

Ralphie, George, Kevin, and the Grinch make for Must See Holiday TV

BY THE ROCKET STAFF

Christmas break is the perfect time to turn off all of the lights, curl up on the couch next to the tree, and watch some of the best (according to the staff) holiday movies and specials around.

Ahh, presents!

A Christmas Story: This fun, loving story about young Ralphie and his quest for a Red Rider BB gun is the perfect family movie. Those of us who have yearned for that one perfect gift can connect with Ralph.

Thwarted at every turn by cries of "You'll shoot your eye out!" Ralphie finally wins the battle. Victory is Ralphie's at last.

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas": He's as cuddly as a cactus, he's as charming as an eel, but he's so great to watch every year! Of course, I am talking about the Grinch in "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

This holiday favorite is shown over and over every year, and it gets better every time. In this story, everyone in Whoville (a tiny world inside a snowflake) loved Christmas a lot, except for the Grinch, who lived just north of Whoville. He did not.

The Grinch hates Christmas so much that he makes a Santa suit, ties an antler to his dog Max's head, hitches him to a sleigh and goes through the town stealing all the things that are Christmas.

Eventually, when Christmas comes without the food, presents, and decorations, the Grinch learns a valuable lesson. Christmas isn't in the store, it's in the heart.

Dr. Seuss created a masterpiece when he wrote this one. I highly recommend "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," and maybe your heart will grow two sizes, too.

Home Alone: A Christmas Classic

Christmas has always been a great subject for movies. Films such as *A Christmas Carol*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and *Miracle on 34th Street* have become classics. But, within recent years, a new movie has been added to that list: the wonderfully funny *Home Alone*.

Who could pass up the cuteness and wise tactics of Macaulay Culkin in this film? From the moment he appears on screen, the movie takes you through a

rollercoaster ride full of laughs and maybe even a few tears. You find yourself rooting for the smart Kevin and even feeling a little sorry for the robbers he outsmarts.

Home Alone is just a great movie and one anybody who needs to get into the Christmas spirit should watch. Sequels have been made that try to live up to the popularity of the first, but they just can't.

Home Alone has become a Christmas classic, and rightly so. I recommend it to all, even Christmas scrooges.

That warm and fuzzy feeling

For many people, Christmas is a time of cheer, hope, and love. For others like *George Bailey*, it's a sad reality of financial difficulty and harsh mistakes.

It's a *Wonderful Life* is a timeless classic that melts our hearts out of those holiday blues. When *George Bailey* felt that he did nothing but wrong to the people who loved him, he attempted to end his life. After being saved by an angel trying to get his wings, *George* takes a glimpse into a world where he was never born.



George travels from depression and suicide to the moment when he scoops his children into his arms and thanks God for his family. It's moments like these in a movie that we hold priceless. The moments where the glitter of money and presents melt away into a neverending ray of love and Christmas cheer.

When we watch this movie, it touches our hearts into believing

that we all have made a positive impact on another's life, no matter how worthless we feel inside. Christmas is not a time to remember past wrongs or what we don't have; it's a time to be grateful for what we do have--each other.

So the next time you hear a bell ring, don't forget that an angel is getting its wings.

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Main Street

Beaten *Black and Blue* by critics

BY LINDSEY PARSONS

Backstreet's back. Alright! After a year and a half between record releases and a long absence from the pop scene, the Backstreet Boys have released their third US album.

Black and Blue hit shelves on November 21 to a frenzy of BSB loyalists and harsh reviews by critics. Entertainment Weekly commented, "...*Black and Blue* merely maintains a holding pattern, recycling their past and doing little to establish a firm future."

Time Weekly said, "If you're willing to accept sentiment in place of emotion, corniness in place of craft, and corporate marketing in place of your own free will, it can be intoxicating."

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Sparks's *The Notebook* captures the heart

BY CARISSA
SETTLER

Curling up to a fire with a book is always a good idea around the holidays. Letting all of your stress go, and relaxing always helps with the tremendous pressure the holidays bring. For this winter, I recommended Nicholas Sparks' *The Notebook*.

The book tells the epic love story of two people meant to be together from the first time their eyes meet. Throughout the book, Sparks unfolds the true love story of Noah Callhoun and Allie Nelson.

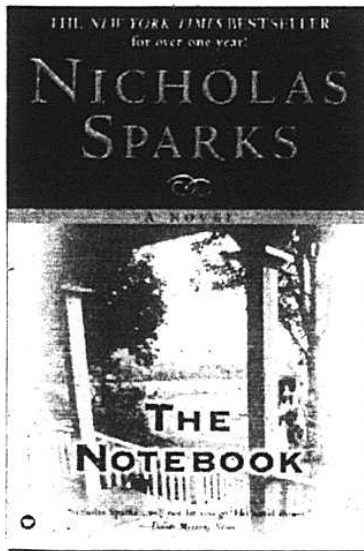
The story begins with Noah sitting by the window of his room in a nursing home. Reflections of the life that he and Allie made for themselves fill in his mind.

When meeting, Noah and Allie spent one summer together and instantly fell in love.

They were then separated. Being on different sides of the tracks was the downfall. With parents who divided them into social classes, Noah and Allie could not be together.

Fourteen years pass. Restoring a plantation home in New Bern, North Carolina through the day, and sharing the most vivid memories of Allie with his hound dog Clem in to the late hours of the night, make Noah's days seem to drag by.

While dealing with the stress of planning a wedding, and fourteen years of memories of that special summer, Allie longs to find Noah one last time.



After arriving, memories from the summer they spent together were brought back to life. Noah had sparked the flame that had yet to burn with the man she intended to marry. One night of romance leads to a lifetime of love for Noah and Allie.

A letter from Noah to Allie explains it all.

When I look at you, I see your beauty and grace and know that you have grown stronger with every life you have lived. And I know I have spent every life before this one searching for you. Not someone like you, but you, for your soul and mine must always come together.

The Notebook is full of words that will capture your heart and hold on tight. True love does exist, and you will find it in Nicholas Sparks' *The Notebook*. I highly recommend this book, and after page one you will see why. It's incredible, and you won't be able to put it down.



Logan's: bigger and better

BY NIKKI WOOD

Dine in restaurants featuring full menus grow more and more popular each day.

Two of the most frequented establishments are Applebee's and Logan's Roadhouse.

Both businesses offer a wide variety of foods catering to almost every taste, but is one restaurant better than the other?

I set out to discover this. First, I dined at Applebee's located on the Richmond bypass.

The prices of entrees ranged from \$5 to even \$12 or \$13. The entree's do not include salad.

I ordered the Nawlins Skillet, a dish consisting of grilled chicken, shrimp, green and red bell peppers, and onions. These are served on a bed of rice with cajun sauce.

I also ordered a cherry Coke to drink.

The server was on the verge of being rude, but she was prompt in bringing the drinks to the table.

The soda normally includes cherries floating in the glass, but

because the bar was out of them, it had none. The drink also tasted somewhat watered down.

I did not have to wait long for the food to arrive, and it was served sizzling hot, but the portions were very small.

It smelled delicious, but as I began to eat, I noticed there were very few pieces of actual meat, and the vegetables were too abundant.

The food did taste excellent, but I left the table still a bit hungry and I wasn't sure I had gotten my \$10 worth.

The following weekend I ate at Logan's Roadhouse at the Hamburg Pavilion in Lexington.

The prices on the menu were higher than those at Applebee's, ranging from about \$6 to \$16 for entrees. However, unlike Applebee's, bread and salad are included with the meal.

I ordered a chicken and sirloin combo platter with rice pilaf and a baked potato. Again, I requested cherry Coke to drink.

The server was kind and mannerly. She brought our drinks right away. The cherry Coke had several cherries in the glass and tasted perfect.

Next, she arrived with a large plate of salad and bread, and before I could finish it, she brought the largest plate of food I had seen in a long time.

The plate held a midsize slice of beef and a huge chicken breast on a mountain of pilaf, on a second plate were large rolls, and on the final plate rested an enormous baked potato.

The food was well prepared and supreme in flavor. The server frequently checked the table, but just enough to be helpful, not annoying. I left the restaurant quite satisfied. This meal cost about \$15.

In the end, although it does cost more, I found that Logan's Roadhouse is a better choice than Applebee's if you are looking for a good meal. Bon appetite!

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HOROSCOPES



Capricorn 12/22-1/19--Cold weather brings cold hearts, or so you think. You're going to have to hold your head high and let the people who are holding you back know that you are going to pull through. Remember, if it's real love it will work itself out.

Aquarius 1/20- 2/18--You've wasted energy trying to fight battles you'll never win. Think positive, you will soon develop new goals and dreams which will help you understand that you shouldn't settle for just okay. Get out and find the best.

Pisces 2/19- 3/20--Wake up. You've seen all the signs what else do you need? Someone to yell at you? The person you have trusted doesn't deserve you or your love. Move on! School work will finally lighten up a bit so hang in there.

Aries 3/21- 4/19--Your love will take you a long way, but not in this case. It will take something a little stronger, such as faith. You have to believe in something before you can expect it to happen. So start believing and things will start looking up.

Taurus 4/20- 5/20--It's time for a change. We all know it's your favorite outfit, but let's try another style. Your relationship is based on trust so when you think that special someone is flirting take a minute and chill out. If you have trust you'll have it made.

Gemini 5/21- 6/20--Your life is becoming stressful and very complicated, but after January 16 things will become a little smoother. Try to be more understanding to other people; it's not always their fault. Take some time with someone who means a lot to you.

Cancer 6/21- 7/22--You've seen those lucky stars and now you hold them in your hands; keep them near because you may never find something so special. Don't keep all your anger bottled up; express yourself and let people know how you feel.

Leo 7/23- 8/22--You always wonder why bad things happen to you. It's because you welcome it in. Next time you sense a bad vibe leave. If you remove yourself from the situation, it won't be like last month.

Libra 9/23- 10/22--Slow down! You have been rushing around for over a month, now it's time to figure out what you want in life and how to get it.

Scorpio 10/23- 11/21--You have given your loved ones a roller coaster ride. Why have you been so moody, Mr. Grinch? Your friends are trying to help and all you are doing is making them wonder why they are wasting their time.

Sagittarius 11/22- 12/21--It's true. You need to grow up and start believing in yourself and others. People all around you are trying to help and let you close to them. Open up and welcome them with open arms. Love has come along way and fallen in your lap. So sit down and have a long conversation with yourself to find out what you want to have happen.

Don't be annoyed...Be annoying!

Students, The Rocket staff has heard your voice. You wanted comedy, and we're delivering. So sit back, and have a good laugh. Then put your new knowledge into practice!

Comical ways to be annoying:

Make appointments for the 32nd of April.

Take a bite of sandwich and then ask, "Wanna see wha in muh mouf?"

Dress only in clothes colored Hunter's Orange.

Leave your turn signal on for fifty miles.

Produce a rental video consisting entirely of FBI warnings.

Change channels five minutes before the end of every show.

Chew on pens that you've borrowed.

At the laundromat, use one dryer for each pair of your socks.

Pay for your dinner with pennies.

Invite lots of people to other people's parties.

Buy large quantities of mint dental floss just to lick the flavor off.

Repeat everything someone says as a question.

Offer nametags to everyone getting on an elevator. Wear your's upside-down.

Stare, grinning at someone for a while, then announce, "I've got new socks on."

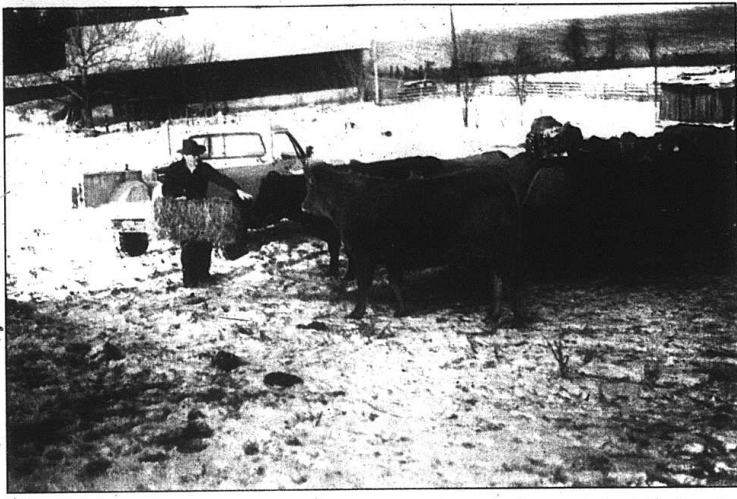
Write the surprise ending to a novel on it's first page.

Mount Vernon Signal

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Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 114 - Number 12 Ph. (606) 256-2244 - 50 a copy - Thursday, December 21, 2000

Rocket Inside



Farmers in Rockcastle County are already digging into their winter supply of feed because of the unusually bad start to winter. On Tuesday morning Doug Brock was feeding his cattle on his Mareburg farm in 12 degree temperatures. School was dismissed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday because of slick roads and on Saturday two inches of rain fell. The low in December has been 9 degrees and high 59.

Hearing scheduled for Friday Lovell may plead guilty to murder

By: Richard Anderkin

A Rockcastle County man is expected to plead guilty on Friday to the shooting death of another local man in 1997.

David Lovell, 33, of Burr will appear in Rockcastle Circuit Court in connection with the murder of Charles "Toddy" Baker, who was found buried 14 feet below the earth's surface at Park Hill in 1999.

Police say that Lovell shot his wife Barbara, 28, shot and killed Baker and then buried his body with a bulldozer. The Lovells have since divorced.

An informant eventually led police to Baker's badly decomposed body in 1999.

Commonwealth Attorney Eddy Montgomery confirmed that Lovell would appear in court on Friday and that he may or not enter a plea.

However he said that is the main reason he has been brought back to the Rockcastle Detention Center and that if Lovell does plead, it will be a plea of guilty to some kind of murder charge.

Montgomery said that he could not say as to the amount of prison time Lovell would get, but that any sentence would likely run concurrently with a federal sentence he received earlier this year for drug charges.

Lovell and several members of his family were indicted and eventually pleaded guilty to drug trafficking involving the sale of cocaine.

In April, Lovell's former wife Barbara, pled guilty to first degree assault in connection with the Baker murder.

She told police that she did shoot Baker, but that he was not dead and her husband shot him again.

Barbara Lovell received a sentence of 10 years, which is running concurrently with her sentence in federal court for drug trafficking.

After Barbara Lovell pled guilty in April, she turned state's evidence against her former husband.

Gov. Patton here Friday

Governor Paul Patton announced last Thursday that Rockcastle County is receiving \$75,000 in county development funds, administered by the Kentucky Department for Local Government, to purchase new equipment for the fire departments, and to renovate the Southside fire house.

Governor Patton said, "The people of Rockcastle County are surely looking forward to beginning this important project, and getting this money to them is a crucial step toward that goal. We're so pleased we could be involved in something that means so much to this community."

Patton will bring the money to the county during a reception at Citizens Bank in Mt. Vernon on Friday at 5 p.m.

County trying to reach agreement for shelter

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court and board members with the Rockcastle County Adoption Agency will meet in January to try and reach an agreement on a county dog pound.

Ms. Vickie Myer met with the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court last week to discuss the agreement, again.

Last August, the court and Terry Lance, also with RAAP, discussed the matter at length and agreed to have a contract between the county and RAAP, but the two parties could not reach agreement on it.

Rockcastle County Attorney Jeff Burdette drew up a contract between the county and RAAP, but the two parties could not reach agreement on it.

Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carlotif offered labor, materials and equipment for the construction of a dog pound in the Roundstone area of the county, but RAAP apparently wanted more and the two parties have been at a standstill ever since.

However Myers told the court that if the two parties could not reach agreement soon, RAAP could lose out on as much as \$65,000 in funding from the state.

The court was sued this summer by the Trixie Foundation, because of the way they handle the animal population in the county.

They were among 60 counties in the state sued by the Foundation an agency, that oversees the care of animals.

Heating assistance available

Kentucky families are bracing for the onset of winter, and for many of them the cost of keeping their homes warm is a pressing concern.

The Cabinet for Families and Children stands ready to help, as do other agencies working under a mandate from Gov. Paul Patton. Concerned over a shortfall in federal heating assistance last winter and alerted by a renewed rise in heating fuel prices, Patton called on state officials last summer to develop a coordinated strategy for addressing home heating needs.

Within that strategy, the Cabinet's principal role is to provide - in partnership with the Kentucky Association for Community Action - limited financial assistance to low-income families who need help meeting their home heating and energy conservation needs.

Funding for home heating aid comes from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). In all 120 Kentucky counties, local Community Action Agencies administer this federal program on the Cabinet's behalf.

Natural gas prices are predicted to crest at rates at least 40 percent higher this winter than last. That prediction

prompted Gov. Patton to ask President Clinton in September for an early release of \$4.7 million out of the \$23.4 million in LIHEAP funds the state expects this winter.

The advance funding came through, and it enabled the Cabinet to increase benefit payments by 24 percent over last year's rates for low-income households that heat with natural gas, propane, fuel oil or kerosene.

By December 8, payments intended to help meet anticipated winter heating costs had gone out to more than 71,000 Kentucky households.

Beginning January 8, LIHEAP shifts to a crisis assistance phase, (Cont. to A10)

the contract. Carlotif said that if the two can reach an agreement, the county will offer work release inmates to work at the animal shelter.

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Boil water advisory

A Boil water advisory is still in effect for some of the customers of the Rockcastle Water Association.

The advisory is for customers who receive their water from the Jackson County Water Reservoir, which is extremely low at this time, according to the association's general manager Randal E. Corry.

Those homes affected are on all side roads of 1912, 2614, 1955, which include the following:

- Louis Northern, Robinson, Rice Hill, J. B. Sexton, Brushy Ridge, Hickory Flat, Road 1797, Carpenter, Drew Valley Lane, Murphy Martin, Charlie Smith, Earnest Smith, Gilbert Shepherd, Ponder, Simon Hill, Singleton, 1104 West, Trace Branch,

Flu Shots

The Rockcastle County Health Department is currently giving flu vaccines to Rockcastle residents.

Because of a recent shipment of medicine, anyone in the county is eligible.

Shots are given Monday through Friday at the health department from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Shots are \$6.00, for those without Medicare Part B or Medicaid. The health department is located on Richmond Street in Mt. Vernon. For more information call 256-2242.

Merry Christmas from our Family to yours!



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Anderkin family. Above, front row, from left: Sara, Aahna, Jason and Caroline Coppy, Brandon and Sean Platt. Second row, from left: Kayla Bryant, Travis, Jim, Perline, Allison Anderkin, Doug and Jane Platt. Back row, from left: Jamie and Rick Bryant, Paige and Spencer Benge, Aaron, Megan, Cindy and Rick Anderkin. The Signal office will be closed December 20 through December 25 for Christmas.

Parade

The annual Livingston Christmas parade will be held on Saturday at 6 p.m. Line-up will begin at White Star Auto Parts at 5:30.

Many stars to play at Renfro Valley

The Renfro Valley Entertainment Center may be under different ownership, but that hasn't changed the number of big name country music stars who will visit the valley in 2001.

Renfro Valley released a partial list of the concert series schedule for 2001 and it brings some of the country's hottest acts to the county. It all starts on March 10 with the Reno Brothers and ends with Loretta Lynn on November 9 and 10.

In between the schedule looks like this: March 17, Irl Ford, March 24, Dr. Ralph Stanley, March 31, Osborne Brothers.

April 7, Sawyer Brown, April 14, The McCamey's, April 26, 27 and 28, Carl Hurley.

May 4, The Inspirations, May 12, Michael Combs.

June 9, Don Williams, June 23, Ray Price, June 30, Oak Ridge Boys, July 5, 6 and 7, Old Joe Clark Bluegrass Festival, July 20, The Kingsmen, July 21, Gene Watson.

August 4, All Night Gospel Sing, August 17, T. Bubba, August 18, August 23, 24 & 25, Statler Brothers.

September 1, John Conlee, September 8, Sammy Kershaw, September 22, Legends Feast Featuring Ralph Emery, Little Jimmy Dickens, Jack Greene and Jeannie Seelye, September 28 and 29, George Jones.

October 5, Connie Smith, October 5, 6 and 7, Appalachian Harvest Festival, October, 6, Mike Snider, October 13, Ricky Van Shelton, Oc-

ttober 18, Jeff and Sherri Easter, October 19, The Isaacs, October 20, Chuckwagon Gang, October 20, The Bishops, October 26, 27 and 28, Fiddlers' Festival, November 1, 2 and 3.



The Oak Ridge Boys will appear in concert in Renfro Valley on June 30.

Renfro executives will be releasing a more complete list in January. For tickets and information call (800) 765-SING.

A Christmas Thank You...



Jeff Burdette, Commonwealth Attorney, Edly Montgomery and members of the Kentucky State Police and of course the Rockcastle County Sheriff's office, I say thanks.

The coroner's office, the fire departments, the funeral homes and the weather station man, I also say thanks. The Rockcastle Hospital, Rockcastle County Ambulance Service, Rockcastle Detention Center, and to all of you people that run those wrecker services - thanks for the help.

To my friends at Renfro Valley and in state government, I appreciate the help. My colleagues at other newspapers and media - thanks for all the help this year.

I'm sure that I have left someone or some agency out - that is of great help to those I say thanks again.

Anyone that has been around me that last couple of weeks, know how I have kind of been bahumbug about Christmas, because of the volume of work that has had to take place - but now that the worst part is over - I didn't really mean those ugly things I said about Christmas.

It is a great time of year to celebrate with family and friends and to reflect on what is really important. I think we all know what that is - we just sometimes forget it.

Instead of worrying about who is getting what - just think of all of the good people and even in this county that don't have much.

Think about the little children and there are a lot of them that are neglected, abused and mentally and physically tortured.

Think about those children who have lost parents to death or jail or drugs or alcohol.

One of the best gifts you can give to someone is a kind word and a smile. I know I don't do that enough - but I am going to work on it.

Because we choose to - we all have to live and work together in this county - it is certainly easier to get along than not.

Enjoy the holidays. P.S. - I am also thankful the Presidential race is over.

I am very thankful this year for a lot of things - I am thankful for the health and happiness of family and friends and as always I, and everyone else here is thankful for the continued support of our fine customers who have advertised with us another year.

Many of our customers are more than just customers, they have come to be very good friends throughout the years and that helps make this crazy business a little easier to deal with.

I know a lot of people advertise in our special publications, when down deep they really don't want to - but they do it anyway. Thank You.

And I personally would like to thank all of the people that make my life a whole lot easier.

The people that I work with on almost a daily basis have to be some of the most cooperative people in the world.

As most of you know, I am very bad about doing things at the last minute and I am very impatient - some call it attention deficit disorder - but I like to think it is just because of how busy I usually stay.

It never ceases to amaze me just how accommodating most people are.

I have worked in situations in other communities where that isn't the case and it makes it very difficult to do your job - but that hasn't ever been the case here.

A special thanks to all of the people at the Rockcastle Courthouse in each of the offices that I deal with on a daily basis and to all of those in the school system and to those in city government.

Also without the help of Doug Brock and Jim and Martha Cox - life would be more difficult.

To Rockcastle County Attorney



Points East

By: Ike Adams

I've had several doctors over the years insist to me that you can't catch a cold or sore throat because you got caught out in the rain and got your head and feet wet. It's purely coincidental they claim and the fact that I happen to be sick has nothing to do with being out in the weather.

Poppycock!

Saturday afternoon during the big rain I got wet as a catfish getting to the car on a shopping excursion to Danville. I came home and fought rising water in my basement for a couple of hours because it was running in faster than the sump pump could put it out and I got my feet wet. We got more than three inches of rain in 65 minutes here on Lowell Branch and that has to be some kind of record. Not only that but we had a thunderstorm as bad as any I've ever seen and certainly the worst I've ever seen in December and I had to run out in the middle of it to make sure the dogs were safe which got me soaked again.

Sunday night I was up going through medicine cabinets looking for any kind of cold medicine and by morning my throat was raw and I was running a fever. The Doctor says that I would have most likely gotten sick if I stayed inside and watched television. And they let this cracker prac-

tic medicine!! This is not the first time that exposure to the elements has led directly to my getting a severe cold and a sore throat. It probably will not be the last. In the meantime, I'm looking for a doctor with some common sense.

So I've laid in bed all day and done my level best to make everyone in the house miserable too. It's either way too hot or way too cold to suit me. The television is too loud and I want to know who has taken up residence in the bathroom. And no, I do not want ribs for supper because I can't even swallow water without it hurting. Chicken soup is greasy and why do they think I need to have ready access to the toilet. If they'd turn Petty Com's Christmas crap down, maybe the dogs would stop howling and a man would get a little peace and quiet.

The seed catalogues are coming in at the rate of three or four a day now and I'm up to about two dozen. I've stared at them through bleary eyes and complained to myself about the prices. Nine dollars for 72 Walla Walla Onion sets and they want you to think you're getting a bargain. I'm going to grow some from seed and see if I can sell them for half that.

Actually, if you want to grow on-

ions from seed is pretty easy but you do need to start thinking about planting them pretty soon. Sow them in a flat with a mixture of half potting soil and half sand and set them on a window sill. Water them with liquid fertilizer and let them grow until the stems get about as thick as a kitchen match and then quit watering them until the ground gets dry enough to work in your garden. It doesn't matter if they look dead because they will take back off when you put them in the garden.

Celery is another vegetable that is easy to grow in the garden. You need to soak celery seed for two weeks in the refrigerator between two very moist pieces of paper towels before

you plant it in seed starter trays. It will take another two weeks to sprout but about the time you give up on it, it will pop right out. It needs to grow in the trays for 30 to 45 days before transplanting into the garden and then all you have to do is keep it hydrated well. If you like celery, there's nothing at the market half as good as home grown.

I feel better already. There's nothing like gardening to take your mind off your aches and pains.

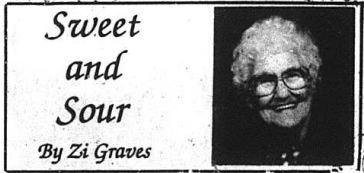
If I wasn't sick and the ground wasn't frozen hard as a rock and it wasn't snowing, I'd run outside and sow some greens right now. I'd even be barefooted. The doctor I went to see today has promised it won't make me any sicker.

closest town to where one lived. Money was scarce in those days but what money one did have went much further than the large paycheck of todays workers. Also, those were the days before "poverty" and "the poor of under-privileged" were considered to be a class of people that needed special attention. By todays standards of living we were all poor so no one paid attention to it. We simply did the best we could with what we had and hoped for a better future.

When I was a youngster, Christmas meant a holiday with all the children participated in the activities and would sit up late the night before Christmas, around the fireplace and wonder out loud what would be in our stockings the next morning. The fireplace took the place of a Christmas tree and the mantel used to hang the stockings on the place for gifts too big to fit in them. Oh yes, we the little ones, did believe Santa Claus was a real person and would come down the chimney before morning

and fill those stockings we had hung on the mantle. I remember the night my little brother, who always liked to stick a pin in the balloons of belief, said very matter of factly, "That aint no such thing as Santa Claus." That woke us up quickly and tears from the little ones brought a quick response from Dad, "Herbert, you will be sorry you said that in the morning when you find nothing but ashes in your stocking. Santa does" like little boys to talk that way. Dad had been peeing apples and shelling chestnuts for the little ones and a bowl of popcorn handy for all who preferred it. Dad using the ashes beneath the grate as a disposal for the hulls and peels, and continued to soas Mom's pretty voice joined in with a burst of song "Jolly Old Saint Nicholas" and other Christmas carols. Belfime came all too soon and before dawn the squirming and whispering in one bed aroused those in the next one and

(Cont. to A3)



Sweet and Sour

By Zi Graves

Christmas Just what does Christmas mean to you? A trip to the shopping mall to join the herds of people fumbling through racks of clothes looking for the correct size or color? A stop at the jewelry counter to drool over the diamond or sapphire ring you hope will be in a special box with a card saying, "To the one I love?" Or could you be at the car dealers looking over the new sports car you are sure will be in the driveway Christmas morning with the keys and your name on the "Merry Christmas card" attached to the steering wheel saying, "Drive carefully. Love, Mom & Dad?" Or you, like many others, may be attracted to the computer department or book stores where your "yearning for learning" takes precedence over the frivolities or trivial things of life. Then there are those who go to the Malls so they can sit on a bench and watch the crowds

go by, or to see the beautiful Christmas tree adorning the island in the center of the mall, or listening to the Christmas Carols being sung by invisible singers. That is my image of the modern day Holiday season. I missed the happiness of children lingering over the candy counter filled with a variety of candy sold by the pound or ounce which could be mixed to suit the taste of the person buying it. These candy counters were familiar in the old five and dime stores. So was the big colored popcorn balls in a machine close by. Now allow me to take you back a few years when Christmas was a time of excitement around the home. That was before Malls were known about in the part of the country I lived in and shopping was done from a Sears and Roebuck, Penney's or Montgomery Ward catalog or five and dime stores in the

Enjoy a safe and happy holiday season.

Teresa S. Jackson, Agent
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Season's Greetings And Many Thanks To All Our Valued Customers

As you and your family enjoy this festive time, please accept our sincere wishes for a holiday filled with dreams come true.

From the Parsons Family and everyone at
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In and Around Mt. Vernon

By Valérie Burton

Mattie Newton and mother, Valérie Burton visited Polly Finney and daughter, Robin in Frankfort recently.

Mrs. Harris Burton was in Richmond Monday.

Bobby Anglin and mother, Lillian Anglin were in Richmond Monday for Ms. Anglin to have surgery on her eye.

Sympathy is extended to all who have lost loved ones recently. May the Lord comfort each one.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris Burton were at Somerset Saturday.

Mattie Newton and mother, Valérie Burton were in Rutledge, Tennessee on Monday to attend the funeral of Ms. Burton's brother-in-law, Troy Roberts. They spent Monday night with Mrs. Roberts.

Mrs. Linda Eaton and mother, Patricia Holland were in Lexington recently.

Mrs. Mark Eaton celebrated her birthday recently. We wish her many

returns of the day.

Mr. Oliver Abney is improving after undergoing surgery recently. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Barbara Anglin and Lillian Anglin were in Berea Thursday for a check up on Lillian's eye.

Angie Eaton of Midway visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Eaton, 11 recently.

Mrs. Linda Eaton and Patricia Holland visited Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Couder of Mooresville Friday evening.

Mattie Newton of Somerset and Dale Pery of Science Hill visited Valérie Burton Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Linda Eaton celebrated her birthday Saturday. We wish her many returns of the day.

Bernice Allen had surgery at Berea Hospital last week. We wish her a speedy recovery.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

on so long and everyone was so tired and disgusted. But, thank God it is over. We all need to keep all our leaders in our prayers.

Attending the Christmas Program at the Light House Baptist Church, Madison County one night last week were Mr. and Mrs. Gillis Gregory, Mrs. Hallie Alexander and Mrs. Irene Alexander. They really enjoyed it.

Among our recent guest were Mr. Cleus Peters on Sunday night.

Due to road conditions my husband and I have missed two weekend services at Sunday School and Church. We really miss not being able to attend.

Well, Christmas time is here again. Another year is nearly gone. God has blessed us in many ways.

I don't understand how some people can celebrate Christmas when they don't even want to mention the name of Jesus or even attend church. After all God gives them every breath they breathe. So to every person that reads this column, I wish for you the best Christmas that you've ever had. Let your heart be filled with love and pray for one another. May God bless you all.

"A Christmas Prayer"

In this most blessed season, May our thoughts unite to share, The glowing inspiration of this special Christmas prayer.

May God grant us wise and loving hearts that each day we may see,

new joys to give, new ways to live, in Peace and Harmony.

"Sweet n' Sour"

(Cont. from A2)

soon we were all quietly sneaking downstairs to get mom and dad up so we could raid our stocking and finally see what the Jolly old Saint had left.

From the top of each stocking a striped candy cane was visible in all but one, Herb's. Mom and Dad, whose bed was close by, was sitting on the side of it watching as Herb reached for his and began searching for the stick of candy and when he didn't find it, emptied the contents on the floor, then, when he saw what was in it, ashes, cold clinkers from the fireplace, dried up orange and apple peels, with tears in his eyes said, I didn't mean it, I just repeated what the boys told me. I really do believe in Santa. Claus for he brought Zi a doll and lsh,

a knife and the baby a rattle. Then Dad silently arose and handed Herbert another stocking filled just like ours. Candy canes, an orange, apple, handful of nuts plus a toy. Each child always got a toy and some kind of game we all played with. And I did get a doll, a kewpie doll that was sitting on the mantel. Soon our cousins began arriving to see what we got and compare them with their loot before we tried out the games of checkers, dominos, etc. Big and little alike had something to play.

Dad was never out of work, usually a twelve hours a day, seven days a week, one, and Mom was a good cook so we never had to worry about Christmas dinner. I certainly remember having turkey, but I cannot do remember the wonderful chicken and dressing, mashed potatoes and candied sweet potatoes, fresh cranberry sauce and all that goes with it, topped off with a stack cake, and apple pies with the tender flaky pie crust only she could make. And nine hungry kids made short work of getting rid of it. We certainly didn't have to worry about leftovers.

Too soon we were teenagers and young married adults beginning their own families but never breaking the ties of family unity when Christmas came. The older ones brought their little ones home where they could share in the fun we had all shared as children. It was then a problem of being sure every one had a gift to open on Christmas morning.

Jobs were still scarce and wages low, but we had learned years before how to make do when the going was rough so we put our small change in our pockets and headed for the five and dime store to do our shopping. Back then the five and dime meant just that, one could do a lot of buying little things like handkerchiefs, socks, knives, toys, kitchen gadgets and small tools with a dime, and there were no taxes to be added. It wasn't big gifts that counted in my family, it was the love given with it.

The habits of childhood carried over into my life on the farm and my first Christmas was also my first disagreement with Mat's way of celebrating it. He didn't understand me when I said I wanted a tree to decorate and sprigs of holly tied with red

ribbon put in all the windows. He had planned on cutting pine-knobs for lighting and firewood for the coming cold weather. I didn't want to open the gifts from my folks and let Judy, my year old baby, play with her toys beneath the tree I had finally talked him into cutting and setting up in the living room which I had decorated with a few left over him Ohio, I won, and I think when he saw the smile on that happy little face as Judy tore open a box with a pretty doll in it, and stared with enchantment at the tree with bright bulbs, and unselstrung over it from top to bottom, he understood why I had wanted to celebrate Christmas the way I had been reared. Then I opened my gifts and talked Mat into opening his before he took off for the kindling pile and we had enough kindling to last till spring.

A few years later, Mat joined the fun of enjoying the Christmas Holidays with his family. Now we had a son, Rodney to add joy to the family gathering at Yalvide. We shopped, as I had when I was young, to simple toys, a ball, toy car or truck for Rod, a doll, tiny dishes for Judy plus books and clothes for both. I remember Judy saying once, Mom we always get in September. How true that was, we had to wait for the tobacco to sell, just before Christmas, before we had the money to buy what was needed in September, such as shoes, pants, socks and school clothes. Yet I never forgot the joy of a toy or game so each child always had one tucked into his/her stocking on Christmas morning along with an orange, apple, banana, colorful Christmas candy and a handful of mixed nuts. And it became a tradition when they were small to always find a little toy with wheels they could race across the floor peeping out the top of their stocking. Even during their college years when they came home for the holidays, often accompanied by friends, they would all find a tiny car or airplane peeping out at them. And laughter was mixed with challenges as each owner of a tiny vehicle with wheels tried to be the winner of the race across the kitchen floor.

We all loved to get Christmas shopping for it was then we had the chance to go to Somerset, our closest town

and also the biggest town in the area. This was before the days of shopping malls so every store had its own identity and the merchandise was not a copy of the merchandise next door.

