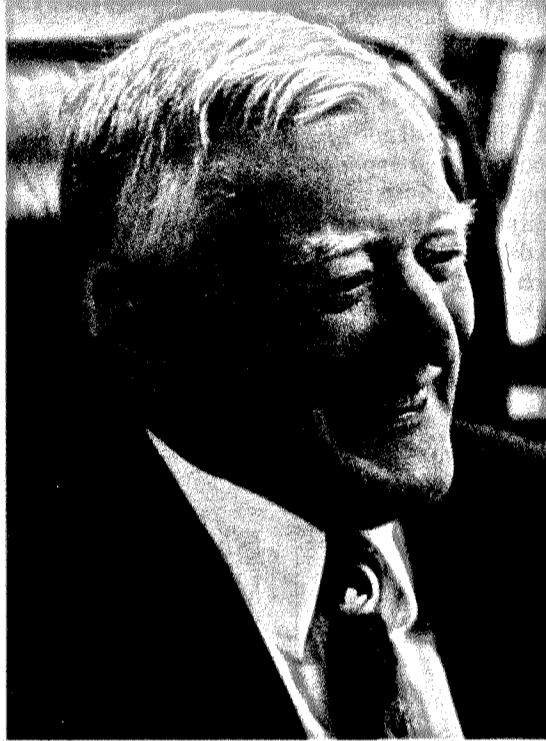
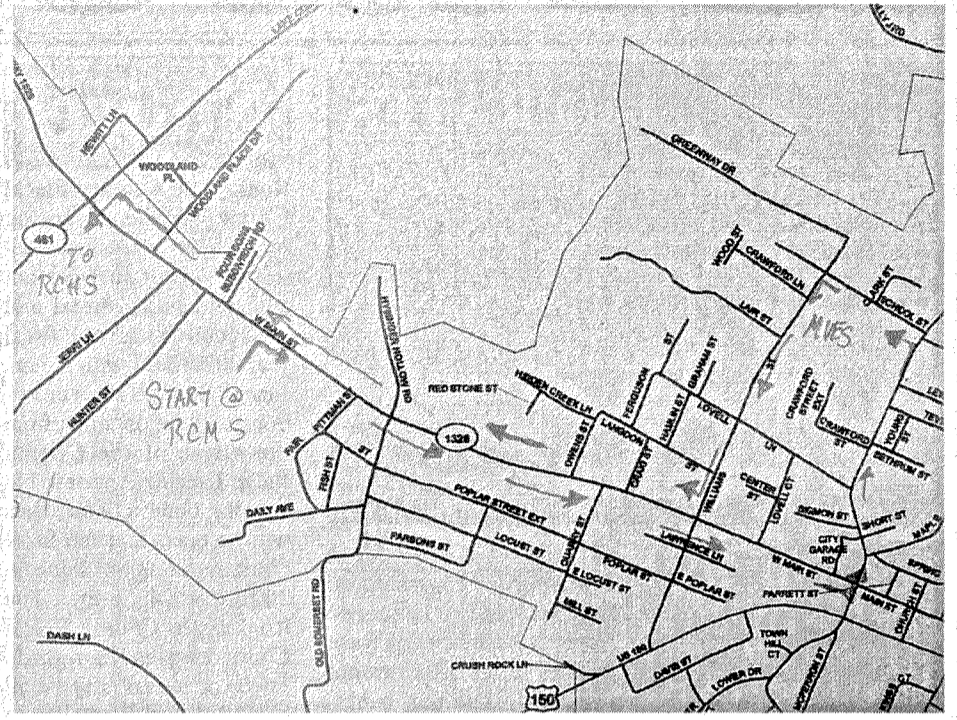
The City of Mt. Vernon Police Department, the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department and Mt. Vernon Fire Department will be in charge of traffic control for this event.

Families are encouraged to find places along the parade route to watch and greet the seniors but please do not block any road or private drive.

