

Elementary schools participate in 4-H Council's annual speech contest

By: John McQueary
County Extension Agent
for 4-H/Youth Development

The Rockcastle County 4-H Council held their annual Speech Contest on December 1 at the Mt. Vernon Elementary School. Forty-five speeches were given and awarded ribbons.

Champion and alternates were recognized in each age category, nine through fourteen. The winners have earned the privilege of representing Rockcastle County in the Wilderness

Trail Area Speech Contest on Saturday, April 24, 1993.

A special thanks to Mt. Vernon Elementary School for hosting this 4-H event, Rockcastle County 4-H Council members, and Berea College "People Who Care" for judging this year's event.

Speech Contest Participants - Title of Speech - Ribbon

9 year olds: Thomas Coffey - McCaulay Culkin - Champion; Zack Gentry - Baseball - Second; Joe Clark - Growing Up!!! - Blue; Ariel Eversole - Death of a Town - Blue; Amanda

Parker - My Brother - Blue; Ashlee Alcorn - My Cocker Spaniel - Blue; Rachelle Hammond - My Cousin Laynah - Blue; Kami Lovell - Abraham Lincoln - Blue; Jessica Bullock - Swimming - Blue; Jason Puckett - Camping - Blue; Stephanie Gabbard - Dolls - Blue

10 year olds: Kacey Tucker - Sign Language - Champion; Stephen Hopkins - Leadership in America - Second; Robert Clark - My Indian Heritage - Blue; Lindsay Bell - Environmental Pollution - Blue; Angie Ford - Auctions - Blue; Kathy Mullins - Friendship - Blue; Brian Cromer - Football - Blue; Angela Owens - Columbus Set Sail on the Voyage That Changed the World - Blue; Lashaunda Deborn - The Greatest Man I Never Knew - Blue; Stephanie Cummins - All About People - Blue; Amber Falin - The New Arrival - Blue; Christian Parsons - Diabetes - Blue; Lindsey Hall - Child Abuse - Blue; Cathy Moberly - Cats - Blue; Courtney Croucher - Trees - Blue

11 year olds: Andy Hale - How To Stress-Proof Your Life - Champion; John Dyehouse - How My Life Changed - Second; Amanda Osborne - Grandpa - Blue; Jennifer McLemore - Clogging - Blue; Joanna Ambrose - Pollution - Red

12 year olds: Nathaniel Bullock - Star Trek - Champion; Jamie Settles - My Great Grandma - Second; Tiffany Gabbard - Christmas Around the World - Blue; Dana Thacker - Idioms - Blue; Wendy Himes - Halloween Myths or Legends - Blue; Elizabeth Bullock - Our Big Problem - Blue; Adrena Gilliam - What I Saw - Blue

13 year olds: Josh Bray - My Friend Geri - Champion; Bethanie Hammond - Sleep Walking - Second; Melanie Renner - Absorption: a Hideous Crime - Blue; LeAnn Sigmon - Did You Raise Your Parents Properly? - Blue; Monica Cummins - Dogs - Blue; Elaine Leger - Does Television affect Family Values? - Blue; Cory Bailey - Stress - Blue

"RCHS" (Cont. from C-4)

ogy:
Teams and individuals from participating high schools competed in events such as metric estimation, biological science, topographic map reading, computer problem solving, earth science and land navigation. Contests were also held to build a mousetrap car.

The Cumberland College Chemistry Symposium and Science Olympiad is designed to feature a varied and versatile science competition which excites young people about

science, promotes science endeavors in high school, rewards academic

excellence and provides a challenge for students pursuing an interest in

any of the science and technology fields.



Roundstone participants in the 4-H speech contest.



Brodhead participants in the 4-H speech contest.



Livingston participants in the 4-H speech contest.



Mt. Vernon participants in the 4-H speech contest.

Mobley is nominee for Teacher of Year

Mrs. Debra Mobley was chosen as Rockcastle County's nominee for the Stella A. Edwards Teacher of the Year Award. Mrs. Mobley has taught in Rockcastle County since 1984, first as a substitute teacher, then as Special Education teacher at Mt. Vernon Elementary School. She earned her Bachelors Degree and Rank II at Eastern Kentucky University. Mrs. Mobley is a member of the Rockcastle County Education Association, the Kentucky Education Association and serves as an alternative delegate for the Kentucky Education Association.

Debra has been described as being particularly concerned about the individual child and willing to work diligently to provide educational programs that specifically suit their individual needs. She makes an outstanding contribution to the Rockcastle County School System.

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His inspiration
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Thanks for the pleasure
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Tony Hopkins, owner

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Benny e. Ham
Commonwealth Attorney



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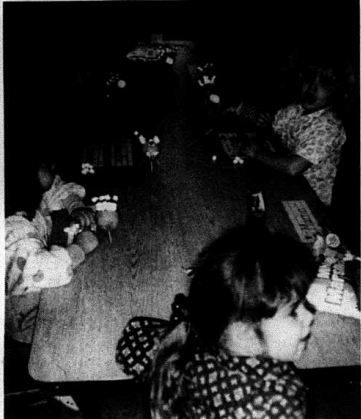
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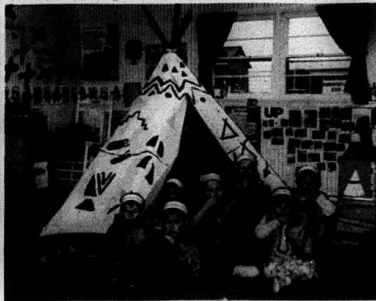
Richmond St. - 256-9712



The Roundstone Preschoolers are dressed as pilgrims. They each had a Pilgrim hat and collar on and were given a Pilgrim name for the week. In this picture the children are making a collage of what they are "thankful" for. Pictured is David Harris, Angela Coffey, Lauren Cormier, Jeremiah Hall and Shyane Rowe.



After learning many turkey finger plays, the children made their own turkey with an orange, raisins and marshmallows. Pictured are Lauren Cormier, Andrea Witt, Jeremiah Hall, Shane Rowe, Angela Coffey and Nicole Croucher.



Prior to the Thanksgiving holidays, the Roundstone Preschoolers studied about pilgrims, Indians and turkeys. Pictured is our "real tepee" with the Indian braves sitting, left to right, David Harris, Jeremiah Hall, Andrea Witt, Angela Coffey, Nicole Croucher, Lauren Cormier and Shane Rowe. The children actually shot a real wooden bow and arrow and dressed as Indians.

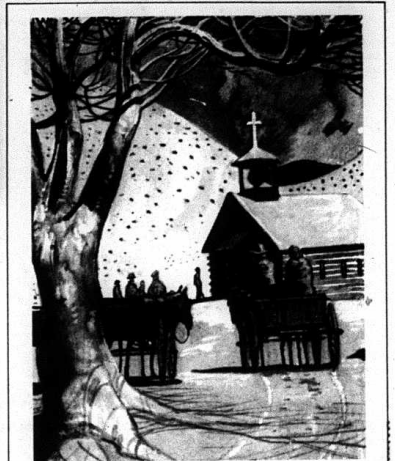


In this picture, left to right, is Ray Anglin, Alicia Anglin, Kayla Feltner, Jenny Gilbert, Brandon Lamb and Chief Tyler Shearer. These Roundstone Preschoolers are holding Indian weapons such as the bow and arrow, knife, tomahawk and the peace pipe.

one. First he is denied the opportunity to work on the medulloblastoma protocol. Then to his surprise, Janet shows up at the medical center, having accepted a job - ostensibly to further her career but actually to pursue

Sean. Steeped in the latest discoveries of molecular medicine, reflective of the harsh realities of medical economics, *Terminal* is Robin Cook at his thrilling, thought-provoking best.

Happy Holidays to You and Your Family
Sigmon Farm
 Bill & Nancy Sigmon & family



We wish to all, a warm, Joyous Holiday Season. Your friendship means a lot.

Dairy Queen

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We will close at 2 p.m. Christmas Eve and be closed Christmas day. We will re-open December 26th.

"Library News" (Cont. from C-3)

horrifying tragedy that overtook Pat and Tom Allanson, from its roots in their tangled family histories to its shocking aftermath in the attempted murders of other innocent victims. It is also the suspenseful story of how Atlanta detectives found the single thread that tied together an alarming series of crimes.

2. *Terminal* by Robin Cook... From *Coma* to *Blindsight*, Robin Cook's unique blend of cutting-edge technology and timeless horror has always enthralled. But rarely have his dramatic gifts been more effectively deployed than in *Terminal*.

Despite a blue-collar background and Irish roots mistrustful of fancy de grees, highly motivated, enormously intelligent Sean Murphy

has made it as far as his third year in Harvard's combined Ph. D./M.D. program when he makes a fateful decision to take a two-month research elective at the renowned Forbes Cancer Center in Miami. Sean is eager to study firsthand the Forbes Center's remarkable results treating medulloblastoma, a rare form of brain cancer. But his decision is also due, in no

small part, to a budding romance with Janet Reardon, a nurse from a privileged and prominent Boston family. Unnerved by Janet's disturbing allure-and even more, by thoughts of commitment- Sean opts for the safety and distance of the prestigious clinic. But his plans go awry from day

NOEL

Many thanks for your kind support.

Happy Holidays from

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Holy of Holies

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Appalachian Medical Supply

Gary Cromer, owner
 Main St., Mt. Vernon

Season's Greetings
 From Bray's Transmission Service and the Entire Bray Family



The staff of Christian Appalachian Project Adult Learning Center and School on Wheels met recently. Teachers include, front row: George Isaacs, Sheila Rowe, Nancy Novotny, Lisa Bosley, Amy O'Sullivan, Lisa Bosley, Amy O'Sullivan and Liz Paulow. Back row, from left: Rosemary Dreager, Kathy Tomsho, Keith Gilbertson, Doris Grant, Beth Breitmeyer, Sherrie Richardson, Brenda Riddle and Paula Woodman.

UK student from Brodhead initiated into Phi Beta Kappa

Alan Senet Purcell, a University of Kentucky senior from Brodhead, has been initiated into Phi Beta Kappa.

A scholastic honorary fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa was founded in 1776 at William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Va.

The criteria for membership include a grade point average of at least 3.5 for graduating seniors, at least 90 hours of liberal arts courses to ensure breadth of study, and at least one foreign language.

Purcell, a senior at UK majoring in political science and English, is scheduled to graduate in May 1993. He lives at Route 1, Brodhead.



'Tis the season... Santa (Jamie Alan) took time from his busy schedule to stop by RCHS to visit with Melissa Eryle, Sharon Richmond, Karen Harding and Melinda Isaacs. After his stop at RCHS "Santa" visited with pre-school students who were very thrilled by his presence.

*A Joyous Christmas Season
to you all*

**MAY YOUR STOCKINGS
BE FILLED
WITH CHEER**

Merry Christmas to all our friends and customers.
Warmest wishes to you and yours.

Joe Clontz, CPA
Hwy 25S • Mt. Vernon
256-3623



Sandy Castle, head teacher at Christian Appalachian Project school on U.S. 25, worked with pre-schoolers recently during a fund raiser. The children ranged in age from three to five years old and had their tickets punched for each trip around the room.

Please help keep
our County Clean!



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Our best wishes to all our customers.
We appreciate your patronage in '92
and look forward to serving you
in 1993.

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Helen Kullback
Helen Saylor
Janie LaFavers
Charlotte K. Miracle
John B. Saylor
Barry Bossell
Don Hagan

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Richmond St. Ph. 256-5224 Mt. Vernon, Ky.

NOTICES

Notice: No trespassing or hunting on Crawford Place, old Broadhead Road, Danny Smith, 50fn
 Posted: All land belonging to Jerrel Bullock in Rockcastle Co. No hunting or trespassing, 3x10

Notice is hereby given that Barbara Adams, Rt 3 Box 457, Mt. Vernon, Ky, has been appointed Administratrix of the Estate of Michelle R. Adams. Any persons having claims against said estate shall present them according to law to the said Barbara Adams or to Jeffrey T. Burdette, PO Box 1250, Mt. Vernon, Ky 40456, on or before June 2, 1993. 10x3p

Notice is hereby given that Mary Elizabeth Robinson, Rt 5 Box 10, Mt. Vernon, Ky 40456, has been appointed Administratrix of the Estate of Sherman E. Robinson. Any persons having claims against said estate shall present them according to law to the said, Mary Elizabeth Robinson or before June 2, 1992. 10x3p

Notice is hereby given that an order has been entered dispensing with administration of the Estate of Boyd R. Mink, deceased. All persons having claims against said Estate shall present them, verified according to law, to Mattie Mink PO Box 866, Mt. Vernon, Ky, 40456, for said Estate, no later than January 6, 1993. 11x2

Notice is Given that Yvonne Clontz has filed a Final Settlement of her accounts as Executrix of the Estate of S.G. Lovell, deceased. A hearing on said settlement will be held on January 4, 1993. Any exceptions to said settlement must be filed before said date. 11x2p

POSTED: No trespassing on the land belonging to Lilliam Collett, on the corner of Maple St. and Wallin St. Anyone trespassing will be prosecuted. 12x3p

WANTED

Wanted: Andy Barnett wants to buy junk cars and has used auto parts for sale. TO ALL MY CUSTOMERS Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Call 256-9018. 1fn

WANTED: AMERICA'S #1 FAT BURNER! Super Fat Burner helps convert dietary fat from being absorbed into your digestive system. LOSE FAT INCREASE ENERGY. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Send \$16.96 plus \$3 S&H to: JREH UNLIMITED, 442 Garden City Dr.#1, Richmond, KY, 40475. 9x4p

Wanted: Want to make extra money for Christmas selling Avon? To find out how call 256-2550. 11x2p

WANTED: Would like to rent a three bedroom house in country or town. Clean and in good condition. Call furnish references if needed. 624-8427. 12x4p

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Mechanical Work - used tires, wrecker service, mechanic work, call 256-4163, 24 hrs. Cheap rates.

Davis Sewing Machine Sales & Service - 5 days a week, Leroy Davis, 407 Crab Orchard St., Lancaster, Ky. Call 792-3149. 19fn

Butchering - for all your butchering and meat packing needs, beef, hogs, sheep, and goats. We also process deer and other wild game. Check us out, give us a call. Production Meats on Hwy 421 in Gray Hawk, Ky. Phone 287-7017 days or 287-7700 nights. Jim and Rita Brummett, owners. 31fn

R&R Builders - new homes, complete remodeling, all types, metal building, concrete work, decks, roofs, painting, 22 years experience, free estimates. Call 256-9276. 34fn

Grave Markers & Monuments: In stock at all times. McNew Monuments Sales, US 25, 4 miles north of Mt. Vernon. Ph. 256-2232. 13fn

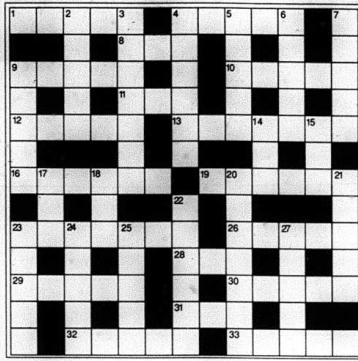
Mt. Vernon Oil & Tire: Doug Hamm, owner. 256-9411. Uniroyal/Dean tires, computer balancing, home heating oil, gas/oil, farm diesel. We appreciate your business. 37fn

Miller Concrete: slabs, footers, sidewalks, driveways, steps, curbs, free estimates. Office 256-3817 or after 6 p.m. 256-3722. 22fn

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Short crowbar
4. Breast
8. Note of debt owed
9. Glue
10. Renovate
11. Transport
12. Pungent
13. Freedom
16. Carry too far
19. Courteous
23. Throwing spear
26. Prohibition
28. Pocket or pouch
29. Faint-hearted
30. Corpulent
31. Total
32. Stealing
33. Senior

CLUES DOWN

2. Skinflint
3. Ceded
4. Botch
5. Scour
6. Lesser importance
7. Frump, g.
9. Keyboard instrument
14. Snake-like fish
15. Young child
17. By way of
18. Fish spawn
20. Result
21. Run away
22. Maintain firmly
23. Pier
24. Regurgitate
25. Shelf
27. Mix

SOLUTIONS

ACROSS

1. Jimmy
4. Bosom
8. I.O.U.
9. Paste
10. Renew
11. Lug
12. Acid
13. Liberty
16. Overdo
19. Polite
23. Javelin
26. Taboo
28. Sac
29. Timid
30. Obese
31. Sum
32. Theft
33. Elder

DOWN

2. Miser
3. Yielded
4. Bungle
5. Scrub
6. Minor
7. Dowdy
9. Piano
14. Eel
15. Tot
17. Via
18. Roe
20. Outcome
21. Elope
22. Insist
23. Jetty
24. Vomit
25. Ledge
27. Blend

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\$500 REWARD
 For information leading to arrest and conviction or return of TOBACCO stolen from a barn on the Broadhead tract of C.C. Crawford Farm on the night of Thursday, Nov. 5, early morning hours of Friday, Nov. 6, 1992. They took place on Hwy. 1505 on Burdette Ridge between Happy Jack Church and the home of Charles Habbrook. Approx. 1300 lbs. of tobacco was loaded onto a vehicle parked in the road at aforementioned location. There is good reason to believe that this vehicle was seen by someone during the time the tobacco was being loaded or, quite possibly, at another location while being unloaded. Theft probably occurred early Friday morning between 1 and 4 a.m. If you have any information, please phone 606-758-8800 or the Rockcastle Co. Sheriff's Office

ATTENTION TO ALL NORTHERN ROCKCASTLE WATER DISTRICT CUSTOMERS
 Anyone with more than one household on a meter will be subject to automatic disconnection.
 Also, meters will be pulled on any bills that go past the 30th of the month.