It was truly a joy to shop from the store of ones choice and know he/she would be taken care of by a competent clerk that would offer assistance to the customer. Then go to another and receive the same attention. Judy and I would take our time to make our choices and while we were doing so Rod would be finished with his, he knew what he wanted and what section of the five and dime it was located in so he would find it quickly, so he and his dad could wander through the rest of the fascinating things one finds in a dime store and would be waiting for us patiently beside the door so we could be home in time to milk and get in the wood before dark.

Then came the big night of wrapping what we had bought. This was usually Christmas Eve after the tree had been decorated and ready for the final touch of, gifts under it. Each person would take his purchases and head for the privacy of his corner in the house. Scissors and tape would be passed from one to the other without thought of peeping at what was being wrapped. Even though we may have been curious, no one wanted to know what it was until it was revealed the next morning. This was our big fun and laughter night we all shared and when Polly joined the family nine years later it was her turn to bring new laughter and fun under the tree Christmas morning, which she did willingly and acted as if she had been a part of it all the time.

Now the reason for this celebration was not forgotten, Jesus was the reason for the season. He was the Son of God and had been born in a manger in Bethlehem to the Virgin Mary with the message of Love. For GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON THAT WHOSEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM WOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE EVER LASTING LIFE.

This will be my last article till after Christmas so I WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HOPE YOU REMEMBER JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON.

Fairview News

By Mrs. Hubert Chastren

Greetings to all. We are having winter time. This is the second snow fall in December this year. Due to road conditions several churches are canceling services and schools are closing. But after all this winter time and we can't expect anything else.

Services were conducted at Fairview as usual. We are thankful to have Bro. Albert Gene Griffin as our Interim Pastor as we are still without a pastor at this time. Attendance was good Sunday morning and also for

the Christmas Program Sunday night. Sunday School attendance was 92. Let us never forget how good the Lord is to all of us.

Our community was deeply saddened in the death of one of our members recently, Edgar Anderkin whom we all loved and respected. The family and loved ones have our sympathy and prayers. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Well, after 36 days of counting and recounting votes and other items of business we finally have a president-elect and aren't we glad? It drug

The Signal office will be closed
December 20th - 25th and will
reopen December 26th
Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year

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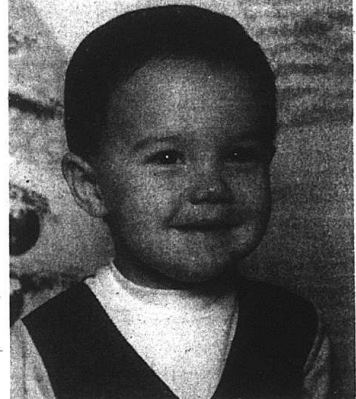
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Thomas, Age 2 1/2

During this special season, celebrating the birth of Christ, please know that my family's sincerest wish is that you receive many blessings in the New Year.

So, from my family and my law office staff,
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Jeff, Twila & Thomas
Burdette

Academic Honor Roll



Lindsey Parsons, daughter of Dr. John and Jeanine Parsons of Mt. Vernon has a perfect 4.0 grade point average in the senior class at the Rockcastle County High School. Lindsey is planning to attend Eastern Kentucky University where she will study Journalism. While at RCHS, Lindsey has been a member of the Dance Team, which she captains. She is also vice-president of the Spanish Honorary Society and the School Service Chair of the Y-Club. She is also a member of FCA, NHS and Beta Club. Lindsey also serves as assistant editor of the *Rocket* where she has been a staff member for three years.

Roundstone Elementary recognized by U.S. Department of Education

Roundstone Elementary School has recently been recognized by the United States Department of Education. The department commissioned Public Impact, an educational agency, to study schools across the nation in search of exemplary programs in the areas of professional development and strong faculty focus. Roundstone was one of four schools in the nation to be recognized by the department for its improvement efforts. Kirk Winters, of the U.S. Department of Education, outlined that the schools profiled by the department were "found to be four of the most progressive schools in the nation in the areas of professional development, staff focus, and student achievement."

On December 9th, David Pensol, Roundstone Elementary School principal, spoke in Washington, D.C. to a group of national educators about the specifics of the school's strong academic program and the impact professional development has had on the school's dedicated, hard-working staff, great students, and a wonderful, supportive community of parents and families. These key ingredients, coupled with a comprehensive instructional program, have sustained a high level of achievement for Roundstone students.

Roundstone's profile can be viewed on the United States Department of Education website at www.ed.gov or the Kentucky Department of Education's site at www.kde.state.ky.us/share/whatsnew/

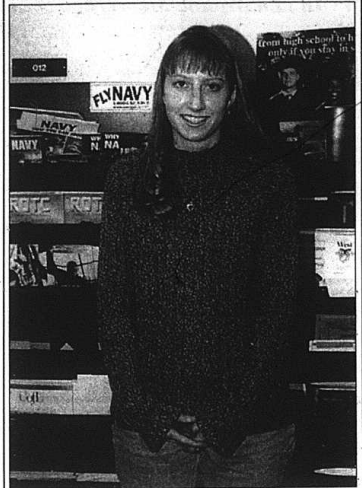
Below is a summary of the profile which can be found on the website above.

"Teachers at Roundstone Elementary School use time during the summer to develop curricula, improve teaching strategies, and analyze data.

Using time during the summer for this work is important, a Roundstone teacher explains, because, "During the year, when you have the children, you are so concerned about their individual needs that it is difficult to develop quality questions." She and other Roundstone teachers found that the best time for curriculum work is the week after students leave. "Even though we are mentally and physically tired, if we sit down when everything is fresh in our minds, then we can adjust the curriculum and have the summer to work on the changes so that nothing is thrown in and disconnected," Roundstone's principal notes that this curriculum work has had another important effect: it has created a strong bond among teachers.

When Kentucky began ranking schools in 1990, Roundstone Elementary school was near the bottom. Today and for the past few years, test scores of the 260 students in this rural elementary school have put Roundstone among the state's top performing schools.

Academic Honor Roll



Angela Mullins, daughter of Luke and Kay Mullins of Snyder, has a perfect 4.0 GPA at Rockcastle County High School. Angela plans on attending Eastern Kentucky University and major in Accounting. She is a member of FCA, National Honor Society and the Beta Club. Angela's hobbies include reading.

Offerings by 21st CCLC

Basic Webpage Design Class

A Basic Webpage Design using Microsoft FrontPage 2000 class will be taught at the Rockcastle Area Technology Center on Tuesdays from 5:00-7:00 on January 9th, 16th, 23rd.

The class is designed for people who have basic computer skills (i.e. using mouse, opening and closing windows, and navigating on the Internet). Instructor will be Patty Himes. Cost is free and to sign up contact Ralph Baker at 256-1111.

Microsoft Access Class

A Microsoft Access class will be taught at the Rockcastle Area Technology Center on Mondays from 4:00 - 6:00 on January 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, and February 5th.

The class is for people who are computer literate (i.e. comfortable with performing basic computer tasks). Instructor will be Kristi Reynolds and the cost is free. To sign up contact Ralph Baker at 256-1111 or Kristi Reynolds at 256-4346.

Internet can help students

During the holiday break, high school students planning to attend college next fall can use the Internet to begin the application process. ACT's website, at www.act.org provides valuable information and links to help students search for colleges, take virtual campus tours, and apply to hundreds of colleges online.

The application deadlines for some colleges and universities fall in early January. Getting information and filling out forms can be a time-consuming task for students and their families. Electronic application can speed up the process.

ACT's website contains a Financial Aid Need Estimator, which uses the federal financial aid formula to estimate what the student's family

may be expected to contribute for costs at specific colleges. January is a good time to file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form for the fall semester.

The website also provides useful information regarding the ACT college entrance exam, including online registration, practice questions and the opportunity to order test preparation materials. ACT scores are used by virtually all four-year colleges and universities in the nation. ACT scores are accepted by all Ivy League schools.

The next ACT test will be given nationwide on February 10, 2000. The registration deadline is January 5, with a late deadline of January 19. An additional fee is required for late registration.



Christmas Open House
Rockcastle County Public Library
Dec. 21st
5 - 8 p.m.

Celebrate the Season with Family and Friends!!

Coffee House Atmosphere
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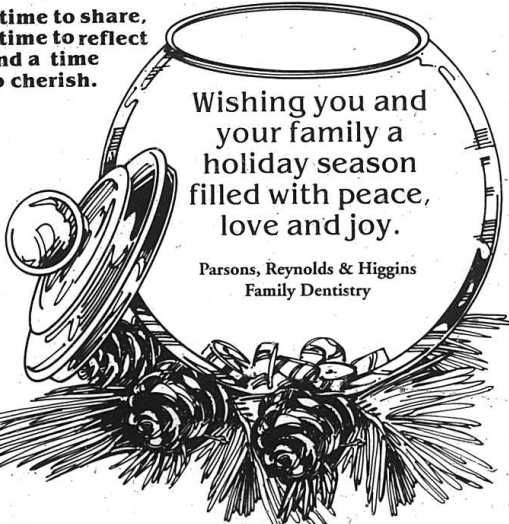
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We Would Like to Say...
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a time to share,
a time to reflect
and a time to cherish.

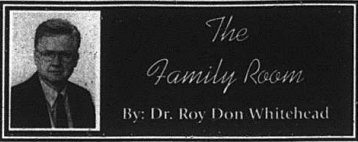


Wishing you and your family a holiday season filled with peace, love and joy.

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The Family Room

By: Dr. Roy Don Whitehead

Poetry Comes From Pain
The poetry written by women who have suffered abuse never ceases to amaze me. Their words express so well what it is like to be in an abusive relationship. The following poem was written by a woman who recently left an abusive spouse.

I Was Told...
I was told, "I'll love you always. You are beautiful in your own ways." I thought this was real true love. He had been sent from above.

I was told, "You are too lazy. That's what makes me so crazy." I should have washed that shirt. Then I wouldn't have gotten hurt.

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I was told, "You are too lazy. That's what makes me so crazy." I should have washed that shirt. Then I wouldn't have gotten hurt.

Through his eyes I saw me. I was nothing I wanted to be.

I was told, "You can't go. You won't make it, you know." He's right, I believed in him. And my life grew more dim.

I was told, "I love you again. I'll never let you out the door." So I told her goodbye. It's my marriage. I have to try.

I was told, "You are a... I'll kick you out the door." But I didn't do a thing. He was the one with a fling.

I was told, "I'm so sorry, I'll never do it again, baby." Then I will learn to forgive. My children and I have to live.

I was told, "I had to, I mean, look at you." He had found another. He's going to be a father.

Then I said, "That's enough, I can't do this. I'm tough." With his words and a dare I turned away and left him there!

If you or someone you know is being abused, call Family Life Abuse Center in Renoir Valley at 256-2724 or 1-800-755-5348.

you start out on the road. The heater must work and the car needs anti-freeze, wiper fluid, oil, gas, etc.
* Assemble a disaster supply kit that includes a first-aid kit, shovel, ice scraper, flashlight and batteries, blankets, candles and matches, bottled water and snacks.
* A bag of sand or car litter stored in the trunk will add extra weight to minimize sliding and may be used for traction on icy roadways, sidewalks, steps, etc.
* Dress warmly and in layers.
* Watch for any weather advisories and do not drive during hazardous conditions.
* Should you lose control
* Steer into the direction of the skid.
* Drive slowly and carefully. Rotate steering wheel gently going into a turn.
* To apply brakes, repeatedly tap the pedal gently so you don't lose

traction between the wheels and surface.
* Remember, always leave enough room between you and the car in front of you. Stopping in snow may take up to four times your normal stopping distance.
* Should you become stranded or your vehicle disabled
* Stay with the car. Do not walk in freezing temperatures to get help.
* Tie a bright colored piece of cloth to the antenna so rescuers may see you are stranded.
* Keep arms and legs moving as you sit to keep warm.
* Turn on the car and use the heater for 10 minutes each hour. Don't allow fumes to back up into the car and keep the exhaust pipe clear.
* Keep one window slightly open to let in air.
* Use any extra source such as maps and removable car mats for insulation.

Don't make alcohol the center piece for holiday festivities

Alcohol can be part of holiday celebrations, but it shouldn't be the highlight of the party.
Christmas is a time for sharing with family and friends, for reaching out to others less fortunate and creating traditions. There are customs throughout the world, which are fun, interesting and don't involve alcohol. For example, in Australia a flaming Christmas pudding is a traditional dessert and in some parts of the country a small gold nugget is baked inside with the belief that whoever finds it will enjoy good luck for the coming year. In Germany, children decorate their Christmas lists with pictures and then leaves them by the window overnight, weighted with a little sugar so Father Christmas won't miss them.

There are many regional traditions in the United States. New Englanders serve lumberjack pie which features a mashed potato crust, filled with meats, onion and cinnamon. Virginia boasts oyster and ham pie. Pennsylvania Dutch traditional confectations are sand tarts - thin crisp sugar cookies. Southern states have lively, included hominy grits in one form or another in their holiday celebrations.
Parties can be festive without alcoholic beverages. Hosts can serve alternatives such as non-alcoholic beer, punches, soft drinks or flavored coffee or tea. Creating other holiday traditions such as caroling, cooking special dishes, playing favorite games and other entertainment prevent people from overindulging. Establishing traditions that don't center around alcohol with children early in life may help keep them away from a dangerous pattern as they grow into adulthood.

"Most people are getting the message that alcohol doesn't have to be the mainstay of a celebration, especially with the recent change in the DUI law which says that a blood alcohol level of .08 indicates illegal intoxication," according to Mike Townsend, director of the Division of Substance Abuse in the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services. "However, there are still some folks who think that a gathering isn't complete with-

The following tips can help partygoers reduce the risk of alcohol use. If they choose to drink:
* Drink slowly and avoid gulping an alcoholic beverage. On the average, the body can only metabolize one drink an hour.
* Eat food with your alcoholic beverage to slow consumption.
* Realize that alcohol metabolism is based on the size of the individual. For example, a 200-pound person will be less affected than a 110-pound person who consumes the same quantity of alcohol over the same period of time.
* Remember that wine coolers are not soft drinks. They have as high an alcoholic content as beer.
* Don't drink and drive or even ride with someone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
* If you have a problem with alcohol or are a recovering alcoholic, decide how to handle the temptation to drink before going to a party.
* If you or someone you know has a problem with alcohol, help is available by calling 1-888-729-8028, a toll-free prevention hotline sponsored by the Division of Substance Abuse or by contacting your community mental health center.

By Preston Parrett
'Twas the night before Christmas
And I was all pooped out,
Didn't have a present for my wife
My future was in doubt.
I'd been shopping since Thanksgiving
Fighting the crowds at the mall.
With knots on my head
And my back to the wall.
I all over my torso
I was black and blue,
Where shoppers had got mad
And their elbows throb.
Had calluses on my feet
My smashed toes were sore.
I had to work up my courage
To go to another store.
Stone benches rubbed my skin raw
Down on my behind,
And the pain in my butt
Was driving me out of my mind.

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Our Readers Write
Dear Editor,
In a front page story in last week's Signal, a "Jim Lambert" was reported to have made a complaint to the County judge concerning the graveling of someone's driveway in the northern section of Rockcastle County. Please be advised that I am not
that Jim Lambert I know nothing about this alleged incident, have made no complaint to anyone about it, and have no connection whatsoever with it.
Sincerely,
James H. Lambert
Attorney At Law
Mt. Vernon, KY

Be sure to "Drive Smart"

Winter is here at last and that means Mother Nature may send freezing rain, snow and ice. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's DRIVE SMART program has put together winter driving tips to help keep you safe during this unpredictable season.
* Always be prepared!
* Have your car serviced before

A Resolution of the County of Rockcastle

Whereas, the Fiscal Court has been petitioned for the construction of an alternate route of CR 1059 (Fairview Loop Road); and
Whereas, the alternate route will benefit the traveling public and enhance the safety of the parishioners of the Fairview Baptist Church; and
Whereas, the Fiscal Court has the power to open, establish, or alter roads as provided in KRS 178.115, and to appropriate funds for such purpose as granted by KRS 67.080 and defined by OAG 80-368; and
Whereas, this court believes it to be in the best interests of the County to alter this section of CR 1059 (description of change attached to this order); and
Whereas, the County shall cause to be printed, as prescribed by law, all necessary documents and procedures;
Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Fiscal Court of the County of Rockcastle that the Court shall, on the NINTH day of JANUARY, 2001, at 1:00 p.m., adopt the alternate section of CR 1059 and close the section of roadway to public use presently running between church property.
So Resolved on this, the TWELFTH day of DECEMBER, 2000
/s/Buzz Carlotts, County Judge/Executive
/s/Fred Mullins, Jr., Squire, 4th District
/s/John Holbrook, Squire, 1st District
/s/Jack Bradley, Squire, 2nd District
/s/Bill McKinney, Squire, 3rd District
/s/Donald Bullock, Squire, 5th District

'Twas the Night Before Christmas

It was time to deliver the toys
And I want it understood,
I didn't have sleigh or reindeer
But I had two hundred horses under the hood.
They were prancing and pawing
Wanted to be on the go,
But the cops had set up roadblocks
And the traffic was slow.
I reeved up my horsepower
And I took to the air,
With two hundred horses breaking
wind
Almost blew me out of there.
All around the world
My horses they flew,
All the time I was thinking
No present for Wiley, what shall I do?
Got back at daybreak
Put my horses in the stall,
Wife stood there with a club in hand
Saying, "Goodnight and goodbye to you all!"

Happy Holidays

Larry, Kathy,
Derrick
and Katelynn

HENSLEY'S USED CARS

Ph. 256-4777 or 256-9481

END OF YEAR CLEARANCE

 2000 CHEVY LUMINA \$279* Mo.	 2000 LINCOLN TOWNCAR \$469* Mo.	 2000 OLDS ALERO \$289* Mo.	 2000 CHEVY VENTURE \$359* Mo.	 2000 CHEVY ASTRO \$369* Mo.
 2000 CHEVY S-10 EXT. CAB Auto \$299* Mo.	 99 OLDS INTRIGUE Leather \$299* Mo.	 99 CHEVY MALIBU LS \$279* Mo.	 99 DODGE DAKOTA V-6, Auto \$279* Mo.	 99 CHEVY 4X4 X-CAB LS V-8 \$439* Mo.
 99 GMC YUKON SLT \$459* Mo.	 98 OLDS AURORA Loaded \$289* Mo.	 98 BUICK LASABRE \$279* Mo.	 98 FORD MUSTANG 17,000 Miles \$285* Mo.	 98 CHEVY S-10 1 Owner \$369* Mo.
 98 JEEP CHEROKEE 4X4 \$289* Mo.	 98 CHEVY 4X4 X-CAB Silverado \$359* Mo.	 98 DODGE RAM 150 \$269* Mo.	 97 CADILLAC CATERA 22k Miles \$289* Mo.	 97 CHEVY MONTE CARLO \$219* Mo.
 97 CHEVY CAMARO \$259* Mo.	 97 PONTIAC GRAND AM \$199* Mo.	 97 SATURN SC2 \$219* Mo.	 96 FORD EXPLORER 4X4 \$259* Mo.	 93 CHEVY 4X4 X-CAB \$299* Mo.

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Owens raises most money in Mathathon

Submitted by Ann Alexander Roundstone School held a Marathon back in October, headed once again by Lois Cameron, the librarian at the school. Several students participated in the event.

The purpose of the fund-raiser was to help finance treatment and research for children hospitalized at St. Jude's Hospital.

Each child participating received a T-shirt and certificate.

Nachae Owens, 7, a student in Miss April Norvel's second grade class told her mother, "I don't care if I get anything. I just want to help those kids at St. Jude." Nachae has a self heart. She really cares about things like this. Nachae received her math problems (260 of them) on a Friday and had ten days to get done. Nachae finished that Sunday afternoon and got them all night with no outside help.

Nachae wound up with about 40 sponsors and a little over \$400. She collected the most of all participants and there was a ceremony for her at the school last Thursday with all the students in the Marathon in attendance. They were served ice cream sundaes and Nachae received a personalized D player certificate and one free admission to the Flares, VHS. Miss Cameron reported that, for the first time ever, some of the kids at

St. Jude's sent her a picture of them which everyone thought was very special.

Nachae was so happy that she had helped and we all feel that if she gets involved in things like this, that she

will do real good in school and later in life.

She's a sweet, loving little girl and we're so proud of her.

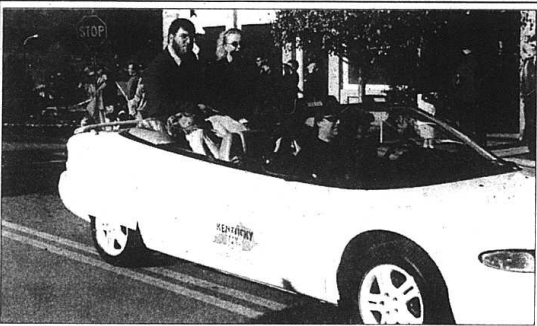
All total, Roundstone collected a little over \$1,700.



Nachae Owens was the winner of Roundstone's Mathathon. She is shown here with Librarian Lois Cameron.



Everybody was all smiles in the God's Meal Barrel truck.



Mr. and Mrs. Kentucky Tech, James Thacker and Kayla Hammond, rode along in the parade.

Scenes from Mt. Vernon's Christmas Parade



Bridle Ridge Vol. Fire Dept. participated in the parade.



Brodhead Mayor Walter Cash brought his Chevy to the parade last Saturday.



The RCHS Marching Band served as the Grand Marshals for the annual Christmas Parade at Mt. Vernon last week.



Pam Chaliff brought along the Bookmobile.



Cub Scouts enjoyed the parade on their float.

Public Notice
Registered Permit-By-Rule
AMZ, Inc. proposes to submit an application for a registered permit-by-rule less-than-one-acre construction/demolition debris facility to the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, Division of Waste Management, pursuant to 401 KAR 47:110. The registration shall become effective five (5) business days after the Cabinet receives it unless the Cabinet denies the registration within that time. The proposed facility will provide disposal of all items deemed accepted under the category of "construction/demolition debris". The proposed facility will be located at the following address: AMZ, Inc., Little Clear Creek Road, approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the intersection of Little Clear Creek Road and Stephens Road, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456. For questions regarding this proposed facility contact: D.L. McFarland at 859-988-8787. Questions concerning the application process for registered permits-by-rule can be directed to the Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. 502-564-6716.



Local Brownie Troops were in the annual parade at Mt. Vernon last week.

Lady Rockets lose to Pulaski Co. 43-34

The Pulaski Co. Maroons came to town last Thursday night and went away with a 43-34 win over the Lady Rockets.

The Maroons drew first blood in the game and went ahead 13-7 at the first quarter stop. Junior Amber Denney went to work in the second quarter and put in four straight baskets but Pulaski County added one to their lead in the second quarter for a 25-17 half-time lead.

At the end of the third quarter, the Maroons were up by ten, 37-27, and the Rockets couldn't gain any ground in the fourth, settling for a 3-3 mark after the first six games of their season.

Denney led her team in scoring with 10; Amber Falin got 9; Rachelle Hammond 6; Jessie Rickles and Ashley Mink, 4 each; Ashley Lawson and Johanna Abney, 2 each and Angie Boring got 1.

Lady Rockets win first game in Berea tournament

Monday night, the Rockets played their first game in the Berea Lady Pirates Invitational Tournament by soundly trouncing the West Jessamine Colts 53-30.

In a contest which left little doubt that the Rockets were in control throughout.

Senior Rachelle Hammond hit her first five three point attempts to help give her team a 16-7 first quarter lead. Coach Chrystie Noble got to clear her bench in the contest with 12 Lady Rockets getting in the scoring column.

Hammonds led the team with 19 points. Jessie Rickles got 7, Bryanna Bussell 5, Amber Denney, Ashley Lawson and Amber Falin 4 each; Amy Barnett, Jessica Carpenter, Lauren Clontz and Johanna Abney scored 2 each and Ashley Mink and Allison Anderkin got 1 each.

The Rockets are scheduled to take on a tough Johnson Central team, who easily defeated Bates Creek Monday night, on Wednesday at 1 p.m.

In last week's Signal, Jessie Hayes total scoring was inadvertently omitted from the Rockets-Clay Co. game. Hayes scored four points in the contest.

Jayvees win two; lose one
The Jayvees beat their Pulaski Co. counterparts in the first game Thursday night 39-32.

The Rockets were down 10-7 at the first quarter stop but the Rockets defense proved stingy the second quarter, holding the Lady Maroons to just two points in the period while Amy Barnett, Bryanna Bussell and Johanna Abney all scored for the Rockets.

The third quarter saw the Rockets lose the lead 27-25 but the Rocket offense came through in the fourth

quarter to pull away for the final 39-32.

Abney led the scoring for the Rockets with 13; Bussell had 12; Jessie Hayes and Lauren Clontz 4 each and Allison Anderkin, Amy Barnett and Jessica Carpenter 2 each.

Against Berea Friday night, the Lady Rocket Jayvees couldn't contain a good offensive team, losing 38-27.

Bryanna Bussell led her team in their losing effort with 10; Johanna Abney and Katie Parsons got 5 each; Jessie Hayes scored 3 and Amy Barnett and Allison Anderkin got 2 each.

In Lincoln County Saturday, the Rockets came out ahead in a close contest 36-30.

It took a while for either team to get on the scoreboard. Bryanna Bussell got the first point for her team at the free throw line and there was less than a minute left in the quarter when Lauren Clontz put the first basket through for the Rockets. At that point, Lincoln Co. was ahead 6-3 but, with time running out, Amy Barnett unleashed a half court shot that tied the score 6 all at the end of the half.

The score was tied three times in the second quarter before Lincoln Co. managed to go ahead 18-15 at the half.

The Rockets came back with good defense in the third quarter and tied the score at 23 all. The score was tied at 27 all in the fourth when the Rockets went on a 9-3 run for the final 36-30.

Bussell and Abney led the scoring for their team with 8 each; Jessica Carpenter and Jessie Hayes got 5 each; Amy Barnett scored 4 and Lauren Clontz, Allison Anderkin and Katie Parsons scored 2 each.

Freshmen beat Berea, Lincoln
The Rockets freshmen lucked into a win Friday against the visiting Berea Pirates. The Pirates were ahead 25-18 when the Berea coach, evidently wanting to save his players for the jayvee game, switched out his entire team. The Rockets, playing primarily their reserves, came back to tie the score at 28 all at the end of regulation play.

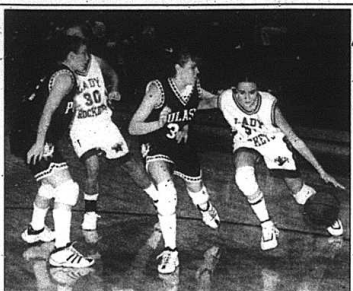
In overtime, the Rockets took command early and came away with the 35-32 win.

Johanna Abney and Katie Parsons led the scoring with 8 each; Krystal Parsons scored 7; Allison Anderkin got 6; Ashley Kimberl 4 and Lauren Clontz 2.

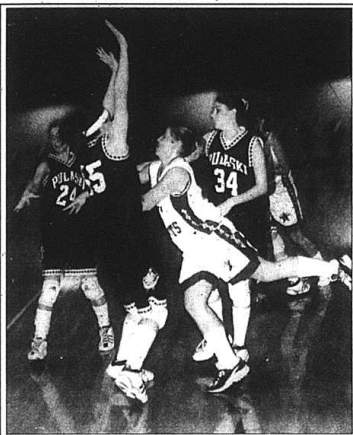
At Lincoln County, the Rockets took an early lead and kept it throughout for the 39-29 win.

Coach Dawn Quigley cleared her bench and nine Rockets scored in the contest.

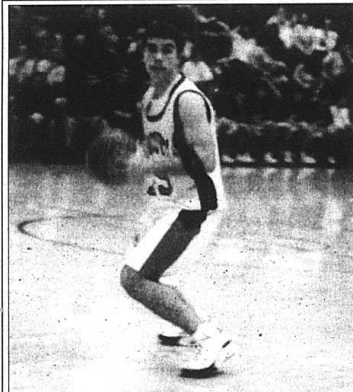
Allison Anderkin led the scoring with 11 points; Krystal Parsons got 9; Johanna Abney scored 6; Katie Parsons 4; Lauren Clontz, Anna Guilfoil, Ashley Kimberl and Jessica Asher got 2 each and Holly Clonzo 1.



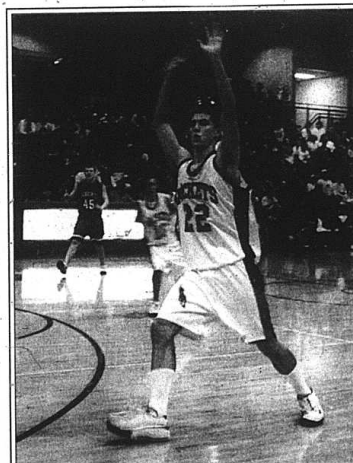
Rachelle Hammond hit her first five three point attempts Monday night in the Lady Rockets win over West Jessamine. Hammond had 19 points in the game. Here she attempts to go by a Pulaski defender in last Thursday 43-34 loss. Also in the photo is #30 Ashley Mink.



Amber Falin attempts a pass in the Lady Rockets loss to Pulaski County last Thursday.



Aaron Cash scored 18 points to lead the Rockets to victory over Harrodsburg last Thursday night.



Andrew Hammond applies defense in a recent Rocket game. The Rockets play again this Friday at home. Game time is 6:00 p.m.

Rockets win one, lose two in tourney

The Rockcastle Rockets competed in the McDonald's Classic at Harrodsburg High School last weekend, playing three games, but unfortunately losing two of those to put the Rockets to 5-1 on the season.

The Rockets faced off in their opener against eventual tournament runner-up and host Harrodsburg on Thursday night, and although they played well, the Rockets were defeated 71-70.

The Rockets only shot 35% from the field, but came up big at the free throw line, shooting 75% from the stripe. Also a factor in the loss was the absence of senior Josh Rowland, who the Rockets missed for his rebounding and tough defensive play.

Although the Rockets had four players score in double digits, Harrodsburg took the 20-17 first quarter lead and never looked back as the Rockets struggled from the perimeter and could not gain the lead.

Aaron Cash was leading scorer for the Rockets with 18, followed by Jeremy Neeley with 16, Andrew Hammond with 14, Aaron Anderkin with 12, Thomas Coffey with 6 and Jason Reynolds with 4.

The Rockets second game of the tournament was against Burgin, and not only was Rowland out, but the Rockets also lost sophomore starter Aaron Anderkin with a knee injury.

Rockcastle did not shoot well again, only 33% from the field, but they were still too much for Class A Burgin, defeating them 71-43. The Rockets were helped in a big way from their young bench, which contributed 22 points for the Rockets win.

Rockcastle led the way at the end of the first quarter 23-11, and although Burgin hung tough in the second - outscoring the Rockets 16-11, Rockcastle had too many guns in the third, outscoring Burgin 29-6.

Leading scorer for Rockcastle in the defeat of Burgin was Jeremy Neeley with 24, followed by Aaron Cash with 11, Andrew Hammond with 8, Austin Miller with 10, Jason Reynolds with 7, Thomas Coffey with 4, Devin Taylor with 4 and Chris Settles with 1.

On Saturday, the undermanned Rockets played against a very big and very good shooting Louisville Seneca team, with the Rockets coming up short in the 65-47 loss.

The Rockets did not help themselves, shooting only 27% from the field as the Rockets could not get their offense on the right track.

Seneca led 18-11 at the end of the first quarter, and although the Rockets kept it to where Seneca could not let down their defenses in the second and third quarters, the fourth quarter was the ruin for the Rockets as Seneca put the game away - outscoring Rockcastle 21-12 for the win.

Jeremy Neeley and Andrew Hammond each had 11 points for the top scoring in the game followed by Aaron Cash with 9, Jason Reynolds with 7, Thomas Coffey with 3, Austin Miller with 3 and Chris Settles with 2.

Good news on the injury front, Josh Rowland, who was thought to have a chipped ankle bone, instead has a severe ankle sprain and could be back in action as soon as this Friday night's game, and Aaron Anderkin is also expected back at the end of the week after intense physical therapy for his knee.

The Rockets played Tuesday night against district foe Owens. Ray-tist results from that game and from this coming Friday's home game against All Saints.

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Rockcastle Community Bulletin Board

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TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly)
TOPS meets Thursday at 6 p.m. at Brodhead Christian Church basement on Main St. in Brodhead. For more info, call 1-800-932-TOPS or locally 758-4047.

Kiwanis Club
The Rockcastle Kiwanis meets Thursday at noon at the Kaslie Inn Restaurant. All visitors are welcome.

VA Rep Here
VA representative will be at the Rockcastle County Courthouse the first and third Monday of each month behind County Judge/Executive's office from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Conway TOPS
TOPS (Take off pounds sensibly). For more info, call 256-3633, 256-9448 or 1-800-932-TOPS. TOPS meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at BRVFD.

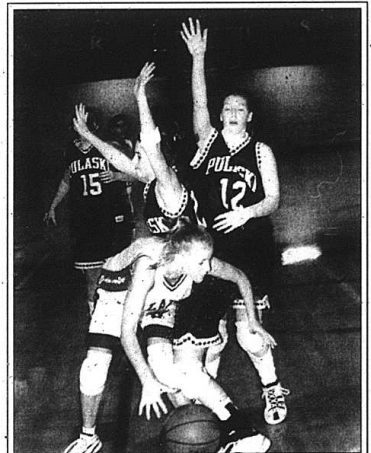
Benefit Sale
"Relay for Life" Benefit Sale each Saturday thru Jan. 13th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. inside building at 439 Chestnut Street in Berea. Donation of items appreciated. Call Betty Jo Foster at 1-800-939-2513. Proceeds go to American Cancer Society.

RTEC Notice
RTEC, Broker for Region 12, announces that no transportation services will be provided on December 25, 2000 due to Christmas holiday or on January 1, 2001 due to New Year's holiday. Offices will be closed on these two days with the exception of Urgent Care transportation.

Offices Closed
The County Clerk's office will be closed at noon on Friday, December 22nd and remain closed through Monday, December 25th for the Christmas holiday.

Bookmobile
There will be no bookmobile schedule December 25-29. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Food Needed
Come Unity Cooperative Care is in dire need of food for their food pantry. Because there has been an increase in the number of families needing food our food pantry is empty. We need help immediately! We will take any nonperishable foods. Here is a list of some specific items we need: stuffing, appliance, green beans, peas, corn, carrots, peaches, mixed fruit cocktail, macaroni & cheese, cereal, jello. Please bring all foods to 755 South Dixie St. in London ASAR. For more info, call 864-2351.



Jessie Hayes tries to go around a Pulaski Maroon in the Lady Rocket Jayvees 39-32 win last Thursday night.

**Bad Credit?
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The Bank of Mt. Vernon

The **SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS** Is Everywhere

'Tis the season for all to enjoy peace, goodwill and joy. Thanks for being our friends!



Main bank employees of the Bank of Mt. Vernon, shown at left, front row, left to right, Melinda Smith, Treena Burdette and Dawn Mullins. Second row, from left: Alice Faulkner, Tammy Blanton, Jenny Bray, Julie Pigg and Sue Owens. Back row, from left: Carol Bryant, Donna Stayton, Beth Saylor and Becky Mays. Not Shown: Steve Singleton, Brandy Chasteen and Jamica Richards.

We remember everything Christmas has meant to us over the years and hope that you find the joy that this season brings.

Our many thanks to each and all.



Hwy. 461 Branch bank employees at the Bank of Mt. Vernon are shown at right, front row, from left: Jess Bullock, Ima Taylor, Bernice Whitehead and Sandy Bullock. Second row, from left: David Woodall, Johnny Hopkins, Amy Parker, Sandy Durham, Judy Dillingham and Dana McKinney. Back row, from left: Corey Craig, Patty Collins and Leslie Rigsby. Not shown: David Jury, Sis Machal, Karen Bullock, Amanda Davis, Gwen Flannery, Donna McClure, Mary Nita Thompson and Sheila Lovell.