The parade will begin at RCMS and turn right

onto West Main St., then proceed to the three way stop and turn left onto Richmond Street, proceed then to the light by Snack Shack and turn left onto School Street, going by MVES then turning left onto Williams Street where they will proceed back to West Main St. and turn right where they will be led to 461 and then take a left into the softball field entrance of RCHS.

No parents or spectators will be allowed on the side of 461 or on the RCHS campus.



Jerry Cox

Race for Circuit Judge
Lincoln • Pulaski • Rockcastle

- Berea College graduate.
- University of Kentucky School of Law graduate.
- Veteran of the Vietnam War.
- Admitted to the United States Supreme Court as well as all lower courts and all state courts
- Past President of The National Assoc. of Criminal Defence Lawyers, The Ky. Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Ky. Bar Foundation

Past Chairman of the Lake Cumberland District Health Department, and Rockcastle County District Health Department

Jerry and Vicki Cox have been married for over 53 years and have 3 sons: Dr. Doug Cox, Dane Cox and Aaron Cox

PAID FOR BY JERRY COX

SKIP THE WAITING ROOMS

Communicate with your healthcare provider using a computer, smartphone, or tablet



Telehealth Services Now Available

Sick visits
Medication refill visits
Rash/skin issues

ADHD (RockPeds)
Hospital follow up
Emergency follow up

**If you have an emergency, please go to the nearest emergency room or dial 911*

Call your provider to see if a telehealth appointment is right for you. For Rockcastle Family Wellness, call (606) 256-5176. For RockPeds, call (606) 256-4148. For Brodhead Family Care, call (606) 758-4748.



Classifieds

CLASSIFIED RATES

- Local Rates - \$4 for 25 words or less - .10 each additional word
- Display Classifieds \$5.00/Inch

Deadline for Classifieds is 10 a.m. TUESDAY

For Rent

Pasture Land For Rent. Old 461. 308-4248 or 256-4252. 17x2

For Rent: 2 bedroom, 1 bath. KU electric, city water and sewer. Central air and heat. Application by phone only. 453-3121.

Redwood House, 2 bedrooms/1 bath on one acre lot. Stove and refrigerator furnished. Electric heat and air. Located off Hwy. 150, between Mt. Vernon and Brodhead. \$450 deposit/\$450 month. References required. No pets. One year lease required. Shown by appointment only. Available June 1st. No calls after 7 p.m. 606-256-8156. 15xntf

Two Bedroom Trailer. \$400 month plus deposit. No pets. Call 859-358-3560. 7xntf

House and Trailer in Brodhead. No pets. 758-4729. 33xntf

Chism Drive Thru Storage. 9 1/2 x14 indoor units. \$50. 24 hr. access and security cameras. 859-559-9903. 3xntf

Mt. Vernon Housing Authority open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Applications accepted Monday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Rent based on income. 256-4185.

Accepting Applications For 2 and 3 bedroom units at Valley View Apartments. Rent based on income. Call 256-5912. TDD for hearing impaired only. 1-800-247-2510.

For Rent Maple Street Storage of Brodhead 606-308-2491

Property For Sale

1.5 Acre Lot with road frontage, electricity and water. For more info, call 859-358-3560. 7xntf

Posted

Posted: No trespassing for any reason w/o written permission on property located at 191 Old Dixie Highway. Wendell McCown. 17x4

Posted: Absolutely no horseback riding, fishing, hunting or trespassing on property belonging to Dwight, Carmen and Dustin Poynter on Hwy 3273 and 461. All trespassers will be prosecuted. 13x10

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

No Trespassing of any kind, and not responsible for accidents, on land belonging to James E. and Maxine Cass or Collin Cass in Rockcastle County. Violators will be prosecuted.