ORDINANCE NO. 79(A)
 An Ordinance Providing For The Nonpartisan Election of City Officers
 Be it ordained by the City of Brodhead:
 1. Pursuant to KRS 83A.050, the election of city officers shall be under the nonpartisan city election laws as provided in KRS 83A.170. We do hereby waive a primary election for city officers whereby candidates for city council and mayor would not be on the May primary ballot. They would only be on the November General ballot. The filing deadline would be the last Tuesday in August instead of the last Tuesday in January.
 2. This ordinance shall be effective for all elections held after January 1, 1993.
 Adopted and approved on this 10th day of December, 1992.
 Billy R. Bussell, Mayor
 City of Brodhead, Kentucky
 Attest: Ruth Ann Cox, City Clerk

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Merry Christmas to Everyone

Mount Vernon Signal

Mt. Vernon, Kentucky 40456

Volume 106 - Number 12

Thursday, December 24, 1992



IN THE SPIRIT OF GIVING: Amanda Raider, a 7th grader at Mt. Vernon Elementary, received one Christmas present early this year. Woodmen of the World, a non-profit organization existing to assist members and their families and community, presented Amanda with a new motorized wheelchair last week. Present during the presentation are pictured, left to right: Jean Towery, field representative; Ronald Ford, area manager; Mary Ann McNew; parents Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Raider; Susan Silk, state office secretary and Mike Phillips, fraternal coordinator for eastern Ky.

First it was bingo

Now it's off-track betting

Unless you have been on another planet, the Kentucky Racing Commission Monday approved Corbin and Maysville as the first off-track betting sites.

It could be in full swing by March. The sites were approved even though the consortium that will rate them does not know where they will be or if it will buy or build facilities. Under regulations approved by the commission minutes before the locations were approved, details about

the locations are due five days before betting begins.

Local governments in Corbin and Maysville do not have to approve the projects, but they have 60 days to veto them. That seems improbable, however, given the support voiced at yesterday's meeting. Managers of both cities spoke in favor of off-track betting. The towns get 1 percent of total wagering to use for economic development.

There was some opposition to the

selection of Corbin. "There is strong dissent within the county from a moral perspective," State Sen. Gene Huff, R-London, said. But the commission approved it with almost no discussion.

Gene McLean, president of Kentucky Off-Track Betting Inc., the consortium that will run the facilities, said daily wagering would average \$40,000 to \$50,000. That means the cities could get \$400 to \$500 for each day of betting.

Tobacco may be lower after Christmas holidays

When the holiday season ends, so probably will the high prices, high demand and high quality that have characterized the start of 1992-93 burley sales season, growers said yesterday.

"Normally we see some drop in price after the first of the year," said Danny McKinney, chief executive officer of the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association.

But McKinney said factors this year such as more inferior tobacco, could mean a larger than usual decline.

Before the market closed this week for the holidays, demand dropped slightly, but prices stayed near the opening-day level of \$1.83 a pound. Sales will resume Jan. 4.

Prices across Kentucky and southern Indiana slipped a little in the last week, as has done of the tobacco quality.

Volume declined at most points by the end of the week. By the latest estimate, 70 percent of the 1992 burley crop has been sold.

Kentucky farmers have grown 490

million pounds of burley this year--the largest crop in nearly 10 years. They have sold about 340 million pounds.

At an average of \$1.83 a pound, Kentucky growers have taken home \$622.2 million.

Last year's average price was \$1.79 a pound.

The biggest difference between this season and last is the larger amount of burley that has been passed over by buyers and gone into a pool operated by the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative in Lexington and the Burley Stabilization Corp. in Knoxville.

Less than 1 percent of the burley went to the co-ops last year; this year it is 11 percent.

"That tells us that we're overproducing," said Will Snel, a tobacco economist at the University of Kentucky.

Office closed

Norma Houk, county clerk, reported her office will be closed Jan. 1 and 2.

Ag department may close field offices

The Agriculture Department is considering closing or merging 1,200 field offices in a Depression-era network that reaches nearly every corner of the nation.

USDA spokesman Roger Runnigen said the list, obtained by The Associated Press, is a draft. The targeted sites range from a Soil Conservation Service field office in the District of Columbia to 95 scattered across Georgia. It also includes 47 offices in Kentucky. Their locations were not available.

USDA officials in each state have been asked to review the list and complete their recommendations on which offices should be closed by the end of the month.

"There could be some changes or there could be wholesale changes," Runnigen said.

A congressional aide said the list

represented field offices the USDA and White House Office of Management and Budget thought should be closed or merged.

"These are the recommendations for closure, unless a state director can make a compelling otherwise," said the aide, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Agencies with offices at stake are the Soil Conservation Service, the Farmers Home Administration and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Virtually every county in the country has at least one USDA field office, and some counties have three or four if the Cooperative Extension Service is counted.

The General Accounting Office has said that consolidating the most inefficient offices could save \$90 million a year.

KU Outage

An hour and 20 minute service interruption for Kentucky Utilities occurred Saturday afternoon.

The break in a power transmission line occurred when a tree fell on the main line damaging it extensively.

It affected about 3,100 customers in Rockcastle and all others between East Bernstadt and Stanford.

It was one of the few service outages that has ever happened to Kentucky Utilities in a long time.

Man indicted for homicide

Steve Dooley of Lexington was indicted by a Rockcastle Grand Jury for reckless homicide.

He is accused of the June 29 traffic accident that involved the death of Joyce Hampton of Calloway.

Mrs. Joyce McCormick Hampton, 29, was riding behind Robert Neal Singleton of Livingston when their motorcycle was struck by a car driven by Steve Dooley.

She died at Rockcastle Hospital. Singleton was taken to Lexington where he was treated and released.

According to sheriff's deputies, Singleton was turning into Fred Hampton's driveway. Singleton was making a right turn, Dooley a left turn on U.S. 25 at Calloway.

Court case dismissed

Johnny Dooley and Betty Jasper had their cases dismissed in Circuit Court.

They were arrested in October 1991 both for illegal possession of alcoholic beverages in a local option territory. He was also charged with receiving stolen property. She was also charged with food stamp fraud, with over \$3,000 in stamps in her possession.

Sheriff Shirley Smith reported the court failed to subpoena his department into court.

"We knew nothing about it," Sheriff

(Cont. to A4)

Sheriff, state break up local tobacco theft ring

A roundup of four Rockcastle County men was made by Sheriff Shirley Smith, deputies and State Police and charged with theft of tobacco.

Clayton Frith of Copper Creek Road was charged with two counts of theft by unlawful taking of 14 bales of tobacco from Robert Crawford and 14 bales from Walter Gilbert farms.

James Isaac of Sweetwater Road was charged with three counts of theft by unlawful taking from the

farms of Jerry Blevins where 19 bales of tobacco was stolen.

Isaac was accused of helping with the Crawford, Gilbert and Blevins theft.

James Weaver of Davis Street, Mt. Vernon, was charged with one count of theft by unlawful taking by aiding in the theft of tobacco from the Blevins farm.

Kenny Neeley of Orlando was charged with one count of theft by unlawful taking of the tobacco from the Crawford farm.

Frith is being held on \$25,000 cash or property bond. Isaac posted \$5,000 cash or property bond. Weaver posted \$10,000 cash or property bond. Neeley posted \$5,000 cash or property bond.

Sheriff Shirley Smith, Deputy Darrell Doan, Deputy Leonard Miller and State Troopers Gary Lane and Craig Sutton participated in the investigation and arrest.

The officers had been working on the thefts from Nov. 6 through Dec. 10 and are still investigating.

Farm program signup time has arrived here

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) will open signup for the 1993 Wheat and Feed Grain programs on March 1. The signup period closes April 30.

To qualify for target price protection and price support loans, Harold Ballinger, ASCS County Executive Director said participants must reduce their acreage bases by at least 10 percent for corn, and 5 percent for grain sorghum. There is zero reduction for wheat, oats, and barley.

"Target prices protect producers' income if market prices fall below established levels," Ballinger said. He said farmers also need money to operate and, through the price support loan program, they can obtain interim financing while waiting for a better market.

Farmers who participate in the 1993 Wheat and Feed Grain program may request 50 percent of their estimated deficiency payment during signup, according to Ballinger.

Details of the 1993 farm programs will soon be available to producers through the Rockcastle County ASCS Office.

The 1992 - Crop Wheat is Ineli-

gible for Reserve.

Farmers who have 1992-crop wheat under price support loan will not be permitted to place the crop in the farmer-owned grain reserve when the loan matures, according to Harold Ballinger, CEO of the Rockcastle County ASCS Office.

"We are notifying farmers now because we want them to be able to plan their marketing and price support activities accordingly," Ballinger said.

The crop was not authorized for entry into the reserve because the 90 day average market price for wheat was not less than 120 percent of the price support loan rate. "Also, it's 1992 estimated ending wheat stocks-to-use ratio is less than 37.5 percent," Ballinger explained.

USDA may allow entry when only one condition is met. Since neither condition is met, the 1992 wheat crop is ineligible for the reserve.

The reserve program is designed to remove grain from the market until prices reach more desirable levels. The program offers short and long term benefits to counter the price depressing effects of surplus stocks.

Antenna leads electric into house after wreck

Both Dennis Graves and Gary McGuire had their troubles on Dec. 14.

Graves was driving his pickup on Chestnut Ridge Road when he ran off the road went up an embankment, came back across the road and ran into McGuire's yard.

His truck knocked down a 160 foot television antenna tower. The tower

fell into electric wires where 7,200 volts ran down the house.

The jolt burned the carpet, smoked up the home, took out 2 televisions, 2 VCR's, 1 betamax, 2 surge protectors, transformers, power supply and the tower.

The incident was investigated by State Trooper Gary Sutton and Deputy Darrell Doan.



Buzz Carloffis

More file

Slowly candidates for the May Primary Election are filing and will continue until Jan. 26. The primary is May 25.

Four more filed during the past week including Buzz Carloffis for County Judge Executive; Billy Dowell for corner and Jack Bradley, incumbent, and Benton Bullock for Magistrate, District 2.

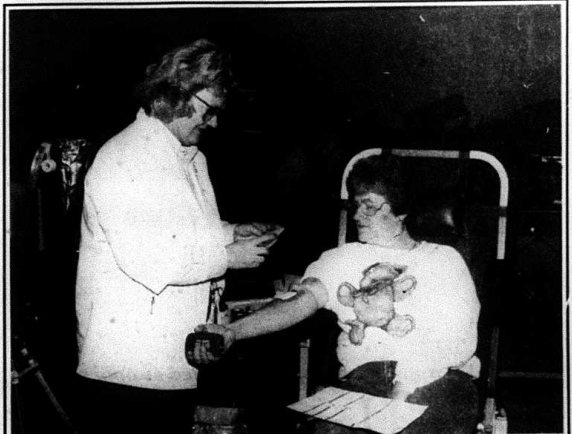
Carloffis ran for the County Judge Executive office four years ago.

Buffet held

About 50 persons turned out for a Christmas Buffet sponsored by Sheriff Shirley Smith, and wife, Libby.

The buffet was held in the former Rockcastle County Court House Circuit courtroom.

Most of those who attended were associated with law enforcement in the county, including Mt. Vernon City Police and Broadhead and Kentucky State Police.



Barbara Salehi, standing, a phlebotomist with the Central Kentucky Blood Bank, worked on Libby Smith, a local donor, during last week's blood drive. Smith, wife to the local sheriff, says she gives blood every time donations are sought in Mt. Vernon.



Heresay

by
Jon Norman Meadows
Wabd, USA

IMMANUEL—my favorite of all Christmas names. I realize, however, that some folks favor nothing about Christmas. Let me explain with a story. Once a week I visited the Carlisle County Home, an institution for the elderly, funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Twenty to thirty of the hundred and more souls who dwelled there gathered every Thursday morning in the recreation room for Bible Study, or whatever they wanted to talk about.

For several weeks prior to Christmas of '82, a music professor from Dickinson College had met with some of the "more able" residents, preparing a program of Yuletide songs, to which the public was invited, of which only a handful attended. Several of the choristers, too infirm to shuffle music, needed assistance. So, Nancy and I volunteered to be "page-turners."

I assisted Della Kohlred, who was seventy-one and confined to a wheelchair. The program commenced and the choir sang robustly. But not Della. She never opened her mouth or changed her stoical expression through several carols. Then, between songs, she beckoned to me. I leaned

toward her. She nodded her head so as to say, "Move closer." I did and piched my good ear toward her.

"A pain in the ass, isn't it?" she whispered. I had to laugh. But as I contemplated Della's plight, and that of her "neighbors," sadness overcame mirth. Della, and others, had no families. Still others had families who didn't care. "Imprisoned" there in that end-of-the-road abode, everyone struggled daily with disease, decay, and death. Had I "lived" there, I might have applauded Della's acidic sentiment.

Now back to *Immanuel*, which has two spellings in the Bible. When translated from Hebrew, it begins with *I*; when translated from Greek, it commences with *E*. In both cases, the word means literally "with us God."

Christmas, despite the vain hoopla attached to it, is God saying through a newborn baby, "I am with you."

Could He get anymore down to earth than that?

Take that thought further. We are never more God-like than when we are *with* those who need us so much—and who hurt so much without us. I

have a philosopher friend who argues that *if* God can be known, He is only known as we encounter Him in the persons of others.

Perhaps my friend goes too far, or not far enough. But I do agree that in times of trouble, God is often present in others.

What can you do for a Della? They're everywhere, you know. Spend time with her—or him. Take her favors and send her cards. But more than candy, flowers, and fruit, Della needs you. Don't let her drive you away. Speak with her. When you cannot speak, touch. But don't stay away.

How do you help a Della hounded by depression? Be there with her, "quote" as she may be. Sir Winston Churchill, often depression's victim, rightly called it "that black dog." Sure, there are effective anti-depressants, but none so healing as the companionship of a friend who cares for your "warts and all."

How do you help Della when she's comatose, when conversation is impossible? Be there with her. Her brain "hears" when you say "I love you." Tell her about the ball game, the weather, and the children. Go regularly. *Being there* comforts Della.

What can be done for a Della whose child has been strangled to death and his body burned in a gully? What do you say to Della when she cries, "Why, God?" You don't have to say a word. Just be with her; your presence will be enough.

What if Della is the one who did the strangling and burning? Is anyone more hideous? Not likely. She too needs God. Your relationship is never more on the line than when He asks you to *sit with a sinner*.

Three Sundays ago, Nancy, my wife, was admitted to St. Joseph's Hospital in Lexington. She had lost feeling in her legs, fingers, and face. "She will lose more," the neurologist said, "and might have to be on a respirator for as little as a week, or as much as a year."