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112 ST. GEORGE STREET
(859)624-2212

"Boil Water"

(Cont. from Front)

Upper Piney Branch, Bud Clark Ridge, William Bowman, South of Red Hill Baptist Church all customers on 1955 as well as all side roads. Cory said the boil water advisory is until further notice and all customers should boil water for three minutes before they use it.

"Heating Assistance"

(Cont. from Front)

Crisis payments, provided to income-eligible households that are in imminent danger of losing heat, will continue until LIHEAP funds run out. Households with incomes up to 110 percent of the federal poverty level may qualify under a separate federal program for weatherization assistance aimed at making homes warmer, safer and more healthful. Further information and assistance in applying for LIHEAP may be obtained by contacting a local Commu-

nity Action agency or calling the Kentucky Association for Community Action at 1-800-456-3452. Community Action Agencies can also issue certificates of financial need that give low-income households that have received a disconnection extra time to work out a payment plan with their natural gas or electric utilities. A certificate of need can also help a household get reconnected to gas or electric power if disconnection for non-payment has already occurred.

For more information, call Michael Jennings at (502)564-6180.

"Blood Drive"

(Cont. from Front)

nate blood to save the lives of local patients such as those who need transfusions in Rockcastle Hospital. The actual blood donation process takes about 10 minutes, then you'll relax for a few minutes and enjoy refreshments, knowing you've given of yourself to someone else in need. Make plans to give blood on Friday, December 29. For more information contact Loretta Robinson at 679-7413.

Church News

"Two Pennies"
"Two Pennies" is the name of the Christmas play at Maple Grove Baptist Church. The play will be at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17th. A special fruit treat will be given to everyone who attends. There will also be a special fellowship afterwards. Bro. Keith Carr and church welcomes everyone.

Nativity
Conway Baptist Church - Live Nativity Scene - December 22 and 23,

6 to 8 p.m.
Christmas Eve Services
The Catholic Church will have their Christmas Eve Services at 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 24.

Live Nativity Scene
Conway Baptist Church will present a Live Nativity Scene Fri., December 22 & Sat., December 23 from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday evening services will be at 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve.




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"BEREA FORD'S CHRISTMAS DREAM"

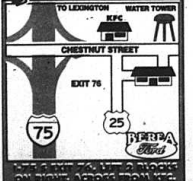
IT WAS THE SALE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

AND ALL ACROSS OUR LOT THE MARKDOWNS WERE SO GREAT EVERY VEHICLE HAD TO BE BOUGHT!

 <p>Brand New 2001 FORD ZX2 BLACK CLEARCOAT, 2.0 OHV ENGINE, POWER GROUP POWER MOONROOF & DISC CD CHANGER, REAR SPOILER. (LOADED #1021) MSRP \$15,045 You Save \$2057 SALE \$12,988</p>	 <p>Brand New 2001 FORD RANGER XLT SILVER FORD, AIR, AM/FM STEREO CD, 15" STYLED CASSETTE, 60/40/40 3-PIECE BENCH SEAT, (LOADED #1002) MSRP \$15,185 You Save \$2197 SALE \$12,988</p>
 <p>Brand New 2001 FORD RANGER XLT WOODLAND GREEN, V6, AUTO, AIR, AM/FM STEREO DUAL MEDIA SYSTEM, XLT TRIM. (LOADED #1103) MSRP \$18,225 You Save \$2237 SALE \$15,988</p>	 <p>Brand New 2000 FORD F150 4X2 AMAZON GREEN, SPEED CONTROL, AUTO, AIR, AM/FM STEREO CASSETTE, 60/40/40 3-PIECE BENCH SEAT, (LOADED #1002) MSRP \$20,120 You Save \$4132 SALE \$15,988</p>
 <p>Brand New 2001 FORD F150 SUPERCAB TORONADO RED, 4.2 V6, AUTOMATIC, AIR, SPEED CONTROL, SUPER CASSETTE. (LOADED #1013) MSRP \$23,005 You Save \$3017 SALE \$19,988</p>	 <p>Brand New 2001 FORD RANGER SUPER CAB 4X4 TORONADO RED, 4.0 V6, POWER GROUP, AUTO, AIR, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY & DISC CD CHANGER #1103 MSRP \$25,390 You Save \$3402 SALE \$21,988</p>
 <p>Brand New 2001 FORD WINDSTAR LX BLACK CLEARCOAT, 3.8 OHV ENGINE, FLOOR CONSOLE, DUAL AIR, COMFORT GROUP. (LOADED #1104) MSRP \$27,200 You Save \$3212 SALE \$23,988</p>	 <p>Brand New 2001 FORD F150 SUPERCAB 4X4 BRIGHT RED, 4.6 V8, AIR, P255/20R16 TIRES, OVERHEAD CONSOLE, AM/FM STEREO CD, (LOADED #1103) MSRP \$28,545 You Save \$4557 SALE \$23,988</p>
 <p>Brand New 2000 FORD F150 SUPERCAB 4X4, V6, AUTO, AIR, 4 WHEEL ABS, AM/FM STEREO CASSETTE, TRIO TONE PAINT. (LOADED #1013) MSRP \$30,080 You Save \$6092 SALE \$23,988</p>	 <p>Brand New 2001 FORD F250 4X4 7.3L DIESEL, 4 SPEED TRANSMISSION, AIR, AM/FM STEREO CASSETTE, CLOTH BENCH SEAT, TRAILER TOWING PKG., GREAT BODY! MSRP \$20,250 You Save \$3262 SALE \$16,988</p>

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2000 FORD TAURUS SES
V6, auto, air, power group, power seat, loaded.
2000 FORD MUSTANG COUPE
V6, auto, air, only 1300 miles, loaded.
2000 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4
V6, auto, running boards, CD.
2000 FORD F150
4 door, auto, V6, power seat, air, stereo, load trailer.
2000 FORD FOCUS SE
4 door, V6, auto, power windows, loaded.
1998 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS
4 door, V6, dual power seats, 2 door, 2000 miles.
1998 MERCURY VILLAGER
V6, dual air, speed dial, 280, 1000 miles.
1998 NISSAN ATTENDANCE GLE
4 door, CD, power windows, loaded.
1998 SATURN SC2
4 door, CD, air, power windows, loaded.
2000 FORD FOCUS SE
4 door, V6, auto, power windows, loaded.
2000 FORD FOCUS ZX2
black, auto, air, 4.2 V6, 1000 miles.</p> | <p>2000 FORD FOCUS SE
4 door, auto, air, power group, loaded.
1998 LINCOLN TOWNCAR EXECUTIVE
V6, auto, 230, 1000 miles.
1998 FORD F150 XLT
4 door, V6, power group, air, stereo, 190 miles.
1999 FORD EXPLORER SPORT
4 door, V6, auto, air, power windows, loaded.
1998 FORD EXPEDITION
4 door, V6, auto, air, power windows, loaded.
2000 FORD TAURUS SE
V6, auto, air, power windows, loaded.
1999 FORD EXPLORER SPORT
black, 4.6, air, power windows, loaded.
1999 FORD RANGER XLT
4 door, V6, auto, air, power windows, loaded.
1999 FORD TAURUS SE
V6, auto, air, power windows, loaded.
1999 FORD TAURUS SE
V6, auto, air, power windows, loaded.
2000 FORD ZX2
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4 door, V6, auto, air, power group.</p> | <p>1999 FORD F150
4 door, V6, auto, air, only 1000 miles, load trailer.
1998 FORD EXPLORER
4.4, 5000 miles, air, power windows, CD.
1999 MERCURY VILLAGER SPORT
4 door, auto, air, 100 miles, double door!
2000 FORD TAURUS SE
4 door, V6, auto, air, power group, speed control.
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4 door, auto, air, CD, stereo.
1998 FORD ZX2
black, auto, air, CD, stereo.
1998 FORD RANGER XLT
4 door, 4.6, auto, air, power windows, loaded.
1998 FORD WINDSTAR GL
4 door, 4.6, auto, air, power windows, V6.
1999 FORD RANGER SUPER CAB XLT
4 door, 4.6, V6, auto, air, loaded.
1999 FORD RANGER XLT
4 door, 4.6, V6, auto, air, loaded.
1998 FORD F150 SUPERCAB XLT
4 door, 4.6, V6, auto, air, loaded.
1999 FORD EXPLORER
4.4, red, V6, auto, air.</p> | <p>1997 FORD EXPLORER 4X4
1600 Ranch, auto, V6, CD, load trailer.
2000 FORD RANGER SUPER CAB 4X4
3.0, V6, auto, air, loaded, low miles, P255.
1999 FORD E-150 CONVERSION VAN
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1998 FORD F-150 LONG BED
XL, chrome pkg, air, load trailer, extra door.
1999 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS
4 door, dual power seats, loaded.
1999 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED 4X4
4 door, air, loaded.
1999 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER 4X4
4 door, air, loaded.
1999 FORD EXPLORER XLT
4 door, air, loaded.
2000 FORD TAURUS SE
V6, auto, speed control, double door.
1999 FORD F-150 XLT 4X4
4 door, auto, air, load trailer.
1999 DODGE AVENGER ES
4 door, auto, air, power windows.
1999 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER
4.4, 4 door, white, auto, 140 miles.</p> |
|---|---|---|--|

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Obituaries



Virgie Denney

Mrs. Virgie Denney, 91, of Mt. Vernon, died Saturday, December 16, 2000, at the Sowder Nursing Home in Brodhead. She was born on July 29, 1909 in Rockcastle County, the daughter of the late John and Rose Kirby Pittman. She was a homemaker and a member of the Northside Baptist Church.

Survivors are: one son, Russell Denney of Mt. Vernon; two daughters, Mrs. Wilma Hayes of Brodhead and Mrs. Virginia Thomas of East Bernstadt; several grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, James Harvey Denney, by four sons, Robert Louis, James, Bobby, and O.B. Denney, and by two daughters, Joyce Ann Cox and Sally Bussell.

Services were held Tuesday, December 19, 2000 at the Cox Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Lester Caldwell officiating. Burial followed in the Elmwood Cemetery.



Mary Fain

Mary Ottye Fain, 73, of Orlando, died Sunday, December 16, 2000 at St. Joseph Hospital East in Lexington. She was born March 13, 1927, in Rockcastle County, the daughter of Swannie K. and Ada Lane Brown Price. She was a member of the First Christian Church of Mt. Vernon and a member of the Willing Workers, was a retired bookkeeper for Rockcastle Hospital and Richmond Auto Parts.

Survivors are one son, Terry Cummins of Orlando; one step son, Henry Fain and wife, Lorene of Mt. Vernon; one brother, Swannie Price of Anderson, Indiana; one sister, Jean P. Baker of Hamilton, Ohio; one grandson, Kerry Cummins and wife, Carissa; four step-grandchildren, Lori Marcum, Eddie Fain, Lisa Mackey and Kimberly Renner and four step great grandchildren, Beth Renner, Hank Fain, Johnny Mackey and Katie Mackey. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ed Fain.

Services were Tuesday, December 19, at Dowell & Martin Funeral Home with Bro. Eddie Hammond officiating. Burial was in the Elmwood Cemetery.

Carol Coffey

Carol Ann Coffey, 54, of Palmetto, Florida and formerly of Mt. Vernon, died Monday, December 11, 2000, at her home in Florida. She was born on December 27, 1945, in Dayton, the daughter of the late Frank and Dorothy Weber, Moll. She was a homemaker, a former nurse, and a member of the Catholic faith.

Survivors are her husband, Willie Coffey; two sons, Tommy and Mark Wiseman, both of Newport; one brother, David Moll of New Jersey; three sisters, Juanita Arrington, of Cincinnati, Ohio, Paulette Winters of Memphis, Tennessee and Ginny Jackson of Fort Mitchell and six grandchildren.

Services were Saturday, December 16, 2000, at the Cox Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Tommy Coffey officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Tom Heselbine, Paul Machal, Robert Coffey, Terry Coffey, Shawn Coffey and Philip Smith.



"Chunky" Woodall

Charles "Chunky" Woodall, 61, husband of Patsy Woodall of Brodhead, died Wednesday, December 13, 2000 at his residence.

He was born September 23, 1939 in Brodhead, the son of the late Leonard Woodall and Lizzie Northren Woodall. He was a retired carpenter and a member of the Baptist faith. On November 23, 1979 he was joined in holy matrimony with Patsy June Singleton.

Besides his mother, Mrs. Lizzie Woodall, and his wife, Patsy Woodall, he is survived by: four sons, Shannon Stridham and wife Missey and James Stridham, all of Brodhead, Carabel and Billy Woodall of Carabel, Florida; one daughter, Edna Jones, also of Carabel, Florida; seven brothers, Jerry, Donnie, Teddy, Danny, Ricky, Henry, and Benny Woodall, all of Brodhead; four sisters, Brenda Woodall of Brodhead, Glen Rose Lakes, Betty Renner, and Patsy Shuemocker, all of Ohio.

He was preceded in death by his father and two infant siblings, Lesley Woodall and Jenny Woodall.

Funeral services were held Saturday, December 16, 2000 at the Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals in Brodhead with Bro. Randal Adams officiating. Burial followed in the Piney Grove Cemetery.

Casketbearers were Charles Pittman, Tommy Woodall, Roger Shaffer, David Spoonmore, Terry Lakes, and Benny Spoonmore. Honorary casketbearer was Glen Harris.



Bill Brewer, Sr.

Bill Brewer, Sr., 80, of Rt. 3, Brodhead, died Monday, December 18, 2000, at the Rockcastle Hospital. He was born December 20, 1919 in Jackson, Kentucky, the son of Joseph Thomas and Annie Mae Willis Brewer. He was a member of the Crossroads Assembly of God Church, a Veteran of World War II and was a retired press operator for Dayton Forge and Heat Treat Co.

Survivors are three sons, Harvey Brewer and wife, Jeanne of Brodhead, Benny Brewer and wife, Janet of New Salisbury, Indiana and Freddy Brewer and wife, Donna of Brodhead; four daughters, Ruby Hendricks and husband, Noel of LaBelle, Florida, Louanna Fain of Mt. Vernon, Betty Estes and husband, Doug and Marcia Olinger and husband, Terry, both of Brodhead; one sister, Laura Hensley of Brodhead; 25 grandchildren, numerous great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Maggie; one son, Bill Brewer, Jr. and two grandchildren, Damon Eric Lewis and Michelle Renee Brewer.

Services will be Thursday, December 21, at 12:00 (noon) at Thursday, December 21, at the Crossroads Assembly of God Church with Bro. Nathaniel Fugate officiating. Burial will follow in the Scaffold Cane Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Freddy Robinson, Doug Estes, Dwayne DiDonato, Woody Brewer, Charles Howell and Ray Hensley. Dowell & Martin Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Willard Hilton "Ralph" Neeley

Willard E. Hilton, 105, of Clarksville, Indiana and formerly of Crab Orchard, died Monday, December 18, 2000 at the Riverview Village Healthcare Facility in Clarksville, Indiana.

He was born March 31, 1895 in Lincoln County, the son of the late John Harrison and Kitty Belle Woodard Hilton. He was a retired farmer and member of Crab Orchard Christian Church. This year he has been participating in the Harvard Medical School Centenarian Study on Aging.

He was the widower of Olive Cordelia Lyon Hilton who passed away February 4, 1981.

He is survived by two daughters, Eva Jo Franz of Clarksville, Indiana and Mildred Bowling of LaGrange; two sons, Charles E. Hilton of Fern Creek, Ky. and Harry E. Hilton of Kettering, Oh; 16 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren and 13 great great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 20, 2000 at the Crab Orchard Christian Church with Rev. Don Arterburn and Rev. John Lory officiating. Burial followed in Biffalo Springs Cemetery in Stanford.

Pallbearers were Steve Hilton, Kent Holzknecht, Robert J. Franz, G. Edward Franz, Charles Willard Franz, Clarence E. Morgan, Thomas Owen, Steven Fackler, and Thomas Bontranger.

Honorary pallbearers were Henry Blankenship, Johnny Armstrong, and Ray Settle.

Mayme Abney Durham

Mayme Abney Durham, 92, of Richmond, Indiana and formerly of Rockcastle County, died Friday, December 15, 2000, in Richmond, Indiana. She was born January 1, 1908 in Livingston, the daughter of Milton and Cora L. Chumley Abney. She had been a resident of Richmond since 1941. She was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church, was retired from Richmond State Hospital and had been an employee of DECA Record Company.

Survivors are five sisters, Ruth Keene of Jacksonville, Florida, Lillian Rigby of Phoenix, Arizona, Irene Yngst of Centerville, Indiana, Lorene Hensley of Gold Beach, Oregon and Juanita Lewis of Webster, Indiana; two grandchildren and five great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leander Durham; three sons, Clarence, Leander and Wayne Durham who was killed in action in 1942 in Iwo Jima, Carol Wayne Durham and Raymond M. Durham; a great grandson; two brothers and two sisters.

Funeral services were held December 16, 2000 at Reppert Funeral Home with Rev. Robert Taylor officiating. Burial followed in Berea Cemetery.

Children served as pallbearers: Garnett Short, George Miller, L.C. Hudson, Claude Gentry, Tom Smith, Bill Green, Colin Spinks, and Vester Baker.

Honorary pallbearers were Henry Blankenship, Johnny Armstrong, and Ray Settle.

Paul Chasteen

Paul Chasteen, 59, of Copper Creek Road in Berea, died Tuesday, December 12, 2000 at his residence. He was born October 25, 1941 in Garrard County, the son of John R. Chasteen of Copper Creek and the late Ida Mae Pingleton Chasteen. He lived in the West Virginia area for 12 years, where he worked as a coal mine equipment operator. When he returned to Kentucky he was employed by Concrete Materials. In his leisure time Paul enjoyed riding his four-wheeler and going for long drives in the country.

Other than his father, survivors are one daughter, Paula Dawn Alexander and husband, Bill; one grandson, Nicholas Jacob Nathan; three grandchildren: David Chasteen and John Book of Berea, Kentucky; one sister, Debbie Chasteen of Copper Creek; one brother, one niece and one nephew. He was preceded in death by his mother, Ida Mae Chasteen; and his sister, Betha Flora Chasteen.

Services were Sunday, December 17, at Dawd and Mills Funeral Home with Grande Services on Monday, December 18 at Johnetta Cemetery.

This obituary courtesy of Dowell & Martin Funeral Home.

More obituaries on B-12

Obituaries courtesy of local Funeral Homes

Happy Holidays From Our Family To Your Family



As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may you and your family be blessed with hope, joy and peace and may your New Year be filled with health, happiness and prosperity.

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News from Rockcastle Courthouse

Deeds Recorded

Mark and Tammy Sanders, real property located Livingston, to Raymond and Lela Griffin. Tax 10.00.
 Bessie Owens, real property located in Rockcastle County, to Amos Owens, Jr., Lorne McClure and Pauline Sowder. No tax.
 Dean and LuEd Nielsen, real property located in Rockcastle County, to Anthony J. and Christina Smith. Tax 6.50.
 Jeffery K. and Delilah A. Blair, real property located on Tanyard Road, to John Christopher. Tax 5.00.

John C. Newland, Jr., real property located in Rockcastle County, to Deborah Newland. No tax.
 William Terrill Chandler, Jr., real property located in Lear Crest Subdivision, to Lonnice E. and Sandy L. Brown. Tax 9.00.
 Gary and Cindy Johnson, real property located in Rockcastle County, to Ralph and Shirley Carpenter. Tax 35.00.

Gary and Hazel Herbert, real property located in Rockcastle County, to Rebecca and Stacey Singleton. No tax.

Laura Belle Wallace, real property located on Roundstone Creek, to Carl Jerry Wallace. No tax.

Rockhill One, Inc., real property located to Rockcastle County, to Whitrock, Inc. Tax 400.00.

Deborah Newland, real property located in Rockcastle County, to John C. Newland, Jr. No tax.

District Civil Suits

Darrell D. Smith and Amanda M. Smith vs. Johnny Boswell, db/a J.B. Paving, complaint. C-00110.
 John E. Clontz, db/a Clontz & Cox, vs. Margaret Masgrove, \$873.05 claimed due for services. C-00111.
 John E. Clontz, db/a Clontz & Cox, vs. Danny Bullock, \$1,040.00 claimed due for services. C-00112.
 John E. Clontz, db/a Clontz & Cox, vs. Jeremy Holt, \$500 claimed due for services. C-00113.
 John E. Clontz, db/a Clontz & Cox, vs. Phillip Jason Cromer, \$718 claimed due for services. C-00114.

Circuit Civil Suits

Fifth Third Bank vs. Crystal M. Noble and Shane D. Noble, \$8,524.20 claimed due on account. C1-00307.
 Gilbert Campuss vs. Tracy Campuss, petition for dissolution of marriage. C1-00308.
 Citizens Bank of Brodhead vs. George McCown, etus, \$39,125.17 claimed due on note. C1-00309.
 Mortgage Lenders Network USA vs. Sarah Singleton, etal, \$30,007.73 claimed due on note. C1-00310.
 The Bank of Mt. Vernon vs. Jones Earl McNew, Vickie McNew and Kentucky Medical Services Foundation, money claimed due on notes. C1-00312.
 Regina Ann Tuttle Rader vs. Gerald Bruce Rader, verified petition for dissolution of marriage. C1-00312.

Marriage Licenses

Teresa Christine Gibbons, 17, Livingston, unemployed, to Bradley Wayne Jones, 19, Livingston, ACS. December 14, 2000.

*The Signal office will be closed
 December 20th - 25th*

ROCKCASTLE COUNTY HAS BEEN AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER THE EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER NATIONAL BOARD PROGRAM.

Rockcastle County has been chosen to receive \$8,099.00 to supplement food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, United Jewish Communities, Catholic Charities, USA, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA and United Way of American which will provide the administrative staff and function as fiscal agent. The Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A Local Board made up of a representative from Rockcastle County Judge Executive's office, Daniel Boone Development Council, et al will determine how the funds awarded to Rockcastle are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service organizations in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, Local organizations chosen to receive funds must 1) be private voluntary nonprofits or units of government, 2) have an accounting system, 3) practice nondiscrimination, 4) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and or shelter programs, and 5) if they are a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying organizations are urged to apply.

Rockcastle County has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with Daniel Boone Development. This agency was responsible for providing 300 nights lodging and provided utilities for more than 30 families.

The deadline for application is December 28, 2000.

For more information call Betty Carter Bussell at 606-256-5315 or 606-256-4633.

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Produce

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Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, FSA Director

County Committee (CO) Election

The County committee election ballots for LAA#2, Community B were counted December 7, 2000. Darrell Wayne Whitaker was elected to fill the position for a three-year term, beginning January 1, 2001.

USDA Programs
Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman reminds farmers of pending application deadlines for emergency assistance programs.

"There are many USDA programs that are available to farmers this year to help them through difficult times," said Glickman. "I urge farmers to call or visit their local USDA office to ensure that they know about all the help they may be eligible for and to sign up before the deadline."

Application deadlines for programs previously announced this year are:

1. 2000 Oilseeds Program: \$500 million in payments is available to the more than 600,000 producers of the 200 crops of certain oilseeds.

Eligible oilseeds include canola, crambe, flaxseed, mustard, rapeseed, safflower, sesame, soybeans and sunflowers. Application deadline is January 12, 2001.

2. 2000 Crop Year Peanut Market Loss Assistance Program: An estimated \$61 million is available to partially compensate over 16,000 peanut producers for low commodity prices and increasing production costs. Application deadline is February 1, 2001.

3. Flood Compensation Program: \$24 million is available to producers to help offset losses due to land inundated with flood waters. Application deadline is January 19, 2001.

4. Wool and Mohair Market Loss Assistance Program: Approximately \$11 million in relief is available for farmers who suffered economic loss due to low prices during the 1999 marketing year. Application deadline is December 29, 2000.

5. 2000 Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program: Approximately \$10 million is available to producers whose lamb carcasses meet minimum grade specifications. Application deadline is August 15, 2001.

Local USDA Farm Service Agency offices will begin accepting applications soon for the following programs:

1. 2000 Crop Disaster Program (CDP): Funds will be made available to producers who have been affected by crop disaster. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

2. 2000 Livestock Assistance Program (LAP): An estimated \$438 million is available to producers for grazing losses due to weather related disasters. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

3. Dairy Market Loss Assistance (DMLA III): Payments to operations that received assistance under DMLA II will be automatically issued to producers later this month. Payments will also be available to new operations and to operations that did not have 12 months of marketing established under DMLA II, and will be based on October 1999-September 2000 marketing. The four-week sign-up period for these producers will begin in late January 2001.

4. 2000 Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP): Up to \$10 million will be available to producers who lost livestock due to natural disaster, fire and anthrax. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

5. Extension of the 1999 Livestock Indemnity Program/Contact Growers (CG-LIP): Program coverage of last year's CG-LIP will be extended through February 7, 2001. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

6. Apple Market Loss Assistance: Up to \$100 million will be available to apple producers to help offset low market prices experienced during the 1998 and 1999 crop years. The sign-up period will begin January 18, 2001.

Office Closure
The USDA Service Center will be closed Monday, December 25th in observance of Christmas. The office will reopen on Tuesday, December 26th.

FSA Website
The Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Rural Development agencies announced the availability of a new e-commerce service on the World Wide Web. The address of the new web site is <http://www.sc.gov.usda.gov>. The new web site will be available on December 18, 2000 and will replace other sites for these agencies that provide electronic forms.

The first feature on the new web site is electronic forms (eForms). This service offers access to many of the forms customers most frequently use. To access it, log on to the Internet through your Internet service provider and enter the address above. That will take you to the service center e-commerce home page. Click on the "eForms" icon to go to the page where you can search for forms by number, program area, or agency.

First time users need to download and install a "plug-in" to take full advantage of the services available on the eForms website. Installing the plug-in may require you to connect to the Internet through your Internet service provider. Once you're on-line, type <http://www.sc.gov.usda.gov> in the address and press the enter key. That

will take you, print it, and you have a completed form that's ready for faxing or mailing. Many of the forms are also available in the PDF format for a limited time.

Using the OmniForms version of the forms provides a significant advantage over the PDF version. The forms and information recorded into the OmniForms version can be downloaded and saved on your own computer, giving you access to the forms and information without having to go online. This will permit you to reuse standard information, like your name and address, without having to retype it.

Your FSA, NRCS, or RD service center office will be available during normal business hours to provide any assistance you need in understanding the forms or the information that needs to be recorded. We will continue to be your point of contact for any questions of this nature.

Technical assistance on using the website and the OmniForms plug-in is available by calling 1-800-557-3642. The technical help service is available Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to midnight (mountain time) and from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (mountain time) on Saturday and Sunday.

will take you to the USDA eCommerce homepage. Now click on the eForms icon to go to the eForms page and click on the "help" link. Now click on the "Need help downloading and installing the OmniForms or Adobe Acrobat" link and follow the instructions.

Once the plug-in is installed on your computer, go back to the USDA eCommerce homepage and click on the eForms icon to go to the eForms page. Here you can search for forms either by their numbers or by a program area or an agency's name. When you find the form you want, click on the blue background OmniForm format and it will appear on the screen.

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"What Is Written"

I hear people say things like folks have missed the true meaning of Christmas, that Jesus is the reason for the season, put Christ back in Christmas. The problem with all this, is that they are ignorant of the true historical development of Christmas. The word Christmas is an abbreviated form of the phrase Christ's Mass. This should give insight that Christmas has roots in Roman Catholicism. I do not celebrate "mass" at Christmas nor am other time of the year, our friends from Rome are wrong! How did this apostate church come up with Christmas as the celebration of the birth of Christ? Pagans who were "converted", brought their pagan customs of festivals with them. So the apostates' "Christianize" these events to things like Christmas and Easter, giving them "Christian meaning." This accommodating these pagan "converts" God does not give any authority for the religious celebration of Christmas.

Matthew 7:23 *And thou wilt prophesy unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work unrighteousness. (You who do things unrighteous!) Paul said in Gal. 4:10-11. Ye observe days and months and times and years. I am afraid of you. First he bles, then you have labour to gain.*

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 1997 Dodge Grand Caravan SE. 4 captain chairs. Loaded. \$14,705.	 1998 Chevy Silverado 4x4 I-Cab, V-6, auto. \$12,900.	 1999 Chevy Silverado 4x4 I-Cab, V-6, auto. New arrival.	 1997 Saturn. Automatic, V-6, I-Cab, just arrived. \$12,900.	 1998 Ford Ranger Splash 4x4 I-Cab, V-6, auto. \$16,900.	 2000 Toyota Tundra I-Cab, V-6, auto. 4x2, loaded. \$22,700.	 1999 Toyota Tacoma 4x4 I-Cab. Low miles, new arrival.
 1998 Toyota Tacoma 4x4. A/c, certified. \$14,900.	 1998 Toyota Tacoma 4x4 SRS, V-6, auto, I-Cab, new arrival.	 1997 Toyota T100 4x4 I-Cab. Auto, V-6, certified. \$15,900.	 1997 Toyota Rav4 4x4. Auto, roof, new arrival.	 1998 Jeep Wrangler Sahara 4x4. New arrival.	 2000 TOYOTA 4 RUNNERS AS LOW AS \$14,475.	 1997 Buick Wildcat. Leather, loaded, just arrived. \$15,900.
 1998 Dodge Durango 4x4. New arrival.	TOYOTA CERTIFIED VEHICLES • 128 Point Inspection • 1 Year roadside assistance • Balance of 6 year 100,000 powertrain warranty.				 1997 Buick Wildcat. Leather, loaded, just arrived. \$15,900.	 1998 Dodge Durango 4x4. New arrival.

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 1993 Chevy 4x2. Auto, air, local trade. \$7,550.	 1995 Ford Contour. Sunroof, all power, one owner. \$6,900.	 1995 Toyota Tercel. 5-sp, air, local trade. \$5,850.	 1995 Nissan 4x2 I-Cab. V-6, 5-sp. \$9,900.	 1996 Dodge Avenger. Auto, loaded, only 53,000 miles. \$8,900.	 1995 Nissan Quest GLE. Loaded, V-6, auto. \$9,900.	 1996 Mazda 626. Auto, air, loaded, one owner. \$9,885.	 1995 Pontiac Firebird. Auto, air, only 55,000 miles. \$8,975.
 1996 Dodge Dakota I-Cab 4x2. Auto, leather, loaded. \$11,900.	 1996 Nissan Sentra GLE. Auto, air, loaded. \$10,970.	 1996 Pontiac Grand Am GL. Loaded with two radios. \$10,350.	 1995 Pontiac Grand Am. V-6, auto, only 63,000 miles. \$5,335.	 1990 Lincoln Town Car. Sunroof, leather. \$4,900.	 1997 Toyota Camry. 5-sp, air, certified. \$14,830.	 1997 Ford Ranger 4x2 I-Cab. V-6, auto. \$10,900.	 1993 Ford Econoline. 9 passenger van. \$6,800.
 TOYOTA COROLLA'S AS LOW AS \$8,000	 1996 Pontiac Grand Prix SE. Fully loaded, ground effects. \$10,350.	 2000 FORD TAURUS V-6, AUTO. AS LOW AS \$8,950.	 1998 Mazda Protege. Auto, air, low miles. \$11,900.	 1995 Mercury Mariner. Sun. Captain's chair, local trade. \$10,900.	 1993 Ford Econoline. 9 passenger van. \$6,800.	 TOYOTA CAMRY'S AS LOW AS \$9,900	

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Kosair Children's Hospital offers holiday safety tips

The holiday season is a wonderful time for children of all ages. But it's also a time to be extra careful with safety. Possible hazards include trees, lights, candles, decorations and new toys that are found everywhere during the holiday season.

"To a child, these new things are exciting and natural curiosity can lead to burns, choking and poisoning," said Erika Kravac, R.N., Children's Hospital Foundation Office of Child Advocacy of Kosair Children's Hospital. To keep your family safe, Kosair Children's Hospital and the Louisville and Jefferson County SAFE KIDS Coalition, a program of Kosair Children's Hospital, offer these seasonal safety suggestions:

Decorations and Trees
If you have a tree, anchor it firmly so your child can't pull it over. Trim lower branches to avoid eye injuries to small children. Be sure to place

ornaments high enough so that young children can't reach them.

"Broken ornaments can choke or cut," said Kravac. "And many older painted ornaments and tinsel contain lead that can cause poisoning."

Avoid using artificial snow sprays when decorating. They can cause lung irritation and should not be inhaled, particularly by children. Dispose of colored wrapping paper immediately before it finds its way into little hands and mouths and avoid burning it in the fireplace — many dyes in the paper release poisonous fumes.

Holly and mistletoe are poisonous, so keep them out of your child's reach. Poinsettias aren't a serious threat, but may cause skin irritation and, if ingested, intense stomachaches.

Keep the phone number for the Kentucky Regional Poison Center of Kosair Children's Hospital close at hand. The number is 1-800-722-5725.

Lights, Fires and Candles
"Fire safety is especially critical during the holidays," said Kravac. "You've got drying trees, lights that give off heat, candles lit to set the mood and fires in the fireplace. All of these increase the chance of a fire in your home."

To prevent fires, keep your tree and other decorations away from heat sources, such as fireplaces, heating vents, burning candles, and space heaters. Keep burning candles, matches and lighters out of children's reach and never leave children unattended in a room where there are candles or a fireplace burning. Teach children to admire the beauty of a fire from a safe distance.

Decorate your tree using only UL-approved lights and cords and inspect lights for frayed cords or faulty bulbs that could catch on fire. Don't overload outlets or extension cords and never place electrical cords under a carpet or rug.

Be aware that if a fire should start on your tree, it will spread more quickly if the tree is dry. If you choose to have a natural tree, buy the freshest tree possible and water it regularly. Take it down as soon as the needles start to fall off.

"No matter how careful you are, you still need to have a working smoke detector in your home," said Kravac. "Remember to check the batteries once a month and change them twice a year."

Develop an escape plan and make sure every member of the household knows what to do if the smoke detector goes off. Establish at least two escape routes in case one is blocked with fire or smoke. Teach your children to STOP, DROP AND ROLL if their clothes catch on fire since running will make the fire burn faster.

Food and Drink
Children also choke on holiday treats such as peppermints, peanuts and popcorn. Keep these foods away from your child. Alcohol poisoning is also serious in children, so keep alcoholic beverages—including egg nog and holiday punch—out of your child's reach. Always clean up half-empty drinks left over from a party.

Toys and Games
"Government regulations help keep toys safe for children, but you still have to be careful," said Kravac. "A toy that's completely safe for an older child can be very dangerous for a younger one. For example, a young child could swallow dice from a board game or a small piece from a model car."

Always look for the age recommendations on the package when you buy toys and keep older children's

toys away from younger ones. If you'd like more information on toy safety, call Kosair Children's Hospital at 502-629-KIDS or 800-852-1770 for a fact sheet or visit www.kosairchildrens.com on the Internet.

"If you give your child a scooter, bicycle, skateboard or in-line skates as a gift, be sure you always give a helmet and insist he or she always wear it when riding or skating," said Kravac. "For skateboards and in-line skates, elbow pads, knee pads and gloves are also recommended. My rule is, 'no helmet, no scooter, bike, skateboard or skates.' It's that simple."

While these safety tips focus mainly on the home, be careful on the road during the holidays, too. People are rushing around shopping

and visiting, and they may be driving carelessly. Always buckle your child into an approved child safety seat in the back seat of your vehicle, and yourself in a seat belt, every time you get into the car be sure to drive carefully.

For more information on holiday safety or to inquire about free fact sheets on a variety of health and safety subjects, call 502-629-KIDS or 1-800-852-1770 or visit our website at www.kosairchildrens.com.

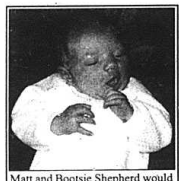
Classified Deadline is Noon Tuesday



Audrey Elizabeth Halcomb, of Somerset, celebrated her third birthday with a party at Mr. Gatti's. Several guests were present and gifts received. Audrey is the daughter of Benny and Beth Halcomb and the granddaughter of Dennis and Bonnie Halcomb, formerly of Mt. Vernon, and Mary Downs and David Godby, of Somerset.