38x51

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

Miscellaneous For Sale

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

Motor Vehicles For Sale

2011 Honda Pilot Touring. Front wheel drive, eight passenger, pearl white/black leather interior. 99K. Heated seats, sunroof, Blue Tooth XM Radio and rear entertainment center. Asking \$13,000. 859-200-4924. 11xntf

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

Now Hiring: ResourceMFG has multiple manufacturing positions available: \$13/hour. 1st and 2nd shifts available. Medical benefits. Paid holidays. Paid vacation. Free online courses through Penn Foster. No experience necessary, we will train! www.resourcemfg.com to apply today. 606-392-4883. 34xntf

Notices

Rockcastle County Fiscal Court will be accepting sealed bids for crushed limestone, asphalt surface (hot and cold mix), metal and DWP culverts for the fiscal year 2020-2021 until 3 p.m., June 9, 2020. Bid specifications may be obtained from the office of the County Judge/Executive prior to bid opening upon request. Bids will be opened at the fiscal court meeting on June 9, 2020 at 4 p.m. The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids. Bids can be mailed to Rockcastle County Fiscal Court, P.O. Box 755, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456. Please mark envelopes "Sealed Bid" and specify materials for which you are placing a bid.

Public Notice: The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court, in conjunction with the Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo), will be accepting bids, via a Reverse Online Auction, on 6/11/2020 at 1 p.m. EDT for the purchase of road salt for the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court local government road department. For bid partici-

pation/registration and specifications contact Orbis Online at 210-831-6070 or log onto www.orbisonline.com or contact Rockcastle County Fiscal Court, the local government agency, or Scott Martin with KACo at 800-264-5226. The local government agency reserves the right to reject/accept any and all bids. Bids will be accepted online only.

Notice is hereby given that Marisa Albright, 207 Byrda Way, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 has been appointed Administratrix w/no will of the estate of Jennifer Bishop on the 11th day of May, 2020. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Marisa Albright on or before November 11, 2020. 17x3

Notice is hereby given that Debra Bullock, 188 Halcomb East Road, Orlando, Ky. 40460 has been appointed Administratrix of the estate of Elijah Lunsford on the 18th day of May, 2020. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Debra Bullock or to Hon. Jeremy B. Rowe, 205 Richmond St., P.O., Box 1250, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before Nov. 18, 2020 at 9 a.m.

Huge Yard Sale

Where: Barnett Haven

122 Red Foley Rd., Mt. Vernon, just past Renfro Valley beside KOA Kampground

When:

Thursday, June 4th - Saturday, June 6th

Thursday: 2-6pm • Friday: 2-6pm

Saturday: 9am-3pm

Clothes (mens, womens, kids, tons of baby clothes of all different sizes), shoes, movies, books, furniture, household items, home decor, toys, baby equipment and more!

****All proceeds will go to**

Barnett Haven Children's Home!

Shape your future START HERE >

United States* Census 2020



When we shape education, we shape our future.

Respond to the 2020 Census to help fund educational programs that benefit our children, like after-school activities, school meal programs, and Head Start. It's more than just a count, it's an opportunity to shape the next generation.

IT'S EASY, SAFE AND IMPORTANT.

WWW.2020CENSUS.GOV
WWW.ROCKCASTLE.KYSCHOOLS.US/CENSUS

• House For Sale •

3 bedroom, kitchen, dining room, living room, and bath. Front and back covered porches. Great location. Walking distance to hospital, pharmacy, post office, bank, and grade school. Blacktop driveway and outbuilding. Nice yard. Located on Lewis Street (road between post office and Peoples Bank) third driveway on right. \$79,500.

Call (859)779-5548 to schedule a viewing time or if you have questions

For All Your Hometown News . . .

Subscribe to the Mount Vernon Signal

In-County - \$23.00 • Out-of-County - \$27.00
Out-of-State - \$35.00
Prices Per Year
10% Discount to Senior Citizens

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

Please specify.....
New _____ Renewal _____

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

Classified Deadline is 10 a.m. Tuesday Call 606-256-2244

Professional Services

Owens Monument: Located behind Owens Funeral Home in Brodhead. Open Mon-Fri. 8 to 5 and Sat. 9 a.m. to noon. 606-758-9600.
Gravel Hauling and spreading. Call 606-308-1858 or 254-289-2913.