After watching her condition deteriorate the next day, I drove home. I had some stiff words for God. "Why her? Why not me?" This is so stupid! Did you do this? If so, chuck it all!

When I got home, I plopped into my easy chair, talked to my cat, Kate, and fell asleep. The phone rang. A friend said, "I just had to call and let you know we're thinking about you and Nancy." How that helped! And the next morning another friend asked

how I was doing. When I tried to answer, he placed his hands on my shoulders, looked me square in the eyes, and said, "I know you. You can make it."

On the way to the hospital, I realized my anger was gone. God had spoken to me *through my friends*. And that he had spoken was enough.

Toward the end of that week, Nancy made a miraculous turn for the best. Her doctors say she should recover fully!

To those who were with us, we say "Thank you—so much!" And to all my readers... **IMMANUEL!**

COMMENTARY By George Ferrill

With Christmas fast upon us I have but one regret.

That regret is that New Year's Eve is next. The time for resolutions—those meaningless promises that we make to ourselves each holiday season.

I've made more than a few—quit smoking, lose weight, read books, save money, and so on.

I guess the resolutions aren't so bad—especially if you keep them. Here's a look at my list:

1) Lose weight. When people mistake you for a taxi cab you are oversized and overweight. Even if I have to go on a diet of tree bark I will lose weight in 1993. The benefits are many, from better fitting clothes to a more congenial social appearance.

2) Quit smoking. I don't care how I do it but I will try to do it—quit smoking. My lungs and like a strong wind in a tunnel and my three-pack a day habit just doesn't get any less expensive. The odds are against me but you can't do it unless you try. The tobacco industry will fall into a quagmire and collapse and the headlines will read "Ferrill quits cigarettes; industry suffers collapse."

3) Read books more often... There is little that I enjoy more than a good

book but I always find ways to put them down halfway through. It's an old habit but I find it very perplexing to say the least. I've got plenty of good books for reading but I always spend my time on magazines and newspapers. Reading books is worthwhile.

4) Take up and cultivate personal writing... I can't ever remember when I didn't want to be a writer. What's the problem? I never do. That means I hardly ever start a short story or a poem or other fiction although I often debate it in my mind. If I would just take the time it would be good for my work as a journalist.

I don't know, maybe I should take the time to resolve that I'm not going to make any more resolutions.

But first, that other season, Christmas, must be celebrated.

I can remember the Christmas of years past. My family, the presents, going to church and that special time called Christmas Eve—going to bed and slipping off to sleep until awakening Christmas morning.

My earliest memories of Christmas were at my grandparents' house. I can remember the beautiful tree and the packages underneath.

My mother and her brothers and sisters told me later that they didn't have much at Christmas time. Maybe some sticky candy and some oranges, but very little else.

I guess Christmas has gotten commercial over the years but it is no less



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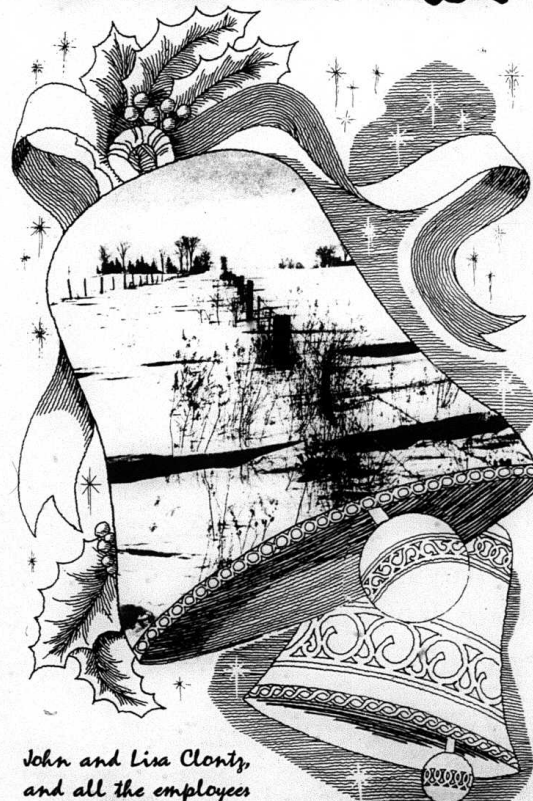
Season's Greetings

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James Benge
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Tommy Moley
Jim Church
John & Lisa Clontz
Richard Anderson
Steve Coquer
James Colwell
Roy Melchior

We appreciate your continued support

Mt. Vernon Signal

Best Wishes



John and Lisa Clontz,
and all the employees
of Carter's Market
and Godfather's Pizza, want to thank their
valued customers for their patronage in 1992
and look forward to serving you in 1993.

ramblings

Our apologies, but...

by perlina m. andertin
We professed that the plain unvarnished truth and there's no shelling for it - we missed the Broadhead parade. Each of us thought the other was covering it and voila - nobody would. But, we weren't concerned, we did use the pictures that professional photographer Doug Brock always takes, right? However, we figured out Tuesday that Mr. Brock did not take pictures so we are embarrassed and there's no one to blame but ourselves.

Please, if any shutterbug took photos of the parade, please let us know so that we may, however belatedly, get them published.

And, mark this down, it will not happen again - next year, we will be there and we do extend our abject apologies to Broadhead residents and assure you the slight was not intentional...

In this business, it's hard to enjoy the Christmas season. It always throws an extra burden on us and we find ourselves waiting until we get everything done so we can sit back

and enjoy the holiday but, the trouble with that is by the time we get everything done, the season is virtually over.
I'm not complaining. At my age, it is especially a joy to have a 12-year-old and 7-year-old in household to experience the wonder of the season with, not to mention a new grandchild, for a grand total of four.

And, as I sit and reflect, I really find no basis for complaints because we are all healthy and no tragedy has befallen our loved ones.

So, if we are harried (and we are) we are also blessed. And, it would do all of us, especially me, well to count our blessings during this joyous season of Christ's birth.
With this year, we complete our 27 years of living in Mt. Vernon and being associated with the Mt. Vernon Signal. We appreciate everyone's support over the years and pledge to continue to try to provide you with the very best county weekly we can.

Merry Christmas to you all.

the kids. The old "I trust my child" line is sometimes more of a convenience than heart felt. I have friends, who are parents of young teens, who drop their kids off at the mall or a ballgame and leave them for hours. I worry about their kids, they don't seem to. Baltimore's children and children in other such school systems would be better served if they took the contraceptives out and put more parent supervision in.

People say, "that's a big city, things aren't like that around here." That's true to an extent. Think of it this way. Our country has elected a new President. Clinton was elected, in spite of his support of several issues that are contrary to the moral beliefs of many, because of the economic issues the people were concerned with. If we recognize that the economic problems in the big cities have affected us in rural Kentucky, that is nothing compared to how the moral erosion in cities across our nation will eventually affect us. I sometimes wonder what my children will do after they

have received their coveted KERA education, if moral trends continue in the direction they're headed.

If Baltimore is leading the way for the direction we are going to take in this country, then here is what I suggest we do. Since children are already sexually active, we'll need to allow them to bring their dates home, where we can be assured they are indeed using the contraceptives correctly, and that they will have a clean bed. And since children are going to drink alcohol anyway, let's allow them to drink legally at age 10 in their homes. This will keep them off the roads and out of danger. Also, since young people sometimes rob quick-mart type stores, let's legalize robbery so that people won't be shot and killed during a robbery. There would be no need to carry a weapon in a robbery. And finally, let's legalize rape if a condom is used. This could protect countless women from contracting AIDS. Don't scoff, I'm using the same logic Baltimore is using, "common-sensical." If you think this

would promote these things rather than deter them, then you've gotten my point.

Sincerely,
Allison Reynolds

Dear Editor,
Just a little response to another personal letter from Mr. Bennett, whoever he is.

I've been writing anti-social letters to the editor for several years. My letters are always to issues in general. They are never personal. My articles are a combination of social, religious and political issues of importance and interest to the evangelical, Christian community and of course always designed to make the devil mad.

Sometimes I get a response. I got a nice letter of response a few weeks ago from a dear Christian lady whom I didn't even know. It's always encouraging to get a comment from intelligent Christian people. But sometimes I get an ugly, vengeful, vindictive response from the other side. I've gotten a couple of vengeful letters from people who seem to think they know something about my life, my family and personal affairs. I don't know why they don't just attack the subject matter. I don't know why they want to attack me.

A response to a vindictive letter hardly constitutes a feud. If it did, Mr. Bennett and I would be formally feuding. This is the second time he's interested.

(Cont. on A8)

Dear Editor,
Did you read the "Other Voices" piece in the Dec. 15th Lexington Herald? Baltimore Leads In Contraception. I guess if you didn't you're wondering how Baltimore is leading the way. Well, they already provide contraceptives to children in middle schools and high schools there. Now one school (for pregnant teens and teen mothers) is beginning a program to, as the article says, give the girls "another choice." No, not abstinence. No, not the new, under the skin contraceptive that last up to 5 years. The article says Baltimore is being "commonsensical." They say three-quarters of students are sexually active. Since advocates have insisted providing condoms to kids is the miracle cure-all for our social woes, having provided them for two years in Baltimore, they shouldn't have pregnant teens in the first place. But secondly, are they telling us that an almighty condom can save our kids from death (AIDS) but it is a little inadequate when it comes to preventing pregnancy?

Do you ever wonder where the parents of these children are? Why in the world would middle schools (not even considering high schools) need to pass out contraceptives? How do middle schoolers have all this unsupervised time and opportunity? Where are the parents? If three-quarters of students are sexually active, let's place the blame where it belongs - on the fault of parents.

Enjoy this season to the fullest!

Doug Hamm and all the folks at Mt. Vernon Oil & Tire

Yuletide CHEER

May Christmas and all the joy it brings be yours throughout the coming year.

Dr. Lee Cain
Lee, Marcia, Leda, Tammy

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COMMENTARY
(Cont. From A2)

for the celebration.
People seem to have more so they spend more and some spend a little bit too much - but, hey, if it's on the children then who can scoff.

Still, don't miss taking the time to be thankful for what we do have. All we have to do is look around at those who are less fortunate and think of the people who are in institutions, prisons and homeless on the streets. America, the land of great freedoms, has a lot of have-nots at the last counting.

For those of us who have a roof over our heads, a good Christmas dinner and the talk of a few friends, there is little more that we should hope for.
Well, that's all for this week. Have a very, very Merry Christmas and watch out for New Year's - those resolutions are waiting.

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Obituaries

Davidson

Mrs. Janice Davidson, 45, died Dec. 18, 1992 at Christ Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio after a long illness. She was born in Madison County Feb. 1, 1947, the daughter of Elthar and Celia Jones Davidson.

In addition to her parents she is survived by a brother, Curtis Ray Davidson, Tallahassee, FL and a sister, Wilma Debord of Winder, Ga. Three aunts, Lorene Baker, Opal Brock and Della Barnes, all of Copper Creek Road, Crab Orchard and several nieces and nephews.

Services were at Martin Funeral Home in Crab Orchard. Burial followed in Wilmont Chapel Cemetery on Copper Creek Road.

pallbearers were Proctor Brock, Rodger Brock, Christopher Martin, Gene Mobley, John N. Baker and Jeffrey Thompson.

Bowles

Mrs. Lydia Bowles, 81, Berea and formerly of Livingston, died Dec. 20, 1992 at the residence of her daughter in Berea.

She was born in Rockcastle County, Sept. 8, 1911, the daughter of George and Susan Jones Brockman and was a member of the Livingston Pentecostal Church.

She is survived by a son, Charles Bowles of Livingston; four daughters, Eva Schuler, Centerville, Indiana, Juanita Holland, Richmond, Ind., Anna Belle Harris, Berea and Mable Lewis, Shelbyville and a brother, Johnny Brockman, Richmond, Ind.

Also surviving are 11 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Anderson Bowles.

Services were Wednesday at the Livingston Pentecostal Church with Bro. Billy Medley, Clifford Brock and Jimmy Miller officiating. Burial followed in the Morning View Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Dowell and Martin Funeral Home.

pallbearers were Robert Harris, Todd Harris, Lawrence Schuler, Billy Schuler, Marvin Lewis and Johnny Hellard.

Higgins

Mrs. Mildred Higgins, 72, Orlando, died Dec. 15, 1992 at the Rockcastle Hospital.

She was born in Rockcastle County Aug. 28, 1920, the daughter of Reuban and Lucille Gray Ball. She was a member of the Poplar Gap Holiness Church.

Survivors include two sons, Kenneth Higgins of Orlando and Charles Higgins of Locust, North Carolina; three daughters, Nora Ruth Bond, Orlando, Jewell Rinehart, Antwerp, Ohio and Glenna Sue Higgins, Orlando; two sisters, Verla Miller, Orlando and Beatrice Cummins, Orlando, Fla. Also surviving are 12 grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and one great grandchild. She was preceded in death by her husband Earl Higgins, a brother and two sisters.

Services were December 17 at Dowell and Martin Funeral Home

with Bro. Billy Medley and Oliver Abney officiating. Burial was in the Briar Field Cemetery. Pallbearers were Virgil Higgins, Kenneth Higgins Jr., Charles Higgins, Jr., Adam Higgins, David Bond and Vic Bond.

Brumett

Ernie Paul Brumett, 59, of Waynesburg died Dec. 18, 1992 at Fort Logan Hospital in Stamford.

He was born May 25, 1933 in Rockcastle County, the son of the late John and Lillie Burke Brumett. He was a farmer and dairyman, a Navy veteran of World War II, a member of the Baptist Church, a Mason and a Shriner.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Owens Brumett, three sons, Paul David, Mark Anthony and Richard Thomas Brumett, all of Waynesburg; two daughters, Beverly Ann Ketrone of Alexandria and Catherine Elaine Pleasants of Stamford; two brothers, Sheridan Brumett of Lockland, Ohio and Dennis Brumett of Elmwood, Ohio; one half brother, Norman Arney of Dayton, Ohio; three sisters, Faye Brumett of Somerset, Doris McClaran of Elmwood, Ohio and Alma Virginia Bryant of Piqua, Ohio, and six grandchildren.

Services were at Barnett and Demrow Funeral Home in Waynesburg with Bro. Darrell Graves and Rev. Sherman Ramsey officiating. Burial was in Piney Grove Cemetery in Broadhead.

Fairview News

By: Mrs. Hubert Chasteen (delayed)

Greetings to every one every where! As I don't have much time this morning for gathering news, I just thought I'd take this opportunity to wish you all a blessed Christmas Season and the best year ever in 1993. I know some of you will not be able to get next week's edition of the Signal before Christmas, so I'm sending my best wishes now.

We had a wonderful congregation for worship service at Fairview on Sunday Dec. 13 and our Sunday School attendance was one hundred and twenty-two. Thank the good Lord. It's always good to be in the House of the Lord.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of William Henry (Willie) Walden, Dale Robinson and Mrs. Dollie Mullins. May God comfort them in their sorrow.

Now I have a poem that I want to share with you.

"The Bible and TV Guide"

On the table side by side; The Holy Bible and the TV Guide. One is well worn but cherished with pride (not the Bible, but the TV Guide.) One is used daily to help folks decide. No! It isn't the Bible; it's the TV Guide. As pages are turned, what shall they see? Oh, what does it matter, turn on the TV. Then confusion reigns; they can't all agree on what they shall watch on

the old TV. So they open the book in which they confide (No, not the Bible, it's the TV Guide). The Word of God is seldom read. Maybe a verse e'er they fall into bed. Exhausted and sleepy and tired as can be, not from reading the Bible, from watching TV. So, then back to the table, side by side, is the Holy Bible and the TV Guide. No time for prayer. No time for the Word. The plan of salvation is seldom heard. Forgiveness of sin so full and free is found in the Bible, not on TV. (Author unknown)

"Case dismissed"

(Cont. from front)

iff Smith said. He also said the case will be investigated by the Kentucky Attorney General's office.

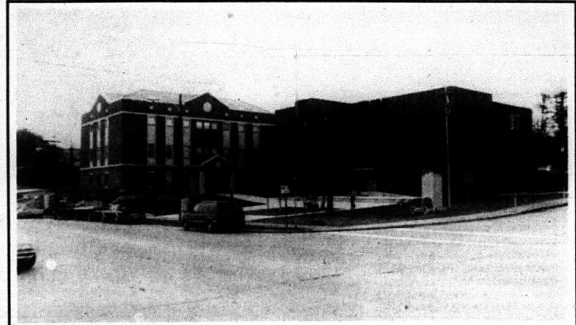
The court ordered returned \$191 in dimes \$423 in quarters, \$100 in bills, a 4 wheel cycle and an undetermined amount of alcohol.