Mark and Linda Cable Loudermilk would like to announce the birth of their son, Benjamin Mark. He was born April 9, 2000 at Central Baptist Hospital. Jonmark weighed 7 lbs. 8 ozs. and was 20 1/2 inches long. Grandparents are Harold and Patsy Cable and Bobby and Alma Loudermilk.



Matt and Bootsie Shepherd would like to announce the newest addition to the family. Seth Matthew Shepherd was born December 11th at Pattie A. Clay Hospital. He weighed 8 lbs. 13 ozs. Grandparents are Cleda Shepherd of Mt. Vernon and Lucille Renner, also of Mt. Vernon.



Cumberland College recently held its annual student led convocation. Several students participated in the morning's service through inspirational Christmas readings and music. Stephanie Dobbs, above, center, and Lora Beth Payne, below, second from right, both from Mt. Vernon joined the festivities by performing in two vocal groups. Stephanie performed with the mixed vocal group One Voice, while Lora Beth performed with the all female group Reflections. Stephanie is the daughter of Bentley and Leila Cromer of Mt. Vernon. Lora Beth is the daughter of Dennis and Faith Payne.

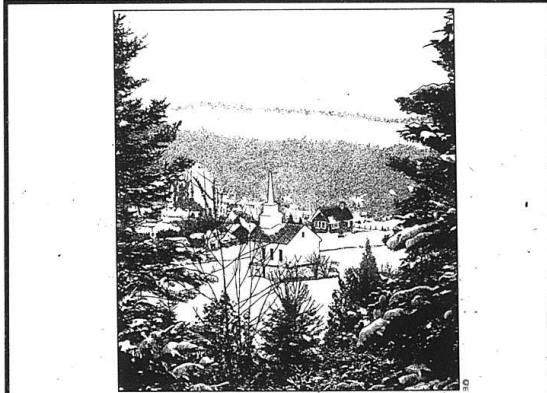


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Pictured, front row: Dr. James Chism and Marcia. Back row, from left: Amanda Chism, Barbara Hall, Brenda Estes, Terry Lunice, and Hannah Chism. Not pictured was Kathy Bryant.



Our Readers Write

Dear Editor,
The post-election thriller against George W. Bush is as exciting and unreasonable as any we heard during the campaign. As the winner, he is now expected to make all the necessary concessions to placate Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton as well as the various other factions who, not only didn't support his candidacy, but voted throughout as if he had no right to be in the race. One who thinks this was a monarchy, with the U.S.'s Ascension to the throne being thwarted by some ill-bred commoner

from Texas.
Close as the election was, G.W. did prevail, even under Democrat rules that kept changing as more votes were needed to narrow the gap. And those of us who supported him should be making loud noises in his behalf to drown out the crybabies, who, even as we write, are in Florida again eyeing the ballot box with the hope of providing us with a reasonable facsimile of the eight years now blissfully coming to a close.

In this household shall not easily forget these years; for our country was literally sold out for illegal campaign funds and how Al Gore lied about it, finding "no controlling legal authority" against it. Abortion escalated to astronomical heights—should we say sunk to unspeakable depths?—and Gore promised to continue safeguarding a woman's right to have her baby killed by suctioning his brains out during the birthing process. This is a man who, as President, would take away our Second Amendment rights, leaving us helpless and hopeless in our own homes while he and his family enjoyed the tax-paid protection of armed bodyguards; a man who would declare war on hard-working, tax-paying tobacco farmers whose livelihood depends on this crop to feed their families while his every comfort is provided by the sweat of folks like these: He expected a lot, didn't he?

Well, as was inevitable, there came a day when many Democrats felt they'd had enough. This is a party that has dealt its most faithful and most supporters enough hands to play these past eight years. And, try as they might, it became more and more difficult for God-fearing loyalists to justify the scandals that mounted daily and to swallow the lies that accompanied each one. The Scriptures they lived by literally forbade it!

All of which explains the extraordinary number of no-votes cast for President this year while the ballot was clearly marked for other races. Neither candidate was to their liking, so, after pausing for a moment, perhaps with the stylus resting lightly over one name or the other, it was withdrawn, leaving the top of the ticket blank, or slightly dented.

The voting members of our family can relate to this, as we, too, had planned to skip the presidential section of the ballot had George W. picked a certain individual being briefly mentioned as his running mate, or had the Republicans nominated

one of the others who ran in the primaries. Both major parties have misfits wearing this label, but it behooves us to avail ourselves of everything there is to know before electing them to office.

Though lifelong Republicans, we both agree and state emphatically, that if our party should ever care the pro-life plank from its platform our outrage would be such that we could no longer, in good conscience, vote for either candidate, notwithstanding the more acceptable GOP stand on other issues. The right to life takes precedent over all others, including Liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and certainly over the right to vote or to have that vote counted. For without life all other rights become moot. It seems obvious that much of the electorate based their decision on this very life and death issue. And Gore couldn't accept the result.

We respectfully disagree with some who have assessed Al Gore as a statesman. If he so much as knew the meaning of the word, he would have taken a lesson from Richard Nixon whose 1960 position was that the country could not endure the strife and division such as we've been going through since November 8. Overturning an election was not the legacy Nixon wished to leave, despite the fact that three mail sacks of uncounted Republican ballots had been found hidden away in a Chicago bank vault, not to mention all the votes of dead people his opponents had registered and brought into the voting booth, in favor of whom would, no doubt, have died "before voting a Democrat ticket."

These and many glaring irregularities in other states, reportedly, would have given Nixon an undisputed victory over Kennedy, but a

right which has been seriously eroded). The vast midsection of the U.S. is sometimes referred to by the liberals as "fly over country" (flying in the liberal northeast with the left coast). The Electoral College, thus, is a needed offset against the tyranny of the left-wing population centers of the U.S. and it makes it possible to avoid a constitutional crisis of no President in such a case as exists in Election 2000 in possibly endless court action, because the Electoral College can use its discretion to offset such tactics, as is also the responsibility of the Congress.

In the late 19th century the English billionaire, Cecil Rhodes, funded a movement for a world government, including the Rhodes Scholarship program of which Clinton partook. In England the Round Table Group was established to pursue this goal. It engendered its American counterpart, the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), which has had hundreds of its member in top positions in every administration since FDR's. It has been referred to as America's Invisible Government, and its goal is the New World Order world government. Americans have been conditioned to see a one world government as benevolent (a la Star Trek), whereas, the lesson of history is that greater concentration of political power has always resulted in greater tyranny. Instead of the American constitutional system where our rights are acknowledged to come from God, in a one world government the structure would be the UN where the Articles of the UN are patterned on the Soviet Constitution. Over 50 million Russians murdered by the Soviet government over 72 years clearly attest as to how much protection of individual rights was in that Constitution.

It's true that we will enjoy the right to vote, but none can be guaranteed that that vote will be counted every once, let alone up to four times! Certainly there can be no law requiring the use of a counting system that is contrary to that for which the ballot was designed. Hand-counting of machine ballots is as illogical as using a machine to count old fashioned hand-written ballots from years past.

Get real! We voters must simply follow instructions to the best of our ability and trust that we got it right, knowing full well that if we didn't our vote can't be counted, a time-honored rule that provides the incentive to read and follow arrows. But now we have a class of people who will henceforth believe they should be given preferential treatment based on their stated "intent" to have done something different—in the event their side loses! With all the talk of election reform, it's doubtful that a machine could ever be developed with a reliable ability to read the voter's intent and correct it on the spot.

One of the troubling aspects of all this maneuvering is the effect it could have on our young people. How can we instill in them the importance of playing clean and losing gracefully when they see how their leaders conduct themselves? It appears the genie is out of the bottle. Our only hope is that he can be stuffed back inside before irreparable damage has been done to our form of government and the respect we've enjoyed throughout the FREE World.

Sincerely,
Mr. & Mrs. Ivan McKinney
West Chester, OH

Dear Editor,
My name is Anjana Dhangra and I'm a eighth grader at Palomni Middle School in Lake Villa, Illinois. My math communications class is writing letters to editors across the country, in hopes of being published. And this is why I'm writing to you.

Why there is an increase in teenage pregnancies? A lot of teenage girls are getting pregnant everyday. Teenage girls get pregnant while they are in school and become a full time mom instead of going to school for higher education. These girls don't care about themselves and their child's future. It affects several families, communities, and for the most part our nation's future lies in the hand of these teenagers. So there should be some way to control this rising problem, so that these youngsters could have bright and successful futures ahead.

Sincerely,
Anjana Dhangra
Lake Villa, IL 60046

Dear Editor,
Our Founding Fathers gave us a government of checks and balances which was as close as possible to precluding tyranny. It doesn't respond as quickly as the parliamentary system, so as to preclude hasty and harmful action. It has been seriously eroded when a Clinton can take us to war, as with Yugoslavia in 1999, without the constitutionally mandated consent of a Congress which has been intimidated into the "consent of silence" from insisting on its constitutional responsibility to declare war. But our Constitution still places a major impediment to tyranny. Thomas Jefferson said, "Put not your faith in men, but bind them down by the chains of the Constitution."

The Electoral College is a part of this system of checks and balances by giving a slightly better representation to our less populous states, as is proper in that the Tenth Amendment clearly says that the states are the primary government entities in our federal system (another constitutional

In 1776 Adam Weishaupt and Meyer Amshel Rothschild formed The Illuminati to pursue the goal of one world government. One item in the Illuminati Manifesto was that, to gain control of a government, it was necessary to first gain control of the media. As of now the dominant media in the U.S. is controlled by eight mega-corporations, all pursuing the one world government goal of the CFR. Is this a conspiracy? Whatever happened to the Sherman Anti-Trust Act in this most vital institution in protecting our freedoms? I estimate that not 10% of Americans receive the vital political truth available in the alternate media, which would include talk radio, many weekly newscasters and the Internet. The Election 2000 results prove it.

The dominant media control the politicians (who appoint the judges) and control the presidential contest (witness how the media froze Buchanan, Phillips and Nader out of the presidential debates so the American public would remain ignorant of the critical issues which they would raise). Thus, in our Republic one party system, there is very little left of checks and balances.

In 1982, The Committee on the Constitutional system was formed of some 200 prominent citizens (CFR elite). In 1985, they published a book entitled "Reforming American Government" which was a review of some 40 articles by 29 of their members. Their conclusion was that "The Constitution was outmoded and had to be replaced." "But only after a crisis is created that will convince us of the need to do so." The opportunity to create this crisis appears to have arisen in Election 2000. Next to paper ballots, hand counted, supervised and recorded, the Florida punch-card ballot is probably least open to fraud

This was the early computer system used by banks, and they never made a mistake. On the other hand, the hand count of these ballots with their fragile chad is highly susceptible to fraud by an activist counter. Joseph Stalin said, "Those who cast the ballot decide nothing. Those who count the ballots decide everything."

With the left-wing dominant media stridently propagandizing the Gore agenda for hand counts of dimpled ballots in heavily democratic districts, where, perhaps, divine revelation would inform activist vote counters of how that dimple got there and that it must really be a vote for Gore, and with hundreds of lawyers pursuing every possible legal avenue, it appears this "needed crisis" is now at hand and will continue even after a Bush affirmation to de-legitimize his presidency. Coincidentally, it appears from talk-show host, Michael Melved,

that Clinton has said, if the election is not resolved, he would extend the presidency. However, he could only do this by overriding the Constitution which places the responsibility to resolve such an issue in the Congress. But the one who has ruled so frequently by Executive Order in matters which are a legislative responsibility is not one to let the Constitution stand in his way. Of all these usurpations of legislative authority, only once has Congress stood in his way, when E O 13083 would have preempted the Tenth Amendment, and this was only due to a storm of protest from the people. Of these usurpations his aide, Paul Begala, said, "Stroke of the pen, law of the land, kinda cool." Hitler could not have said it better. While America Sleeps! Col. Frank J. Gnadinger, USAFR Ret. Louisville, KY

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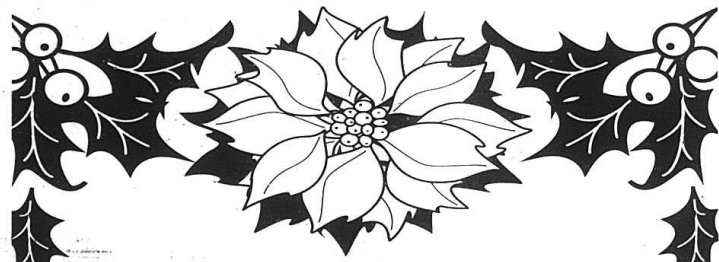


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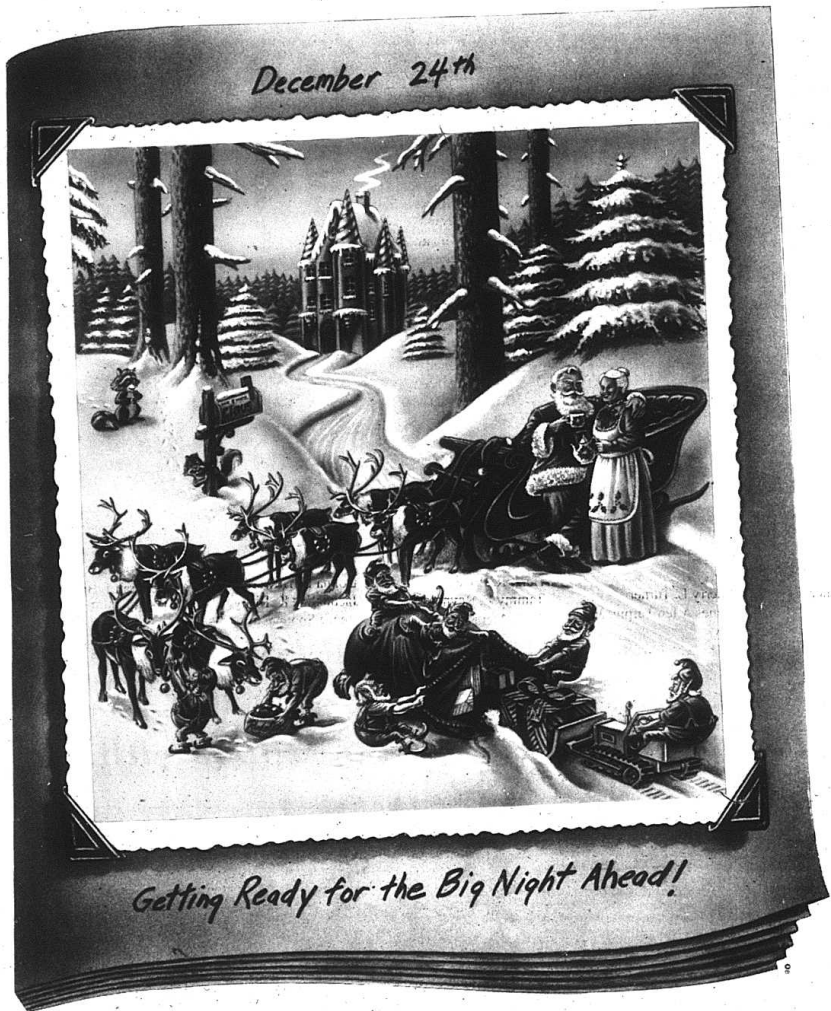
Wishing you all the joys of a wonderful Christmas and a year filled with happiness



Sheriff Shirley Smith & Deputies

Pictured above, front row, from left: Sonya Parker, Sheriff Smith, Libby Smith. Back row, from left: Trevor Hemsley, Darrell Doan, Shannon Franklin, Jimmie Silvers and Charles Gray.
(Not shown: Rodney Vanzant, Leonard Miller, Ronnie Roark)

Merry Christmas



May all your holiday memories be cherished.

Merry Christmas and thanks.

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PHYSICIANS

Tony Arvin
Kimberly Cornelius
Don Dooley
George Griffith
Michael Hamilton
William P. McElwain
Karen Saylor

ROCKCASTLE MEDICAL ARTS EMPLOYEES

Donna Baker	Regina Looney
Ramona Barker	Gail Mason
Judy Bowman	Pennie Monk
Brenda Cabb	Gale Osborne
Brenda Callahan	Phyllis Richardson
Judy Childress	Dr. Karen Saylor
Mary Ann Childress	Rita Shaffer
Kristal Daws-Harper	Lana Shelton
Teresa Gayle DeBorde	Lisa Southern
Virginia Durham	Terri Sowder
Dr. Michael Hamilton	Diane Stephens
Kimberly Harris	Haley Swinney
Brenda Hayes	Gayla Winstead





Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the two pretties women in the world. Love - Roger Baker and Terry Todd.



Hi, my name is Keith Sturgill and these are my friends at Sowder Nursing Home. We're just clowning around. They take really good care of me over there.

Rockcastle Community Scholarship Fund & Kiwanis Club of Rockcastle County

Invite You To A



New Year's EVE

P · A · R · T · Y

December 31, 2000

At Rockcastle County High School

9:00 PM - 1:00 AM

Adults 18 and Over ■ Security Provided

TICKETS \$ 20.00 PER PERSON

- A No Alcohol Event!
- Food Provided
- Formal Dress Encouraged
- Music By Charlie Napier
 - Karoake
 - Silent Auction

To Purchase Tickets Contact:

- Richmond Street Eye Care
- A Cut Above - Terri Woodall
 - Cox Florist
- Willis Coffey Attorney At Law
- Migrant Program Office
 - Cox Hardware
 - Any Kiwanis Member
 - Or at the door

All proceeds to benefit Rockcastle County Scholarship Fund and future community benefit programs through the Kiwanis Club

MERRY CHRISTMAS



from the Rockcastle County Detention Center staff

Front row from left: Rissie Ballinger, Sharon Houk, Sharon Brown, Jailer James Miller, Joe Bussell, John Guilfoil, and Royce Gray.
 Back row from left: Bill Lawrence, Jennifer Mason, Jake Adams, Willmer Robinson, Howard Haddix, William Harris, and Beth Amyx.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Classifieds

CLASSIFIED RATES

- Local Rates—14¢/Word, Minimum \$3.50
- Cards of Thanks—5¢/Word, Minimum \$2.00
- In Memoriams—5¢/Word, Minimum \$2.00
- Display Classifieds—\$3.50/Inch

Deadline for Classifieds is NOON Tuesday

FOR RENT

For Rent: 2 and 3 bedroom trailers. Call 256-0910 or 256-1373. 31fn

BRODHEAD, KY—
NEED AN APARTMENT?
LOOK NO FURTHER FOR
A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE!
IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
ON 1 BEDROOM
APARTMENTS
& 2 BEDROOM
TOWNHOUSES!

Waiting list on 3 bedroom townhouses, pending application approval. HUD Section 8 assistance makes these apartments affordable for everyone! Beautiful, quiet country setting. Private entrances & patios. Kitchen appliances, central air.

CASTLE VILLAGE APARTMENTS

Stop in at 165 Castle Village Drive or call 758-4111
Hrs. MF 9 to 2
Voice/TTY 1-800-553-0300

Prudential

Don Foster REALTORS®

Tanya Berdner-986-1537, Al White-986-2588, Janet Bowman-986-2645, Tringa Baruffi-986-8616, Emma Himes-986-8390, Kelly Goggin-986-9182, Ken Cummins-986-7272, Christine Fort-986-9775, Don Lamb-986-9182, Darren Kirk-256-9252
711 Chestnut St. • Berea • 859-986-8401
1-800-998-2063 fax 986-6173
Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9 to 5; Sat. 9 to 1; Sun. by appt.

AFFORDABLE - Nice 2 bedroom home in Mt. Vernon for only \$37,500. Home has big back, nice kitchen and living room, nice large lot. Call today for showing.
LARGE COMMERCIAL BUILDING - former E.C. Horer Grocery store, Williams St., Mt. Vernon. Approx. 5,760 sq. ft., central air/heat, 25 parking spaces, 3 phase electricity. Also has across street, 50x70, also available. Owner will finance to qualified buyers with down payment REDUCED TO \$285,000

LARGE LOT ON LAKE LINNVILLE - Approx. 1/2 acre. You can tie your boat up and walk to property. Price \$22,500. The adjacent house must sell before the lot does.

LOT FOR MOBILE HOME - single or doublewide. Nice level lot has water and electricity on the property. Site evaluation has been done. Price \$7,900 located off Oscar Isaac Road on Pleasant View Dr.

MOBILE HOME ON 2 WOODED ACRES - Beautiful view, very private located on Linnville Rd. near Hot Gap. Only \$29,500.

SPACIOUS NEW BRICK RANCH HOME - Built with 2x6s throughout, all appliances top of the line, vaulted ceiling in living room, large bonus room upstairs, lots of space with 1.58 acres includes smaller mobile home with 2 bedrooms and 1 bath set up on property. All this for only \$139,900

REDUCED TO \$162,500: NORTHSIDE APARTMENT COMPLEX Located at 210 Richwood Street, Mt. Vernon. Contains 18 apartments and 7 motel rooms all located on a monthly basis. Property in good repair with **SOLD** says the rent from this complex pays for all expenses including the mortgage. Manager's salary and returns him a profit of \$1,000 per month. Be a wise investor and let this property pay for itself plus you a nice income. Located on a 1 acre lot.

Berea. We have several nice homes listed in Berea. Call one of the above agents for a showing.

HOME ON LAKE LINNVILLE - 3 bedroom brick with 2 car detached garage. Large lot. Good view of lake, only \$74,900. Call today.

NICE BRICK RANCH ON 4.78 ACRES M/L AND BARN. Home has 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, living room, kitchen, with large family room in basement, 1,180 sq. ft. with full basement and 2 car attached garage. Central air and heat. Monthly finance. Located on US 25 south of Mt. Vernon. \$89,500.

HOME IN COUNTRY. Nice 3 bedroom, 1 bath home located on Linnville Road in N. Rockcastle Co. Also has living room and open kitchen and dining area, utility room, one car detached garage. Lots of storage space. Lot is 8 acres. Priced at \$62,000.

1994 DOUBLEWIDE MOBILE HOME 28x76. Located within minutes of I-75. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, kitchen, dining room, living room, family room and utility room, central air and heat, new carpet, china cabinet, large storage building on site, well landscaped lot. Reduced to \$64,000.

REDUCED: 274 Linnville Road, 3 bedrooms, bath, open kitchen, dining/living room, gives lots of space, a great first home. Garage has extra storage space. Easy access to Berea. Reduced to \$54,900.

LINNVILLE ROAD - BRAND NEW, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath manufactured home with warranty on beautiful wooded lot (1.14 acres). Home is on CB foundation, kitchen has island and all new appliances, painting new front porch, back deck added. What a deal for \$74,900.

BRAND NEW MANUFACTURED HOME with walk out basement. Under construction. Choice of floor plans still an option. Home will set on nice wooded lot, 1.4 +/- acres, Linnville Rd. \$99,900.

DOUBLEWIDE MOBILE HOME. Concrete block foundation, 3 bedrooms, living room, dining room & kitchen, central heat and air. Deck along one end and one side of the home. Extra wide blacktop driveway, good storage building. Two lots. Just off Ferris School Rd., Mt. Vernon. \$55,000.

SPACIOUS 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOUSE in Countryside Estates. Lovely brick home has lot of extras.

restrictions. No pets. \$200 mo. \$200 dep. Call 256-2610. 11x2

House For Rent: Call 758-0023 or 256-0133. 10fn

Three Bedroom Trailer For Rent: Located on Hwy. 618. Large living room and kitchen, washer & dryer, 1 bath. \$300 mo./\$300 dep. Call 606-256-9556 or 606-256-4304. 10fn

Trailer For Rent: Two bedroom, large living room, kitchen, washer & dryer, nice deck on large wooded lot. Located on Hwy. 618. Call 606-256-4304. 10fn

For Rent: 2 bedroom trailer. \$175 mo. + dep. Call 256-9889 or 256-4928. 10x2pd

For Rent: 2 bedroom mobile homes. Seniors and elderly welcome. \$250. mo. Call 256-4398. 11x2

For Rent: 3 bedroom mobile home. No pets. \$350 mo. utilities included. Call 453-2403. 12x2

For Rent: 2 bedroom trailer off Hwy. 70 in Willailla section. Call 256-9867 any time. 12x2

Trailer For Rent: 2 bedrooms. \$250 for rent and \$250 dep. No pets. Call 256-3314. 12x1pd

Classified Deadline is Noon Tuesday

PROPERTY FOR SALE

2 New Houses For Sale: Central heat/air. Oak cabinets. L-g. 2 car garage. 3 miles from Mt. Vernon. \$73,000 & \$83,000. Call 379-1339 or 758-0103. 36fn
Restricted Lots For Sale: 1/2 to 2 1/2 acres. 3 miles from Mt. Vernon. Priced from \$7500 to \$12,000. Call 379-1339 or 758-0103. 36fn

For Sale: 48 acre farm, Broughton section, Lincoln Co. Call 606-355-7156. 46fn

For Sale: 15 acres, house and barn. \$75,000. Call 256-0133 or 758-0023. 31fn

Houses For Rent

Daniel Boone Development Council, Inc. (DBDC) is taking applications for two and three bedroom houses located in the low-income rental complex on Town Hill in Mt. Vernon. Please apply at the DBDC office located in Ashlee's House on Main Street to be placed on the waiting list. Section 8 Rental Vouchers are accepted. DBDC is an equal housing opportunity agency.

House For Sale: 3 bedroom, bath, den, livingroom, kitchen, utility room, also has 3 car detachable garage, pool with surrounding deck, and black top drive. Located near Lake Linnville. Brodhead area. \$79,900. Call 758-9300 or 758-8394. 7fn

House For Sale: 4 bedroom brick in good repair, central air and heat, alarm system, chainlink fence. 2 out buildings. Located on Purr Riggsby Road. \$69,000. Call 758-0009. 9x4pd

Land For Sale: 60 acres. 2 acres woodland. 40 acres of it is good all alfalfa land with red clay bottom. No rocks. Barn 32x70 with large

HELP WANTED

AVON REP NEEDED: Earn up to 50%. Call toll free 888-528-7875. 18fn

Conservation Careers: Forest rangers, Game Wardens, maintenance, etc. No exp. necessary. Now hiring. For info call 800-280-9769 Ext. 7606. 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. 7 days. www.cnjobhelp.com. 12x3pd

Help Wanted: Wendy's of Mt. Vernon is now hiring. Apply in person. 41fn

Help Wanted: Positions now open at Apollo Pizza. Apply in person. 80 Hill Dr. Mt. Vernon 12x4

372 STUDENT DRIVERS NEEDED

Drive The BIG Trucks! Earn The BIG Bucks! 38K-42K Potential. NO Experience Necessary! 14 Day CDL Training. NO Conv. Training. If Qualified CALL 1-800-394-2405

\$500 REWARD!

For information leading to the arrest of person or persons who burglarized the home of Gary and Cindy Johnson on Burton School Road on Wednesday, November 29th. **Additional Reward of \$500 for recovery of all items stolen. Partial recovery of \$250 for recovery of some items stolen.** Items include: Garnet ring w/ 3 diamonds on top, bottom and on each side. Thousands of baseball cards, 357 Ruger pistol and 25 Beretta pistol. If you have any information, call **(606) 379-1339**

Mt. Village Apartments

One and Two Bedroom Units
Kitchen Appliances Furnished
Water, Sewer & Garbage Paid
Rent Based on income

For Applications call or write:

Mt. Village Apartments

1120 West Main Street, Box 700
Mt. Vernon, Kentucky 40456
Phone: 606-256-2005 or 1-800-686-4447
(TDD for speech & hearing impaired 1-800-648-6056)

Brodhead Elderly Apartments

Housing for the Disabled,
Elderly & Handicapped
Rent Based on income
Kitchen Appliances Furnished
Water, Sewer & Garbage Paid

For applications call or write:

BRODHEAD ELDERLY APARTMENTS

Rt. 1 Box 10 • Brodhead, KY 40409
Phone: 606-758-4506 or 1-800-686-4447
(TDD for speech & hearing impaired 1-800-648-6056)

Northside Apartments

Cable & Utilities Furnished
\$275 Mo.
Call 256-3843

Bluegrass Inn

Efficiency Apartments and Sleeping Rooms For Rent
Rates: \$50 to \$80 per week for one person.
\$15 each additional person.
Electric, water & cable furnished.
256-2444



House For Sale
NEED!
"One in a thousand, come look!"
175 Pears Full 9"
Mt. Vernon
Call 256-4627 for appointment

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Lumber and hardware business located at 12045 US Hwy. 150E, Crab Orchard, KY. Business includes four building (9,000 sq. ft.) on 0.472 acres with 500 ft. of road frontage. \$400K annual sales and \$75 K inventory. Will sell property separately. For more information call: 606-355-7173 or 355-2267/355-7487 after 5 p.m.

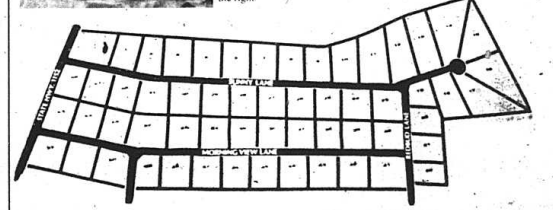


FOR SALE
1997 Giles (Kentuckian) 14x70 Home
Located on .43 acres (lot no. 24 Sunny Side Estates, Ky. Hwy. 1152) w/blacktop road, underground utilities, restricted subdivision Home has 3 bedrooms, electric stove, refrigerator, fireplace, front porch, central a/c and back deck. **\$39,900. "Owner Financing Available"**
Call 758-4825
for more information or to see the property.

Mobile Home Lots For Sale

• Blacktop road • Underground Utilities
• Restrictions on lots
• Single and Doublewide lots
OWNER FINANCING
Call 256-5648 or 758-4825

Directions: Turn left on Hwy. 1152. Go half a mile. Sunny Side Estates is on the right.



Employment Opportunity:
Rockcastle Day Health Care is hiring certified nurse aides. Pleasant work environment with a team approach to standard of excellence. Send resume to RCDHC, PO Box 691, Mt. Vernon or apply at Rockcastle Day Health Center, South US 25, Mt. Vernon. Call 256-9831 for further information. EOE 451n

Administrator/Registered Nurse: Administrator needed for Rockcastle Co. Day Health Care Center. Send resume with salary requirements to Rockcastle Co. Day Health Care, Attn: Shirley L. Cummings, PO Box 691, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456. EOE 451n

Help Wanted: Lexington Herald-Leader has a morning newspaper route available in the Broadhead area. Route takes about 4 hours daily with an approximate profit of \$1500 monthly. Ability to be bonded and reliable transportation needed. Call 1-800-999-8881, 12x2

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

For Sale: Cemetery lots. **Creshaven Cemetery, Mt. Vernon.** Call 256-5648, 311n

For Sale: Lots in the Elmwood Cemetery at \$250 per lot. Call 256-2617 or see Clarence Carter at 310 Williams St. in Mt. Vernon. 10x12pd

For Sale: Wood crafts, quilt racks, reindeer, snowmen, bird houses, bird feeders, wall shelves with clock, decoration lights and more. Roy G. Brown, Rt. 1 Box 298, Brodhead, KY 40409. 758-8881, 161n

For Sale: Carhart Stenowash Denim jeans, related or regular fit \$26.50. Carhart Blue denim hi overalls \$38.00. Large selection of Carhart rugged and casual wear. Napier Bros. Clothing Store, 35

Public Square, Lancaster, 792-2535, 241n

For Sale: Work boots and shoes. Redwing, Rocky, Wolverine, Napier Bros. Clothing Store, 35 Public Square, Lancaster, 792-2535, 181n

For Sale: Sale on chain link or metal fences, farm fences, all types of wood fence, all types of vinyl fences, commercial or residential, free estimates, 90 days same as cash. Call Ead's Fence Co. 1-800-989-8006 or 986-8006, 311n

For Sale: Top Soil, Gravel and Backhoe work available. Call 606-758-0216, 261n

Hay For Sale: Alfalfa and grass hay, Roll or square bale, Good clean hay. Call 758-4514, 421n

For Sale: RAAP T-shirts. Show your support of Rockcastle Adoption Agency for Pets. Large or

X-Large. Red with black print. Front: Dog and cat silhouette with "RAAP". Back: "A righteous man regards the life of his animal...". Napier Bros. Clothing Store, 35 Public Square, Lancaster, 792-2535, 181n

Need Good Homes: A wide variety of cats and kittens. Call 758-4507, 256-5183 or 758-4318, 471n

For Sale: Wheat straw, \$2.25 per bale. Crover Crop seed wheat \$2.25 per bushel. Phone 758-8581 Roy G. Brown, 481n

For Sale: Bed cover for small pickup, \$35. Vinyl toolbox for small pickup, \$45. Camper jockey for full-size LB pickup, \$65, 14", 15" and 16" used tires, \$10-25 each. Denise Austin Trim Rider Exerciser, \$45. (606)758-9011 days or (606)758-8685 nights, 521n

For Sale: A pair of mules. Broke to work or ride. \$2000. obo. For more info. call 256-4606 or mobile 308-4592, 211n

For Sale: Alfalfa/forchard grass mixed hay, \$2.25 bale. Straw \$2.00 bale. Call 256-9838, 2x12

Piano For Sale: Baldwin Console Piano in excellent position. Price \$975. Call 256-4627 at night or (606)308-3202, 41n

For Sale: Round bale hay. Call 758-8181, 71n

For Sale: Square bale hay, mixed grass. \$1.50-2.50. Call 256-0782.

Cookware: We stopped doing dinner parties. Have beautiful new 17-piece sets left. Heavy, brilliant, surgical stainless steel, 100% waterless. Was \$1600, now \$395. Lifetime warranty. (606)256-9454, 10x2

For Sale: AKC Registered mixed breed puppies. Mother and 5 week old puppies. Small, black and buff. \$175 ea. Shots and wormed all ready. 758-4815, 9x3pd

For Sale: 3,000 square bales of mixed grass hay. \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bale. First & second cuttings. About 11 miles out on Copper Creek Rd. 859-925-3741, 10x4

Sowder Nursing Home, Inc.
 West Main St. • Brodhead, KY
 606-758-8711

We are now hiring LPNs and RNs. Benefits include: competitive salaries, Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance with pharmacy plan, life insurance, 401K plans, emergency days, paid vacations and holidays.

Please contact Jennifer Ponder, DON Monday - Friday 8:30 - 4:30

Christian Appalachian Project
 Resident Assistant
 Mt. Vernon Area
 3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Person needed to perform a variety of functions to facilitate day to day operations of the Family Life Services residential program; provide support/assistance/case management services to adults and children in therapeutic environment. QUALIFICATIONS: High school/GED; 1-2 years experience in job related field; ability to be assertive; make rational decisions; work well with people of all races, backgrounds, needs; to lift 50 pounds (children/supplies); possess or be able to obtain certification in CPR, First Aid; non-tobacco or TB skin test results; valid KY driver's license.

Please respond to: Christian Appalachian Project, Inc.
 Human Resources Department #2305
 322 Crab Orchard Street
 Lancaster, KY 40446
 An Equal Opportunity Employer

Help Wanted
 Residential Associates needed to work with persons with developmental disabilities in the Berea area.

- Work in home environment
- Assist with normal home and community activities
- 2nd, 3rd and weekend shifts available
- High School or GED and at least 18 years of age required

Pay: Starting wage, \$7.00 per hour

Benefits: Health, Dental, Life Ins., Vacation, Holidays and 401(k) available for full time staff.

If interested, please attend an Informational Meeting
 December 21, 2000 • 6 p.m.
 Senior Citizens Center
 214 Jefferson St. • Berea

Like interesting work? Like helping people? Come and meet our staff and see if this is a career for you.

For more information contact:
CAKY First Source
 888-293-4549
 An equal opportunity employer

Toyotetsu America, Inc. (TTAI)
Production Team Members

Due to expansion of current facility and addition of new product lines, Toyotetsu America, Inc. (TTAI), a Tier 1 automotive supplier to Toyota, located in Somerset, is currently seeking entry-level production team members.