Grave Markers & Monuments: In stock at all times. McNew Monument Sales, US 25, 4 miles north of Mt. Vernon. Phone 256-2232.
Gail's Pampered Pooch 57 West Main St., Brodhead. For appt. call 606-758-0064

Hayes Gravel
859-544-7730

Mowing & Landscaping
Licensed & Insured
 James Hursey
(606) 401-3084



Bobby Kirby
 606-308-3183
BK Construction LLC
 bobbykirby635@gmail.com
 Roofing, 5" & 6" Seamless Gutters, Vinyl, Flooring, Tile, Decks, Small Framing Jobs
 Licensed & Insured 20yrs Experience

JONATHAN COLLINS
 REMODELING and ROOFING
 No Job Too BIG or small
 606-308-3533
 606-386-0788



Rockie Robinson
 Agent/Technician
Madison Termite & Pest Control
 272 Opossum Kingdom Rd.
 Berea, KY 40403
 LPCO # 398
Cell# 859-661-0466



KILBY'S
Pressure Washing
606-510-3113



RADER'S EXCAVATING
 Inc.
 Orlando, Ky.
 Licensed & Insured
1-859-339-6254 or 1-606-256-3650




Subscribe to the Mount Vernon Signal

- \$23 in county
- \$27 - out of county/in-state
- \$35 out of state
- 10% discount for seniors

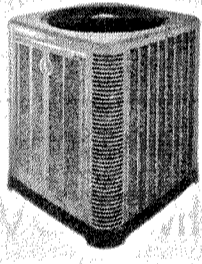
Call 606-256-2244

BISHOP
TIRE & AUTO CARE
 495 RICHMOND STREET • MT VERNON, KY
 STATE OF THE ART COMPUTER DIAGNOSTICS
 LARGEST SELECTION OF TIRES IN STOCK!
 WRECKER SERVICE
 SALES@BISHOPTIRES.COM
606-256-4029




Upgrade your old heating and air with a new high efficiency heat pump from Rheem

Financing Available 36 Months Deferred Interest*
 *On qualified equipment



Patrick Winstead
 Owner
 P.O. Box 330 Mt. Vernon, KY 40456
 whac@yahoo.com
A/C
 Residential & Light Commercial Heating & Cooling
 606-308-4825 606-256-1038
 Winstead's Heating and Air
 Visa, Mastercard, Discover • HM04434

Heating & Air
Amara Heating & Air Conditioning
 LASTS AND LASTS AND LASTS.
Goodman
 Thank goodness for Goodman.
COMPLETE HOME COMFORT
 Locally owned and Located at:
523 West St. • Brodhead, Ky.
Rodney Smith
758-0155 • 256-1683 • 859-661-5986
 We service all Brands and Models • 20+ years experience
 Free Estimates - Affordable Service - Call for Rates
 Expert Installation & Troubleshooting • Friendly Hometown Service
Heat Pumps and Gas Furnaces
 Fully Licensed and Insured HVAC and Electrical • MO-4808 and CE63779

Mechanic On Duty
All Types of Repairs
 We do muffler & exhaust replacement and custom pipe bending
David's Tire Center
 24 Hr. Towing & Recovery LLC
1431 S. Wilderness Rd. (US 25) Mt. Vernon
 David & Josh Thompson, Owners
 Office/24 Hr. Wrecker
 606-256-4606
 Save On All Major Brand Tires For Cars & Trucks
 Farm Tractors • Lawn & More




BEE Garbage
256-2334
 Weekly residential curbside pickup
\$19⁰⁰ per month with Curb Cart



CLIFFORD Collins BACKHOE, LLC.
Septic Tanks
 • Cisterns • Farm Products
 • Storm Shelters • Retaining Walls
606-256-2535

Town & Country
24 HR. WRECKER SERVICE
All Types of Mechanic Work
Call 256-9634 days or 256-4650 nights

Morgan Plumbing
Service & Repair
 New Construction • Commercial & Residential Service
 Fully Insured • All Work Guaranteed
256-4766 • 606-232-0666



CLASSIFIED ADS NOTICE
NO classifieds can be placed over the phone without paying at time of placing advertisement

For your convenience, we accept VISA, Mastercard, Discover, American Express.