JOY

AT CHRISTMAS

You've been a joy to know and a pleasure to serve. Best wishes for a happy holiday season.

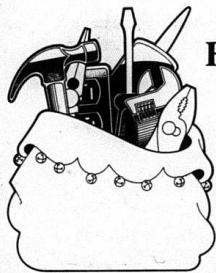
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May the joys of this special holiday season grace your household throughout the new year
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MERRY CHRISTMAS

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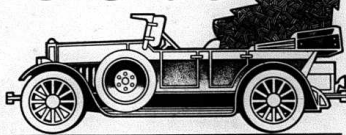


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JACOB'S STAFF

A Christmas Story By Edna L. Lakes

Many, many years ago during the great census, shepherds tended their flocks on the hillsides outside of Bethlehem. One of the shepherds was a boy named Jacob. Life had not been kind to Jacob. He had been born with a twisted foot. If that had not been enough, when he was five, his mother and father became ill and died leaving him alone. Jacob had many fine qualities that were evident in the face of his trials. Although times were hard, Jacob's uncle had taken him into his tent and taught him the responsibilities of a shepherd. It was the life he would have had, had his father lived. At first his uncle was not sure that Jacob could handle the job of a shepherd because of his twisted foot. But Jacob, being a resourceful boy, made himself a crutch and used his father's staff. In three years Jacob had herded his uncle's sheep like a half-starved puppy and had shared his food with the dog and it, in turn, became his swift foot that searched out the missing and wayward sheep.

Jacob had earned the respect of the other shepherds for his way with the animals. They had named him "Gentle Jacob." Once Jacob's Uncle had told him, "Jehovah will surely reward you in some special way for your diligence in the obligations that have been given you."

Now several weeks after this discussion, Jacob was awakened by his uncle in the middle of the night. Not all of the crutch went to Jacob however, for he had a very exceptional four-legged friend, a dog named "Ram." Jacob found the dog as a half-starved puppy and had shared his food with the dog and it, in turn, became his swift foot that searched out the missing and wayward sheep.

"What a wonderful thing!" thought Jacob. Oh, how he would have liked to have seen it! At last the prophecies words are fulfilled! Under the mist of Roman oppression God had given his people a sign of a promise kept.

"I will get dressed and stay Uncle, do not worry, I will not fall asleep. Everything will be well until you get back." Jacob dressed as warmly as he could for the night air was cold and it made his lame foot ache. The sheep were restless and it was all Ram and Jacob could do to keep track of them all. Jacob could move fairly well with the crutch under one arm and his father's large staff in the other.

Finally after a long time his uncle returned. He was the same and yet he was different. Jacob could not understand. His uncle came over to where Jacob was and said, "It was as they had told us my boy, we found the babe in a stable. It was a holy place. I will never feel such a closeness to Jehovah again."

"Uncle, am I free to go and see this thing that has come to pass," Jacob questioned.

"Yes, my boy, but it is a long way. It will take you most of the rest of the night with your foot. But if you feel you must go, I will not deprive you of the chance to see the miracle."

Jacob and Ram left immediately and set off on the path that led into the city. It was a long journey and Jacob's foot ached and his arm ached, but he did not stop until he was outside the stable.

There were three camels and rich wrappings tied outside the stable. Jacob and Ram eased inside the door and back into a dark corner where he was not seen but could see what was going on. Three men dressed in kingly robes were on their knees in front of a manger where a tiny babe lay wrapped in white.

The whole room glowed with a light that was warm and light as the same time but Jacob could see no lamps or candles anywhere. It must be the light from the great star he thought.

Jacob knelt also in his dim corner and felt Ram settle down beside him. He prayed for a while and when he heard a movement looked up to where the kingly men had stood up and were speaking with a man and the four of them went outside.

Jacob waited for a few minutes and then quietly made his way to where the babe lay. On a mound of straw near the babe, rested a woman. Her eyes were closed as if she slept. Jacob stopped and considered her for a moment. Had she not worn the clothes of a commoner, he would have thought her to be a queen. She was the most beautiful woman he had ever seen, except of course, for his mother. He was quiet so as not to wake her as he came closer to the sleeping babe.

Jacob was at a loss to explain his feelings. He felt the presence of Jehovah and it wrapped around him like a warm cloak and he was at peace. After a while Jacob took note of the gifts lying by the manger, three jeweled caskets enclosed the treasures.

The baby stirred in its wrappings. Jacob started to back away fearing he had awakened the sleeping infant. A soft voice reassured him, "It is all right, you need not leave." Jacob looked into the soft, gentle eyes of the mother. She leaned over the manger and pulled back the wrappings so Jacob could see better. The baby was awake but did not cry. The mother touched the tiny hand and the fingers grasped her finger.

"He is a fine baby, my lady. He is

beautiful and perfect. I wonder...."

The soft voice answered, "Yes?"

"I would like to give the babe a gift, but I have only two possessions, my father's staff and my dog." The woman looked at the small boy standing there with a crutch under one arm and the tall staff in the other. The dog lay quietly at his feet.

The boy weighed his decision and

when the lady did not speak he took a step toward her, his eyes pleading for acceptance. "My staff was my father's and his father's before him and as our house is of the lineage of Jesse, the same as the Messiah, it is a noble gift. There is none finer, it has been carved from cedar wood from Lebanon and the years have smoothed its surface to a soft sheen. Once when my father's flocks were attacked by a pack of jackals, he killed three with this very staff and drove the pack away. Please accept this for the child, it will help him to walk straight and sure in time of trouble.

The lady said nothing, but nodded and he lay the staff by the other gifts. He then looked down at the dog and then back at the lady. The words tumbled out of the small boy. "There are many things your little son will have to learn. There will be

times when you cannot watch him and do your chores so you need someone to watch him for you at these times. We boys are a curious lot and sometimes get into things we had best leave alone. Ram is my dog's name and he is very faithful and alert."

"Ram will watch after the babe for you. Also, your son is going to be a great man. He will spend much time in solitude thinking about things that bother him. At times like these other people are of no help for the answers must come from within." The lady was surprised that so much expression could come from such a small boy so quickly.

He reasoned with her, "It does help to have a friend there who is loyal and you know who loves you no matter if you do fall some things you try." Jacob looked

wistfully at the child, "Sometimes adults mean well but they do not understand some of the things that are important to boys. At times like these Ram has been my friend, devoted and loyal."

The boy knelt down and took the dog's head between his hands, "Ram this is a big task I ask you to do, but through the child will learn to love God's creatures and it will be well, I promise you. He will love you as much as I could and besides that, I am almost a man now of ten years. I have learned the things we taught each other. Come, Ram." The boy walked to the manger and pointed to a spot beside it, "Stay, Ram, stay here."

Jacob looked up at the lady, "I know you will take good care of Ram and he will be a big help to you. Please say you will accept these things I have for you are

all I have." The lady reached across the manger and touched the boy's cheek, "A gift from the heart is the most valuable gift one can give, the love that is given with it makes it priceless. Thankyou for your priceless gifts my child. They will be well taken care of."

Jacob looked down at Ram and repeated, "Stay Ram, stay here." Then he turned and limped out of the stable without looking back. The night air was colder than he had remembered it, and the walk back to the hillside was a long one. He looked at the sky and figured that the first rays of dawn were a little more than an hour away. Jacob was getting weary now and when he came upon some large boulders by the roadside, decided to rest for a

(Cont. to A11)

SHEPHERDS



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Season's Greetings

Our sincerest thanks to the finest people in all the world, our customers, for making 1992 a wonderful year for us here at Shepherd's. In this day of giving and getting, let's not forget the true meaning of Christmas. Let's keep Christ in Christmas. We wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year. Darrell & Oma & everyone who works at Shepherd's.

LAST MINUTE GIFT IDEAS

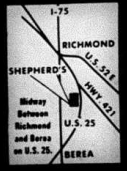
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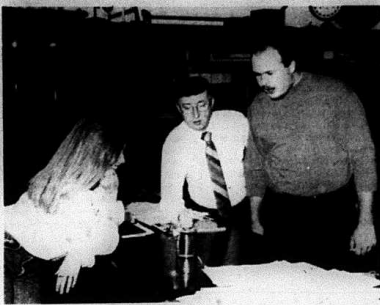
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Wayne Vanzant amazes two physics students at RCHS, Geoff McGuire and Jenise Masters, by demonstrating that two forks can be balanced on the rim of a beaker by placing a toothpick between their prongs and resting it on the beaker. According to Mr. Vanzant, this shows that the center of gravity may be located outside an object.



Volunteers help out during the Christmas Workshop at Livingston Elementary.



Volunteers help out during the Sweet Shop at Livingston Elementary.



Kathy Mink's father won the Christmas Arrangement provided by Catina Carpenter.



Pictured is Brandon Reams and mother Beverly Edwards. Brandon is a Tiger Scout. He earned a Tiger Cub Patch.

Christmas Workshop by P.T.O.

The Livingston P.T.O. did a wonderful job with the 1992 Christmas Workshop. Special thanks to the many parents and staff that put so much time and effort into this project.

We are very proud of the Parent Participation at Livingston School. We encourage every parent to get involved with your school. Our students benefit the most!

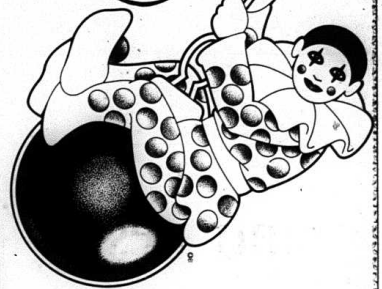


Home For The Holidays

The spirit of Christmas is all around.

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Best Wishes at Christmas



'Tis the season to be exceptionally jolly... and to extend our warmest thanks to all our customers and friends.

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William Scott Coffel was born Nov. 30th at Humana Hospital Lake Cumberland to the parents of Christopher and Susan Coffel. Grandparents are Arlene Edwards and Ray Doan.

Wishing a very special little girl named Jessica Renee, a happy 8th birthday December 22nd and a Merry Christmas.

Love,
 Your daddy,
 Jimmy

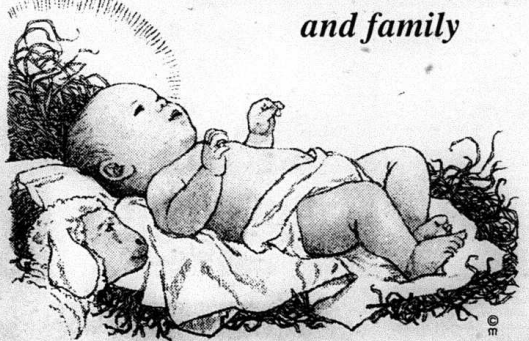
She brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room at the inn.

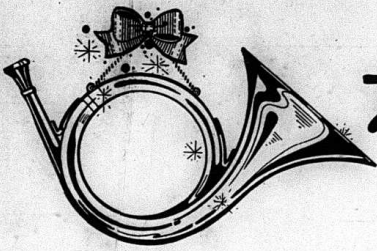
-Luke 2:7

At this special time of year, we offer our thanks and join with you in celebrating the birth of our Savior.



Jim and Brenda Lambert and family





Holiday Greetings

At the holiday season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible. It is in this spirit we say...

Thank you
and best
wishes for
the holidays
and a Happy
New Year

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Morgan sentenced

Marty Morgan, 35, of Mt. Vernon pleaded guilty Dec. 16 in Federal Court to Possession of Marijuana and was sentenced to 37 months in prison.

Morgan is the fourth Rockcastle County resident convicted in U.S. Federal Court during the past two years.

At the time of his arrest Morgan was out on bond for a murder and numerous assault charges in Rockcastle Circuit Court which have not been tried.

Alcohol, tobacco and firearms agent John Sims, Rockcastle Sheriff's office, Mt. Vernon City Police,

assisted state police with federal charges.

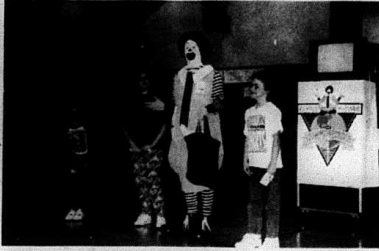
Burglary reported at Copper Creek

Joyce Ellison of Copper Creek Road reported a burglary on Dec. 9. Taken were \$800 in jewelry, an automatic rifle, \$150, a single shot rifle, \$150 and a VCR \$300.

Also burglarized was the home of John Blair in the Conway area.

Taken were a .45 colt automatic valued at \$429, 12 gauge shotgun valued at \$250 and a K-Mart shotgun valued at \$75.

Both burglaries were investigated by Deputy Darrell Doan.



Ronald McDonald with RES students James Owens, Andrea Horner and Kyle Bowman during "You and Me and Ecology" program at RES.



"You and Me and Ecology" Ronald McDonald recycles Miss Lisa Johnson with the help of RES teacher Darla Reams.



Students at Roundstone learning about recycling are from left, front row: Trenton Harding, Jessica Thacker, Chris Prickett, Scott Cain. Second row: Steven Coffey Nathan McQueen, Chris Howard, Candice Blair, Tiffany Chandler, Jessica Toothman, Glenna Robinson, Joey Husband.

Students learn about recycling

Mrs. Renner's primary class at Roundstone Elementary recently learned about recycling and reusing in order to reduce the amount of trash. Each student brought in some trash and brainstormed ways it could be used or made into something else. There were some really good inventions such as a megaphone, bird houses and a hard hat which doubles

as a lunch server. They also enjoy a program on ecology by Ronald McDonald.

Ronald McDonald visits Roundstone

Ronald McDonald recently thrilled and educated the students at Roundstone Elementary School. Through humor and magic Ronald gave students K-5 information and awareness about ecology in a presentation titled "You and Me and Ecology."



Mrs. Renner's primary class at Roundstone recently learned about recycling and reusing in order to reduce the amount of trash. Pictured from left to right, front row: Jenna Owens, Kevin Knuckles, Brandon Thomas. Second row: Randall Abrams, Jeni Durham, Stephanie Dees, Caleb Blair, Melinda Leger, Samantha Owens, Caleb Reed.

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- Tuesday: Chicken livers w/gravy, whipped potatoes, green peas, red gelatin/fruit
- Wednesday: Beef stew, hot apples, biscuit, birthday cake
- Thursday: Closed New Year's Eve

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"Letters"

(Cont. from A-3)

jected himself into my personal affairs.

Letters to the Editor should be to issues and subjects in general, not personal attacks on people's lives, family and character.

William Mullins

KET showcases high school marching band

Marching bands from 16 Kentucky high schools are featured in 1992 Kentucky State Marching Band Championship, airing on KET at 2 p.m., Saturday, December 26.

Peace on Earth

Front row: DeAnn Miller. Second row from left: Brenda McKinney and Cheryl Brown. Back row from left: Dr. Kathy Green, Dr. Bill Reynolds, Dr. John Parsons and Missy Burton.