Applicants will be required to provide proof of high school diploma or GED at time of application. Manufacturing experience is a plus. Qualified candidates must be willing to work a basic schedule of eight hour days, Monday through Friday. First shift hours are 6:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m., EST. Second shift hours are 5:15 p.m. - 2:00 a.m., EST. Availability for daily or weekend overtime is also required.

TTAI offers a competitive starting wage and an excellent benefits package.

All interested parties may apply in person Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at:

Toyotetsu America, Inc. (TTAI)
 Valley Oak Commerce Complex East
 100 Pin Oak Drive
 Somerset, KY 42503
 TTAI is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Toyotetsu America, Inc. (TTAI)
Production Team Members

Due to expansion of current facility and addition of new product lines, Toyotetsu America, Inc. (TTAI), a Tier 1 automotive supplier to Toyota, located in Somerset, is currently seeking entry-level production team members.

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Toyotetsu America, Inc. (TTAI)
 Valley Oak Commerce Complex East
 100 Pin Oak Drive
 Somerset, KY 42503
 TTAI is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Toyotetsu America, Inc. (TTAI)
Maintenance and Die Maintenance Team Members

Due to expansion of current facility and addition of new product lines, Toyotetsu America, Inc. is currently accepting applications for maintenance and die maintenance team members.

Maintenance team member position requirements include general machine/facilities maintenance experience, knowledge of Programmable Logic Controllers, experience in hydraulics/pneumatics and electrical systems and Vo-Tech certification or 2-4 years experience in related area preferred.

Die maintenance team member position requirements include 3-5 years experience in die repair methods, including knowledge of grinding, polishing and welding techniques. Two year machine tool technology certificate required.

TTAI offers a competitive starting wage and excellent benefit package.

All interested parties may apply in person Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at:

Toyotetsu America, Inc. (TTAI)
 Valley Oak Commerce Complex East
 100 Pin Oak Drive
 Somerset, KY 42503
 TTAI is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Berea College

Berea College is a well-established undergraduate institution distinguished by the high quality of its educational programs; its student labor program; history of interracial education, service to the Appalachian region, a continuous, integrated learning environment, and emphasis on perspectives and values deeply informed by the Christian faith.

As a continuous learning environment built upon Berea's Great Commitments and Common Learning Goals, Berea College expects all workers to be active learners, workers, and servers, and seeks to be placed where the Christian values of human compassion, dignity and equality are expressed and lived.

Groundskeeper II Facilities Management

Berea College is seeking a Groundskeeper to perform a variety of grounds-related work including operating, maintaining, and repairing power equipment; completing related recordkeeping; training co-workers and student staff in equipment operating methods and techniques; and tree pruning and removal.

Job Description: Performs all aspects of groundskeeping. Monitors condition of equipment and completes preventive maintenance and schedules repairs as needed. Supervises and trains student staff responsible for groundskeeping.

Skills & Qualifications: High school diploma or GED and 3 years of related work experience. Other desired skills include a working knowledge of ANSI standards, the ability to work well with others, and enthusiasm for attending job-related computer training classes.

Workplace Expectations: Berea College expects each worker to: exhibit enthusiasm for learning; serve others; work as a team; value all people; act with integrity and caring; encourage plain and sustainable living; and celebrate work well done.

Apply in person at People Services located in Rustic Cottage on the Berea College Campus or send resume and cover letter to Carolyn Howard, Berea College, CPO 2189 (MS), Berea, KY 40404; Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until position is filled.

In keeping with the College's inclusive Christian tradition and its emphasis on the dignity and worth of all people, Berea embraces and values diversity through encouragement of applications from women and members of minority groups. Employment decisions are based on training, education and experience related to the requirements of the job. All applications for employment are considered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability. Berea provides reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities.

JOHN'S
 Appliance - Plumbing
 REPAIR
256-9300

HYSINGER CARPET
 • We have many famous brand names and colors to choose from and Armstrong No Wax Vinyl. For all your floor coverings and supplies visit us in Mt. Vernon 256-5413

CENTRAL BODY SERVICE

- Precision Frame Alignment
- Expert Body & Paint Refinishing
- Front End Alignment

24-HOUR Small-Medium-Large
WRECKER SERVICE 256-4210

• Assemblers • Loaders/Unloaders • Machine Operators
 Richmond/Berea
 All Shifts, FT Opportunity w/ Great Benefits
 Call our recruiter @ 859-624-3111

Rewarding Positions are now available. Persons needed to work 35-40 hrs/wk in a residential, home like setting with two to three individuals with mental retardation. Positions require overnight stay. Must be 18, have GED/Diploma, clear driving record, criminal record and drug screen. Salary ranges from \$6.15-\$6.99. Various work schedules are available. Please contact the Personnel Office of the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center, PO Box 568, Corbin, KY 40702. Phone: (606) 528-7010, ext. 278. We are an EOE.

FOR RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE COLLECTION
 CALL 256-2334

BEE

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

CLIFFORD (606) 256-2535
Collins
 AND SON
Septic Tanks & D-Boxes
 "We Make 'um and install 'um!"

Miller's Auto Sales
 Junction U.S. 25 & Hwy. 150
256-2629 or
256-4866 nights

MADISON TERMITE and PEST CONTROL
 Call Paul Burton - Day or Night
 256-2318 - Mt. Vernon
 STOP
 TERMITES ROACHES WATERBUGS

Hensley's Used Cars
 Salt Peter Cave Road
 Hwy. 1004 • Orlando
 Days 256-4777 • Nights 256-9481
 Financing Available

William C. Craig

William C. Craig, 69, of West Chester, Ohio and formerly of Rockcastle County, died Saturday, December 16, 2000 in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was born in Rockcastle County, on August 21, 1931, the son of Joe Sam and Nannie Susan Elder Craig. He retired from GE in 1995 and was a Veteran.

Survivors are his wife, Wilma E. Craig; one son, Neil Craig and wife, Michelle; one daughter, Kim Brandenburg and husband, Sonny; four brothers, Joe Sam, Jr., Jennings, Gailiff and Benny Craig; one sister, Martha Cope and six grandchildren, Ashley, Caitlyn and Drew Brandenburg and Jaclyn, Kayla and Yanson Craig. He was preceded in death by three sisters, Mable Taylor, Mary McWhorter and Julia Hunt and one brother, John Craig.

Services will be Friday, December 22 at 1:00 p.m. at the Hodapp

'Funeral Home in West Chester, Ohio (8815 Cincinnati-Columbus Road). Friends may call at the funeral home from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday.

This obituary courtesy of Dowell & Martin Funeral Home.

Roy Moore

Roy Moore, 50, of Crab Orchard, died Tuesday, December 19, 2000, at the Fort Logan Hospital in Stanford. He was born on August 14, 1950 in Rockcastle County, the son of the late Albert and Anna Baker Moore. He was a farmer.

Survivors are his wife, Patsy Bishop Moore of Crab Orchard; one daughter, Amy Moore of Crab Orchard; one brother, Raymond Moore of Crab Orchard and one sister, Barbara Moore of Crab Orchard. He was preceded in death by three brothers, Vernon, Ralph and Howard Moore and one sister, Elise Sanders.

Services will be Thursday, December 21, at 1:00 p.m. at the Watson Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Cecil Roundtree officiating.

mixing cookies...
measuring flour in silver cups...
licking spoons...
mixing up (more) batches...
peanut butter... chocolate chip...
everyone's favorite cookies...
Merry Christmas!
You were 'chex mix'...
made your special way...
(Why can't I get it to taste like that?)
You were mixed nuts... in a can...
picking through them...
with your fingers...
the peanuts always eaten last.
Merry Christmas!
You were always taping...
the Christmas 'specials'...
'A Charlie Brown Christmas'...
with all the 'peanut characters'...
they were your favorite.
I remember now...
"The Grinch Who Stole Christmas"...
and think again of you...
You were Christmas packages...
sent to our home...
Peanut Butter fudge...
my daughter's favorite...
Merry Christmas!
This year... at Christmas...
I will remember you...
and I wish for you...
peaceful slumber...
days with soft breezes...
where you rest...

Birds to sing your songs...
Blanks of pure white snow...
for you to rest under...
Quiet and sleep...
so well deserved...
and the best of all...
This year...with' your son...
Tommy...
with your own sister...
your own dad and 'Mommy'
I love you.
Merry Christmas!
'Mommy'
Sandhi

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In Loving Memories

In Memory of Bennett L. Burton, who passed away August 16, 1981 How my heart aches since that sad day. When they told me Bennett had passed away. I'll never forget the ones that stood by. But oh, how I wanted to die And leave him here with his family he loved dear. But the Lord's will must be done. For He gave up His one son to save us from this world of sin. If we'll only repent and do his will. We can't understand why we have to give. Our loved ones up so young. But we'll understand it by and by. *Sadly missed by mother.*
Vallie Burton

In Memory of Betty Jo Adkins June 2, 1933-July 20, 2000
Everyday I Miss You A Little
I think of you... often...
That's for sure...
And one day...
I plan to visit...
Just drop by...
Without calling first...
To see how you're doing...
But yesterday...
I was working...
And today... well, I'm busy...
Tomorrow... my schedule's full...
But "somebody," I'll be by...
I miss you...
I never knew... we never do...
How fast that God...
Would answer my prayers...
"Dear God," I said...
"Please don't let her suffer...
please don't let her have to leave home..."
Please don't let her ever have to know...
Just how sick she is...
It was when I came to visit...
She didn't even recognize me...
Just looked at me with those same green eyes...
Eyes just like mine... like yours!
Her 'own' daughter...
But it was as if...
She saw 'through me'... not me!
(How could it be... I was standing right there...
she was slipping away.)
Ah, God answers prayers... quick and

swift.
And he saw fit... to take you home.
I miss you.
So here, we are... in all our tomorrows.
And you are in heaven above...
It doesn't matter now... how busy we are...
It doesn't matter now...
What we did yesterday... today's just another day...
Tomorrow... we have the holidays...
Someday... could be any day...
But you are gone... and my heart quakes...
Because I wish... you'd gotten more visits...
I wish those you loved...
forgave... and... me... but...
Time has passed away...
"home" isn't home anymore...
I can't think of going back there...
Not yesterday... or today... maybe...
Someday... maybe tomorrow...
I miss you...
"Dear Mommy" I say...
Everyday I miss you a little more.
Sandhi

In Memory of Betty Jo Adkins June 2, 1933-July 20, 2000
Merry Christmas...
Mommy...
The holidays are near and I remember you. You were fun and games... and baking cookies... wrapping presents... with Sunday comics... bows from 'last year'... You were 'sprit'z cookies... and snow cream... mixing up dough... Flour on the floor... crumbs in the crack of... the dining room table... You were a helping hand... to all your children... babysitting and baking... enjoying the... grand... and great-grandchildren... their hugs... and kisses... You were colored sprinkles... and powdered sugar... on sticky fingers and chins... You never minded the mess... (Messes clean up later.) You were... taking turns...

Merry Christmas



Pictured, front row from left: Sandy Bullen, Dusty Mullins, Debra Smith, Clarissa Hodge, and Danetra Allen. Back row, from left: Sam Ford, Dale Whitaker, David Henderson, Jeff Cromer, Harold Bustle, Roy Adams, and Danny Ford.

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From Long Ago

Submitted by: Ray Evans
3400 Capri Drive
Louisville, KY 40218
ray.evans@att.net

The following first appeared in the Mount Vernon Signal on October 18, 1900. It was reprinted from the microfilm of that issue of the Signal. With these submissions, I am sharing these gleanings with the Signal's present readers.

BROADHEAD NEWS
Miss Dessie Robins and Mrs. Reynolds left Monday for St. Louis where they will make their future home. - Dr. O. Stone, M. C. and B. E. Albright, Jno. E. Evans, Mart Roberts and H. H. Hutcherson were up from Mt. Vernon last Monday to see the ball game. - Jno. E. Evans is a home from a three weeks trip through North Eastern Tennessee. - J. Thos. Cherry, Dr. Percy Benton and John Roberts were among the guests attending the grand lodge at Louisville this week from here. - Chas. Hurt is slinging lightning at Lebanon this week. - Miss Susie Hilton, of Lancaster, visited her parents here Sunday until Tuesday. - Mrs. John Hillton and Miss Katie Cass, of Stanford, spent Sunday here the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Cass. - M. B. Howard has opened a 5 and 10 cents store in the Dr. Benton store on Main Street. - Mrs. H. Hutcherson is in Danville this week on business. - Misses Lydia Hillton and Jewel Francisco visited Mrs. R. H. Batson at Lancaster latter part of last week. - Mr. and Mrs. Lan Hicks are visiting relatives at Kansas City. - Chas. Pike and sister, Miss Eliza, have returned from a weeks visit to Miss Emma Jones in Garrard county. - Wm. Watson and wife have returned to their home in New Ky. after spending two weeks here with Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Watson. - Rev. A. J. Pike filed his regular appointment in Boyle county last Sunday. - Ray O., the bright three and one-half year old child of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hicks, passed into the great beyond at 10:40 o'clock last Thursday morning. He was one of the brightest children we have ever known, but was worshipped by all who knew him. After an early funeral service conducted by the Rev. A. J. Pike, at the Christian church on Friday at 2:30 p.m., all that was left of this bright boy was laid to rest in the Christian church cemetery, amidst a large number of sorrowing friends and relatives. The neighbors have had our heartfelt sympathy in their dark hour of trouble. But they must remember, God knows best in all things. - Miss Lillian Shugars, of Lancaster, is the guest of her brother, W. K. Shugars, of this city. - The party given by Miss Etta Frith last Tuesday was largely attended and well enjoyed by all present. - Mrs. William Potts visited her sister, Mrs. D. E. Davis in Mt. Vernon. - Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Tate are attending the treats at Lexington. - The "Judge" party given at the Frith Hotel last Monday night under the auspices of the M. B. A., was largely attended and well enjoyed by all present. Those registering were Messes Susan Owens, Lydia Hillton, Burdette Owens, Elizabeth Cable, Maude Watson, Bertie Hicks, Jewel Francisco, and Messrs. A. C. Becklege, G. C. Carter, C. F. Stamper, Jno. Calhoun, of Lebanon Junction, A. K. Weavry, of Eukhanks, O. A. Frith, Eugene Green, M. B. Bowling, U. B. Cass, Virgil Martin, F. L. Durham, Mrs. W. F. Carter and O. O. Stone, M. C. and B. E. Albright and Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Jones, of Lexington. - Mrs. Keavy, is the guest of Mrs. B. A., may she live and grow forever. - Wm. Benton Sundayed at home - W. J. Owens, of Corbin, is at home for a few days. - Born to the wife of G. F. Sutton a fine girl. - J. E. Stone, of Keavy, is the guest of Mrs. Lou Storms for a few days. - H. H. Reynolds went to Miamasburg, Ohio last Sunday to visit Prof. Woolley.

LIVINGSTON NEWS
Mrs. J. W. Baker and daughter, Mrs. Angeline, were visiting U. G. Baker and family at Mt. Vernon Sunday and Monday. - George Cope is having a concrete side walk made in front of his house on Main street. - Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Reed and son Master Earl have returned to their home at Lebanon Junction after a very pleasant week with their mother, Mrs. H. W. Rice. - Mrs. George Pope has returned from a very pleasant visit with Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Merrimac at Paris, Ky. - J. W. Baker and Bert Whitehead were in the city this week buying Christmas goods. - Dr. R. G. Webb has moved his office into the Pope office. - Harry Bowman and Bird Cockrell are in Mt. Vernon this week. - Mrs. Mary Hagan was in Corbin the latter part of last week. - Mrs. Lena Sparks and children are spending the week in Louisville. - Mrs. Henry Owens is visiting her daughter Mrs. Alec Wells at Mareburg. - Dan Alcorn has taken charge of the "River Mansion" Hotel. - John Pope is having improvements made on his houses on Main

street. - L. H. Davis is having lots of improvements made on his property recently purchased of Mrs. Sue Mullins. - Ed Owens has moved his family into the house recently vacated by Dan Alcorn. - Miss Lida Cook spent the week in Louisville. - Squire Kinley has moved his family to his new home recently purchased on Mullins Avenue known as the "Dock Stuck" house. - Mrs. Ann Owens is on the sick list. - The big "boom" which we have been talking about for so long is now on trans stopping here now and more to stop before the year is out. New mines are opening up all around us lots of work for lots of people and property that sold for \$400 can now sell for \$800 and property that sold for \$1500 can now sell just as easy for \$2500. All those desiring a home in Livingston had best buy now for two months more will see homes that are now going for six and eight hundred for \$2000 easily. - Ben Brumitt is improving his property on Main street recently purchased from W. H. Sigmom. - Miss Lotie Samms has been conducting a pleasant week with her grandmama, Mrs. Jane Owens. - Mr. Dave Riggles has moved his household goods from Lebanon Junction into the home of his father-in-law, Mr. J. T. Chewing. Mr. Riggles has three children and the excellent family of Mr. Chewing have the sympathy of the entire community in their bereavement. This is four deaths this family has had in the last two years. And why weep mortal men in our blindness and blindness ask ourselves the question, "Why is such an excellent family and Christian home so completely broken up." We will in time see the hand of providence in it all, and say as David of old, "The Lord's growth, and the Lord taken, blessed be the name of the Lord. - Mr. Jacob Sambrook is in Louisville this week. - Mrs. Rebecca Lucas and children have returned to their home at Broadland, Ill., after spending the summer with her sister, Mrs. Mart Hicks. - W. C. Mullins is having his house on Main street repaired in general. - The county bridge across Roundstone is being rebuilt. This should have been done 18 months ago. - Mrs. Susie Hicks has been very low but is a little better at this writing. - Misses Ethel Hayes and Myrtle Chewing have returned from a pleasant visit to Mrs. Harry Jenkins in Corbin. - Logan Sayers, formerly of this place, but now of Corbin, is at Richmond taking treatment for consumption.

PERSONAL NEWS

Miss Bessie Miller is very sick. - Dr. E. J. Brown was here yesterday. - Conn Brown was in Louisville yesterday. - Claud Cox has been on the sick list this week. - Miss Bessie Mullins is visiting relatives in Corbin. - T. S. Miller has returned to his home in Santa Rosa, Cal. - Mrs. Matilda Hook, who has been very sick for several days is better. - Mrs. Fannie Adams will go to Middleboro the first of the week for several days visit. - Miss Mat Williams will leave soon for a month's visit to Louisville and other points. - J. P. Houston was here from Hazel Patch yesterday looking after some business matters. - A. B. Furnish and Morris Brown are in Louisville attending the Grand Lodge of Masons. - Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Thompson came yesterday to be present at the burial of Mrs. F. L. Thompson. - Hon. B. J. Beburnham, Hon. Robert Harding and Commonwealth's Attorney are visiting attorneys this week. - U. G. Baker is in Louisville this week attending the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Masons and buying new goods. - R. B. and T. D. Mullins are taking in the Jamestown Exposition, Washington, New York and

other Eastern points of interest. - We are glad to see our good friend Neal Parrett able to again be on the streets after an illness of four weeks of malaria fever. - W. H. Brown and family and A. J. Thompson and daughter, came up from Lincoln yesterday to attend the burial of Mrs. F. L. Thompson. - Mrs. Hughes, mother of L. R. Hughes and Miss Baughman came up from Stanford yesterday afternoon to witness the burial of Mrs. Thompson. - J. P. Graham will leave with his family tomorrow for New Haven, where they will be located for a time. We regret to lose this splendid family from our number. - Dr. D. B. Southard was in Louisville part of this week attending the meeting of the Kentucky Medical Association. - D. G. Roach was on yesterday's train returning from Louisville to his home in Manchester. He says that the new coal from this city is better, but his mother is very sick at this time. - Dr. R. W. Dyche, a dentist from London, was here Tuesday making arrangements to come here to locate. He has rented the office in the old brick, recently vacated by Atty. J. W. Brown and expects to be here the first of next week to open his office for business. - Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Brannaman were here for a few hours Wednesday. Mr. Brannaman told us that he had sold his

farm of 223 acres to Tip Langford and Coleman Burdette for \$2500. He said that he would locate somewhere in the land but did not know where. - Mr. Emerson Rice and wife have been guests of Mr. William Fields and family, returned to Lebanon Junction Friday. - Mr. J. R. Orndorff, of Livingston, was here Saturday mingling with his many friends. We are glad to state that "Pop" has fully recovered from the injuries sustained in a wreck a few weeks ago. - Dr. Percy Benton, of Broadhead, was here Friday to see Dr. E. J. Brown. - Dr. M. L. Myers has been outville for the past week. He will be at home some time next week. - Jack Adams arrived Tuesday from Colorado with a car load of horses. He will have his sales tomorrow as advertised. - Hon. Eli Brown, former speaker of the House of Representatives is here being interviewed is a lawsuit now before the court.

OTTAWA NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Rogers, of Small, Ky., spent Saturday and Sunday at their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tart Proctor. - H. G. Sutton, of Bornal was in this part Thursday. - Quail was the wife of C. S. Armstrong a boy baby on the 7th Sunday. Mother and babe both doing well. - Mr. and Mrs. Mary Brown and little daughter, Anna, visited relatives at Quail Sunday. Liden Laswell purchased from P. T. Peace, of Lincoln county, a mule for \$78. - The eight year old child of Robert Wallen has pneumonia fever. - The last few days have seemed like winter and the farmers are beginning to haul in their winter wood. - S. S. Proctor, who is doing carpenter work at Mareburg was with homefolks Sunday. - The farmers are busy sowing wheat in this section. - Billy Thompson, of Krueger, visited relatives here Sunday night.

LOCAL NEWS

DEATH: Mrs. F. L. Thompson died at her home, our little city, Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Thompson was 45 years nine months and eight days old. For more than twenty years she had been in very poor health, but not until the last six months did her afflictions become of such a nature to cause any considerable alarm, either to her self or to her family. All that medical could do brought her no relief. The use of X-rays revealed that the growth in her right shoulder was the seat of the trouble, which for weeks had caused her such excruciating pain, but in her weakened condition, she was not equal to the operation necessary to

remove the cause, which was surely wearing her life away. Mrs. Thompson, who was Miss Alza Fish before her marriage, was the only daughter of Egbert and Ann Fish and on the twelfth day of December 1880 was united in matrimony to F. L. Thompson, to which union was born six children, three girls, Misses Susie and Alza and Mrs. L. R. Hughes, of Stanford, and three boys F. L. Jr., James and Will all of whom are living. Besides the husband and children, who are crushed by the great misfortune which has come upon them, she leaves one brother, A. J.

Fish, and an aged mother, who is heart broken because of the death of her only daughter. Short services were conducted from the home at 3 o'clock p. m. yesterday, after which the remains were laid to rest in Elmwood cemetery, to follow the resurrection.

Rockcastle beef producers offer women tips to get through holidays

'Tis the season for family, friends, fun - and especially food. Just in time for the holidays, Rockcastle County beef producers are bringing busy women two new information sheets full of realistic advice on navigating the holiday buffet table without ruining their healthy eating plans, along with tips to maximize their time and energy.

The "Every Day Solutions For Everyday Heroes" and "Beef Nutrients That Work As Hard As You Do" sheets were developed by the \$1-per-head beef checkoff program and the Council for Women's Nutrition Solution - an all-women advisory board of health and nutrition experts. "Instead of sending messages about what you can't eat for good health, we're providing simple options for every day nutrition that will ultimately provide increased energy, crucial during the chaotic holiday season," says Carrie Taylor, Director of Consumer Affairs of the Kentucky Beef Council.

Women have been getting mixed messages for years about nutrition and activity. "Engaging in regular physical activity, eating a wide variety of foods and choosing lean meat and dairy products is the message we need to get out to women," adds Taylor. For example, seven cuts of beef fall between the skinless chicken breast and thigh in terms of total fat, including a holiday favorite, tenderloin.

Foods that contain a power pack of nutrients, like beef, have fallen off women's plates - leaving them deficient in many key nutrients, such as iron, zinc, protein and B-vitamins, that are necessary to support the energy needs of today's woman. This checkoff-funded effort will real tremendous benefits for beef producers, according to Taylor. "We're providing reliable, realistic information in an easy-to-read format that fits the lifestyle of our key audience," says Taylor. "We're expecting to distribute more than 300,000 sheets

through health professionals and directly to interested consumers."

Highlighted below are a few examples of nutrition and lifestyle tips perfect for the holiday season, as well as the rest of the year.

• Let moderation be your guide. Enjoy the foods you love - but in sensible portions.

• Add to your foods' color palette. Eat colorful fruits and vegetables like tomatoes, mangoes, carrots, blueberries and squash. Generally, the deeper the colors, the more nutrients they contain.

• Read product labels. Look for foods that are high in fiber, calcium, protein, zinc, iron, B-vitamins, Vitamin C, and other nutrients your body needs.

• Create leftovers. It's just as easy to cook a large roast or casserole as a small one! Save time and energy, using the leftovers for a second meal or tasty snacks, or freeze them for homemade "fast food" later.

• Take time to stop and smell the pot roast. It takes about 20 minutes for your brain to register that your stomach is full, so slow down and savor your food.

• Stretch your restaurant meals. Order what you want and take half home to enjoy tomorrow. Or share the salad and entree with a friend.

you'll save calories and money too!

• It's all about balance. Think of healthy eating as a balancing act. Enjoy all foods just balance higher fat/higher calorie and low fat/low calorie options over time. Big dinner tonight? Follow-up with a walk outdoors and a light dessert.

• Pump Iron. Iron is a role in a wide variety of body functions. For example, iron helps regulate the body's production of energy, supports the immune system and helps ensure optimal cognitive function and brain development. Iron is also needed to form healthy red blood cells and prevent anemia. Iron is especially important for women and children and can be easily obtained from sirloin, lean ground beef, top round, turkey, fortified breakfast cereal, and spinach.

• Zap that next bug with Zinc. Zinc also plays an important role in maintaining good health. Zinc aids in the growth and cognitive development in growing children, maintaining a healthy immune system, healing wounds and ensuring normal appetite and taste. Good sources of zinc that can fit in an every day diet include Raisin Bran™, lean ground beef, sirloin, skinless chicken, wheat germ, plain, low fat yogurt, and baked beans.

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It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas!

Opportunity's knocking And we'd just like to say, Hope your season is perfect in every way. May it open the door, For good tidings and cheer -- Merry Christmas to all And a joyous New Year.

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HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

May yours be filled with peace, love and contentment this holiday season.

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FilmValues.com announces top ten family-friendly films

With the end of the year approaching rapidly, we are flooded with "Top 10" movie lists, often with a lot of foreign and independent films that many people have never heard of. Here's a list that is useful — the Top 10 Family-Friendly Films from America's fastest growing parenting website, www.FilmValues.com

Dr. H. Arthur Tausig, Ph.D., the driving force behind FilmValues.com invites parents to read the complete reviews on his website. "I realize parents are busy," he says "so the reviews are short and easy to read, with lots of the information about sexuality, violence, language, blood, etc. in easy-to-read labels."

"Picking ten films was tough," says Tausig. "Unlike what most film critics say about Hollywood, there were a large number of films with good messages for children. Of course, these often have to be weighed against bad messages. The films were selected by balancing the good and the bad, the overall entertainment value, and the breadth of the age group that could watch the films."

"The pickings were so good, in fact, that Tausig has posted a Top 20 list on his information-packed website, www.FilmValues.com. Rest assured that Dr. Tausig has identified the messages these films send to children, despite the rather eclectic nature of the list."

On his popular (over two million visitors), multiple award winning website, www.FilmValues.com, Tausig offers almost 1000 evaluations of current and classic films appearing on the big screen, network TV, cable and video rental. The reviews are without political, religious or social bias. With this information parents can now make sensible decisions about what their kids should and should not be watching. Parents will find films for kids of all ages from *Barnes, Piggs, and Thomas* all the way to *Fulp Fiction, Matrix* and *There's Something About Mary*.

Dr. H. Arthur Tausig, Ph.D. evaluates each film in over twenty content categories of concern to parents including: Age Recommendation, Plot Summary, Substance Use, Violence/Scarcity, Morals, Issues & Values, Crimes (and whether they are punished or not), Sexuality and Gender Issues, Alternate Film Recommendations, Nudity, Sexuality, Physical Violence, Emotional Stress, Blood or Gore, Language and Profanity, Immaturity, Degree of Parental Guidance, Watchability for Adults, and an overall Rating for Kids of the Appropriate Age. Films from books are marked to encourage kids to read. He also distinguishes between profanity and vulgarity.

With this information, according to Dr. Tausig, parents can decide with confidence what is appropriate for their children. "Each family is different, and as every parent knows, so is every child," says Tausig, "thus

the usual G, PG and PG-13 ratings are not very helpful. Rather than depending on some outside organization, parents can now get the information they need to make decisions for their own families."

These reviews do not replace newspaper and magazine reviews, but supplement them. "Everyone should read both," says Tausig. "Newspaper and magazine reviews deal with the artistic merits while I point out the messages — good or bad — kids get from films. Parents need to know about both before deciding what to see."

In addition to the excellent reviews, www.FilmValues.com offers many unique features:

- Tausig focuses on what most popular reviewers avoid: moral and ethical issues, gender issues, religious messages, means of conflict resolution, and other messages parents rarely care about.

- His reviews contain "spoilers," that is, twists and surprise endings, because these often contain issues that are of great concern to parents.

- Since kids see more films on TV than on the big screen, the site contains hundreds of films playing on cable and TV. There is even a handy daily TV movie guide of reviewed films with over 50 to 60 listings per day.

- The website contains many reviews of Made-for-TV and Direct-to-Video films in motion. Tausig is one of the few reviewers who evaluate Anime — the often violent and sex-filled Japanese animation so popular with teens and college students.

- To help parents decide on video rentals, Tausig is particularly proud of what he calls a "negative search option." Parents often ask if I know which films have the least violence or sex, or whatever. Now, with www.FilmValues.com parents can choose the type of film they are looking for, fill in the age of their child and then indicate what they want the LEAST of in a film — sex, violence, language, immorality, etc. — and get several useful recommendations."

Parents can also request specific children's films to be reviewed.

FilmValues.com takes no advertising since today almost every political advertiser is somehow connected to the movie business. Free subscriptions deliver new reviews by e-mail.

The author, Dr. H. Arthur Tausig, Ph.D., prepares each review. A recognized expert on the psychology and sociology of popular film, he has had over 200 articles published internationally. Dr. Tausig is Professor of Film and Photography and Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, California, teaches for the University of California, Irvine, and is Adjunct Curator of Film at the Orange County Museum of Art. He holds degree from UC Berkeley and UCLA. He

has taught contemporary film for over twenty years and conducted many film workshops for parents. He is the author of the highly acclaimed "Film Values/Family Values - A Parents' Guide to Children's Films."

This year's list (in order of age range, not quality) is:

Chicken Run ****. 5 and up. Animated adventure. Good Points: Spectacular animation. Parable for the importance of personal freedom and self-reliance. Shows the best qualities of human beings. Bad Points: The film becomes rather dull at times.

Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas ****. 5 and up. Christmas Fantasy. Good Points: Anti-materialism spiritually of Christmas, family cooperation, non-violent problem solving. Bad Points: The Grinch might occasionally scare, the very young.

Fantasia 2000 ****. 5 and up. Musical Animation. Good Points: Beautiful animation and music. Overcoming physical handicaps. Great Entertainment. Bad Points: Donald Duck as the biblical Noah.

The Emperor's New Groove ****. 5 and up. Animated Adventure/Comedy. Good Points: Friendship and self-sacrifice are rewarded. Egotism can be overcome. Very entertaining. Bad Points: Meso-American locale but not Meso-American culture.

Flinstones in Viva Rock Vegas ****. 5 and up. Comedy Fantasy. Good Points: A loving relation as a life goal generously to others, strong friendships. Great Fantasy — Bad

Points: Momentary addiction to gambling. Sentility used for laughs.

Fracture ****. 5 to 10. Animated Fantasy. Good Points: Honesty, duty, responsibility and friendship solve problems; visually inventive; traditional fairy tale ideas. Bad Points: Kidnapping as part of the solution.

Dinosaur ****. 6 and up. Animated Adventure. Good Points: Adoption Cooperation among young and old emphasized over survival of the fittest. Promotes racial tolerance, compassion, perseverance and forgiveness. Bad Points: Intense, but short lights, realistic disaster. Racial intolerance (of carnivores).

My Dog Skip ****. 8 and up. Animal Drama. Good Points: Boy learns self-confidence and responsibility. Learning to be an adult. Bad points: the dog dies.

Frequency ****. 13 and up. Science Fiction Drama. Good Points: Healing of father/son relations. One can better one's life. Father quits smoking and lives longer. Altruistic police, nurses and firemen. Bad Points: Death of parents. Several intense violent confrontations.

Men of Honor ****. 15 and up. Drama/Biography. Good Points: Overcoming handicaps and racism. Achieving goals. Shows importance of education, persistence and honor. Problem solving without violence. Bad Points: Considerable bad language. A man's leg is amputated. Military leaders are prejudiced. R-rating.

Kosair Children's Hospital offers tips on giving toys

This holiday season, before you give a toy to a child, you may want to make sure it's appropriate. Toys and games provide many opportunities for children to learn and grow — physically, mentally and socially.

"Younger children can get frustrated by playing with toys and games that are not suited to their physical or mental capabilities," said Erika Kravac, R.N., Children's Hospital Foundation Office of Child Advocacy of Kosair Children's Hospital. "These are guidelines found on packages really are helpful."

When purchasing toys and games for your child, remember they should be:

- appealing and interesting to the child
- suited to the child's physical abilities
- suited to the child's mental and social development
- well-constructed, durable and safe for the child's age

In general, most toys and games on the market today are safe. However, manufacturer safety standards are voluntary and you can never be completely sure they are being followed. Injuries can still occur despite government regulations and toy makers' best efforts to test products.

The following is a list of toys that the Children's Hospital Foundation Office of Child Advocacy of Kosair Children's Hospital, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Consumer Product Safety Commission recommend for specific age groups. Remember, however, that these are merely guidelines and parents should watch for mislabeled toys and always provide supervision for younger children.

For All Ages

- Look for end read age and safety labels on toys.
- Explain and/or show children how to use toys properly and safely.
- Keep toys intended for older children away from younger children.

Check all toys periodically for breakage and potential hazards.

- Store toys safely — teach children to put toys away so they are not tripping hazards, and check toy boxes and shelves for safety.

Newborn to 1-Year-Old — Choose "eye-catching" toys that appeal to a baby's sight, hearing and touch, such as:

- Large plastic blocks and soft cloth blocks, pots and pans, rattles and teething, soft, washable animals, dolls or balls with painted or stitched-on eyes, nose, etc., and molded (not loose) hair, bright, movable objects suspended out of baby's reach, busy boards, activity blocks and cubes, floating bath toys, squeeze toys and roly-poly toys.

1-to 2-Year-Olds — Toys for this age group need to withstand a toddler's curious nature, such as:

- Cloth, plastic or board books with large pictures, sturdy dolls, wooden or large hollow plastic blocks, ride-on toys propelled by pushing with feet (no pedals or steering), musical toys, nesting blocks, push and pull toys (remember — no long strings), stacking toys, toy telephones, soft, lightweight balls, toys with noise and action effects, large crayons and sturdy, large-size paper.

2- to 5-Year-Olds — Toys for this age group are usually experimental and should imitate activities of parents and older children, such as:

- Books (short or stuffed), blackboard and chalk, building blocks, crayons, non-toxic finger paints, markers and clay, large tools and fix-a-plate sets, realistic dolls with accessories, music box toys, housekeeping

toys, realistic stuffed toys, replicas of famous characters, outdoor toys, sandbox, slide, swing, playhouse, realistic ride-on toys (bicycle, cars, wagons, tractors), cassette tape player, simple puzzles with large pieces, board games with few pieces and simple rules, dress-up clothes and tea party utensils (not miniature).