To place your classified, have your credit card ready and call **(606) 256-2244**

On-Site Computer Service

Tired of sending your computer away to get it fixed?

Call and let us come to you for all your computer needs!



Setup, Consultation, Software/Hardware Conflicts Virus/Spyware Removal
Reasonable Rates

Call Spencer Bengel 606-308-5653



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I support Josh Bray...

Dear Editor,
As a conservative republican who cares deeply about Rockcastle County's future, I am supporting Josh Bray for State Representative. I hope you will join me.

Josh Bray is strongly pro-life. This has long been a litmus test for me and I refuse to vote for anyone who will not stand against murdering unborn children. I believe what we need in a State Representative is someone who will not just run ads to say they are pro-life but will actually step up and fight for the unborn. It certainly does not mean staying silent when it comes to supporting pro-life candidates over pro-abortion candidates. It is my understanding this was the approach of our current Representative, R. Travis Brenda, in the last election. That is truly disappointing.

His silence paid off for him though as he was invited and accepted a position on Andy Beshear's transition team. The same Andy Beshear who deemed churches non-essential while deeming abortion clinics "essential."

Josh Bray stands for life and I believe will go to Frankfort to actually fight for life.

We need a fighter. We need Josh Bray as our State Representative.

Sincerely,
Mark Eaton
753 Gold Dust Dr
Mount Vernon, KY
40456

Concerned about homeless...

Dear Editor,
I am writing out of concern for the homeless people who have been living under the bridge in Renfro Valley for the past several months (the bridge that crosses the creek that comes from the water treatment plant,

on the Baymont Inn side by the campground).

I have talked with Renfro Valley workers and the police. There is some confusion from both about who is responsible for what goes on under the bridge.

Renfro says it's city property, the city says it's up to Renfro. I've also spoken with several campers who felt uneasy that the homeless are living under the bridge. Some campers were ready to move on when they realized the situation.

In the meantime, the number of homeless has increased from one to three. Some cities offer services for the homeless like shelters, port-a-potties, hand washing stations, food and jobs.

Where is the concern and compassion for the homeless in this county? If there are services available, perhaps they will offer them to the bridge dwellers.

Sincerely,
Kathy Horrar

An appeal...

Dear Editor,
This is an appeal to the person or persons who took possession of a Citizens Bank envelope, left with a staff member to mail, and addressed to Ashley Newland. It contained two \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds that had matured.

The missing bonds, which were purchased by Theresa Glovak Davis for Ashley's first and second birthdays, were kept in my safety deposit box at Citizens Bank in Brodhead for safekeeping. Theresa also put my name on the bonds because Ashley was a minor.

Would whoever took the bonds please return them to their rightful owner or their full cash value. No questions asked.

Sincerely,
Deborah Newland

Roadside mowing season underway

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) District 8 advises motorists that roadside mowing season is underway, which runs from May to October. State and contract crews will complete three mowing cycles, including litter removal on interstates, parkways and other primary routes throughout the state.

KYTC officials ask Kentuckians to do their part by keeping the state right of way clear of temporary signs and other obstacles that can obstruct the path of mowers and pose a hazard for mowing crews and motorists.

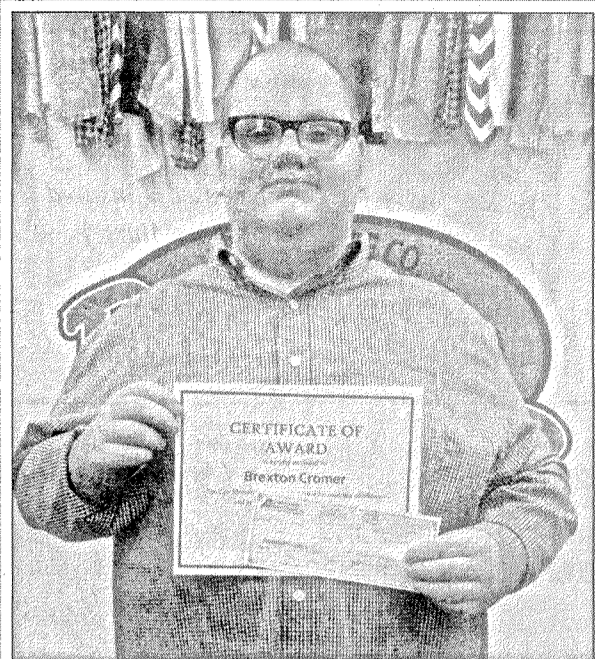
Kentucky law and Transportation Cabinet policy prohibit the placement of non-official signs of any type for campaigns, yard sales or other advertising on state highway right of way, utility poles, fences and guardrails or on road signs. Depending on size and construction, illegally placed