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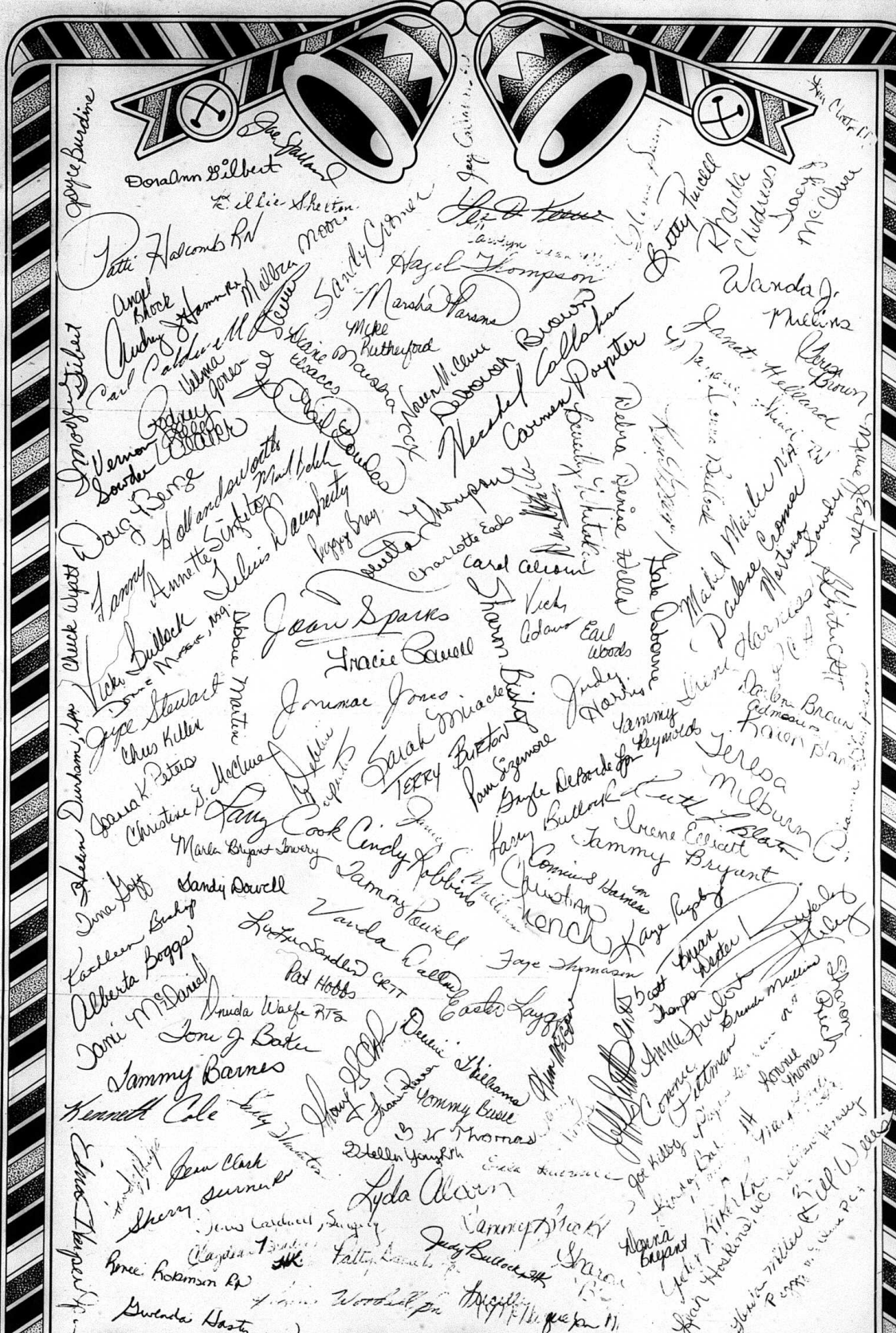
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Joy abounds in everything we do. At this time we wish you all the very best the season has to offer.

We appreciate the friendship you've shown us.

The Staff of
Dr. John Parsons



Rockcastle Hospital, Inc.

Merry Christmas

Newcomb Ave., Mt. Vernon, Ph. 256-2195

Happy New Year

Sports

Rockets edged by Pirates, 65-58

After knocking off their first two opponents to reach the final game of the Berea Invitational, the Rockcastle County Rockets fell just short, 65-58, to the host Berea Pirates in the championship Saturday night.

The Rockets, who won the tournament last year, defeated Wil-

liamsburg, 66-54, last Thursday in the first round and posted a 67-57 win over Dayton Friday night before facing Berea.

The Rockets are now three and five on the season.

Junior forward Mickey McClure recorded the first three baskets against

Berea and enabled the Rockets to jump out to a 10-4 lead in the first few minutes of play. But a patient Berea offense managed to post 10 unanswered points to tie the game at 14 by the end of the first quarter.

One factor was an ankle sprain suffered by McClure in the closing

minutes of the first period. McClure missed the whole second quarter because of the injury.

In the absence of McClure, Berea managed a two point lead by intermission, 29-27.

"McClure being out the whole second period did affect our offense," said head coach Clayton Cash.

The Rockets' inside game didn't help either. Berea forced the Rockets to take the outside shot throughout the game by closing down the inside passing lanes and playing a very physical game. And in the effort they limited senior forward Corey Craig to only six points.

"The game was very physical and we were not able to get any inside scoring," said Cash. "We're not a physical team."

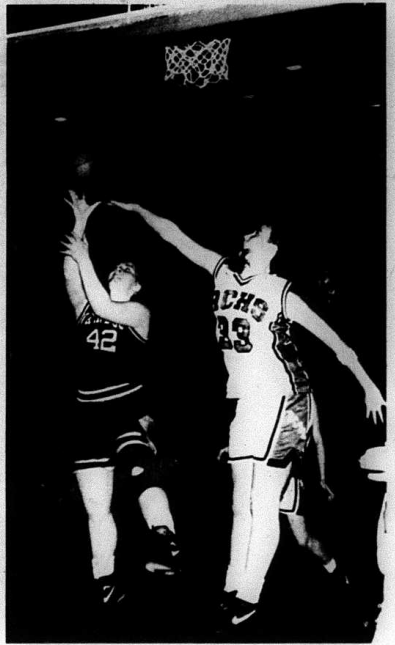
The Rockets also experienced a third quarter in which they scored only 15 points and allowed Berea to take a six point lead, 48-42.

"We came out flat in the third quarter," Cash said, "We only got 15 points."

"We had our shots, we just couldn't make them," he added.

The Rockets did make a surge late in the fourth quarter to pull within three and four points on two occa-

(Cont. to A-11)



Junior Cindy McCauley attempts to block a shot on a Wayne County player in last Thursday's Lady Rockets action. Wayne County came out on top, 44-35.



From left, J.D. Bussell, Corey Craig and Mickey McClure were selected to the Berea Invitational all-tournament team.

Lady Rockets struggle from field in loss to Wayne County, 44-35

The host Lady Rockets never led as they lost to Wayne County last Thursday, 44-35, to fall to one and five on the year.

"We played good defense but we just couldn't put the ball in the basket," said head coach Christy Beaver Monday.

The key to the loss was the fact that the Lady Rockets were only successful in sinking 13 of 57 attempts from the field.

Other attributing factors were the 26 turnovers and 28 fouls committed by the Lady Rockets.

Wayne jumped out to a 10-3 lead in the first quarter. The Lady Rockets had their only bright spot of the game in the second quarter in which they spurred for 11 points to pull within one by the half, 15-14.

"We were not executing our offense and were having mental breakdowns," said Beaver.

"We're just not playing fundamentally," she added.

Danetta Ford posted the Lady Rockets' high score of the game with 10 points and helped keep the team within a two point margin in the third quarter, 23-21.

Common denominator Cindy McCauley recorded only 4 points due to early foul trouble which limited

(Cont. to A-11)

Mt. Vernon wins Lions Tourney

Grade School Boys' Linescores
5th & 6th
Lion's Tourney - 1st rnd
RES - 29
LES - 23
Eagles scoring: Jacob Burdette - 14, Matthew Brown - 1, Luke

Hayes - 2, Brooks Ingram - 4, Scott Lamb - 8.
Blue Devils scoring: Steve Bradley - 16, Robert Clark - 4, Tim King - 1, Ralph Powell - 2.
MVES - 31
BES - 31
Red Devils scoring: Andy Hale - 29, Layne Nicely - 4, Kevin Bra-

dley - 4, John Renner - 4.
Tigers scoring: Andrew Cash - 12, Josh Martin - 5, Jeremy Saylor - 2, Nicholas Leger - 4, Neal Childress - 2, Brandon Marlin - 2.
Consolation game
BES - 43
LES - 26

(Cont. to A-11)



The Mt. Vernon Red Devils 5th and 6th grade team won the Lions Tourney held Monday night at Livingston. They defeated Roundstone, 37-20. Members are, front from left, manager Josh Hale, Nemiah Patel, Bobby Hensley, Layne Nicely, Nathaniel Bullock, Derrick Bradley and John Renner. Back row from left are manager Chad Hensley, Kenny Allen, Mark Proctor, Andy Hale, Kevin Bradley, Josh Stewart, Jason Proctor and Brad McNew.



The Roundstone Eagles 5th and 6th grade team place second in the Lions Tourney. Members are, front from left, Stewart Abney, Mark Parsons, Jacob Burdette, Jake Tillery, Jeffrey Linville and Bobby Kirby. Back row from left are Matthew Brown, Luke Hayes, Adam Holt, Josh Jones, Brooks Ingram and Scott Lamb.

Happy Holidays



Sandy Bullock
 Sonya Bullock
 Janice Adams
 Donnie Singleton

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Andrew Simpson prepares to lay the ball in the basket for the Mt. Vernon Red Devils in last Thursday's action against the Broadhead Tigers. The Red Devils edged the Tigers, 37-35.

sank 23 to lead all scorers.

"We came out flat in the beginning of the game and didn't appear to be ready to play," said Cash.

Our enthusiasm and hustle was not what I expected," he added.

The Rockets trailed 14-10 in the first quarter but managed to even the game at 27 all by intermission.

But unlike most games this year, the Rockets had a solid third quarter and with it managed a 44-40 lead by the end of the quarter.

"It was the first good third quarter we've had," Cash said.

"I think we knew we were going to have to play better to win in the second half and we did," he added.

Junior guard Brian Carter came off the bench to put in a solid performance. He nailed a three-pointer with just over three minutes to go to stretch the lead out to seven and really break the game open for the Rockets.

The final result was the Rockets by eight, 66-54.

The Rockets got a lot of playing time from a lot of people in Friday's game with Dayton.

"Due to us playing three games in three days, we played a lot of different people against Dayton," said Cash.

All posted good performances as the Rockets never trailed after the first quarter. They stretched a 35-24 lead out to a 55-41 lead in the third quarter and nursed it through the final quarter for a 67-57 win.

The Rockets traveled to Western Hills Tuesday night. Highlights from that game will be in next week's issue.

Scoring for the Rockets against Berea were: J.D. Bussell, 8; Corey Craig, 6; Mickey McClure, 16; Mike Tackett, 2; Mike Albright, 2; Brian Carter, 9; Eddie Todd, 2 and Mikhael Shaffer, 13.

Scoring against Williamsburg were: J.D. Bussell, 4; Corey Craig, 27; Mickey McClure, 23; Eddie Todd, 3 and Brian Carter, 9.

Scoring against Dayton were: J.D. Bussell, 9; Corey Craig, 18; Mickey McClure, 25; Mike Albright, 6; Eddie Todd, 3; Willie Morris, 1; Brian Carter, 3 and Mikhael Shaffer, 2.

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"Linescores"
(Cont. from A-10)

Tigers scoring: Josh Martin - 5, Nicholas Leger - 2, Brandon Martin - 2, Andrew Camera - 14, Andrew Cash - 14, Neal Childress - 2, Joel Deatherage - 2, Willie Feltner - 2.
Blue Devils scoring: Steve Bradley - 22, Tim King - 2, Ralph Powell - 2.
Championship MVES - 37 RES - 20
Red Devils scoring: Lane Nicely - 8, Andy Hale - 15, Kevin Bradley

- 6, Josh Stewart - 2, Nathaniel Bullock - 2, John Renner - 2, Bobby Hersley - 2.
Eagles scoring: Jacob Burdette - 9, Matthew Brown - 2, Brooks Ingram - 6, Scott Lamb - 1.

"Lady Rockets"
(Cont. from A-10)

herplaying time throughout the game.

While the Lady Rockets cleared 33 rebounds and deflected 16 passes by Wayne, they could not capitalize on turnovers by converting them into points. Wayne did and stretched the score to 44-35 by the end of the game.

The Lady Rockets were 8 of 18

from the charity stripe.

The Lady Rockets will participate in the Lady Scotties' Invitational Tournament Monday night. They will play Burgin. The game begins at 8 p.m.

Scoring for the Lady Rockets were: Beth Amyx, 2; Danetta Ford, 10; Cindy McCauley, 4; Christy Coleman, 6; Becky Osborne, 8; Melinda Alcorn, 4 and Heather Deckard, 1.

In junior varsity action, the Lady Rockets took an early lead never to trail as they defeated Wayne's junior varsity, 32-20.

Scoring in the game for the Lady Rockets were: Becky Osborne, 8; Doe Reams, 4; Janetta McClamore, 4; Melinda Alcorn, 4; Amy Robinson, 7 and Heather Deckard, 5.

"Rockets"
(Cont. from A-10)

sions. Junior guard Mikhael Shaffer, who made only his second appearance this year due to a knee injury stemming from football season, led the Rockets in the rally. Shaffer bagged a crucial three-pointer and several other key baskets to post 13 points in the game.

However, time was in Berea's favor as they maintained their lead and stretched it out to a 65-58 final tally.

In action against Williamsburg, the Rockets had solid performances by Craig and McClure to post their first win of the journey.

Craig got 27 points and McClure

"Jacob's Staff"
(Cont. from A-5)

while back among them, where the wind would not be so strong. He thought of his hermit's staff lying there with the gifts of kings of Ram in the warmth of the stable, the little child and the beautiful lady and he fell into a peaceful sleep.

When he awoke, he thought it was the bright sunlight of day that had awakened him and he sat up and rubbed the sleep from his eyes. In front of him stood a man clad in a white garment. It looked to be homespun, but glowed with an unearthly light much like that in the stable. The man had a beard and long hair that fell to his shoulders, his eyes were dark and clear and he spoke in a voice that was soft and gentle but full of strength. "Jacob, the child has sent me to you."

As Jacob's eyes got more accustomed to the light, he saw the man carried his hermit's staff. The man spoke again, "The child cannot accept your dog because Ram's loyalty is pledged to you through the love he bears you. This is something that no one can win away from you and even though Ram would do his duty, it would be out of his love for you." There was a movement in the shadows and Ram trotted happily to Jacob's side.

The man raised the staff, it seemed to shine in the light. "The staff he will accept, because it will remind him of his heritage and as the child grows into adulthood, he will be known as the "Good Shepherd." This staff will remind him of the responsibilities of a shepherd to his flock. The gift is well received, Jacob and will be with the man, Jesus through many trials. Go in peace for the love of Jehovah is with you.

The light faded and Jacob and Ram were alone. The dog moved and Jacob felt the warmth of Ram's muzzle against his hand. He bent to stroke the dog and as he did, he noticed his crunch lying against the rock.

Jacob was standing alone on two strong straight feet. He knelt and put his arms around Ram. Tears of joy slipped from his cheeks down into the soft fur. And as he prayed a prayer of thanksgiving, the sun announced the promise of a new day.



Brian Carter puts up a shot for the Rockets against the Pirates in Saturday's championship game of the Berea Invitational.

DECK THE HALLS

We join you in celebrating the joy of giving and the gift of sharing.
A jolly time to all!

Sheriff Shirley Smith, Libby and deputies

Happy Holidays!!

I wish you
 a Merry Christmas
 I wish you a Merry
 Christmas
 Merry Christmas
 Happy Christmas
 I wish you
 a Merry Christmas
 I wish you
 a Merry Christmas
 and a Happy
 New Year

May your holiday reflect all the joy you've given us.

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Sing we joyous all together,
Heedless of the wind and weather,
Fa la la la la la la la...*
- Traditional Welsh Carol

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Bulletin Board

Charity Ball/Auction

The 2nd Annual New Year's Eve Charity Ball and Auction 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. Dec. 31. Live music by "Borderline" - hors d'oeuvres - door prizes. Ticket sale has been extended to Thursday, Dec. 24. See my Kreamer or call 256-2038 or 256-2012.

The regular meeting for this week will be Wednesday noon at Rockcastle Steakhouse. All members are strongly encouraged to attend.

Circuit Clerk's Exam

The test required by the Kentucky Constitution Section 100 and the Supreme Court Rule 1.060 will be administered on Sat., Jan. 16, 1993 at Kentucky State University, Student Center Ballroom, Frankfort. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the test will begin at 9 a.m.

Get Your GED!

For more information call CAP Adult Learning Center at 256-5307.

Offices Closed

The Rockcastle County Extension Office will be closed for the holidays from Friday, Dec. 25 through Friday, Jan. 1, 1993. We will re-open on Monday, Jan. 4. Happy holidays!!!