5- to 9-Year-Olds — Toys for this age group should help your child promote skill development and creativity, such as: Craft and sewing sets, doctor and nurse kits, jigsaw puzzles, hand puppets, paper-making toys, electric trains, paper dolls, hoes, jump ropes, roller skates with helmet and protective gear, sports equipment, battery-powered ride-on toys, bicycle (sized to child) and helmet.

blunt scissors, crayons, markers, card games, simple strategy and quiz games.

10- to 14-Year-Olds — Hobbies and scientific activities are ideal for this age group, such as:

- Computer and video games, construction sets with complex parts, models, sewing, needlework, musical instruments, games requiring speed, dexterity, competition and concentration, two-wheeled bicycle and helmet, microscopes, telescopes, remote control toys, books, audio/visual equipment, and sports equipment with safety gear, hobby collections.

As Kentucky's only freestanding, full-service hospital, affiliated exclusively to caring for children, adolescents and young adults, Kosair Children's Hospital has a strong commitment to the health and safety of all children. For more information on toy safety or to inquire about free fact sheets on a variety of health and safety subjects, call 502.621.KIDS or 1-800-852-1770 or visit our website at www.kosairchildrens.com

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Seasons Greetings



As we celebrate the Christmas season, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your friendship and kindness.

My deputies and I wish each and everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May your days be filled with joy, happiness and the best of health.

Seasons Greetings

from

County Clerk Norma Houk
and Deputies Tina Gibbs, Amy Price, Becky Smith,
Sonya McGuire and Janet Burdine

Closed December 22nd at noon through December 25th and January 1st and 2nd

Childhood Days

By Mae Taylor

Sometime ago I wrote about going to grandpa's and grandma's, and how I can't get around very well any more. And as I have to sit more, I get to thinking more of the past long ago. How much things have changed since I was a child and growing up. My father's name was Joe Cummins and my mother's name was Dora. My father wasn't a very strong man, he couldn't do hard work. But to this, union were born nine children. Only four now living. Three passed away at an early age.

Back when my father was growing up, farmers didn't have pretty fields as they do now. The fields would grow up with sage grass, which you don't see any more, in the fall when this sage grass gets brown people would burn the fields off. So my father and grandpa was burning off the field and the fire got out of hand, so they fought this fire for hours. Father was 18-year-old then and he was sick for some time over fighting the fire. He told me all about it and I caused him to have asthma the rest of his life. Doctors then didn't know what to do for it. There was a plant out in the field that was called life ever lasting. It grew tall and bloom. Someone told daddy to get this and smoke it, so me and my brother, Cecil which was two years older than I, we would go and gather this weed. Mother would dry the leaves, when it got dry, she would crush them into powder. When Daddy would take one of them spells where he couldn't get his breath, mother would put some of this powder in a small dish, light it with a match, it burned slow. Mother would put a big piece of cloth over the dish and would inhale this smoke and it helped him for a while. There wasn't but one doctor in the county and his name was Dr. George Lawrence. He would ride a horse and go to the home. He had a colored man, every body called him Dock Lawrence.

As soon as my brother, Cecil got old enough, we had to help with the farm work. For mother had all she could do with the little ones and garden. We had old rail picket fences then so every spring Cecil and I would

have to clean out the fence rows and on these old rails were lizards and I was scared to death of them. We didn't get to go to school like some children. We would have to miss days and work. Cecil and I would pick blackberries and sell for ten cents a gallon to help buy our school books.

Daddy had a big peach orchard and apple. We would help Daddy pick peaches for people would come and buy them for 50 cents a bushel. So mother would dry peaches, apples and green beans. Back then people never had pretty lawns, for the chickens, ducks and geese kept the grass ate off. So when it got pretty and warm, mother would take a knife and go to the woods, cut small branches three or four feet long and tie them in bundles. She would make two, one for herself and one for me. That is what we would sweep the yard with she called it a brush broom. We raised most of what we ate. Daddy and grandpa had a molasses mill so we raised cane and had molasses to sweeten with. Mother would make blackberry jam with molasses. She used to make a molasses cobbler. Also egg butter. She would take molasses, put in a skillet when they started boiling, she would beat eggs and pour in the molasses. Add a little nutmeg if she had any. We didn't know any thing about cake mixes or packages then. Daddy put in a little store at home. People helped him build this small building. One small grocery as most people would need, coffee, salt, candy, gum and not. A can't remember if he had flour or not. A few pieces of dress fabric, men's socks, and at Christmas he got in a dozen dolls that sold for 50¢. They were 12 inches high, so he gave me and my sister one. I was one year older than her. I was so proud of that doll. The only one I ever had and the last. So my little sister soon tore her up and I had to give her mine. I still think she owes me a doll. The way Daddy got his grocery and what ever he had in the store, a dealer would come to our house once a month and take Daddy's order. He would drive a

team of horses hooked to a wagon, and bring his samples. Then when the order came it would come to Brothead to the Depot. Then Daddy would have to go in a wagon to Brothead and get them. It took all day to go there and back. He could take me with him sometimes, there was a little restaurant there where we would eat. I think it was Mr. Frih's restaurant. I've never forgotten those cheese and crackers. The cheese was cut so thin you could almost read through it. But the cheese was a treat then. In the winter if one of us children took the crop, mother would put a shovel of hot ashes on the hearth, set a big onion in those ashes, then

ashes on top. The red hot coals on top when it got done, she would mash out the juice and put a little sulphur in it, and give it to us. She would make us cambr tea. We had it growing so in summer, she would dry it for winter.

Back then the old time preachers walked or rode a horse to preach on Saturday evening and Sunday and maybe get a dollar. And they sure did preach the Bible. Just think what they get now on Sunday morning. Some would go early and ring the church bell to let people know it was church time. So many changes in these years.

Guess I've written enough for now I could go on and on like a story with no end.

Is it the holidays blues?

How do you know if it's just the holiday blues? Does it go beyond a bit of sadness during the holidays? Is it something more, like clinical depression?

Grief, loneliness, and stress are often intensified during the holidays and can leave you feeling sad and blue. Unrealistic expectations of a picture perfect, Norman Rockwell Christmas; over-commercialization; and the added pressures of shopping, gift giving and cooking may further accent these feelings. Even people who do not become clinically depressed can develop stress reactions during the holidays, such as headaches, excessive drinking, and changes in eating and sleeping patterns.

Although many people experience feelings of depression during the holiday season, even more respond to the excessive stress and anxiety once the holidays are over. The post-holiday letdown can be the result of emotional disappointments experienced during the previous months as well as the physical reactions caused by excess fatigue and stress.

Clinical depression, on the other hand, is more than just the holiday or post-holiday blues. The essential feature of a major depressive episode for an adult is a period of at least two weeks during which there is either depressed mood or the loss of interest or pleasure in nearly all activities.

The individual must also experience at least five additional symptoms drawn from a list that includes change in appetite or weight, sleep, and psychomotor ability, decreased energy, feelings of worthlessness or excessive guilt, difficulty thinking, concentrating, or making decisions, or recurrent thoughts of death or suicide, plans or attempts. Significant distress or impairment in social, oc-

cupational, or other important areas of functioning is usually present as well during major depressive episodes.

The causes of clinical depression vary. It appears that major depressive episodes occur, generation after generation, in some families, but not always. Whether the disease is genetic or not, it is evident that individuals with major depressive disorders of ten have too little or too much of certain neurochemicals.

Psychological makeup also plays a role in vulnerability to depression. People with low self-esteem, who consistently view themselves and the world with pessimism, or who are readily overwhelmed by stress are prone to depression.

A serious loss, chronic illness, difficult relationship, financial problem, or any unwelcome change in life patterns can also trigger a depressive episode. Very often, a combination of genetic, psychological, and environmental factors is involved in the onset of a major depressive disorder. The good news is that depression can be treated. A variety of prescription medications and counseling services are available remedies today. If you or someone you know experiences something more than holiday blues, contact your doctor, clergyman, or a counselor. Information is available at your local community mental health center.

If you think that you are experiencing holiday blues or want to avoid them this year, here are some tips to help you cope:

- Keep expectations manageable by setting realistic goals, pace yourself and organize your time.
- Realize that the holiday season does not automatically banish reasons for feeling sad or lonely. Allow yourself room for these feelings and


then decide what you can do to move beyond them. For example, sometimes getting out of the house is helpful.

- Life is full of changes. Don't be disappointed if your holiday isn't exactly like the past. Each holiday season is different and can be enjoyed in a unique way. Try different ways to celebrate the holidays, create a new tradition like doing something for someone else or volunteering.
- Enjoy holiday activities that are free, such as driving or walking around to look at holiday decorations. Go window-shopping or caroling with others. Check your local newspaper or listen to the radio or television for free activities you might enjoy.
- Don't drink too much alcohol. Excessive drinking only makes you more depressed.
- Try your best to pay attention to what you eat. While holiday foods are rich and yummy and you can enjoy them, try to do so in moderation.

Remember to work off those extra calories to avoid excess weight gain that can lead to low self-esteem.


- Spend time with people who are supportive and care about you. Reach out to make new friends or contact someone with whom you have lost touch. Others may be experiencing the blues as well and appreciate your contacting them.

- Make time for yourself. Don't spend all of your time providing activities for your family and friends. Enjoy this time of year in your own way, be good to yourself, even if only for a few minutes.
- If you have experienced a recent loss, accept that your grief may be intensified. Allow yourself to have these feelings of loss, mourn, have a good cry. Then talk with others, establish new traditions, and get some physical activity. Go outside and breathe some fresh air and take a look at nature or telephone someone you know.

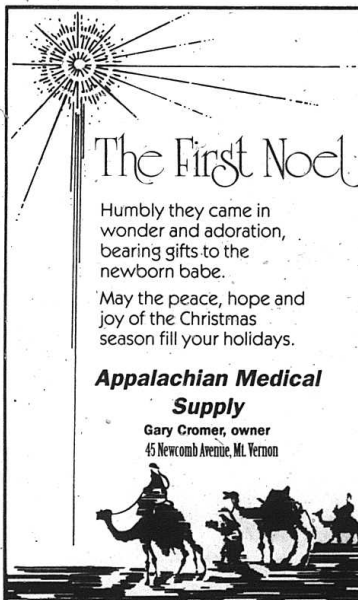


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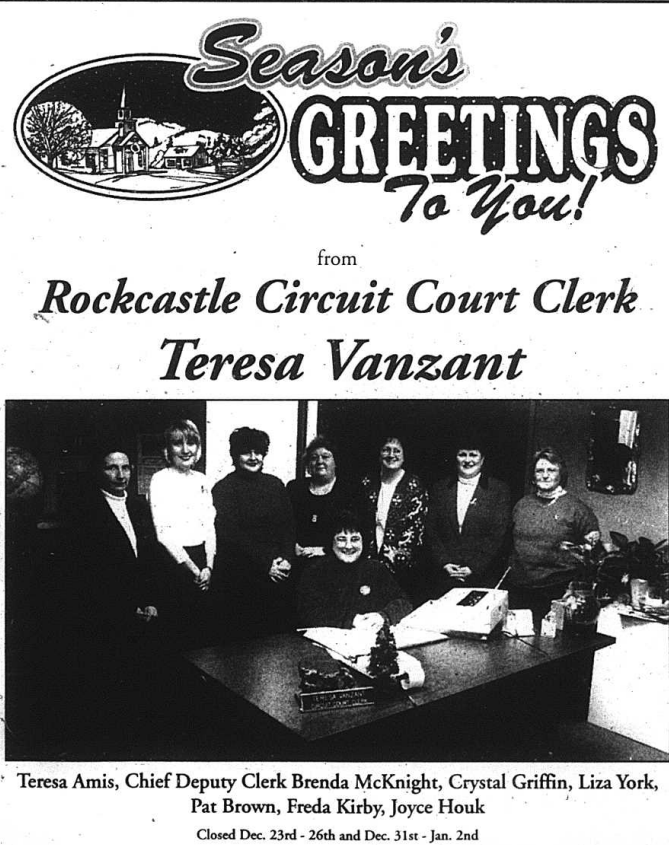


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 Bill & Nancy Sigmon & family



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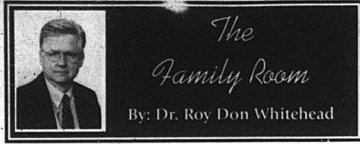
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The Family Room

By: Dr. Roy Don Whitehead

There Is a Baby in Bethany
In December 1998, a baby was born to a resident of Bethany House Abuse Shelter in Somerset. This is the column I wrote at that time, and I share it with you again as my Christmas card to you.

There is a baby in Bethany. This is the time of year for babies, so the timing was very good. This is a time for carolers who sing of joy and celebration. And the time of year for angels. Ah, yes, angels. They come to announce the birth of a King.

The baby is small and cute as babies usually are. Ten little fingers and ten little toes. I have forgotten how small newborns are. After all it has been seventeen years since I spent much time around little ones. There are tiny, especially those toes. Perfect miniatures of adult toes, just without all the wear and tear.

No, the baby is not at my house, but I get to see him regularly. I am sort of an uncle, or let's face it, I'm old enough to be his grandfather.

This baby also had a problem finding a place in which to be born. A lot of the inns and relatives' houses had no room for him or his momma. They did find a place, though, a place in Bethany.

Sunday School stories will still linger in my mind about Bethany. That great story about Jesus teaching Mary and Martha. The even greater story about Jesus raising Lazarus, their brother, after he had been dead for days. Bethany is a famous place.

There is another Bethany, though, and this is where Momma and baby Caleb found a place. This Bethany is not a city but a house. This house has held Marys, Marthas and many of their sisters who have been abused. It is a place where a woman can go when there is no other place to run. The inn is full at Bethany House these days. There is a full house with residents sharing one kitchen and two bathrooms. Not a lot of extra space, but there is always room for a baby and his momma.

Momma was alone and concerned. No help seemed to be forthcoming from any quarter. The father was definitely not interested in the child, and others were busy with their own lives. At first she cried because she would be bringing her baby home to

a "shelter" and not a real home. Later she grew more comfortable with the idea of bringing a baby to Bethany House.

Upward of fifteen aunts watch the baby's every move and vie to hold him. Only one uncle thus far (me!), so I can get almost unrelenting attention. There is a lot of support in Bethany for a new momma. Experienced moms are all around for advice and counsel. Momma is deciding if they may be an OK place to bring a baby.

Bringing a new baby into the world almost always brings anticipation and joy. A new baby brings total strangers closer, sharing with each other that common bond of concern for the young one. One resident stayed with Momma in the labor room until they chased her away. What a wonderful gift!

A new baby means hope. There is always hope for a new generation. At Bethany House this hope is an antidote to the despair that many residents feel. Even in the midst of abuse, a child is born, a son is given. And his name shall be called... Caleb.

Whether in Bethlehem or Bethany, join us in welcoming a new birth. Both babies deserve extra special care.

We Treat Family Worse Than Others

My son said to me, "I've never seen you that angry before except at me." He had overheard a phone conversation I was having. I was very upset because some people had not done what they promised, and I let them know how upset I was.

I laughed when my son said this, but the more I thought about it, the less I felt inclined to laugh. Instead I now take it as a very sad commentary on the state of the family. Why is it that we take out our worst feelings on our families while usually keeping a "happy face" for those on the outside?

It would seem that the people I love the most deserve the best treatment. But my son was correct in his observation - I have shown more of my anger to him than I have to other people. That hardly seems fair!

I have known many others who have the same problem. "My husband is liked by everyone," Vera told me. "They would never believe that

he is abusive to the kids and me." Abusers often show their best side to the public and reserve their anger for the family.

One thing this does it to help the family believe that they are somehow responsible for the anger. I have had many women say to me in counseling: "He is so nice to other people, but the minute we are alone he gets angry. I must be doing something wrong." This woman may have spent years trying to change herself so that her husband wouldn't get so angry.

However, she does not cause his anger. He is simply doing what many of us do: taking out his bad feelings on those closest to him.

Some anger is "old anger," meaning that it has been around for many years. Anger can build up inside a person and remain for a long time. An adult who had bad experience as a child may harbor anger toward the person who mistreated him. He may not even be aware of this anger but may take it out on his own family.

A preferred method for dealing with anger is generally learned from parents. If parents are violent, children may learn to give or accept violence. If anger means hitting at work, the child will pick that up. If dealing with anger means talking calmly about the problem, children

Public health officials urge caution when buying holiday toys for kids

Kentucky parents have been hitting the malls buying toys for the holidays this month. The Cabinet for Health Services want to pass along a few safety tips to make sure this holiday season is a safe one for all children.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission requires toy manufacturers to meet safety standards, and to label certain toys that could be a hazard for younger children. Parents should look for these labels in toys and gifts their children receive.

Parents should evaluate toys as soon as they get them to make sure they are age appropriate and don't have small parts that could be a choking hazard for young children," said Mike Cavanah, program administrator in the Environmental Management Branch of the Department for Public Health. "Small parts in toys for older kids should be kept away from younger siblings."

One of the more popular toys this year are lightweight scooters. Ac-

will learn that instead.

If you find yourself treating your family worse than you treat others, try these suggestions.

1) Learn to count to ten (or twenty or fifty or whatever it takes!) instead of venting your anger at your kids or your spouse.

2) Aim some of your anger at a more deserving target. Instead of being so syrupy sweet to everyone but family, let others know that you are upset.

3) Learn to handle anger in ways that do not harm your family. Being angry is not wrong. Anger is a normal, human emotion. It is possible to learn to express your anger in ways that will not harm someone else. Hit your fists against a pillow. Go outside and scream. Exercise. Talk to someone about your anger.

4) Explain to family members why you are upset. If your anger is at the boss or someone else, this will help family members not to blame themselves.

5) If you find that you cannot deal with your anger without hurting your family, then it is time to get help. A trained counselor can help you find the source of your anger and learn to deal with it in healthy ways.

Families are our most precious possessions. Let's treat them that way.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, more than 30,000 emergency room injuries associated with scooters have been reported this year. Nearly 85 percent of these injuries are to children age 14 and under.

The commission and the National SAFE KIDS Campaign recommend appropriate safety gear with scooters, including helmet, elbow and knee pads when riding. Adult supervision is recommended for children ages eight and under. Parents should check scooters for hazards and make sure the toys are ridden on smooth, paved surfaces.

(Two kinds of scooters were recalled this month because of safety issues concerning handles: Kent Kickin' Mini-Scooters and Kash 'N Gold Racer X20™ recalled a total of 97,500 scooters in cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.)

Riders should avoid steep hills and should never hitch a ride from a car, bus, truck or other vehicle. Don't ride the scooters at night.

Here are a few general holiday toy safety tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics:

- Follow recommended age ranges on toy packages. Toys that are too advanced could be a safety hazard for younger children.
- Check the size of the toy and make sure there are no parts that could be swallowed.
- Before buying a toy or allowing your child to play with a toy that he has received as a gift, read the instructions carefully. If the toy is ap-

propriate for your child, show him how to use it properly.

- Children under three can choke on small parts contained in toys or games and balls with a diameter of one and three-quarters of an inch or less.

- Children under eight can choke or suffocate on uninflated or broken balloons. (Four children died from choking on balloons in 1999.)

- Watch for strings that are more than 12 inches in length. They could be a strangulation hazard for babies.

For more information, see these websites: www.safekids.org or www.aap.org or www.cpsc.gov



Roberta, Larry, Harold, Sherry and Patty, as well as their families and all of their employees, would like to thank their customers in Rockcastle and surrounding counties for their patronage through the years.

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Holiday Cleaning Tips

Christmas is a time when homes are filled with friends and family celebrating the holidays. And it is a difficult time for the homemaker who wants to enjoy the holidays and still have the home in tip-top shape for visitors.

But the holidays do not have to be a drudgery of cleaning if you get organized. First, give your home a thorough cleaning before the holidays and put everything in order before decorating for Christmas. It will put you one step ahead of the clutter when time runs short.

Don't bless the mess, get organized. Follow these tips to cut the time you spend cleaning up and increase the time you have to enjoy the season.

First, create a realistic cleaning schedule. Don't set so many chores for yourself that you are busy into the wee hours of the morning or too many that you simply give up in despair.

Divide into daily, weekly and monthly sections. Then, write a checklist and post it on the refrigerator door, where all family members will see it. Hang a brightly colored pen from the list and check

off the tasks as they are accomplished.

Daily

Clear up the clutter as you go. Once the mess gets ahead of you, it takes that much longer to catch back up. Make family members responsible for their own mess. Clean dishes after eating, wipe the bathroom sink after use, put clothes straight into the closet or dirty clothes hamper. Wipe down kitchen counter and appliances with a glass and surface spray cleaner. Empty trash cans into one bag and take it out.

Weekly

Clean all the surfaces in your home with just one all purpose cleaner and reusable cleaning cloth. Make sure to use a cleaner that is safe for all hard surfaces.

Strip beds. Do laundry. Vacuum. Put an old sock on each hand and dust with both hands.

Let your microwave zap its own dirt by adding a few drops of a concentrated dishwashing liquid to a cup of water. Boil in the microwave for three minutes. The steam will soften caked-on, dried food so it can be wiped off easily.

Before you clean the bathroom, run a hot shower. Wall and tile dirt comes off so faster when it's loosened by steam.

Monthly

For larger jobs use a product that is multi-functional cleaner. Add 1/4 cup to one gallon of warm water and you're set to clean the floors, fridge, walls and cabinets.

File papers on your desk. Recycle newspapers, magazines and catalogs.

Preventative Tips

Keep dirt from coming in by using mats at all entrance doorways.

To save time cleaning the oven, place a sheet of aluminum foil on the lower rack.

Throw salt on the logs in your fireplace. This can reduce the soot by up to two-thirds.

Starting the holidays with a clean house is the key to keeping it clean. Holiday decorations and other things added to the house can make everything seem cluttered. But do not stress too much. Everyone else is having the same problems with holiday cleaning.

"Deck the Halls" With Holiday Projects

Elmwood Park, NJ—Add sparkle to this holiday season using quick and easy decorating tips while saving money for gifts for family and friends.

"According to HIA's recent nationwide consumer study, 47% of crafters make holiday decorations," says Susan Brandt, assistant executive director/director of communications for HIA (Hobby Industry Association). "Many crafters brighten their holidays using favorite products such as colorful ribbons, wreaths, decorative paints, stamps and stencils from the local craft store."

Consider these festive holiday

decorating ideas from HIA's Craft and Hobby Information Bureau.

*Roll pine cones in a small puddle of glue, then coat with glitter or colored sand. Attach a bow to the top, and adorn the tree, a wreath, or display in a bowl.

*Use gold or silver spray paint to update dried flowers.

*Fill eggnog bottles with colored water (red, green, and gold). Put candles inside and a flowered candle ring around bottle bottom for an instant centerpiece.

*Cut leftover fabric into "ribbon" strips with pinking shears. Tie on everything from packages to plant pots, wreaths, and the tree.

*Wire silk roses or poinsettias onto wreaths. Add ornaments in between flowers and garnish with wire-edge ribbon.

*Spray pine cone with gold paint. Attach a small doll's head and glitter tulle for wings to make an angel.

*Use a hole punch to cut patterns in paper bags. Insert candles for instant luminaries.

*Shellac fresh fruit and pine cones before adding to wreaths so that they last longer.

*Spray paint packaging peanuts, alternating with satin wrapped balls on string for a faux popcorn and cranberry strand.

Pork Roast Leftovers Makes Foundation for Holiday Meals

DES MOINES, Iowa - Ooops! You prepared too much pork roast for your annual holiday dinner. Or was it intentional? Your guests are beginning to wonder... because leftovers are becoming a tradition. That's okay.

"Roasts are perfect for planned-overs," says Robin Kline, M.S., R.D. and director of the Pork Information Bureau for the National Pork Producers Council. "By preparing larger roasts, people can enjoy the leftovers in sandwiches, salads and pasta dishes for the rest of the week."

Here are a dozen delicious reasons for leftover roast this holiday season:

*Mince leftover roast pork and mix with cooked leftover potatoes for a hearty breakfast hash.

*Dice chilled leftover roast pork loin or tenderloin and toss into a main-dish salad with cooked green beans, cherry tomatoes, potatoes and chopped lettuce. Dress lightly with a lemon vinaigrette.

*Spread a flour tortilla with a little cream cheese and horseradish, top with thinly sliced leftover pork roast and alfalfa sprouts. Roll up for a walk-around sandwich.

*Prepare gravy from a packaged mix or use a purchased jar of meat gravy, mince leftover roast pork and add to gravy; top a baked potato with this mixture.

*Dice leftover pork roast, mix with some fruit yogurt and drained mandarin oranges; tuck into a pita pocket bread and top with chopped pecans.

*Cube leftover pork roast, skewer on toothpicks and serve with honey-mustard or mustard-jam mixture for dipping.

*Heat diced leftover pork roast with a jar of spaghetti sauce, stir in some chopped olives; use to top hot cooked noodles and serve with grated Parmesan or Romano cheese.

*Slice leftover pork roast and heat gently with your favorite barbecue sauce; serve on sandwich buns.

*Coarsely chop leftover pork roast, mix with a little salad dressing or mayonnaise, pickle relish, chopped onion and mustard for a tasty sandwich spread.

*Cube leftover pork roast, stir into curry sauce (packaged mix) and

serve over rice with raisins and salted peanuts.

*Slice leftover pork roast into spears; heat and serve with your favorite dipping sauces for a finger-licking good steak.

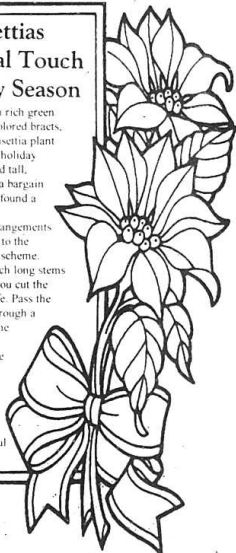
*Cube leftover pork roast and simmer it with a can of meatless chili or stew for a hearty meal. Serve with cornbread.

Cut Poinsettias Add Special Touch To Holiday Season

Compact plants with rich green foliage and brightly colored bracts, that's the kind of Poinsettia plant many seek during the holiday season. But, if you find tall, spindly poinsettias at a bargain price, you may have found a treasure as well.

Use them for cut arrangements to add a special touch to the Christmas decorating scheme.

Twelve to eighteen inch long stems are just right. When you cut the stem, use a sharp knife. Pass the cut end of the stem through a candle flame to stop the bleeding of the milky white sap. Arrange the flowers (bracts) in a festive vase or place individual stems in water vials and combine with greenery for a cheerful swag or garland.



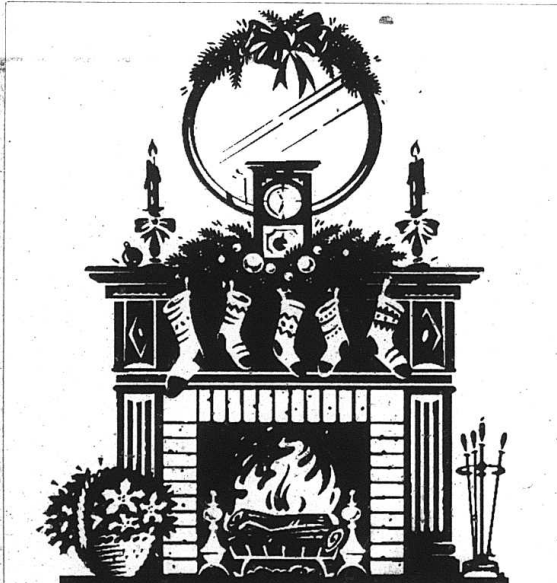
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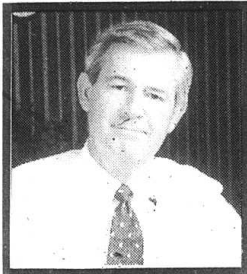


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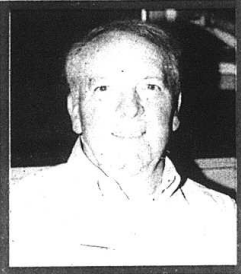
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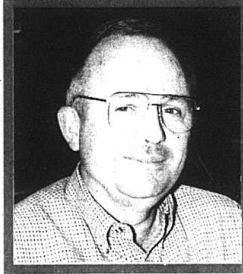
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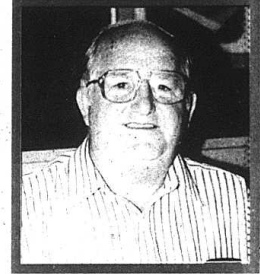
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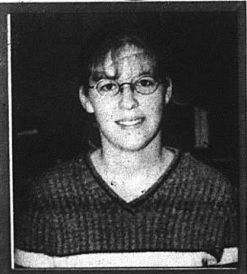
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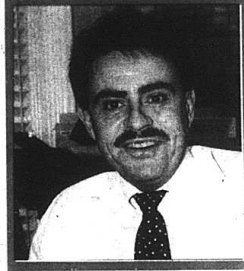
Happy New Year



Delores Phelps



Connie Graham



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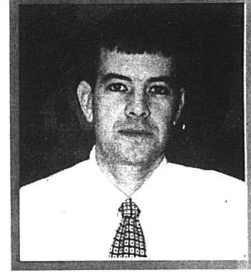
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Spiders Are Responsible For Christmas Tree Tinsel

Have you ever wondered why we put shiny tinsel on the Christmas tree? Tinsel does not symbolize artificial icicles. No, tinsel is in honor of spider webs.

There are several different versions of the legend of spiders and Christmas trees, but the basic components of the story are always the same. Spiders crawled all over the Christmas tree and covered the tree with their webs.

The Ukrainian version is that there was once a woman who was so poor that she could not afford decorations for her Christmas tree nor could she afford any presents. All she had was a small tree.

When she and her children woke up on Christmas morning, they found that spiders had crawled among the tree branches during the night and the tree was covered with spider web. The web glistened with dew in the sunlight and the poor woman's tree turned to silver to delight her children.

The German version has it that once a housewife was busy cleaning every corner of her house getting ready to put up the Christmas tree. The spiders retreated to the attic to keep from being swept outside into the cold.

Once the house was clean, the family put up a perfect tree and covered it with beautiful decorations in honor of Christmas and then went to bed. The spiders then came down from the attic to inspect the tree.

The spiders had never seen anything so pretty and crawled all over the tree inspecting all the decorations. In their excitement they covered the tree with web making it look grey and dusty.

When St. Nick came, to leave presents for the children of home, he saw what the spiders had done. He knew the spiders had meant no harm. He knew the family would be upset to see their beautiful tree shrouded in dusty spider web.

St. Nick decided to solve the dilemma by turning the spider web into gold and silver. The tree now glittered in the light and was lovelier than before.

A variation on the German legend has it that once upon a time all the animals were allowed to come inside and look at the Christmas tree. Since Christ was born in a stable, the barnyard animals were also included

in this tradition. But the housewives did not want the barn spiders to participate because they always left cobwebs in their wake.

The spiders thought they should be included and took the matter before the Christ Child. He told the spiders they could see the trees late at night.

The excited spiders again crawled all over the tree leaving web just like the housewives knew they would. The Christ Child knew this would upset the housewives and he turned the web into sparkling tinsel.

Today we put tinsel on the tree to add sparkle and light never giving much thought to why. But the spiders know.

Holiday Family Visits Often Increase Stress

By H. Wallace Goddard
Extension Family and Child Development Specialist,
Auburn University

When you call grandparents to announce that you'll be coming for the holidays, they may be delighted. And they may be worried.

When a large group of people get together there is a great potential for stress. Common problems include staying too long, lack of appreciation, invasion of territory and privacy, lack of parental control of small children, noise and conflicting lifestyles.

Before making a holiday trip to visit the family, it is wise to consider how to make the visit more enjoyable for all.

Keep the visit short enough to be enjoyable. Grandma and grandpa may not have toys for the children. Take along toys and games that will be safe and enjoyable.

Give the grandparents a break. Take the children for walks or for a trip to the mall so that the grandparents can have moments of

rest. Help with the work. Take a turn at cleaning up, doing dishes, vacuuming. Be considerate of the expense by helping with grocery costs.

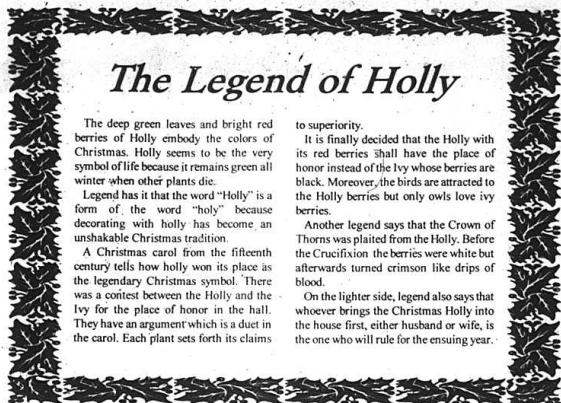
Build in-law relationships. It's easy to be critical of the different ways that other people do things. Enjoy their qualities and express appreciation.

Notice if people are left out or are uncomfortable. Be sensitive to different needs of family members.

Plan activities to show appreciation for the grandparents. Take pictures and make recordings. Especially take pictures of the youngest family members with their grandparents to help them remember their grandparents and to show to future generations.

Express appreciation including thank you notes and copies of photos after the visit is over.

Family gatherings can be a source of satisfaction and the basis of many happy memories, if we plan them wisely.



The Legend of Holly

The deep green leaves and bright red berries of Holly embody the colors of Christmas. Holly seems to be the very symbol of life because it remains green all winter when other plants die.

Legend has it that the word "Holly" is a form of the word "holly" because decorating with holly has become an unshakable Christmas tradition.

A Christmas carol from the fifteenth century tells how holly won its place as the legendary Christmas symbol. There was a contest between the Holly and the Ivy for the place of honor in the hall. They have an argument which is a duet in the carol. Each plant sets forth its claims

to superiority.

It is finally decided that the Holly with its red berries shall have the place of honor instead of the Ivy whose berries are black. Moreover, the birds are attracted to the Holly berries but only owls love ivy berries.

Another legend says that the Crown of Thorns was plaited from the Holly. Before the Crucifixion the berries were white but afterwards turned crimson like drips of blood.

On the lighter side, legend also says that whoever brings the Christmas Holly into the house first, either husband or wife, is the one who will rule for the ensuing year.

Last Minute Gift Ideas

Are you worn out with Christmas shopping and still can't think of a thing to get someone on your list? Don't despair. Listed below are a number of last minute gift ideas that are sure to please family and friends alike.

Since none of these gifts come from a department store, you won't have to fight the crowds of shoppers. And some of the gifts don't require any shopping at all. You can give:

Pronissory Notes: Give IOL's promising to do something for the recipient in the coming months such as raking leaves, weeding the garden, trimming the hedges, washing the car, cutting the grass, baby-sitting, baking, walking the dog, watering plants, washing windows, polishing shoes or altering clothes.

Share-a-skill gift. Promise to teach someone a skill you've already acquired. Some possibilities might include: auto repair, carpentry, bread-making, gourmet cookery, home canning, needlework, photography, quilting, tatting, picture framing, skiing, or sailing.

Magazine or Newspaper Subscriptions: Send off for a subscription in the name of the person on your list. On Christmas Day, give a rolled-up copy of the latest issue along with a card that tells when the subscription begins.

Bake or Make a Gift: Give a cake, bread, cookies or a box of candy, that you have made. You may want to include the recipe so that the recipient can continue to enjoy the gift all year.

Other gifts might be those that you make especially for the recipient such as a pillow, scarf, gloves, hat rack or birdhouse.

Money Gifts: Instead of simply writing a check, give your gift of money a festive look. Consider filling a see-through container or a clear-glass piggy bank with shiny half-dollar coins. Or make a money tree by clipping individual bills to the branches.

Gifts from the Post Office: Send a distant friend or relative a book of stamps, bundle of pre-stamped envelopes or postcards. Or give a

collection of decorative stamps issued by the post office.