signs are a distraction and can be a safety issue for motorists when blocking the view of oncoming vehicles.

Illegally-placed signs also can disrupt or endanger right-of-way operations such as mowing, ditch cleaning and litter removal, and can pose a direct safety hazard to motorists who run off the roadway particularly when installed with large wooden or metal stakes.

Campaign signs and other signs placed on state right of way that restrict sight distance or interfere with mowing and maintenance operations will be removed by KYTC crews. Signs that are removed will be held at the state highway garage in each county of KYTC District 8 and kept for two weeks. Unclaimed signs will be discarded.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet asks that motorists use extra caution when traveling through these work zones.



The 2020 Jim Cox Memorial Scholarship for \$500 was recently awarded to RCHS graduate Brexton Cromer, son of Trendera Bree Cromer. Brexton will also receive the Governor's Scholars scholarship valued at \$10,296 and the SOAR Stem scholarship of \$2,500. Brexton plans to attend Northern Kentucky University this fall and major in geology. His long-term goal is to earn a PhD in paleontology and be a field scientist.

Supreme Court provides guidance on jury trials

The Supreme Court recently provided guidance on jury trials in Administrative Order 2020-40, dated May 19, 2020, and effective June 1, 2020. The complete order can be found here and the highlights are below:

- Jury trials shall be postponed and rescheduled for no sooner than August 1, 2020.
- Grand jury proceedings may begin effective June 1, 2020.
- Cases where the 60-day period in RCr 5.22(3) or an extension thereof was tolled by operation of Administrative Order 2020-28 must be presented to the grand jury on or before July 30, 2020.
- Existing grand jury panels may be extended at the discretion of the court, subject to the 20-day limitation set out in AP Part II, Sec. 19(3).
- If an existing grand jury panel cannot be extended, the order provides guidance on how to orient a new jury panel.
- Jurors who are ill, car-

ing for someone who is ill, in a high-risk category, unable to wear a facial covering, or who will suffer further economic loss as a result of jury service shall have their service postponed or excused.

• Strict health and safety requirements – including mandatory use of facial coverings by jurors, social distancing and disinfecting – must be followed for all grand jury proceedings.

On May 15, the Supreme Court issued Administrative Order 2020-39, which highlighted the health and safety requirements for expanding court operations beginning June 1. The Supreme Court will address other legal matters, such as evictions, in subsequent orders as the Judicial Branch's three Reopening Task Forces continue to meet and make recommendations.

You can find ongoing court updates on the COVID-19 and the Courts webpage.

Senior Care Packages

Thank You

A big thank you for all the support for the Quaranteens care packages that were assembled for the Rockcastle Co High School Graduating Class of 2020.

I want to personally thank each person, family and business on this list. We put together a gift bag for each of the 240 graduating seniors in a matter of about eight weeks! Each senior is receiving several snack foods, commemorative items, letters and cards of encouragement all packaged in a "Rock Class of 2020" cinch backpack.

In addition to these wonderful gifts we raised enough money to provide each student with a little spending money (just under \$30 a piece!).

Donation of Cinch Backpacks

Dr. Karen Saylor, Dr. Kevin Rowe, Dr. Brandon Cowan, Dr. Amy Parsons, Dr. Sarah Oliver, Jennifer Cash, Alicia Myers, Brittany Perkins-Saylor, Deana Gabbard, Angie Woods, Tammy Brock, Carrie Mullins, Tim and Stella Young, Gwyn Lay and Ronna Owens.