The Rockcastle County ASCS Office will be closing at noon on Thursday, Dec. 24. The office will re-open Monday, Dec. 28 at 7:30 a.m.

The County Clerk's office will be closing at noon Dec. 24 and will remain closed Friday the 25th.

The Circuit Clerk's office will be closed Thursday, Dec. 24, Friday, Dec. 25 and Saturday, Dec. 26.

The Road Test, CDL Test and Permit Test will not be given on Friday, Dec. 25. The Circuit Clerk's office will be closed Thursday, Dec. 31, Friday, Jan. 1 and Sat., Jan. 2.

The Road Test, CDL Test and Permit Test will not be given on Friday, Jan. 1.

Mrs. Brown retires from local library after 30 years

The Rockcastle County Library Board and Staff want to compliment and thank Verla for the hard work and the dependable and cooperative service she has given to the library. She has worked for the library for more than thirty years and has given many hours of dedicated and loyal service to the library and to the patrons.

Verla worked with Mrs. Davis all the years that the library was in the basement of the Mt. Vernon Hotel. The library consisted of three small rooms and being close to the railroad, it was a constant battle to keep the cinders and dust off the shelves and books.

Before the library was moved to the present location, Verla, Mrs. Davis and other staff members painted almost all the shelves, tables, desks and chairs so that they might look nice in the new building. The move itself consisted of many long, hard hours and Verla helped with it all.

Not only was Verla a great lady to work with the public, but she has done an excellent job of covering and

(Cont. to B2)



Verla Brown

Colson Honored



Clay Colson, of Rockcastle County, was honored with a plaque by Oran Little, Dean of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, for his two years of service as Director of the UK College of Agriculture Alumni and President of the Wilderness Trail Area Alumni Association. The Wilderness Trail Alumni Association are College of Agriculture graduates from an eight-county area. Graduates support the college through student recruitment, alumni round-ups and area alumni meetings. This fall the alumni raised \$1,200 to be used for freshmen scholarships in the College of Agriculture.

Rockcastle County School System Delay Plan

Occasionally, there are mornings when an additional hour is needed to check bus routes and temperature/weather conditions sometimes can change between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. As a result, the Rockcastle County School System will consider a one hour delay in school opening due to weather conditions.

If a one-hour delay status is warranted, the delay will be announced by the following radio stations: WRVK (AM 1460), WKXO (AM-1500 AND FM 106.7), WVLK (FM-93), and the following television stations: WLEX (Channel 18), WKYT (Channel 27), WTVQ (Channel 36), at 6 a.m. or as soon as possible.

There may be a time when a few isolated bus routes may not be made or may be delayed for an hour while the rest of the bus routes will be made on the regular schedule. These bus routes will be announced only on WRVK radio station.

In instances of a delay schedule, breakfast will be served as soon as students arrive at school.

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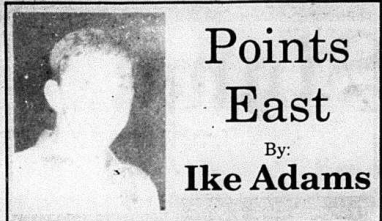
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•Darrell Billings •Jim Lawson

623-9311



Points East

By: Ike Adams

Who, besides myself, is sick of Somali? Don't be embarrassed. Stick up your hands if you're tired of having your favorite television show interrupted because a Marine managed to get off a shot at some bandit on the back of a pick-up truck on the corner of Africa.

"Stay tuned," the networks tell us. "We'll be back in a moment to let you know whether or not we got him! In the meantime, please pay close attention to this fine maker of feminine nappkins who is so considerably bringing this war to your living room."

One would think, if one watches television or reads the big city newspapers these days, that the only thing important in the world today is Somali. And feminine nappkins.

The fact of the matter is that Somali is not the only run down, poverty ridden, little piece of the world where the crooks go around shooting honest people and getting away with it.

It probably is almost as bad in Somali as it is in East Los Angeles, Harlem, Detroit, Miami or downtown Boston when you look at it from particular angles. God knows that Somali has some thugs on the loose and something ought to be done about it; but it's no worse than many places in our own country.

In Somali, just like Boston and New York and Los Angeles and Miami and Washington, D.C., the thugs are running around with AK-47 rifles and cheap pistols shooting people down.

And until the press corps and the

Marines landed in Somali, nobody was doing a *** thing about it. But that's changing in a hurry now. Every time a bandit brandishes a gun, five marines shoot him down and six thousand members of the press corp knock each other trying to get a picture. Every little rinky dink television station and every city newspaper in the country has a reporter and a photographer in Somali right now. The networks and the chain papers have battalions. They're perched on roof tops, squatting in ditches, up in trees, flying around in helicopters or out on the streets and roads putting on make-up and setting up cameras and praying that the shooting will start right in front of them.

For every Somali Warlord; for every Marine or United Nation Troop; there's at least two hungry members of the American Press hoping and trying to get a picture of somebody shooting somebody else. Or there's a print journalist trying to get an exclusive interview with somebody who has just been shot or who has just shot somebody.

That's real news folks. Front page stuff. Stuff that sells and maybe gets in the running for a Pulitzer Prize. And they crave it like junkies crave that ultimate fix. Journalists knock each other about and exchange blows to get in position to get the best coverage of this little non-war. In fact, the very height of aggression in Somali is among the idiots from America who call themselves reporters.

There's not much of a battle at all between the Marines and the insurgents. Just a shot here and there. But for every shot fired, there are journalists who can talk for hours about the smell of burnt powder and describe for you in vivid detail how close they were when the gun was fired.

I'd be willing to bet that the news media is spending more money to cover and broadcast the Somali crap than the Pentagon is spending to send the frogmen up on the beach and the Marines to police things up. I'll bet you a hundred dollars to one that the press will headline how much it's costing our country to fight whatever we're fighting and I'll make the same wager that you'll hear no mention of how much it is costing the media to cover it. Or how much they've raised the advertising rates now that Molly has your attention.

Men and women in the Armed Services don't get paid a lot of money. Press Corp people covering wars get paid well and that's why they keep wishing this little thing would turn into a real battle. They'll deny it to high heaven, but headlines are headlines and that's mostly what all of 'em want.

But ask 'em to move into the inner cities. Ask them to move into Philadelphia and Los Angeles and New York and Boston where more people will get wasted by AK-47s in a single week end than all the casualties they'll be able to find over the next year in Somali and they'll say thanks but no thanks. They might get shot if they have to report on stuff like that. They don't have any Marines to cover their butts in the real world. Besides that, it happens all the time so why should we think it news?

Honest people in the inner cities, even in Lexington and Louisville, Kentucky, where hoodlums shoot them every night, don't have the Marines to come in and blow away the thugs. But heck, we have police to arrest the bad guys here and a justice system to deal out harsh punishment.

Right? Who needs the Army to come in and start screwing things up?

In the meantime some French soldier runs over two Somali bandits with a jeep and it makes headlines on the front page of our big city papers along with a color photograph.

Recusers, after five days of frantic, around-the-clock effort, finally reached the bodies of seven dead men in a Virginia coal mine open on the Kentucky line and that was worth mentioning on the front page of Section B the same day.

You have to move to Somali folks, if you want some real protection, and then you'll also make the news around the clock. Right there on the front page where you can help sell papers and sleep at night.

"Mrs. Brown retires"
(Cont. from B1)

preparing new books for circulation, as well as mending old and worn out books.

Her many friends will miss seeing her at the library but the Library Board, staff and patrons are hoping that she will enjoy having more time at home to do the many things that she likes to do.

Have a safe and Happy Holiday!

SPECIAL OFFER

Collectors, History Buffs and Coin Collectors:

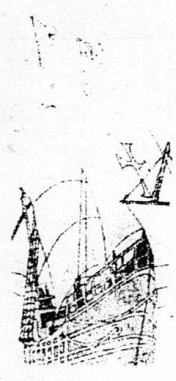
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Season's Greetings



Seated from left: Judy Ford and Clarissa Hodge. Back row from left: Roy Adams, David Henderson, Sam Ford and Danny Ford.

To old friends and new, we wish all the joy, warmth, and wonder that Christmas has to offer

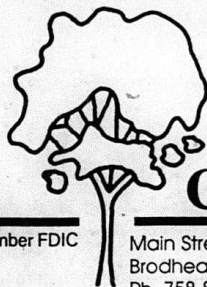
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Protective Parenting

By: Glany Gilpatrick

Driving a couple of pre-teens to the dance the other night, I listened to their back seat conversation about what they were getting for Christmas. When I asked them how they knew, they replied with the familiar story that they had found their presents behind their mother's clothes in the closet and opened the bags and looked in. Furthermore they said their mother knew they would find them and always kept them in the same "hiding" place.

This game has been going on in households probably as long as there have been children and gift-giving occasions. But I know when I was a kid the norm was to not peek at your Christmas presents. I remember the endless little girl conversations with my friends about what we hoped to get, and what we thought surely our parents had spirited into the house, even to the point of imagining the whining of a puppy which we were sure was hidden in the basement! The anticipation was almost as much fun

as Christmas morning, itself... and even when my daddy carried me down to see the tree lit and all the gifts displayed at that climactic moment, I would squinch my eyes shut as tight as I could to prolong that delicious, tantalizing feeling as long as possible.

Just as the childish side of the game is to search and discover the presents, the parents' side is to do an effective job of hiding. Going to the lengths of stashing presents with a neighbor or locking them in the trunk of the car gets the message across that delaying gratification can be fun, and that you consider it important. Gifts are presumably bought with love for your child in mind, and you and your children deserve that moment when you hand them the gift and are rewarded by their joy and surprise at receiving it. The word "gift" is a form of the verb, "to give." When it is taken, it is not given.

So what? the child gets it one way or the other; what difference does it

make whether it is taken or given? It makes a big difference if you think of taking and giving as basic attitudes toward life that are developed in childhood. The taker grows up seeing the world as owing him, and the giver grows up seeing the world as needing and loving him. Good self-esteem grows out of this concept; the child learns to be happy and content living inside his own skin as long as he is confident that he has something to share.

When I talked with my blossoming daughters some years ago about the value of saving sex for their marriage relationship I told them that casual sex was a little like peeking at their Christmas presents... it spoiled the magic moment of the consummation of marriage. Years later they each told me that they remembered that analogy and it had made them stop and think many times. It was a meaningful analogy to them because they

had been raised with the understanding that the best things are worth waiting for.

So I suggest that anticipation be kept and encouraged during childhood. When we teach our children patience they learn hope. That most blessed of all gifts was foretold by the sages years before its coming, and the star of Bethlehem only hinted at the preciousness of the gift on which it shone. Hopeful anticipation is rooted in the genesis of Christmas tradition.

KET airs opera

Can a country bumpkin win the heart of a pretty girl?

"L'Elisir d'Amore," the newest offering in the Metropolitan Opera Presents series, answers with a melodic "yes" -- provided he uses the aid of a magic potion. It airs on KET at 8 p.m. Wed., Dec. 23.

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Robinson completes Marine Corps recruit training

Marine Pvt. Teresa E. Robinson, daughter of Reecie E. Cummins of Route 3, Brodhead, KY, recently completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC.

During the training cycle, recruits are introduced to typical daily routine and study personal and professional standards traditionally exhibited by Marines.

In addition to an active physical conditioning program, close-order drill, first aid, teamwork and self-discipline are also included in the training cycle.

She joined the Marine Corps in July 1992.

LAST MINUTE GIFT IDEAS

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Dairy farmers should plan now for mastitis control program

Dairy farmers need to be sure they have a good mastitis control program in place, and they need to do it now. The rules are changing, said Bill Crist, Extension dairy specialist with the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture. Dairy farmers who don't change with the rules will find their pocketbooks shrinking from lost income.

"The limit on somatic cells in bulk tank milk will be reduced from one million to 750,000 cells per milliliter on July 1," Crist said. "However, producers who have a somatic cell count of over 300,000 in their bulk tank milk need to take steps immediately to reduce it below 200,000 and then keep it there for maximum profit."

High levels of somatic cells, sometimes called leukocytes, are caused by a type of sub-clinical mastitis that shows no visible signs, Crist said.

Producers must start their mastitis control program now to meet those July guidelines.

What's the rush?

Renfro Valley Shell offers more than gasoline

By: Susan Mitchell

The ribbon has been cut and the doors are open! Renfro Valley Shell Curry Express Mart which actually opened its newly remodeled store November 13, 1992 celebrated its ribbon cutting ceremony Tuesday, December 15, Mayor Gary Cromer, Shell Oil's Account Manager Joe Wheeler and Curry Oil Company President Joe Curry cut the ribbon that opened Curry Oil Company's newest store.

Curry Oil Company (COC), who owns and/or leases 19 gasoline/convenience stores from Berea to Corbin and Barbourville to Manchester, received Shell's 1992 Customer Care Award. This award is the highest given by Shell Oil to any Shell Jobber. The criteria for winning includes participation in the You Make the Difference program as well as other activities in which the Shell jobber participates. For example, last year's Manager of the Year went on an all expense paid cruise compliments of COC. Employees of COC also participate in local fundraisers. This year COC placed 1st in the American Heart Association Walkathon (with nearly three times the donations of the next competitor), 3rd in the March of Dimes Walkathon and held a Jail & Bail at a London Shell store for the American Cancer Society. This year COC has combined forces with Cumberland Valley National Bank and Brooks Buick in London to create the Circle of Excellence program for Laurel County students. The program rewards students for high academic achievement and goal setting by giving qualifiers the opportunity to win, among other things, a 1992 Pontiac Sunbird, a \$1,000 savings bond and a year's supply of Shell gasoline. COC has also enhanced Laurel County's driver's education curriculum by supplying each of the students in both high schools with nine volumes of the Shell Answer Book.

COC also had Shell's Employee of the Year in 1991. Chesler Taylor of London received this award which is the highest any employee can receive.

The Renfro Valley Shell Curry Express Mart (all gasoline stations/convenience stores managed by COC are called Curry Express Marts) will also be run by award winning people. Teresa Smith the Food Sales Development Representative was COC's 1992 Manager of the Year. Bruce Begley was 1992's Employee of the Year from the Expressway Shell location in London. Danny Smith, the manager, is also currently managing the Expressway Shell Curry Express Mart in London.

The Renfro Valley Shell Curry Express Mart will offer a deli menu of sandwiches, subs and chicken. Also available through the deli are party and sandwich trays. For more information on what is available call 256-4243.

The company will provide both depot and on-site maintenance services, as well as full Novell network support. The company also offers a full line of computer supplies and related products. Anyone interested in inquiring about CompuNet America's services should contact Bud Stuber, Paul Felner, or Chris Deaton at 606-864-3800.

Please drive carefully and watch out for our children!

Two reasons, Crist said. "First, somatic cell count cannot be reduced in a short period of time," he said. "It will take several months in

most herds."

He added, "Second, subclinical mastitis reduces milk production and thereby costs a dairy farmer money. Mastitis can easily cost a dairy producer \$100 per cow per year."

Crist added that the new regulations don't indicate that the consumer's

milk supply now is unsafe. They are to improve an already high-quality product, he said.

Why does it take so long to lower the somatic cell count in a dairy herd?

Crist said a producer can, and should, improve his practices to prevent new cases of mastitis. However,

preventing new cases doesn't help the cases already in the herd. Those cases have to be eliminated by treating cows at the time they turn dry or by culling low producers, Crist said.

Since cows are dried off throughout the year in most herds and all cows with chronic mastitis cannot be

culled immediately, it takes time to reduce the number of cases in a herd and thereby reduce the somatic cell count.

Dairy farmers who don't take steps now to comply with the coming regulations may find it difficult to sell their milk in July.

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WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**Bill
Carolyn
Tim
Jeff**

PEACE & JOY



As we celebrate the birth of our saviour, I and my deputies wish each and everyone a very happy holiday season. May you have peace, joy and happiness now and in the coming year.

Merry Christmas from County Clerk Norma Houk and deputies Janet Burdine, Thelma Adams, Sheryl Bullock, Tina Gibbs and Sonya Robinson.

December 24th

Getting Ready for the Big Night Ahead!

May all your holiday memories be cherished.