Tickets as Gifts: Give two tickets to a special event (such as a bowl

game, a concert, movie, play, lecture, a ballet, or a dinner theater).

Gifts from the Hardware Store: Put together a set of nails, screws, nuts and bolts for the lady or gentlemen do-it-yourselfer. If you can afford a more generous gift, a set of basic tools including a hammer, screwdriver and saw could be appropriate for someone on your list.

Auto Supply Store: Give a set of jumper cables along with a windshield scraper, flashlight, fuses and road maps for emergencies on the highway.

Fabric Shops: Make an emergency sewing kit complete with scissors, needles, safety pins and several spools of thread.

Classified Deadline is Noon Tuesday



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mvsignal@sun-spot.com

Happy Holidays

May this great season find each of you in health and good will for your neighbors and families. My personal wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Buzz Carloftis
County Judge-Executive

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Celebrate Christmas with these Easy and Tasty Norwegian Cookies

Christmas and cookies go together! We long to have our favorite Christmas cookies, the special ones that we've had each year since we were children. Most of us make traditional chocolate chip or oatmeal cookies all year long, but at Christmas, we make the old family favorites that bring back good memories of the years we celebrated the holidays at Grandma's house.

For those of Norwegian heritage, Christmas just isn't Christmas without Kringle. Anyone who has ever tasted Norwegian Kringle can't wait to have another and another. "These tasty cake-like cookies just melt in your mouth," says Shan Burger, research and development specialist for Pioneer Flour Mills. "Our recipe simplifies preparation by limiting the list of ingredients. Using our convenient baking mix makes the cookie dough easy and quick to prepare."

Once the cookie dough is mixed and chilled, tablespoonfuls of dough are rolled to form pencil-like shapes. Then the "pencils" are formed into figure-eight or pretzel shapes. "It takes a little practice to get the hang of it, but once you get used to working with the dough, it's very easy," explains Ms. Burger.

"Kris Kringle" Cookies are very light and soft in texture. These cookies are a nice complement to other Christmas cookies that are rich and chewy.

"Kris Kringle" Cookies are very light and soft in texture. These cookies are a nice complement to other Christmas cookies that are rich and chewy.

The flavor and texture of these soft, cake-like cookies are adapted from the popular Norwegian Kringle cookies. Don't let the shaping of these cookies scare you. When the cookies are baked, the dough seems to "melt" into perfect shapes.

1 1/4 cups granulated sugar
3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter or margarine, softened

2 large eggs
1 tablespoon vanilla
1/2 cup buttermilk
5 cups Pioneer Biscuit & Baking Mix
1 cup dairy sour cream

In large mixer bowl, beat sugar, butter, eggs, and vanilla on high speed until light and fluffy, about 3 minutes. With mixer on low speed, add buttermilk, beating to combine. Add baking mix alternately with sour cream, beating until well mixed. Chill at least 4 hours (dough will be very soft). Work with a small amount of dough at a time and keep remaining dough chilled. On a floured surface, roll rounded tablespoonfuls of the dough into pencil-like strips about 8 inches long and 1/2-inch thick. Shape into a figure-8, a pretzel, or a letter. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 for 10 to 12 minutes or until edges are just lightly browned.

Remove cookies to wire rack. Makes 4 dozen cookies.

*Use additional baking mix to "flour" the surface, if desired.

Sweet Option: Just before baking "Kris Kringle" Cookies, sprinkle them with granulated sugar or a cinnamon-sugar mixture.

New York Company Makes Lights Bubble

The first bubble lights were marketed by the NOMA Electric Company of New York in 1945.

From 1945 through 1950 the company marketed more than 30 styles of bubble lights for American Christmas trees.

The first bubble lights vials were filled with methylene chloride which set atop an electric bulb. The heat from the bulb caused the liquid to "boil" or bubble thus came the name "bubble" lights.

Christmas & Candlelight

At no time of the year are there more candles in the house than at Christmas. Candles are included in flower arrangements, holiday centerpiece, and scattered about to add a warm soft glow to family get-togethers.

These tips of how to decorate with candles and how to care for them will help keep your holiday decorations looking pretty and help you enjoy romantic, old-fashioned candlelight.

Candle Decorating Ideas

Burn classic tapers at formal affairs and rounds or votives for more casual parties.

Place long candles on the buffet table; candles on the dining table should be short enough for guests to see each other.

Color coordinate candles with the rest of the table decor.

Break the rules. Mix colors and heights instead of using the traditional matched sets. Set candles at each place setting instead of using one large centerpiece.

Candle holders can be as formal as crystal, as casual as small flowerpots. Use whatever is appropriate for the occasion.

Inexpensive red and green stemmed glasses purchased at a discount store make the perfect holders for a multitude of holiday candles. Pick out glasses of various sizes to hold a variety of candles.

Use scented candles to create special effects: Try vanilla and cinnamon at the dessert buffet and bayberry at a traditional meal.

Set floating candles in a punch bowl or shallow container filled with water.

Candle Care & Usage

Store candles flat in a dark, dry place to prevent warping.

Revive less-than-new candles by rubbing them clean with an old nylon stocking or soft cloth moistened with salad oil.

Freeze candles for one hour to make them burn longer and drip less.

Char wicks before the party so they'll light in an instant.

Choose dripless candles. If dripless candles are unavailable, set candles in a plate or tray to catch drips and save furniture and tablecloths.

Never leave a candle-lit room unattended. The danger of a tragic holiday fire is simply too great.

If a candle is too small for its holder, wrap the bottom in aluminum foil. If it is too big, gently whittle the bottom down to size with a sharp knife.

To lessen candle wax stains on a tablecloth, lift off as much solid wax as possible, then place the stained area between clean paper towels and press lightly with a warm iron. As wax melts move paper towel so that the wax is not re-absorbed into the cloth.

Place wax-coated candle holders in the freezer for an hour. The wax will peel off.

To remove wax from wooden finishes first soften the wax with a hair dryer and then remove with a paper towel. Wipe off residue with a mixture of vinegar and water.

To remove wax stains from a carpet or rug, scrape off the excess. Cover with several layers of paper towels and carefully press with a warm iron.

Family Conspiracy Creates Special Christmas Memory for One Little Girl

By Ginger Grantham, Editor
The Hanceville Herald
Hanceville, Alabama

The Christmas I remember the most from my childhood was the one we did not spend with my grandparents. We lived in a suburb of Detroit, Michigan, called Lincoln Park and we always traveled back to Alabama to spend Christmas with my father's parents. But not that year.

I don't remember now why we did not make the trip. I just remember that I was greatly worried that Santa Claus would not be able to find me. I knew that Santa always found me with ease in Alabama but how would he know that I had not made the trip that year. And I was having a

little problem believing in Santa anyway. The doubts were beginning to creep in.

In my family, Santa Claus always came on Christmas Eve. My mother's logic was that because he was so busy on Christmas morning, he dropped off my presents early. I was happy with that thought. It had always worked well when I was in Alabama. Still I was worried.

When Christmas Eve arrived, there was a gentle snow falling. The Christmas tree was filled with lights that cast a soft glow around the living room. And I was glued to the floor near the tree watching the door. If Santa was coming, I was going to see him about how things would work out in Michigan.

My mother had been busy in the kitchen and came into the living room to call me to eat. I joined my parents in the dining room and settled down to enjoy the meal. But I kept my ear tuned for strange sounds.

I talked to my father about what he thought was going on at my grandparents' house so far away. I wondered how Santa would be able to leave presents in Michigan and Alabama all on the same night. My father told me not to worry. Santa did that all the time.

When we finished the meal and went back into the living room, I was astonished to see that Santa Claus had sneaked into the house while I was eating. There were my presents under the tree. There was a wet footprint on the carpet. My dog hadn't even barked.

How could Santa Claus have managed to get in and out of the house so easily with me in the next room? I was amazed. It was a long time before I doubted Santa again.

As I grew older, I wondered just how my parents had managed to pull that off. Yet, I didn't ask. I held on to the illusion until my own daughter was about eight. I asked my mother about that

special Christmas so long ago. Her explanation was simple. When she came into the living room to call me to eat, she had turned on the porch light. That was the signal for my uncle who was waiting in the car outside. He slipped in and put the presents under the tree. To make sure I didn't hear anything he let his car roll down the drive before he started it.

The memory of that one special Christmas is finely etched in my mind. Everything was perfect. The glowing tree, the snow, the good food, and the love of a family that went to so much trouble for a child at Christmas.

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Let Kids Bake Cookie Ornaments For a Special Tree

Host a cookie baking and decorating party for your kids (or grandkids) and a few of their friends, and you're likely to start a new holiday tradition. The kids will enjoy hours of creative fun, and you'll have a one-of-a-kind Christmas tree adorned with homemade cookie ornaments.

From the invitations to the entertainment, this kid-pleasing party can be accomplished easily. Here's how.

Make It Inviting
Depending on the children's ages, set aside two to three hours on a weekend afternoon. It's also a good idea to limit the guest list to a size your kitchen can handle.

Put your kids in charge of the invitations. Younger children can decorate plain white postcards with holiday stickers while an older sibling writes the details: a cookie baking party, on December 17, in Santa's Bake Shop, at your address.

Party Favors
Child-size aprons in red or green will be a hit, and they can be taken home. Or, fill holiday goody bags with stickers, foil stars and glitter crayons. An instant photo of each child elbow deep in frosting and sprinkles will add to the memories.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE ORNAMENTS
1 cup (2 sticks) butter or margarine, softened
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup Quaker oats (quick or old fashioned, uncooked)
1/4 teaspoon salt (optional)

Beat together butter, sugar and vanilla until creamy. Add combined flour, oats and salt; mix well. Divide dough in half. Shape each portion of dough into a roll, about 2 inches in diameter. Wrap in plastic wrap; chill about 3 hours.

Heat oven to 350F. Unwrap rolls and cut into 1/4-inch slices. Place

about 1 inch apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Poke hole at top of each cookie with drinking straw before baking. (Repeat immediately after baking if hole closes.) Bake 11 to 13 minutes or until edges are light golden brown. Cool 1 minute on cookie sheet; remove to wire rack. Cool completely. Insert candy licorice string or narrow ribbon through hole of decorated cookie. Tie ends together.

Nutrition Information: One undecorated cookie: Calories 90, Fat 5g, Sodium 50mg.

Decorating Ideas:
Holiday Gen Cookies: Decorate cooled cookies with purchased decorating icing and small holiday candies.

Glitter Cookies: Sprinkle cookie slices with colored sugar crystals before baking.

Sugar-Coated Ornaments: After shaping dough into rolls, coat with red or green sugar crystals, nonpareils or small holiday sprinkles before refrigerating. Slice; poke hole at top of cookies and bake as directed.

Christmas Trees: Tint each portion of dough with green food coloring. Shape roll into triangle by flattening sides. Refrigerate and cut into slices as directed. Cut small squares for tree trunks from several slices and attach to trees on cookie sheet. Poke hole at top of trees and bake as directed. Attach small candies to cooled cookies with purchased decorating icing, if desired. Or, sprinkle cookies with green sugar crystals before baking.

Heavenly Angels: Cut each slice in half, forming half circles. Place half circles on cookie sheet so round edges touch. Make heads by rolling small portions of dough into balls; gently press between tops of wings and Pella holes at tops of each wing and bake as directed. Decorate as desired.



How To Care for Your Holiday Tree

From the Massachusetts Christmas Tree Association

1. Cut about one half inch off the bottom of the tree and store your tree upright in a water-bearing stand (the more water capacity the better). Using HOT water (150 F) initially will increase water absorption by as much as 50%. The addition of additives to the water has questionable value according to studies published in Christmas tree trade journals.
2. Keep your tree in a cool area away from the elements until you are ready to bring it inside.
3. Give your tree plenty of water to drink. Make sure the water level does not drop below the fresh cut base or a partial seal will form and reduce additional water absorption.
4. Place the tree away from all heat sources and turn off the lights when leaving home or going to bed.
5. A properly watered, fresh-cut tree is almost impossible to ignite contrary to popular opinion. However, use common sense and be sure all lights are in good condition and avoid combustible decorations.

After the holidays consider using your tree branches as mulch in your garden or landscaping. Many people also like to move the tree to a back yard area and hang bird food packages throughout the winter.

What is Christmas Without a Special Tree?

HERSHEY, Pa. - With the hectic and busy Christmas season just around the corner, what better way to save time and get into the spirit of the holidays than to prepare an Easy Christmas Tree Cake, a perfect dessert and centerpiece for any holiday gathering or party.

This Christmas Tree Cake is a tasty holiday treat that's easy to prepare. Simply add melted Reese's peanut butter chips and shortening to a store-bought cake mix and bake in a 13x9x2-inch pan. After the cake has cooled, cut as directed on the diagram. Ice the "tree" with ready-to-spread vanilla frosting. Use a leaf decorator tip and green decorator icing to make the tree branches. (Use brown decorator icing for the tree trunk and red decorator icing for the pot.) "Trim" the tree with colorful Hershey's holiday bits. The remaining pieces of cake can be decorated and used as packages. Ice with vanilla frosting and decorate with strands of several strands Twizzlers Pull'n'Peel and Hershey's holiday bits.

This year as you deck the halls,

don't forget to also decorate your holiday table with this festive edible centerpiece.

EASY CHRISTMAS TREE CAKE

1-2/3 cups (10-oz. pkg.) Reese's peanut butter chips
1 tablespoon shortening (do not use butter, margarine, oil or spread)
1 package (about 18 oz.) yellow cake mix
2 cans (16 oz. each) vanilla ready-to-spread frosting
2 tubes (4.25 oz. each) green decorator icing
1-2/3 cups (10-oz. pkg.) Hershey's holiday bits
1 tube (4.25 oz.) each red decorator icing and brown decorator icing
Twizzlers Pull'n'Peel cherry candy.

Heat-oven to 350F. Grease and flour 13x9x2-inch baking pan. Place peanut butter chips and shortening in small microwave-safe bowl. Microwave at HIGH 1 to 1-1/2 minutes or until smooth when

stirred. Prepare cake mix as directed on package with water, eggs and oil; blend in melted chip mixture. Pour batter into prepared pan.

Bake 30 to 35 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes; remove from pan to wire rack. Cool completely.

Cut cake as directed on diagram. Frost top and sides of Piece A with vanilla frosting; place on large serving plate or tray. Using leaf tip and green decorator icing, make tree branches about 1-1/2 inches long, starting at bottom of tree. To trim the tree, press holiday bits onto top of cake; lightly press into branches.

Frost top and sides of Piece B with brown decorator icing for trunk; attach to bottom of tree.

Frost top and sides of Piece C with red decorator icing for pot; attach to bottom of trunk.

Frost other pieces with vanilla frosting for packages. Decorate with strands of Pull'n'Peel and holiday bits, as desired. Makes about 12 to 15 servings.



How to Spend Less On Groceries

For the Holidays

It is easy to get carried away in the grocery store during the holidays. Groceries always cost more anyway because of special holiday cooking, family gatherings and Christmas parties. The National Center for Financial Education has a few tips on how to economize at the grocery store and maybe not blow the grocery budget. And the NCFE says these tips are good all the year, not just at Christmas.

1. Always use a list and minimize the number of trips to the store.
2. Shop late in the day to save time and money.
3. Shop alone and avoid going to the store just before a meal.
4. Always check store ads and flyers for on-sale, money saving specials.
5. Take advantage of the always plentiful coupons and rebates.
6. Shop stores that double or triple coupons for greater savings.
7. Cold cuts cost less per pound at the deli-counter.
8. Save money on cheese: purchase blocks to slice or shred at home.
9. Purchase fresh, unpeeled, un-washed, un-packaged vegetables.
10. Purchase fruits and vegetables by the bag for the best value.

11. Purchase milk by the gallon, versus quarts, for best value.
12. Bulk buy whenever practical and save on cost per ounce or pound.

13. Avoid using expensive cuts of meats in stews or casseroles.
14. Compare prices on fresh/frozen turkeys for more edible meat per pound.

15. Pre-packaged foods cost 10 to 20 times more than plain or bulk.

16. Purchase generic or store brands when practical and money saving.

17. Avoid the more expensive single servings and so-called snack-packs.

18. Items placed at eye level on shelves are often more expensive.



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Select Gifts that Create the Least Waste

Any gift has the potential of becoming waste if it isn't used by the receiver. However, some gifts are sure not to become garbage. If you carefully consider the normal activities of recipients, you are likely to select gifts that are compatible with their lifestyles. Many of the suggestions are not unusual or exciting. However, if you intend for gifts to bring some form of satisfaction and not become a burden to receivers because they have to be displayed, stored, cleaned or dusted routinely, take a close look at this list.

- Babies**
- Books
- Diaper service
- Lotion or other baby toiletries
- Savings bonds
- Children**
- Books
- Educational tapes/videos/movies
- Lessons (swimming, dancing, music, karate, art)
- New experiences (airplane ride, boat ride, bus trip, train ride)
- Play at local theater
- Meals at an ethnic restaurant
- Trip to an amusement park/oseco
- Savings bonds
- Individuals and Families**
- A supply of favorite snacks (popcorn, peanuts, pecans, etc.)
- Home-baked bread in reused coffee cans
- Basic household tools (hammer, screwdriver, extension cords)
- Can crusher for recycling cans
- Books
- Less-to-go cleaning supplies
- Faucet aerator
- Fire extinguisher
- Rechargeable flashlight
- Restaurant gift certificates
- Health Care
- Dental Care
- Eye Exam
- Physical Exam
- Light bulbs
- Low-flow shower head
- Magazine subscriptions
- Door mat made from recycled materials
- Roll of postage stamps
- Smoke alarms
- Return-address stamp
- Gourmet foods

- Subscription to local newspaper
- Tickets to favorite sporting event
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Unscented lotion
- Recycled paper
- A gift basket full of recycled products
- Wood or metal folding clothes dryer
- Especially for Senior Citizens**
- Spend time with person, doing something he or she likes
- Take person shopping for food
- Pay monthly premium for health care
- Pay for a routine prescription or health care item used with a chronic illness or disease (e.g. blood pressure pills, diabetic medications, rental fee for health care equipment)
- Pay a utility bill (water, cable,

- trash collection)
- Provide a month's supply of canned fruits or vegetables that the person likes
- Provide a service
- Clean hard-to-reach places (high windows, under beds, behind appliances)
- Clean out the refrigerator or freezer
- Do laundry
- Use his or her own recipe
- Maintain lawn for one month
- Make a household repair (e.g. leaky faucet)
- Rake leaves; sweep off the roof
- Take out the garbage for the month
- Bring in the mail.

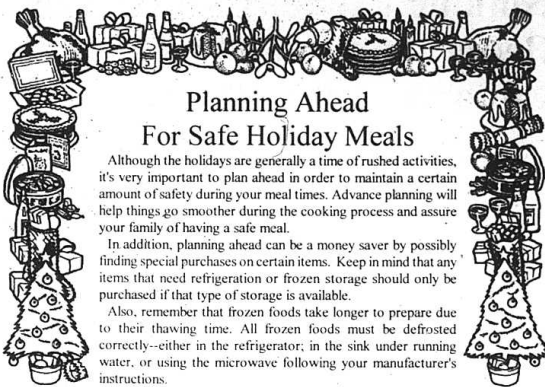
Christmas

Word Find

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E M F V D K C A R O L S H C S
M S U A L C A T N A S D H B L
I J N M O I U M A R Y R N Z E
N T G E G N Z M I D I E E P I
L R N H C T S J T S O H M R G
T F O E Y N G S T D M P E U H
A X E L M I I M E I F E S D R
E N L H L A A K S L D H I O R
I O G T H S N T N D S W L Y
H I E E S P L R I A O N C P M
J V B B L E E E O M R W A H L
R D H P T S R S P O Y F M C H
N W N O R T H P O L E I U A R
B D E C E M B E R J T P W Z N
    
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- | | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|
| Angels | Holly | Reindeer |
| Bethlehem | Joseph | Rudolph |
| Candles | Mary | Saint Nick |
| Carols | Mistletoe | Santa Claus |
| Christmas | Myrrh | Shepherds |
| December | Noel | Sleigh |
| Frankincense | North Pole | Snowman |
| Gold | Ornament | Wisemen |
| | Poinsettia | |



Planning Ahead For Safe Holiday Meals

Although the holidays are generally a time of rushed activities, it's very important to plan ahead in order to maintain a certain amount of safety during your meal times. Advance planning will help things go smoother during the cooking process and assure your family of having a safe meal.

In addition, planning ahead can be a money saver by possibly finding special purchases on certain items. Keep in mind that any items that need refrigeration or frozen storage should only be purchased if that type of storage is available.

Also, remember that frozen foods take longer to prepare due to their thawing time. All frozen foods must be defrosted correctly—either in the refrigerator; in the sink under running water, or using the microwave following your manufacturer's instructions.

Plan ahead the number of people to invite to your get-together.

If it is a larger group than you normally prepare for, it will take extra thought and even help from some of the guests to ensure a safe, happy meal. However, if you do invite guests to bring a dish with them, make sure that if the dish is perishable it doesn't remain in the danger zone of between 40 to 140 degrees Fahrenheit for more than an hour or two. Remember, advance planning not only can save money but can also help to make your holiday meal a safe and happy one.

How to Find the Perfect Gift of Clothing for A Child

Clothing can help satisfy the physical, social and emotional needs of school-age children in positive ways. One important way that clothing meets a child's needs is by helping him or her to develop a positive sense of self-esteem.

When you are selecting gifts of clothing for a child, consider the child's needs and how clothing can fit those needs. Most children want to be like their friends or their heroes. Children don't like to

be teased or ridiculed. When selecting clothing gifts for children, think about what clothing means to the child.

Notice what other children are wearing when they are playing. Look at the kinds of clothes they are wearing to school—kids don't want to be too different from their friends. Listen to each child to learn what is important to that individual about his or her clothing.

Become more aware of products that are advertised on television.

videos and movies that your child is watching.

Talk to other parents about what kind of clothing their children are wanting or talking about. Make sure you understand any school dress codes if you intend to purchase clothing that can be worn to school.

Notice which garments children wear most frequently—the colors, the styles, the fabrics.

Ask them what kind of garments they like and want to wear.



From left: Tracey Abel, Mary Mathis, Agent and Kim Holcomb

May peace and joy come to you during this holy season.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Cotton States Insurance Agency
 INSURANCE Auto • Life • Home
 Mary Mathis, Agent

20 Church St. • Mt. Vernon • 256-0047

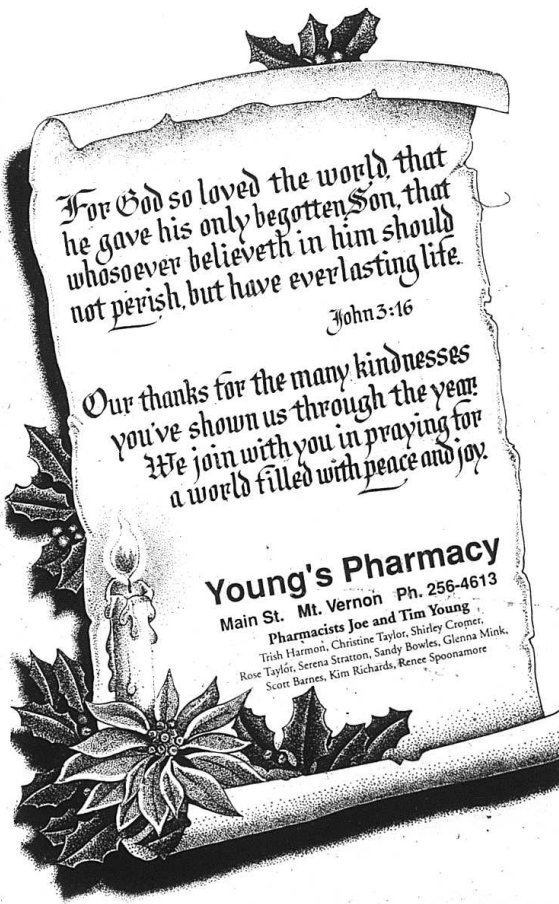
For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

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

Pharmacists Joe and Tim Young
 Trish Harmon, Christine Taylor, Shirley Cropper,
 Rose Taylor, Serena Stratton, Sandy Bowles, Glenna Mink,
 Scott Barnes, Kim Richards, Renee Spoonamore



Nothing Explains Santa Claus Better than a 100 Year Old Editorial to a Little Girl

This letter to the editor of *The New York Sun* from eight-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon first appeared in December of 1897. The letter and the reply penned by Frances P. Church have been reprinted thousands of times. No one has come up with a better answer to the Santa Claus question than Church. The words "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus" have become a part of Christmas lore.

Church was considered a sardonic man. He was the son of a Baptist minister and had covered the Civil War. Church was usually assigned to write editorial opinion on controversial subjects and those dealing with theology. He would probably be surprised to know that his reply to Virginia has become one of the most memorable editorials in newspaper history.

Church married shortly after he answered Virginia's letter. He died in April of 1906. He had no children.

Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died in May of 1971, at the age of 81. She graduated from Hunter College and received her Master's from Columbia. She taught school in New York City for 47 years. In the final years of her career, she was assistant principal and teacher at a special school for chronically ill children in hospitals.

Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter. For her, the editorial was an inspiration in her life. She believed that Frances Church was the one who should be remembered. It was from his pen that flowed the philosophy of hope and love that was the heart of the editorial answer to Virginia's simple question.

Here is the letter from Virginia and Church's answer:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in *The Sun*, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?
Signed: Virginia O'Hanlon.

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be man's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.
Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.

He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but this is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies, dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the



How to Care for Your Poinsettia

Colorful red, pink and white Christmas poinsettias are a part of the holiday decoration and gift-giving tradition in many homes. Poinsettias purchased early in December can last until May if given proper care.

Many poinsettias are used as dining room table decorations. Move the plants to the dining room table prior to a meal, but keep them growing by placing them near a window where they can get some indirect sunlight. Like all living plants, they need some sunlight and water.

Keep the growing medium evenly moist by watering twice each week, but keep water off the foliage and colorful bracts. Cooler temperatures will help keep the deep color so many consumers prize.

In the spring, plants can be grown outside. However, making them flower again is a difficult task best left to the professionals.

strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is

nothing else real and abiding No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, may 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.



by Clement C. Moore

'Twas the night before Christmas
When all through the house

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;

And Mamma in her kerchief and I in my cap
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap;
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.
The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave the lustre of midday to objects below;
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer,

With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;
"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen;
On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Donner and Blitzen!"
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!
Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.
He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;

A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!

His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow;

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth;
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath;

He had a broad face and a little round belly,
That shook when he laughed like a bowlful of jelly.
He was chubby and plump—a right old jolly elf—
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself.

A wink of his eye and a twist of his head
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew, like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"

We all join in wishing you a wonderful Christmas with happiness and prosperity throughout the coming year! May God bless you with His richest blessings!

Happy Holidays!

from your friends in the



— Cyndie, Margaret, Janet, Sheila, Ruth —

Rockcastle County PVA Office

Third Floor Courthouse, Mt. Vernon • 606-256-4194

Merry Christmas

We appreciate your patronage during the past year and look forward to serving you in 2001



Front row, from left: Tommy, Angie and Luke Gooch and Glenna Renner.
Back row, from left: Larry and Donna Gooch and Andy, Tracy and Drew Hiatt.

Town & Country Motors

MT. VERNON
Across From High School
401 By Pass
256-8049

With two locations to serve you

LANCASTER
1236 Standard Rd.
Next to Burger Prince
792-6958



Jack's Hardware

One of Rockcastle's oldest running businesses is Jack's Hardware in Mt. Vernon.

Open for thirty years, Jack's is located on Williams Street. Jack's Hardware is owned and operated by Mrs. Ercel Cromer.

Beside the hardware, the store also carries a complete line of plumbing, electrical, lawn and garden supplies, paint, sundries, case knives and Stihl chain saws.

Jack's offers repair service on most items and you will find a large store with plenty of parking and friendly service at their convenient location.

Ercel, Sheila Owens, David DeBoard, Casper Bowling, Terrell Pittman and Tawana Phillips, would like to thank their valued customers. Jack's is open Monday through Friday 8-5 and Saturday, 8-3. Shown in photo from left: Ercel Cromer, Sheila Owens and David DeBoard.

Brodhead Farm Equipment & Trailers

"Downtown Brodhead" • 758-9532

Now In Stock!!

Large selection of BALDWIN FILTERS for all types of farm and construction equipment

Parts Department - Shop Work on Most Farm Equipment

Gary Chasteen • Jackie McKinney • Danny McKinney

Red Carpet Days

Rockcastle Farm Supply

Spring Street behind BMW

Feed - Seed - Fertilizer
Custom Grinding and Mixing

Customer Service is our #1 Priority

We are a Con Agra Dealer with a Variety of Products.

Doug Smith - Geoff McGuire, Owners
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Painted Metal Roofing

#2 Painted - Starting at \$28.00 sq.
 Galvanized - Starting at \$21.95 sq.
 J-channel starting at \$2.00 ea.
 (white only)

- 12 Colors • Skylights
- Insulation • Nails/Screws
- Treated 6x6's
- Sliding Door Track

Call Toll Free 877-303-3322

East Kentucky Metal Sales Inc.

531 Tobacco Road
 London, KY 40741

Mon.-Fri. 8:00 to 4:30
 Sat. 8:00 to 12:00

You must present this ad to receive these prices

Brodhead Tobacco Barn & Sports Cafe

Hwy. 150 • Brodhead • 606-758-4725

Tobacco Products at the Lowest Prices in the Area!!!

- Hamburgers • Pizza • Hot Donuts
- Snacks • Sandwiches • Hot Dogs
- Cold Drinks

Use our Convenient Drive-Thru

Call ahead and we'll have your order waiting for you!!!!

Open Mon. - Fri. 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.
 Sat. 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
 Sun. 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Gary & Corey Scott, Owners

A List of Blessings

- ★ LOVE
- ★ PEACE
- ★ HAPPINESS
- ★ PROSPERITY
- ★ FRIENDS LIKE YOU

Thank you for your patronage and friendship. We hope you enjoy a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

from your friends at Mt. Vernon's
 Newest Automatic, Touchless, Spot-Free

Car Wash

Hwy. 150 • Mt. Vernon • Open 24/7

Hammond Interior Design Studio

If you are in the market for carpet, hardwood, ceramic tile, linoleum or just some small accessories to the office or home then Hammond Interior Design Studio is the right place for you.

Owner Rebekah Hammond has been in business in Rockcastle County since 1987 and holds a degree in Interior Design.

Besides all types of flooring coverings, she carries furniture from Stanley, Hooker and Pulaski. She also has all types of accessories in stock.

Located on Richmond Street in Mt. Vernon, Hammond offers Design services for both residential and commercial properties.

Hammond Interior Design is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Call 256-9781.

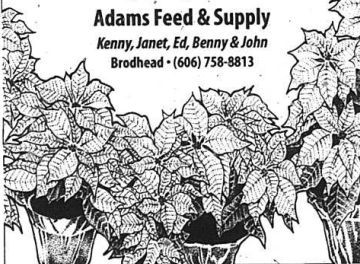
Season's Greetings

One of the real joys of the Holiday Season is the opportunity to say "Thank You!"

And to wish to you the very best for the New Year!!!

Adams Feed & Supply

Kenny, Janet, Ed, Benny & John
 Brodhead • (606) 758-8813



(606) 256-3333
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GIFTS, FLOWERS & BALLOONS FOR ALL OCCASIONS
 ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

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Rebekah Hammond, Designer
 606-256-9781

HAMMOND INTERIOR

Design Studio

Commercial / Residential Design
 Richmond Street, Mt. Vernon, Ky.

HO...HO...HO...HOPE IT'S MERRY!

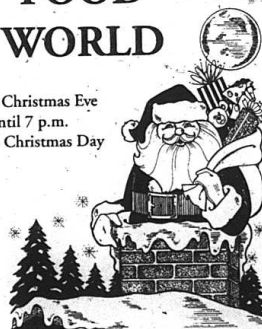
Here's hoping the Christmas season brings you lots of goodies and happy memories with family and friends. Thanks so much for your loyal patronage.

We look forward to serving you next year!

Randall and Donna Robbins
 and all the employees at

FOOD WORLD

Open Christmas Eve
 until 7 p.m.
 Closed Christmas Day



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 Mt. Vernon, Kentucky

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 •All dentures are tried in for patient approval
 Walk-ins Welcome
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Dr. Trisha Cunningham DMD

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Charles & Elaine Salyers Michael Salyers

Save
10%
 on
Medical Scrubs
 w/this coupon

Rebekah Hammond, Designer
 606-256-9781

HAMMOND INTERIOR
 Design Studio

Commercial / Residential Design
 Richmond Street, Mt. Vernon, Ky.

Support these businesses
 participating in
Red Carpet Days

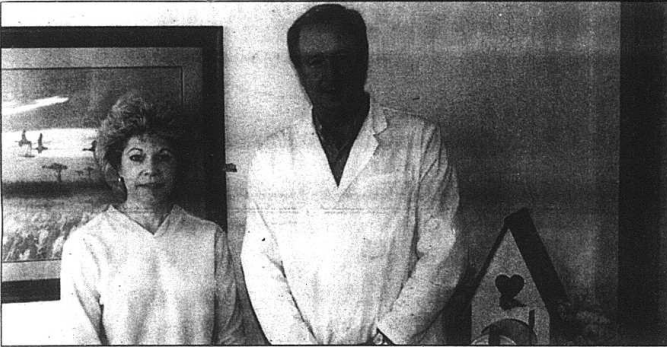
Dogwood Gifts & Crafts & Garden Center

Ph. 256-3007

Featured this month

Silk Flowers for anniversaries & funerals
20 Varieties of Hardy Mums
 Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. • Sunday 1 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Located 3 miles north of Renfro Valley on U.S. 25 at
 Brindle Ridge Road Junction



Mt. Vernon Dentures

Rockcastle County has a new dentist office specializing in Dentures.

Mt. Vernon Dentures is located on U.S. 25, behind the Rockcastle County Courthouse, in the former Clontz CPA office.

Dr. Stephen Shuey and owner and office manager Connie Downey have been in Rockcastle County since July, but have been in the Denture business for the past eight years.

Besides dentures they offer partials, relines and repair work. They also offer a full line of other dentistry work, including fillings and cleanings.

Call for an appointment, (606) 256-3026 or stop by their office, from 8:30 to 4:30 Monday through Friday. They accept Visa and Mastercard.

HOT Winter Savings

FROM CellularOne

RECEIVE THESE GREAT DEALS WHEN YOU GET A:

1 YEAR CONTRACT

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- *\$25 or \$50 credit on Digital Rate Plans

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Located in:

MOVIE WAREHOUSE
 YOUR ENTERTAINMENT HEADQUARTERS

Across from RCMS,
 next to Save-A-Lot

WITH THE LARGEST MOVIE SELECTION AROUND

Our Biggest, Baddest RCs ever!

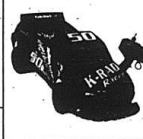
Sale \$49⁹⁹



Buzz Saw 4-wheel-drive monster truck handles the toughest terrain. 14" long. 27/49-cHz, 450-461 Reg. 59.99 Add two 9V and 8 "AA" batteries or 9.6V pack. 16% off



4-wheel drive Monster Patrol pops wheelies and climbs like the real Monster Patrol. 18" Long. 27/49MHz #60-4268 Add two 9V batteries and 7.2V pack. 79⁹⁹



\$79⁹⁹

K-Rad truck has 3 user switchable frequencies - allows multi-vehicle racing without interference. 17" Long. Add two 9V batteries and 5.9V pack.



Sale 24⁹⁹
 Handheld Karaoke makes it easy for kids to sing along with their tapes. #10-418 Reg. \$29.99 Add 4 "AA" batteries. 16% off

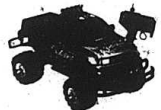


Terabot robot speeds in your voice as he moves about. 11 1/2" tall. #10-4213 Add 9V and 4 "AA" batteries. 29⁹⁹



\$29⁹⁹

The Grinch™ is trying to make a fast getaway from Whoville in this cool Radio Control car. #60-4276 Add 9V and 6 "AA" batteries. 29⁹⁹



\$99⁹⁹

4 wheel drive AfterShock w/independent spring suspension, speeds up to 1,200 feet per minute. 27/49MHz #60-4271 Add two 9V batteries and 7.2V pack.