Monetary Donations

Dr. Lindsey Gullett, Tracy Lewis, Robbie Phillips, Brandy Brock, Dreama Cromer, Tracy and Tammy Gabbard, Anonymous, Terry and Marlene Lawson **, Western Rockcastle Water **, Mahaffey's Oil, Rockcastle County Farm Bureau, Coffey and Ford, Cox Funeral Home, Dowell and Martin Funeral Home, Rockcastle Embroidery, Bible Baptist **, Northside Baptist, Citizens Bank **, People's Bank, Wildie Christian, Citizen's Insur-

ance Agency, Walmart - Stanford, Walmart - Berea.

Item Donations - Businesses and Individuals

Culver's - Richmond, Climax Water, General Mills, Cliff Bars, Zaxby's - Somerset, Whitehouse Clinics, PBK Bank, Community Trust, Rockcastle Regional Hospital, Citizens Bank, Rockcastle Co Board of Ed. - Food Service, Rockcastle Co. Kiwanis Club, Nicole Dooley, Jaleigha Barron, Rachel Johnson, Jeanetta McClemore, Jessica Lawson, Scott and Selena Thompson, Melissa Fain, Carla Parsons, Penny Monk, Wanda Burdine, Glenna Settles, Stanley and Sherry Decker, Paige Bengel, Burt and Angie King, Jenny and Savannah Sweet, Jennifer Peavie, Sherri Prewitt, Teresa Combs Anglin, Jamie Hurt, Jamie Saylor, Bridgette Ramey, Rachelle Riddle, Kelli Asher, Amber Cromer, Melinda and Sadie Osborne, Lindsay and Luree Gabbard, Gina Bussell, Julie Asher, Angie Bishop, Teresa Brown, Robin Bowman, Amy Childress, John Holbrook, Melissa Owens, Heather McClure, Kyra Jones, Sydney Woods, Robyn Fain.

I LOVE this list! What an amazing community we live in! To all that had a hand in this THANK YOU.

To Mr. JD Bussell and Rockcastle County High School thank you, for all your help and allowing me to make this possible.

With gratitude and humbleness,
Angie Parsons-Woods
** denotes Top Donators

MONEY FOR FARM IMPROVEMENTS



KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Rockcastle Co. Conservation District
153 Andover Lane
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456
606-256-2525 ext. 3
sandy.whitaker@ky.nacdnet.net

Contact for more details or directions.

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Applications will be available for Rockcastle County's CAIP to assist farmers in making important on-farm investments.

Application Period:

June 1-June 26, 2020

No applications will be accepted after June 26, 2020.

Application Availability:

Rockcastle Co. Conservation District or Rockcastle Co. Extension Service
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

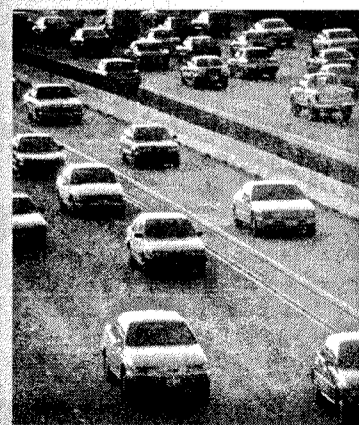
For More Information:

Contact Sandy Whitaker at 606-256-2525 ext. 3 or by email at sandy.whitaker@ky.nacdnet.net. Garrard Coffey at 606-312-0220 or by email at garrard.coffey@uky.edu.

All applications are scored, based on the scoring criteria set by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | A MEMBER SERVICE | KYFB.COM

Ask your agent about our safe driver discounts.



If you've gone 3, 5 or even 8 years without an accident or claim, talk to your local Kentucky Farm Bureau agent about our Safe Driver Discount.*

*Discounts subject to eligibility.

Marlene Lawson, Agency Mgr.

Shelly Mullins - Agent • John Lawson - Agent

US Hwy. 25 S • Mt. Vernon

606-256-2050

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU



BIG ON COMMITMENT.®