Merry Christmas and thanks

from Jerry Sparks and all the employees at

MT. VERNON FOODTOWN

We will close at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve and be closed all Christmas day

Year-End Bonanza Sale

 <p>93 FORD MUSTANG LX Auto, Air, Loaded, Low Miles, Like New!! \$22900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 DODGE SPIRIT 4 Dr., Auto, A/C, Low Miles, \$AVE \$18900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 FORD CROWN VICTORIA 4 Dr., Auto, Loaded, Only 3200 Miles \$22900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 FORD ESCORT LX WAGON Auto, Air, Loaded, Like New, 17,000 Miles \$17900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>93 FORD MUSTANG GT Auto, Loaded, 5.0 V8, One Owner, 9,300 miles \$27900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 FORD MUSTANG LX Convertible, Loaded, V8 Only 11,000 Miles! \$27900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 FORD TAURUS 4 Dr., LX Absolutely Loaded, Like New, 21,000 Miles! \$23900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 FORD TAURUS G/L 4 Dr., Loaded, Air Bag, One Owner, 19,000 Miles \$23900 per mo.*</p>
 <p>92 FORD TEMPO 4 DR. G/L Auto, A/C, Like New, One Owner, 14,000 Miles \$16900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 FORD THUNDERBIRD LX 2 Dr., Auto, A/C, Loaded, 20,000 Miles \$26900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 MERCURY SABLE L/S 2 Dr., Auto, A/C, Loaded, 19,000 Miles \$26900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 MERCURY SABLE 4 DR. G/S Loaded with options, one owner, 17,000 miles \$22900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>91 ESCORT LX WAGON Auto, Air, Red, One Owner, Sharp! \$13900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>91 FORD PROBE GL 2 Dr., Auto, A/C, One Owner, 16,000 Miles \$19900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>91 MUSTANG G/T V8, Auto, A/C, One Owner, 32,000 Miles \$21500 per mo.*</p>	 <p>91 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL 4 Dr., Loaded, Leather, Like New, 29,000 Miles SAVE</p>
 <p>91 MERCURY SABLE G/S 4 Dr. Auto, Sharp! Like New, 24,000 Miles \$19900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>91 MERCURY TOPAZ 4 Dr., Auto, A/C, Loaded, 21,000 Miles \$16900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>91 TOYOTA CELICA GT Auto, Sunroof, Loaded, 38,000 Miles \$22900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>90 FORD TAURUS WAGON Auto, A/C, Sharp and Room for your Family \$14900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>90 MERCURY GRAN MARQUIS 4 Dr., Loaded, Like New, 33,000 Miles \$21300 per mo.*</p>	 <p>90 MITSUBISHI GALANT 4 Dr., Auto., Loaded, Like New, Low Miles \$15900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>90 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX 4 Dr., Auto, A/C, Loaded, 31,000 Miles \$18900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>90 PONTIAC GRAND AM LE 2 Dr., Auto, A/C, Loaded, 40,000 Miles As Low As \$16900 per mo.*</p>
 <p>89 MERCURY SABLE Auto, A/C, Loaded, 4 Dr., Nice Car! \$18900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>88 LINCOLN TOWN CAR 4 Dr., Loaded, A Super Nice Car \$18900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>88 MERCURY COUGAR LS 2 Dr., Auto, V8, Loaded, Nice Car! \$16900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>88 CHEVROLET CORSICA 4 Dr., LT, Auto, Loaded, Runs Great Delivered \$3,97000</p>	 <p>86 MERCURY GRAN MARQUIS 4 Dr., Auto, A/C, Looks Good, Runs Great! Del. \$3,25000</p>	 <p>93 FORD RANGER XLT V6, Auto, Loaded, Better Than New, 687 Miles \$26900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 CHEVY S-10 X-CAB V6, Auto, A/C, Tahoe, Loaded, 5,400 Miles \$22900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>92 DODGE DAKOTA V6, Auto, A/C, Like New, 16,000 Miles \$21900 per mo.*</p>
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 <p>91 FORD F-150 SUPER CAB Auto, A/C, XLT, One Owner, 31,000 Miles SAVE THOUSANDS!!</p>	 <p>91 GMC SIERRA SLE 350 V8, Auto, A/C, One Owner, 21,000 Miles SEE TO BELIEVE!!</p>	 <p>91 MAZDA MPV Absolutely Loaded, One Owner, Dual A/C, Sharp! \$26900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>90 FORD F-150 XL Long Bed, V8, Auto, One Owner, 19,000 Miles. COME LOOK AT THIS ONE!!</p>	 <p>90 FORD F-150 XLT LARIAT Auto, A/C, Long Bed, One Owner, Only 35,000 Miles Like New!!</p>	 <p>90 GMC 1/2 TON LONG BED V8, Auto, SLE Pkg., Like New, Only 19,000 Miles SAVE SAVE</p>	 <p>90 GMC 1/2 TON 271 4X4 350 V8, Auto, SLE Pkg., Sportside Bed. See to Believe Sharpest Anywhere!!</p>	 <p>90 ISUZU TROOPER 4X4 4 Dr., 6 Cyl., Auto, A/C, XS Pkg., Only 29,000 Miles \$23900 per mo.*</p>
 <p>89 FORD F-150 LONG BED XLT Lariat, V8, Auto, One Owner, Only 22,000 Miles Looks Like New!!</p>	 <p>89 FORD RANGER One Owner, 68,000 Miles! Nice Little Truck \$9900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>89 GMC X-CAB LONG BED 350V8, Auto, AC, SLE, Loaded, One Owner, 40,000 miles. \$23900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>NEW 93 FORD TEMPO GL 2 Dr., AC, LL Group, Dual Elec. Mirrors, Tilt Wheel, Rear Def., Floor Mats, Power Door Locks, AM/FM Stereo Cass., Cass. AL, Wheels, Auto Trans., Speed Control & More. Stk. #3015 \$18900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>NEW 93 FORD RANGER 4X2 106" Wheel Base, AC, XL Trim, Step Bumper, P195 Steel radial Tires, Power Steering, AM/FM Stereo, Super Engine Cooling plus More! \$18900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>NEW 92 FORD CONV. VAN E150, Hi Top, 5.0 V8 Eng., Auto Trans, Trailer Towing Pkg., Cleared Pairs, Front & Rear AC & Heat, AM/FM Stereo Cass., Tilt Wheel, Cruise Control, Driver's Air Bag, Color TV & VCR, Elec. Mirrors, AL Wheels, 35 gal. tank & More St. #12222 \$33900 per mo.**</p>	 <p>NEW FORD EXPLORER SPORT 4x4, Sport Trim, AC, Power W & L, Auto Trans, LUG Rack, P235 All Terrain Tires, JBL AM/FM Cass., Tilt Wheel, Cruise Control, Sun Roof, Cap. Chairs & More Stk. #12248 \$28900 per mo.**</p>	
 <p>87 FORD AEROSTAR VAN 6 Cyl., Auto, Conversion Pkg., Local Trade, Nice Van \$17900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>84 TOYOTA LE VAN Auto, Dual Air & Heat, Ice Maker, Dual Sunroofs, A Super Nice Van!! \$12900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>NEW 93 F-150 STYLESIDE 133" w/base, XL Trim, 4.9 6 Cyl., Eng., 5 Speed Trans., P215 75 R 15 Tires, 2.73 Axle, Step Bumper, Vinyl Bench Seat plus more \$21900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>NEW 92 TAURUS WAGON V6 Clearcoat Paint, AC, Rear Window Def., 3.0 V8 Eng., Auto Trans, Rear Facing Third Seat, Speed Control, Driver's Side Air Bag, Cloth Int., Plus More \$26900 per mo.*</p>	 <p>NEW 92 FORD CONV. VAN E105, 5.0 V8 Eng., Auto Trans, Trailer Towing Pkg., Power Mirrors, AM/FM Stereo Cass., AL Wheels, Dual Heat & AC, Color TV & VCR, Tilt & Cruise, Driver's Side Air Bag & More Stk. #12278 \$29900 per mo.**</p>	<p>*Up to 60 months Financing @ 8.50% for qualified buyers, \$1,000 equity or trade plus tax and license. Payments slightly higher with less down.</p>		

NO PAYMENT TIL MARCH 26, 1993

Madison County's Top Volume Ford Dealer for 1992

SALES: **Larry VanHilde David Gertzel**
BEREA
(606) 986-8451
Toll Free 1-800-882-3752



SALES: **Russell Thomas Bobby Allen SALES MAN: Duwayne Braggs**
BEREA
(606) 986-8451
Toll Free 1-800-882-3752

SALE HOURS:
DAILY 9 til 7 p.m.
SUNDAY 1 p.m. til 6 p.m.

Mount Vernon Signal

Third Section

Thursday, December 24, 1992



Chance Potter (freshman) and Chris Dillingham (junior) were named to the Lake Cumberland Academic League All-Conference JV and Varsity teams, respectively.

Early retirement affects Social Security benefits

"Will my Social Security checks be less if I retire before I'm old enough for Social Security?" According to Gerry Hunt, Social Security manager in Richmond, that question is asked more and more nowadays. "For years, there has been a trend toward early retirement," Hunt said, "with some people leaving their careers even in their 50s." "Generally, the answer is 'yes,' your benefit will be less if you take early retirement."

Hunt explained that a Social Security retirement benefit, which is first payable at age 62, is based on a worker's average monthly wage figured over his or her highest 35 years of earnings. (35 years is used for anyone born after 1928. Fewer years are used for people born in 1928 or earlier.) By retiring early, a person is giving up several years of work that would normally have been among the highest earning years. Because those years of high earnings won't be a factor in Social Security's retirement benefit formula, the person's overall average earnings will be less, thus the Social Security benefit will be less than it could have been.

Hunt provided this example to illustrate his point. "Bill Smith was born in 1936. He will not be eligible for Social Security benefits until he's 62 in 1998. But he retired from his job at the local electric company this year at age 56. Like most people, Bill made progressively more and more money each year he worked. So his highest 35 years of earnings were his last 35 years of earning - from 1957 through 1992. If Bill had continued to work until he was 62 in 1998, we would have used the years 1963 through 1998 to figure his average earnings. That means we could have factored in his relatively high earnings between 1992 and 1998 and factored out his low earnings be-

tween 1957 and 1963. In other words, had he kept working, his average earnings would have been higher so his Social Security benefit would have been higher."

"Of course," Hunt added, "everybody has to decide what's in their own best interest and ask what's more important: a few extra years of retirement or a higher Social Security check."

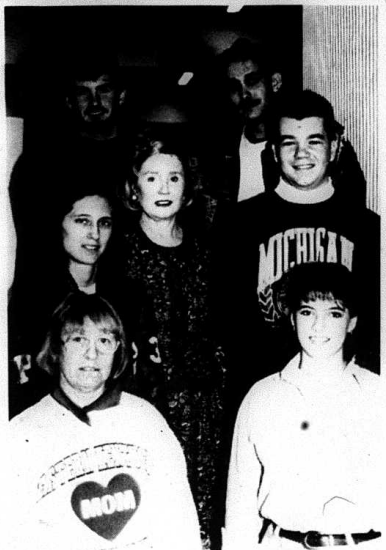
Workers can get an estimate of what their retirement benefits will be by calling Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 business days between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and asking for a Personal Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statement.

Homestead exemption increases

Revenue Cabinet Secretary Kim Burne announced today that the 1992 and 1993 homestead and disability property tax exemption increased to \$21,800 from \$20,300 for 1990 and 1991. The exemption, authorized by a 1971 Constitutional Amendment, reduces the taxable value of residences owned by Kentuckians aged 65 and over or disabled.

Burne said the Revenue Cabinet is required by law to recalculate the exemption each two years based upon changes in the U.S. Department of Labor consumer price index. The original exemption was \$6,500.

Taxpayers eligible for the homestead exemption must file a one time application with the county Property Valuation Administrator during the year in which they become 65. Disability applicants must file annually and must be disabled for the entire year.



Eastern Kentucky University's Destination Graduation Tutoring Program is serving the Rockcastle County School System for a fifth year. Pictured here are EKU/Rockcastle County students who are working as tutors in the Destination Graduation at EKU: Hilda Hampton, Jennifer Blevins, Kim Stacey, Nancy Thames, Director/Destination Graduation, Joe Ferguson, Chris Frith and Danny McNew. Not pictured are Destination Graduation tutors: Traci Bullens, Angie Bussell, Joyce Cutmins, Regina Jett, Stacy Moore, Imogene Owens and Angie Ponder. For Spring semester, Destination Graduation at EKU is currently recruiting additional tutors. EKU students who are second semester/freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors with a 2.5 GPA or higher are eligible to work as paid math and English tutors at Rockcastle County High School. Please contact Nancy Thames at 622-6505 for more information, or write: Nancy Thames, College of Education, Combs 423, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY, 40475.

Forest Stewardship program #1 in southeast

Kentucky's Forest Stewardship Program is Number 1 among the 14 states in the southeast region.

The Kentucky Division of Forestry, from Oct. 1, 1991, through Sept. 30, 1992, prepared 895 stewardship plans. These plans placed 90,345 acres of forestland under supervised management in the national program that has been adopted here in Kentucky.

The forest stewardship Program is designed to encourage landowners to manage their property for environmental as well as economic benefits.

The state's program is headed by the Division of Forestry and enlists the assistance of the USDA Soil Conservation Service, Kentucky

Division of Conservation, and Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources in providing technical assistance to landowners.

Additional information concerning the Forest Stewardship Program can be obtained by writing the Kentucky Division of Forestry, 627 Comanche trail, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Just a Reminder!

The City of Mt. Vernon residents need to have their house numbers on their house by Jan. 1, 1993 according to the Ordinance passed by city council. There is a fine attached to the Ordinance for those residents that do not have their house numbers up.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

Our thanks for the many kindnesses you've shown us through the year. We join with you in praying for a world filled with peace and joy.

Young's Pharmacy
Main St. Mt. Vernon Ph. 256-4613

Joe, Gordon, Tim, Trish, Christine, Mary, Rita, Carol, Don & Shirley

Merry Christmas

Thoughts of Christmas kindness go out to all our friends along with our thanks for the good will and support you've shown us!

from Marvin Mink and all the employees at
TOWN & COUNTRY CHEVRON

AAA Auto Club Memberships sold here

Macedonia Baptist Church

Founded in 1896, the records of the Macedonia Baptist Church go back to 1902, and the present building was dedicated November 23, 1902.

The congregation's first minister was J.W. Lambert, according to the present minister, the Rev. Carl Denton Sears.

Sears, originally from Berea, came out of retirement to lead the church,

which is in Rockcastle County on Scaffold Cane Road.

He is now in his fourth year at the church.

"My entire ministry of 40 years has been in Berea," he said, noting that he served three different churches in the Berea area.

The building was enlarged in 1949 and more recently has seen improvements, including a paved parking lot

and renovations to the building, including a new heating system.

The church is a member of the Rockcastle Baptist Association.

Sears says his is a small congregation because many former members have moved or grown too old to go to church.

"We just have weekend services — we don't have the other (services) our congregation is very small," he said. "It's just an ordinary rural church — we have Sunday School and regular church services and occasionally we have a gospel singing."

The church does some community outreach for people who cannot attend church.

"We minister to the sick and visit hospitals and nursing homes and do things like that," he said.

Many members have attended the church from generation to generation, according to Sears, who said many people are descendants of original members.

"My father ministered here back in the early 40s — my father was a minister," Sears said. "I attended here when I was a child and the building was full to the top and my father was the minister."

Sears says he has a lot of memories of the church, which currently has about 100 members on the rolls. "We have a very small attendance," he said. "Some are not able, and some have moved."

The small church suits Sears, who retired from a larger congregation due to a heart condition.

"We don't have but just a very few coming now but we're picking up along," he said.

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. with the morning worship at 11 a.m. Evening



The First Baptist Church Mount Vernon cordially invites you to CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 5:00 P.M.

Join us as we celebrate the birthday of Jesus in a quiet inspirational service of joy

-Church news-

Special Service

Maple Grove Baptist Church Wednesday night service will be Dec. 31st starting at 8 p.m. with the Bluegrass Liberations and The Doan Family singing.

Seasons Greetings!

Joyful Noise would like to wish all our family and friends a very Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.



ing worship begins at 6 p.m.

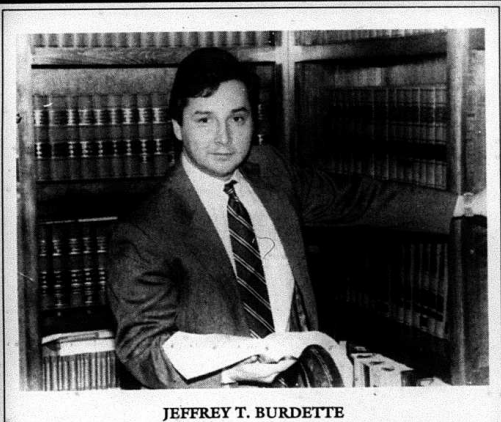
"Our congregation keeps growing slowly and we keep adding a few along in attendance," Sears said.

Sears said the public is invited to all services.

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plain. Merry Christmas and many thanks.

Mt. Vernon Dairy Freeze
Ann, Jim, Linda & staff

Have a safe and happy holiday!



JEFFREY T. BURDETTE

As most of you already know, I am seeking the Republican Party's nomination to the office of county attorney in the upcoming May Republican Primary.

I am a graduate of Rockcastle County High School, Cumberland College of Williamsburg, Kentucky and Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

I am the son of Charlotte Griffith of Mt. Vernon and Tommy H. Burdette of Brodhead, and the grandson of Fannie Holbrook,, the late John H. Holbrook, and the late Jim and Becky Burdette.

One thing I have learned growing up in a Christian family, is that we should never forget the true meaning of Christmas; a celebration of the birth of Christ and the spirit of giving. On behalf of my whole family and office staff, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Paid for by Jeffrey Burdette



Merry Christmas TO ALL!

It's our favorite time of year . . . when we pause to thank our many good friends for their patronage in the past. We look forward to serving you in the future. Have a Merry Christmas.

DeBOARD OIL COMPANY
Johnny, Carol, Jerry, and Jenny DeBoard
Francis Whitehead, Roy Wright and Leo Hayes

Roamin' Rockcastle

BY HILDA PAYNE GABBARD



It's Christmas time again. Peggy Rickett recently said to me, "I wish you would have your 'Reader's Fantasy Christmas Party' this year again as you have in the past."

Law, we haven't a place, nor can find one, to hold all the readers that the Signal and Citizen have. The Citizen alone has 3,742 and the Signal has over 5,000 readers a week.

I could get the gifts alright for the readers as I have at the past parties but where to find a place large enough to hold them all.

Some folks came a long distance to be at the party for if you were a reader, first or second class, my rule was that you were there at the party!

Some people flew in to the nearest airport, most drove their cars a few cars on horseback or walked.

By first or second class reader was meant if you took the paper yourself you were first class, or if it were loaned to you, you were second class.

Some cars got stuck in the snow bank, or folks came in a sled pulled by oxen, anyhow they came.

The Christmas tree was the largest the men could find and dragged to the place on Clear Creek where we had been having the party. Hand made ornaments, bitter red berries, balls of silvery light-ever-lasting plants were some of the decorations.

I miss all the excitement and the giving of gifts to the readers.

I think the last year we had a Fantasy Skating Party on the Clear Creek ice and bank to sit on. A big fire was built and barrels of hay put around for the women to sit on. Everybody tried their hand at skating.

The gifts were make believe as was the party. Clyde Linville got a sled to haul the dog food for his many hounds. Someone came to me later saying "Hilda this all could be really done - it sounds so much fun."

Homer and Valet's Jennings are back from Florida where they've been several months.

I'll declare, a Man who can't stand a little cold weather in Kentucky and rushes off to Florida. I notice they come back in time for Christmas though. Sounds like Homer is getting childish when it comes to presents. So that is where Todd got the broken foot deal.

Homer does say he had an appointment to see his doctor in Lexington during this time.

Could that be for strained eyesight on the bench!!!!

There were two weddings on December 19 that I would like to have attended but both were on the same day, Dec. 19th.

Glen and Sue Cromer, good friends daughter, Kimberly was married to Phillip Singleton.

Brother Bill and Kathy Hammond's daughter, Tonya, married Jeffrey Cromer at the same time. All were in Rockcastle county. I wish these young folks more happiness and good luck for the future. Both brides were very beautiful.

I do like weddings. Remember what a time I had at Sara Anderkin's wedding last fall. John says he's not going to another one with me. I had plans to kiss the groom!

I don't think Brenda Rogers who took Sara's place in the Citizen office, and is now my Boss # 3 will be getting married because she already is to a very handsome man. I can't say too much or she would mess this column up.

An article in the Lexington paper says any kind of weather is liable to happen this winter.

We're going to get a very, cold, snowy winter but they won't say when. "Don't plan a day on it!" says a Weather Service Meteorologist.

It takes Clyde Linville or Steve Bullen to depend on Groundhog Day.

I want to congratulate Nathan and Katherine Clark in Wildie on their 59th Wedding Anniversary on November 30th.

That was a good picture of them in the Signal. You could tell how very proud he was of the pretty woman who became his wife.

In Foodtown Market, I ran into Junior Bryant, who is a brother of George, with a cart of groceries but he didn't say a word about our coming to see him. He asked of John, I told him John was home sick in bed with a deep cold.

Junior said he missed John who would come and talk with him.

Mike French, editor, is going to be pleased when I tell him what a reader in California wrote me about his column - She (Jane Dondanville) said, "I get a kick out of reading Mike

kids. You come home to have some snow in which to play.

I'm so happy to hear of Elnora Gray again and what a 90th birthday party she had. Elnora is a lively person who I am glad to know and have a friend from Broadhead.

This is my last column for the year of 1992, so I won't be able to get the home remedies I promised you until on January 7th 1993.

John and I have been sick for several weeks with a flu like virus so Christmas has slipped up on us. Now I wish all my readers and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in 1993.

I want to congratulate Sally Morris who retired from the Hiatt's 5 and was with David Hale and try to get some from him for her.

10 store recently after working there for 19 years and wish her well. She is probably so in the habit of selling stuff that she may ask her husband to pay for a clean pair of socks or second cup of coffee.

Here I thought Ruth and Phil Catliff were in California visiting his mother for the holidays as that was what I heard. Now I get a card from them saying they are back home in Indiana waiting for all the snow they may have. Phil has their snow blower all ready to go. You folks are like

and this is a good time to look back and consider the accomplishments that have been made this past year. Also our mistakes. In the new year we will be putting into effect the long-range plan that the committee has completed. The library's mission will be to provide access to materials and services to help county residents obtain information that will meet their educational, personal, and professional needs. Special emphasis will be placed on supporting students at academic levels, pre-school through college. Leisure reading and personal information will also be emphasized.

We are always pleased to get your suggestions on books or materials that you would like to see the library purchase. This helps in the selection of materials.

Two new that have been purchased recently are... *Everything She Ever Wanted*; a true story of obsessive

love, murder and betrayal by Ann Rule. Pat Taylor and Tom Allanson found in each other the kind of romantic love that others only dream about. She was a delicate and beautiful southern belle and he was a tall handsome man who could circle her tiny waist with his massive hands. Both came from fine families, bound to the genteel traditions of the Old South and both shared the same hope for their future: to recreate for themselves a plantation where they would

raise and show horses, grow roses, and move with grace and style in the highest social circles of Atlanta. Pat often thought of herself as Scarlett O'Hara; and in Tom she'd finally found her Rhett, a man who adored her and vowed to give her everything she ever wanted. They were courted as Scarlett and Rhett on their wedding day. But scarcely two months later, their perfect world erupted into gunfire, terror, bloodshed, and murder. Their beautiful plantation mysteriously burned to the ground and Tom Allanson stood accused and was convicted of the brutal slaying of his mother and father.

This is the bizarre true story of the (Cont. to C-8)

Library News

By: Geraldine Robbins

'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year'

The Rockcastle County Library will be closing at 4 p.m. Thursday evening, Dec. 24 and will remain closed Friday and Saturday, 25 and 26. We will also close at 4 p.m. Dec. 31 and will be open Saturday, Jan 2, for regular hours. The year 1992 will soon be gone



Away In A Manger

Born the King of Angels, we celebrate His holy birth. God's most precious blessing to us all. Rejoice.

461 By-Pass Auto Parts
Gary Reppert, owner

A Christmas Song of PEACE, LOVE & JOY TO ALL



'Tis the season of mankind's harmony with our Lord, when we celebrate His birth and praise His name. Our thanks to everyone for the many blessings we've received as part of this wonderful community.

Bud, Shirley, Gary & Lewis

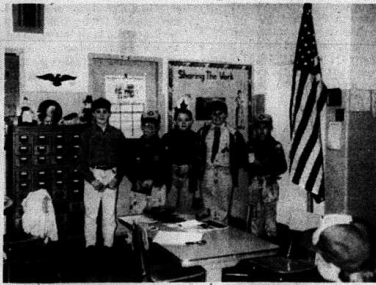


Cox Funeral Home

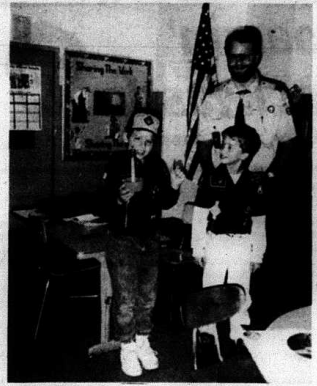
MT. VERNON, KY. — 256-2345



In the picture above, Melinda Akorn, Shaunna Stevens, and John Hammond, students in Ms. Nancy Mullins' freshman English class, enjoy reading books to Jason Smith, Frances Miller, Casey McClure and Louise Hensley who attended preschool classes in a trailer located on the high school campus. In the picture below, Dee Reams, Jeff Miracle, and Dreauna Plumer are reading to Brandon Durham and Billy Himes. The freshmen are now creating their own children's books and will return to read them to the preschoolers.



At the October Roundstone Cub Scout Pack meeting several Scouts received awards. From the first year Webelo den, the boys earned the Showman Badge. Left to right, Josh Singleton, James Thacker, Thomas Coffey, Joshua Lyons and Bryant Reams.



Pictured is Steve Blair and Timothy Tyler with their leader, John Tyler. These boys earned a red bead on their Progress towards Ranks.

BEST WISHES

We're setting our hopes on a Great Christmas Season for all our terrific customers. From head to toe, they're tops with us!

A Cut Above

Terri, Sherry, Dicie, Denise

HAIR STYLIST



Even though Latin is considered a "dead" language there are still many benefits from its study. Above, Jason Goff, Margaret Gibbons, Eric McKinney and Rebecca Blanton model their togas. The teacher Ms. Mary Minor has assisted these students in bringing Latin "to life" through activities, trips and presentations.

RGHS participate in Chemistry Symposium and Science Olympia

Rockcastle County High School participated in the 1992 Chemistry Symposium and Science Olympia held Friday, Nov. 6, on the campus of Cumberland College in Williamsburg.

More than 400 high school students and teachers, representing 24 high schools from across Kentucky and East Tennessee, took part in the day-long event which included exhibitions, seminars and competitions in the fields of chemistry, biology, physics, computer science and geol-

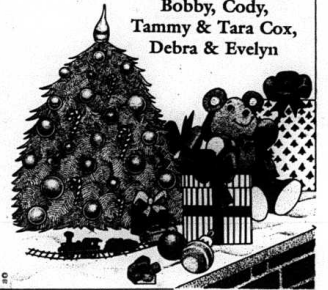
(Cont. to C-6)

Christmas Magic

The greatest gift for us has been getting to know you and your families. Happy holidays.

Cox Florist

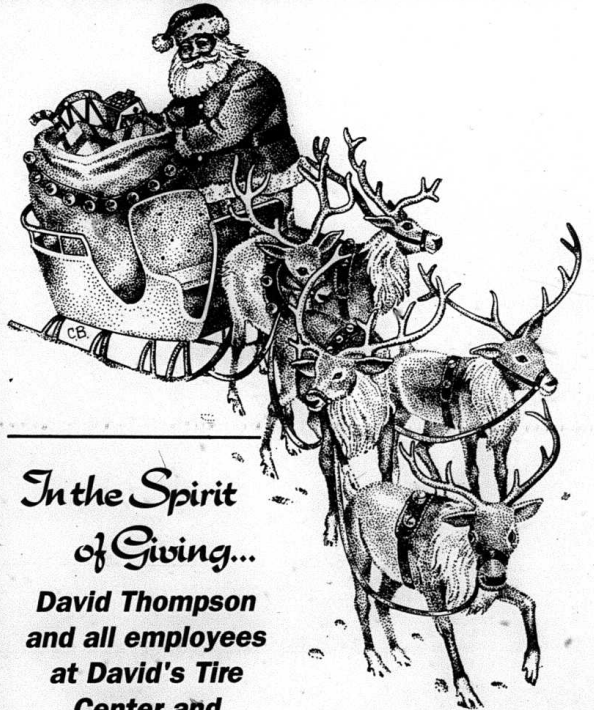
Bobby, Cody, Tammy & Tara Cox, Debra & Evelyn



Season's Greetings

Your friendship means a lot to us. Enjoy a wonderful holiday.

from Circuit Clerk **Denver Miller** & staff



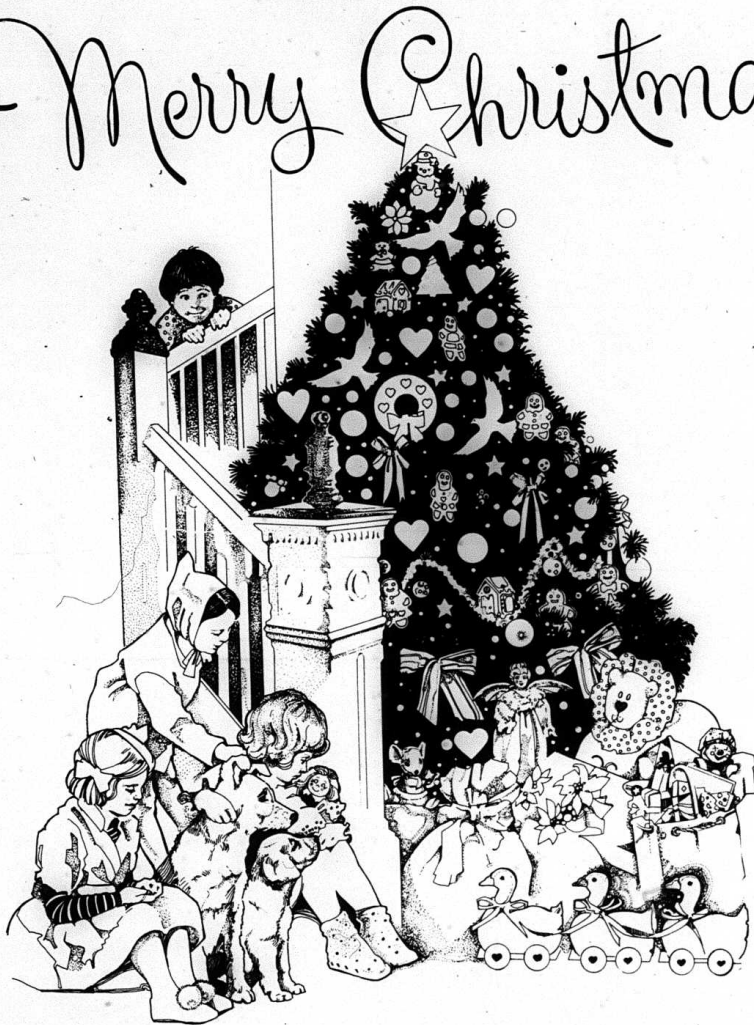
In the Spirit of Giving...

David Thompson and all employees at David's Tire Center and Auto Parts:

Jesse, Wilbur, Mike, Johnny, Cornell and Bartley want to thank everyone for their support in 1992 and hope to serve them through 1993. We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday.

*Danny Settles and all the employees
at Wendy's wish everyone a*

Merry Christmas



And Happy New Year!

May you bask in the season of His love.

To our many friends and valued customers,
we thank you for your patronage.

We will close at 7 p.m. Christmas Eve and be closed all Christmas day.
We will re-open at 6 a.m. on Saturday, December 26th