Radio Shack

Located inside Napa-Mt. Vernon Automotive

NAPA-Mt. Vernon Automotive

Main Street • Mt. Vernon
 256-5821 or 256-2147

Most Major Credit Cards Accepte

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Nobody Sells More!!

Champion Factory Outlet, your factory direct distributor of Champion Homes can meet ALL your housing needs!!

- Government guaranteed loans available with NO MONEY DOWN and rates as low as 7.25%
- \$2,000 rebates available on all homes
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Come see our friendly sales staff and see why we are the largest retailer of manufactured homes.

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Johnson A-1 Auto Sales

Behind the Courthouse in Mt. Vernon

Different Inventory Arriving Daily

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We are your #1 Headquarters!

Stop in today and check out our large selection of pre-owned vehicles!!

Happy Holidays

Open Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day • Open New Year's Day

Open Mon. thru Sat. 9 to 7

Tim Johnson, Owner/Manager

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"We provide Quality Cars and Trucks"

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Hwy. 150 • Brodhead • 758-8011
Open 7 Days a Week • 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Open Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day

Whole

Country Hams

99¢ Sliced
Lb. **1.19** Lb.

L-1 w/\$25 Add. Order

Kraft Miracle Whip

1.69
32 oz.

Fresh
Chicken Breasts

99¢
Lb.

12 Pack
Coke Products

2.79

Prices Good thru 12/23

Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year from the Owners and Employees of Shop-Rite IGA!!

Mt. Vernon Florist

Mt. Vernon Florist, located on Main Street in Mt. Vernon, has been serving the needs of Rokcastle area families for over 17 years.

Judy McFeron and her mother Emma Doan, work hard each day to provide the highest quality of floral arrangements whether it is for a funeral, special occasion, birthday, anniversaries or wedding. They also offer Tuxedo rentals and carry a complete line of stuffed animals and Be An Angel Dolls.

Mt. Vernon Florist is open Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and plans to add a larger selection of gifts to their inventory in the coming year.

Merry Christmas from Judy, Emma, Calvin Creech and Renee Creech.



Trail Guide ATP Owl

Built by General "Snow Special"

SIZE	PLY	Dealer	Price
P235/75R15	4	Road Hazard Inc.	64.97
LT235/75R15	6		70.66
P265/75R15	6	Road Hazard Inc.	72.66
30X9.50R15	6		83.36
31X10.50R15	6		89.61
LT265/75R16	8		89.04

Price does not include tax.

Includes Mounting, Balancing, New Valve Stems

6x6 Wrecker Available
For Off-Road Towing & Recovery

David's Tire Center

Your Complete Tire Dealer

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Mobile 606-308-4592

Mt. Vernon Florist

Main Street • Mt. Vernon
Ph. 256-2091

Flowers for
all occasions

Tuxedo Rentals



the Miracle of Christmas

May all your hopes and prayers be fulfilled during this holy time of year.
Our thoughts and fond wishes are with you.
Thanks for your generous support.

*Charles, Bobbie
Billy & Charlene*

Saylor's Furniture
Lovell Lane • Mt. Vernon • 256-4000
Open Monday - Saturday 10 to 6

B & M Liquidators

Located on Hwy. 150 between Brodhead and Mt. Vernon.

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Just Arrived!!

New shipment of name brand
Comforters, Lamps,
Housewares, Clocks and
Furniture!!

New Items Daily!!

Jim & Mary Bullock, Owners
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Hwy. 3275 (Brindle Ridge) • Open Mon. - Sat. 10-4

Coupon good through Dec. 25th

10% off

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Everything in Store

VALUABLE COUPON

Silver Threads Consignments

E. Main Street, Next door to Castle Cleaners

New and Used Family Clothing

Excellent Condition

Accepting Consignments on 50-50 Basis

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Citgo

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Shown at left: Brenda Darnell, Patricia Kirby and Krista Taylor. Back row, from left: Shelly Mullins, William K. Bullens and Marlene Lawson. Not shown: Betty Sue Bullens and Teresa Vandergriff.

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Agency Manager

Rockcastle County
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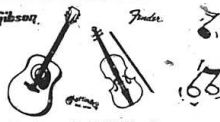


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The funeral home began selling monuments in 1998- attempting to provide continuity of services to families served.

In April 2000 an Open House was held in the new monument building, directly behind the funeral home.

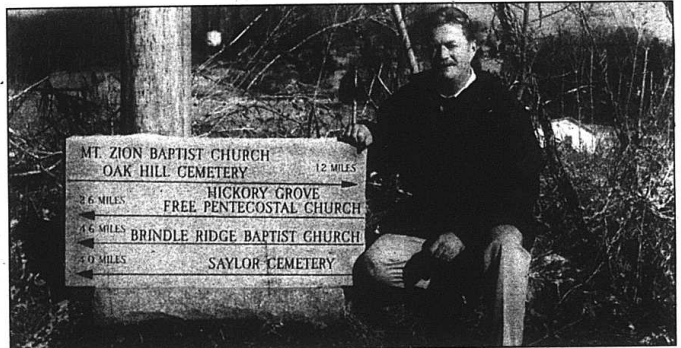
All monuments are computer assisted designs the family leaves with a picture of their stone in hand. All sandblasting/design work is done on the premises. Specials are offered on an on-going basis, passing discounts along to our customers, with guaranteed price less than competitors.

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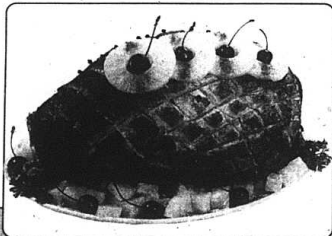
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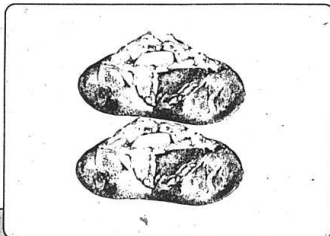


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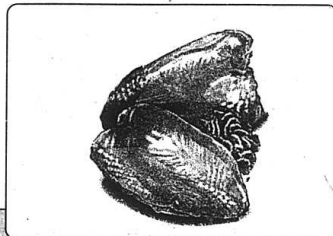
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(Feeds 12 to 15)

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The ROCKET

Rockcastle County High School Volume XVII Number 3 December 2000

Students attending college can turn to financial aid

BY SARAH HOOVER
With graduation quickly approaching, plans for life after high school begin. Some students will be attending college and that takes money.

A financial aid workshop was held Dec. 5, where the required Free Application for Federal Student Aid forms were passed out.

"FAFSA determine a student's eligibility for all types of financial aid," said Jack Stanfill, head of financial aid at Cumberland College.

Several forms of aid are available, including loans, grants, and scholarships. *Getting Started*, a book distributed by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, explains the different types.

Future college students can also find scholarships for different majors. For example, there are specific scholarships for students who want to become teachers.

Work study is another type of financial aid is covered by the FAFSA form. If approved, the student works a certain number of hours per week, perhaps working for a professor grading papers, or in the school library.

"There's 250-300 jobs available on campus," said Mr. Stanfill.

Tax information is required, so forms cannot be turned in before January 1. The priority deadline for financial aid is March 15.

The University of Kentucky requires forms by February 15.



Senior, Josh Engle, was one of the students who attended the financial aid workshop December 5.

Awards roll in for RCHS athletes, rifle team

BY CHEYENNE CARMACK

Rewards are no stranger to RCHS. In fact, Rockcastle County High School has remained at the top, as a school in rewards for three CATS testing cycles, or six years.

This year, as in previous ones, other areas of the school also seem to be turning heads on the statewide level.

After leading the Rockets through an undefeated regular season head football coach Tom Larkey was chosen as the 2000 Kentucky Associated Press Football Coach of the Year.

"It turned out to be a dream season," Larkey told the Lexington Herald-Leader.

The Associated Press, made up of seventeen sportswriters, sportscasters, and editors from around Kentucky, must have agreed.

They not only rewarded Coach Larkey with an honor, but also Senior defensive back Derrick Bussell with an AP First Team All-State position.

"It was a real honor to be recognized," Bussell said of his own award. "But I had a good team behind me."

Senior place kicker, Greg Terry, was also honored with an AP All-State Honorable Mention. Terry broke two school records this season, one for the longest field goal (50 yards), and another for most extra points kicked (11).

Larkey credits the seniors' awards to the statewide recognition throughout the season and their overall dedication and commitment to the team.

The entire Rocket football team and coaching staff can be applauded for their commitment and dedication. Larkey attributes those, among "great attitudes and a lot of hard work," to their overall success.

"I expect to see several players named to the Kentucky Coach's All-State later this month" said Larkey.

Those honors will be revealed December 24.

The Rockets, in one season, managed to go from 10-3 to 13-1.



photo by Mindy Bullock

Coach Tom Larkey was named Associated Press Coach of the Year. He led the RCHS Rockets to a perfect regular season and their first regional championship.

CONTINUED to page 7

Committee reports vandalism to SBDM

BY CARISSA SETTLES

At the Site Based Decision Making Council session on Thursday, Dec. 7, Buildings and Grounds Committee member Roy Reynolds reported that teachers are dealing with car vandalism.

The committee presented several solutions to deal with the problem. The options were to increase security with more cameras and lighting, move the teachers' parking closer to the grounds' monitor station, or move their vehicles to an all new parking lot closer to the front of the building.

To accomplish the new parking lot goal, the Buildings and Grounds Committee members hope to get funding from the school.

"We need to get this taken care

of, so when students have bad days they don't take it out on our cars," said Mr. Reynolds.

The committee also suggested a possible new "senior tradition" to begin this year. Each graduating class will be able to plant a tree that will become part of the high school's landscaping plan.

"Being able to come back in 30 years and see how much each person, as well as the tree has grown is something neat for each senior class to do," said Mr. Reynolds.

As for the senior trip, Sgt. Major Keith Taylor, Student Support Committee member, stated that "we just waited too long, and students really haven't shown interest."

According to Sgt. Major Taylor,

trip information was to be spread through senior English or Transitions classes.

Because only two representatives showed up at the first scheduled meeting, and no one showed up for the second meeting, the subject of a senior trip was dropped.

The Student Support Committee also discussed a change to the attendance policy.

The current policy states that students are allowed three days of absence per weeks.

They would like to see the policy changed to three days per semester, with the addition of an attendance committee formed.

The committee would review each case individually, due to the

fact that there are extenuating circumstances for every student

Rewards considered for perfect attendance for the nine weeks were also discussed by the Student Support Committee. Some of the suggestions were to have a longer break, a homework pass good for a single day in a single class, a pizza party at the end of the semester, or bonus points in each class.

Other rewards for perfect attendance all year would be a field trip at the end of the year, or a t-shirt similar to those given for do-

CONTINUED to page 7

Dear seniors:

BY CHEYENNE CARMACK

No other part of the school year causes such joy in the hearts of students as winter does.

An elementary concept called cause and effect could explain this fact.

Winter means snow. Snow brings slippery roads. Slippery roads cancel school.

Therefore, winter is adored by school kids for no other reason than the eminent possibility of days off.

As seniors, and the eldest, we have more practice than anyone at jumping up at the first hint of flurries, flipping on WRVK or one of the local news stations, and then either gleefully snuggling back into bed or glumly trudging to school.

Those mornings are quickly approaching. That means winter is here.

If winter is here, if Christmas break is almost here, that means the semester is almost over.

Guys, we're half-way through.

And as much as things are about to change, as much as they already have, one thing will stay the same for us this winter: snow days.

Some of you are already anxious for graduation day, I know. You're the people who say, "Let's just get it over with...No more snow days!"

You deny that sleeping until noon and sipping hot chocolate in front of daytime cartoons make you feel warm and fuzzy inside. You claim that summer (especially this summer since you will officially be rid of high school for good) is much better than snow days anytime.

Some of you, though, still love snow days. You always have, and

you always will. Even if you are almost "all grown-up."

You rely on them to replenish your weary soul and as an excuse to catch up with friends, or maybe even your favorite soaps.

These anticipated days off should be even more special to you now. They serve a bigger purpose for those of us who have crossed our fingers and prayed for blizzards for 13 years and counting.

This winter represents another 'last' for us, seniors.

Once spring arrives you will never again be at the mercy of the Sno-Go report or have the chance to sleigh-ride while you should be in class.

The real world doesn't stop for slick country roads.

Snow days are the appeals that refuse to free us from school, or they could be the fountain of youth that allow us to relish this simple life for just a few more days.

I prefer to think of them as the latter, but I guess it all depends on how you look at it.

Time seems to be rushing past. It's sad for me to think that the past 13 years will be memories in 18 short weeks. This holiday season I will be more sentimental than ever, I'm afraid.

My challenge still stands. Make moments and memories. Enjoy the little things that make growing up worthwhile.

And this winter, think of snow flakes not only as excused absences from school, but also as God's way of giving us a little more time together.



The true Christmas Spirit is gone

BY HEATHER KIRBY

As Christmas nears, the constant reminder of gifts and money weighs heavily on the mind of most people. What was once a holiday celebrating the greatest gift of all, Jesus' birth, has become a "Me" holiday.

It seems giving has been replaced by receiving, just as Santa has replaced Jesus. When God gave his only begotten son he was not concerned with the gifts he would receive in return. We were granted the gift of everlasting life out of love. That is what Christmas is about-- not money and gifts.

What was once a holiday celebrating the greatest gift of all, Jesus' birth, has become a "me" holiday.

I am constantly reminded of *Gremlins* and character Kate saying "The holidays are the number one time for suicide" when I see a kid scream "I want, I want" in a store while the Salvation Army

Santa sits outside, begging for enough money to buy a needy kid a coat for Christmas.

It seems that people are never concerned with those less fortunate. While some children want new Mustangs for Christmas, others are overjoyed to just have a turkey for Christmas dinner.

So on your next journey through Wal-Mart take the time to think of someone else while you look for all the stuff Mom and Dad have to get you. After all it is the season for forgiving not the season for getting.



The Rocket

Rockcastle County High School
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Mt. Vernon, KY 40456
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Letters to the editor should be limited to 250 words or less, and must be signed. The staff and adviser reserve the right to edit a letter, or refuse to print it.

The Rocket is published six times a year by the journalism class at Rockcastle County High School. All stories and ads are prepared using the Macintosh and LaserJet 2100M and printed by E&C Web Printing, London, KY.

It Rocks

Eating your own homemade cookies and milk while waiting for Santa Claus to come eat the ones you left for him.

Forgetting yourself and serving others

The KREEPS' rendition of "Reese took drugs." A must-see!!!

The sophomore tug-o-war teams that can beat anyone...even the teachers. Have you guys considered taking it on the road?

Dedication to excellence put forth by the entire RCHS student body, each Rocket athlete, and the fantastic faculty and staff.

It Reeks

Tossing your cookies because you caught the stomach virus that has been going around.

Forgetting others and serving yourself

Britney Spears' rendition of 'Satisfaction.' Listening will give you none.

Rope burn, floor burn, heart burn...All of which can be adverse reactions to contesting the sophomore class at tug-o-war.

Dedicating yourself to a feeding and loving a pet goldfish, that you'll flush a week later. The odds just aren't worth it.

Down the Hall

What was your most disappointing holiday?



"Halloween 2000, because I only had two trick-or-treaters."
--Jennifer Carmack, senior

"Election Day, because I forgot how to count."
--Chris Price, senior



"Easter. People don't celebrate it for the right reasons."
--Tricia Beth Laswell, freshman

"Christmas '89. I found out there really wasn't a Santa Claus."
--Elizabeth Matekovich, sophomore



It's time for a lesson in acceptance

BY STEVEN WARD

There are many things that define us as human beings, such as gender, race, age, place of origin, and sexual orientation.

Despite the fact that everyone is different, people continue to employ actions of hatred and disgust towards others who aren't like the majority.

One of the more evident displays of this fact is that some people still use the word "nigger" when speaking about those of the African-American race.

This simple word and the fact that there are still those who are guilty of saying words like that appalls me.

This is the 21st century, a time of diversity and acceptance, but we still have unaccepting constituents. That idea is disgusting to me.

It's hard to think that we, the great Americans, who pride ourselves on diversity and acceptance, could recite such horrible words.

Does that note a hint of hypocrisy on our parts? Doesn't that say that America stays about as true to its word as its politicians who claim not to mudsling?

Acceptance these days isn't easy to come by. Actually, it's a rather

hot commodity to some of the residents of this country.

I'm speaking of those who make up the well-known and rather controversial group of the homosexual community who reside in the American republic.

Wait a minute though, we're not talking about the same place which prides itself on ideals of diversity.

Oh, no. I must be talking about that other place called America which denies some of its citizens the right to marry, the right to serve their country in the military openly, and the right to hold a job without the fear of termination.

I must be talking about that other America where differences are emphasized and disrespected with words such as "faggot" and "queer".

No, I couldn't be talking about that America. That America where the people's behavior is rude, disrespectful, and disgusting, with this behavior being employed only because people are different.

Over the past few years, another minority group has been ridiculed more and more because of cultural dissimilarities. These groups would be the Asians and the Mexi-

cans. They are being called such things as 'Jap' and 'Tamale'.

This again, just because they're not like the majority.

The simple choice of a person's religion could also set people off. The fact that others don't choose to be Baptists or Christians, provides some with the notion that because these people are different, they deserve to be treated differently.

I'm not saying that America is at all a bad place to live. I mean don't get me wrong, this, in my eyes, is one of the best places anyone could live.

What I *am* saying is that there are many things that Americans must learn before this country is the **BEST** place to live. One of those things is the acceptance of others.

As I was walking down the hall yesterday, I saw a poster hanging on the double doors. The poster read *Diversity. There are strengths in our similarities, but there are also strengths in our differences.*

Everyone reading this piece should remember what they're reading when down the road called life, you encounter someone who may not conform to everything you know.

Letters encourage *The Rocket* to bring back the horoscopes

Dear Editor,

I am just writing to tell you and your crew what a great job you all have done on the school paper this year. I have enjoyed reading the school paper.

You and your crew have done an outstanding job keeping me and my fellow students informed on what all is going on at RCHS.

I would like to see the horoscopes come back. I found them cool to read.

I just thought I owed you all a response. Thank you for your time and effort put forth for our school paper.

Thanks and best regards,
Keaton Pittman

Dear Editor,

I feel that you are doing an excellent job with the paper. It is well written and many of the stories are extremely interesting. However, I also feel that including the jokes and comedy that used to be on the back page again would encourage more people to

buy the paper. Many individuals purchased the paper only for that page.

Sincerely,
Warren Whitaker

Dear Editor,

I remember when I was a freshman and the back page was full of jokes and funny games. But now it's just articles like the rest of the paper. I used to buy the paper just for the back page.

Sincerely,
Eric Poynter

Dear Editor,

I think we should have the horoscopes. That's the first thing I would read, because I like to have positive thoughts about my future.

Thanks,
Amanda Parker

P.S.
I love Lindsey's stories.

Dear Editor,

I think that you should put the horoscopes back into the newspaper.

Many people liked reading the horoscopes better than anything else in the paper. The paper would also be more interesting if you added comics, because people like comics.

Sincerely,
Samantha Payne, senior

Dear Editor,

I wish the paper had more jokes. I liked the jokes it had before and the other things like "stupid things to do at Wal-Mart."

Sincerely,
Angela Mullins

How are we doing? Please, drop us a line if you have any suggestions on how to improve your school paper! Send letters to Rm. 116 or email us at norton28@highwired.com

New career center offers more than just books

BY MINDY BULLOCK

A new career center has been established at the Rockcastle County Public Library. This program makes materials and resources for college or other post-secondary education available to high school and middle school students and their parents.

Director Kristiana Burke said, "It's never too early to start thinking about college or post-secondary education."

The program provides two brand new computers with DVD players and a new printer for public use. Also, they have over 100 materials such as books, software, pamphlets, and financial aid information: basically, anything to do with careers or education.

Senior Carissa Settles was par-

ticularly impressed by all it has to offer and the resources available to students.

"The technology is advanced and the computers are really nice," said Settles.

The career center was implemented primarily by Dreama Gentry, who is with Berea College Special Services and Gear-up partner Andy Beichler. Gentry and Beichler worked in conjunction with the middle school parent/teacher group, Rocacastle County Public Schools, Rockcastle County Public Library, Forward in the 5th, School to Work, MLLA 16 and Berea College to get the program up and running.

The Gear-up program introduces middle school parents to

computer technology. Those parents who have completed the course will be able to check-out laptops from the center for up to two weeks in order to search for information.

"Having the center available to the public as a free service makes Rockcastle County a better place," said Burke.

The career center is open to the public Monday thru Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm. The center stays open especially late Thursdays closing at 8 pm.

Rockcastle County can certainly benefit from this program which enables anyone interested in furthering their education the opportunity to access valuable information.

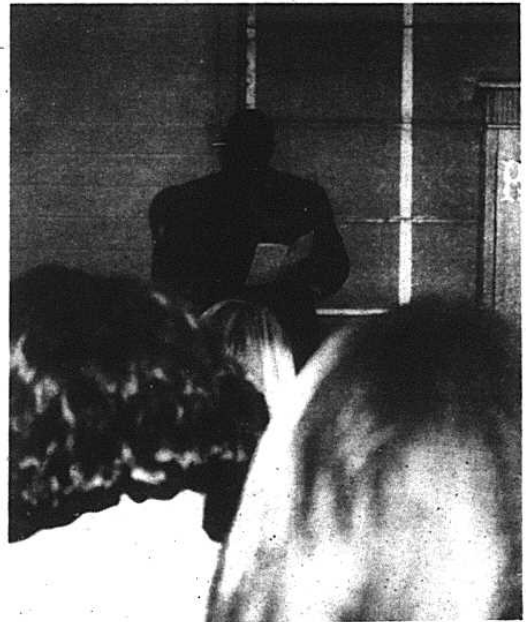
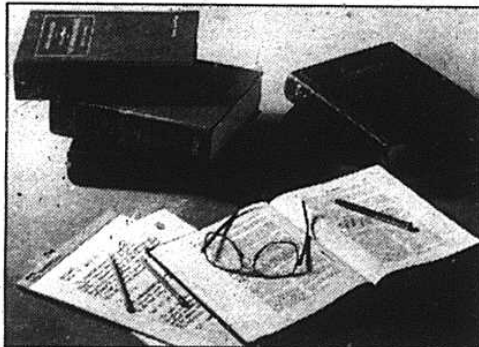


photo by Missy Wilburn

See *The Rocket* online at
www.highwired.com/rockcastle/rocket

"AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS WORTH A POUND OF CURE"—Harassment was the issue of the day when Dr. Roger Cleveland of the Kentucky Department of Education spoke at RCHS in November. Dr. Cleveland spoke to males and females separately, explaining the difference between sexual harassment and joking. Five cases of sexual harassment were reported by the first of November, compared to five all of last year.

The Value Of A Good Education Can Not Be Overestimated.



"Education is a social process,
Education is growth.
Education is not a preparation for life,
It is life itself."
-John Dewey

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Cheerleaders head for Nationals

BY AMY CLARK

The RCHS cheerleading squad has qualified for national competition in Orlando, Florida by placing second in the regional championship at Henry Clay High School in Lexington.

This will be the group's first time making it to nationals and they will be competing against several schools in Kentucky and the U.S. February 9-13.

"I am very excited, not just because we are going, but if we do our best, we might have a chance of placing," said senior captain Tara Burton.

Other senior captain Jennifer Carmack agrees.

"We have been practicing as a squad since June and now it has paid off," she said.

Only the squad members who are competing will get to go, due to their budget.

The school isn't paying for any of the trip, so it's left up to the cheerleaders to raise the money.

"It's an honor to qualify for nationals even though money is a big factor," said coach Rhonda Rose.

This year will be an unforgettable year for all cheerleaders and RCHS.

"It will be really hard this year because it's our first year, but I believe we will get a foundation for future squads," said senior Chelsen Stratton.

This big event will be televised on ESPN 2, February 10.

Chorus presents Madrigal Dinner

BY JOANIE MINK KING

Honors choir held their third annual Madrigal Dinner December 5, in the RCHS cafeteria.

"The dinner was a complete success. We received more compliments on the performance and the meal than ever in years past," said chorus director Mrs. Tammy Reynolds.

This year the chorus picked an Appalachian theme.

"They [the chorus] have used Medieval and Cajun in the past, and

this year they wanted something comfortable and traditional," explained Mrs. Reynolds.

The singers performed traditional Christmas carols like "I Wonder as I Wander."

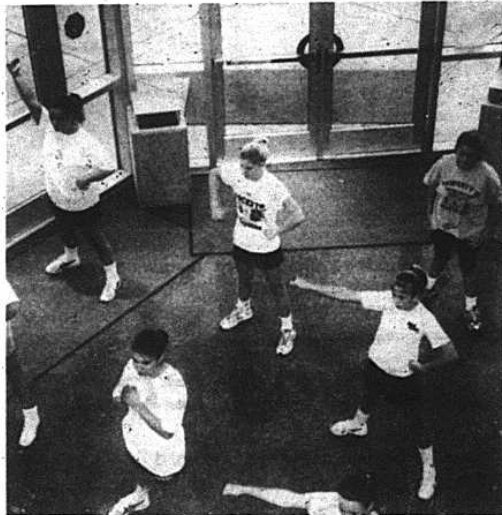
Media Specialist Janet Wells has been to the dinner two years in a row. She went last year when the theme was Cajun.

"They did an excellent job on all the songs and that's what I enjoyed most," she said.

The menu was traditional with ham, sweet potato casserole, dinner rolls, salad, green beans, and pecan or apple pie, served by the other chorus classes.

"Bridgette Lear was a very good server. She did an excellent job," said Mrs. Wells.

Honors choir, Mrs. Tammy Reynolds, and other chorus members encourage and invite you to join them next year if you've never experienced the RCHS Madrigal Dinner.



Several members of the Rocket cheerleading squad practice after school. The cheerleaders recently qualified for the national competition in Orlando, Florida.



Mrs. Janet Wells and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lynch (clockwise) attended the annual Madrigal Dinner on December 5.

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Fun + food + worship = FCA Convention

BY STEVEN WARD

Twenty students weren't fulfilling their weekly duties on November 11-12.

This wasn't because they didn't have anything to do, but because they were busy making new friends and celebrating their religion at the annual FCA state convention held at Harrison County High School in Cynthiana.

The convention, sponsored by

the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, is for members of FCA chapters all over Kentucky.

While at the convention, a variety of activities take place, such as prayer and worship, athletic competitions, and the meeting of new friends in huddle groups.

"The huddle groups are one of the best ways to make new friends. You can meet new people from all

over the state," said sophomore Anita Collins.

Huddle groups are randomly selected groups that provide the chance for everyone to meet someone new by limiting the chances of a person being placed in a group with someone from his or her own school.

Approximately 1200 FCA members from all over the state attended.

Freshman Jessica Denny enjoyed seeing so many people.

"It made it so much easier to find people I share common interests with," she said.

Members took advantage of a policy change that allowed any FCA member to attend. In the past, only officers and advisers could attend.

Adviser Jason Wilson noticed the policy change had a positive effect on the students, "It really said a lot about the kids. They took a lot of initiative in going. They took a chance with something they really didn't know about."

The students who attended the conference apparently enjoyed it, because they came back with smiling faces and only great things to say.

Junior Shana Noe described it as "near perfect."



FCA members who attended the state convention lead praise and worship at the December 11 club meeting. Members shown are (from left to right): Josh Taylor, Cheyenne Carmack, Amber Thacker, Jamie Frederick, and Shana Noe.

RCHS Science Fair

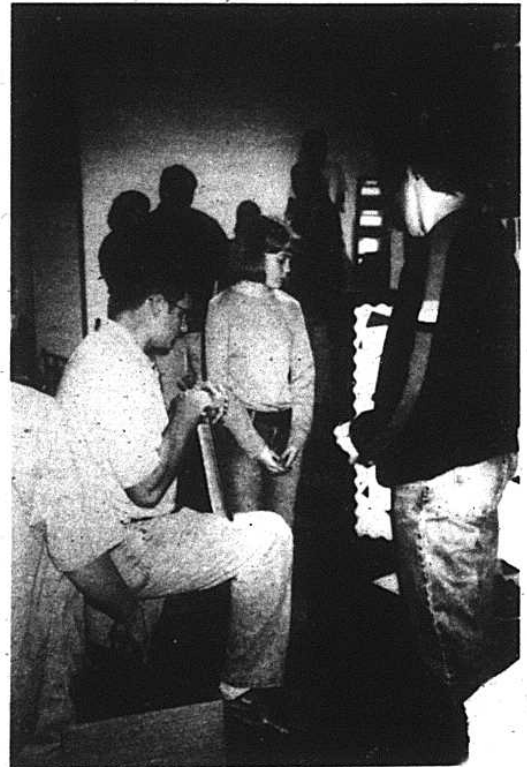


photo by Mindy Bullock

Teacher J.D. Bussell judges one of the many projects created for the science department's science fair Friday. Results were not available prior to publication.

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Rewards roll in

CONTINUED from page 1

finishing as state semifinalists.

"A year that the Rock was not predicted in any preseason poll in the state to finish near the top, did," said senior end, Dackery Larkey.

Another RCHS team has finished near the top for the second year in a row, and has received both team and individual honors.

The RCHS Rifle team recently won the Kentucky High School State Championship in the sporter division.

Leading up to their state title the rifle team competed in several other competitions. The team shot their way into first place in the precision category in Clarksville, Tennessee and second place overall in Nashville, Tennessee.

The results of their latest competition, in Atlanta, Georgia, have still not been determined.

Individual shooters have made a name for themselves as well. Senior Tami Taylor won the Kentucky state title, with a score of 543.

Taylor's teammates, Jonathan Noe, Tim Tyler, and Shannon Bullock placed second, third, and ninth, respectively.

The top three finishers, Taylor, Noe, and Tyler were awarded with First Team All State positions, while Bullock was honored as a member of the second team.

Sergeant Major Keith Taylor, who coaches the rifle team, says the secret behind his team's success is "seeking out good competition."

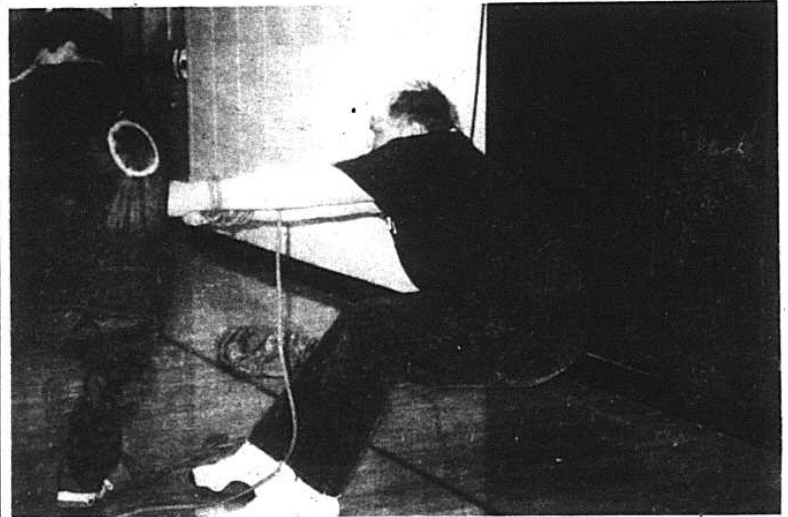
His daughter Tami disagrees. "The secret to our success is my dad. The coaching he gives is everything," she said.

Sgt. Major Taylor is no bad shot, himself. He served in the US Army for 23 years, and earned an Expert badge for marksmanship.

In the same turn, he must have learned some effective leadership. "He always tells us 'Do your best all the time,'" says Tami.

From the team's continuous string of outstanding performances, the coach must have been saying something right.

The rifle team will compete again on January 6, 2001, at Seneca High School in Louisville. They will be competing in the NRA sectionals.



Celebration 2000 was held Wednesday, November 22 as a reward for students on their outstanding CATS 2000 performance. Teachers Dawn Quigley and Robyn Johnson helped pass out free pizza to all of the students. While some students ate, others played volleyball and participated in tug o' war. Tyler Strunk, a junior, pulled with everything he had but it wasn't enough to beat the sophomore class. The sophomores came out on top with both boys and girls winning it all for their class.

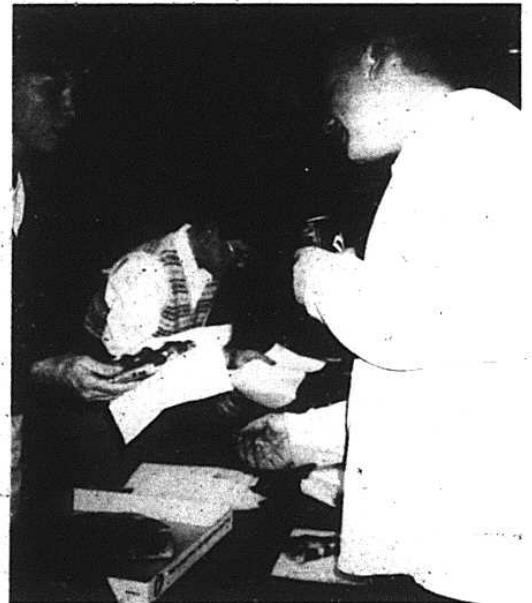


photo by Mindy Bullock

Senior Tara Burton gives blood during Key Club's annual blood drive. The drive took place last week.

Happy holidays
from The Rocket
staff!



Christmas is a time for remem

'Tis the season to give

BY MELISSA PAQUETTE

As the school year progresses and the weather gets colder, many think of the ones who aren't as fortunate.

"Knowing that you've helped someone over the holiday just makes your own holiday that much more special," said senior Ashley Lawson, a member of several clubs, including Y-Club.

Y-Club held a coat drive and magazine drive for the holidays. The over dated reading material is going to be donated to the jail, and the coats will go to needy families in the area.

Almost everyone is familiar with the traditional Toys for Tots, which Y-club sponsored this Christmas. Toys for Tots supplies less privileged children with toys for Christmas.

However, Y-Club isn't the only organization helping others this Christmas.

Beta Club sponsored "Change for the Holidays" December 8-12. The project, which included only five classes, brought in \$130.

"We used the money to buy gifts for two children we adopted through the Migrant Program," said club adviser Susan Norton.

"We donated whatever we had left to Toys for Tots."

Beta also held a stuffed animal drive and donated their animals to Ms. Darlene Martin's fourth block Child Development class. The stuffed animals given to Mt. Vernon Elementar preschool students who attended yesterday's Christmas play.

FCCLA and Key Club pulled together to help families have a great Christmas dinner. They collected over 600 items during a canned food drive December 4-8.

"I encourage everyone to give a little of their time to help someone in need over the holiday," said senior Rachelle Hammond, president of Key Club and FCCLA.

All these activities may seem like a lot but it isn't. A few toys and some canned veggies aren't going to make needy families get a head start --but it will help.

While you are sitting in your warm house eating that delicious Christmas dinner with all those presents under the big decorated tree think of how lucky you are and what little boy or girl you made happy by helping out this year.



photo by Mindy Bullock
FCCLA members Rachelle Hammond, Daphne Adams, Josh Hale, Brian Reynolds, and Ashley Lawson.



BY LINDSEY PARSONS

I remember the year my dad got a skirt for Christmas. The look on his face after opening the gift was unlike anything you could stage. Thankfully, it is captured, along with my sister's terror of her mistake, on camera. This tape is always fun to watch as Christmas approaches.

As the holidays get closer, most everyone has memories they are reminded of.

Senior Tasha VanZant remembers a moment of chaos last year when her cat became tangled in the family Christmas tree.

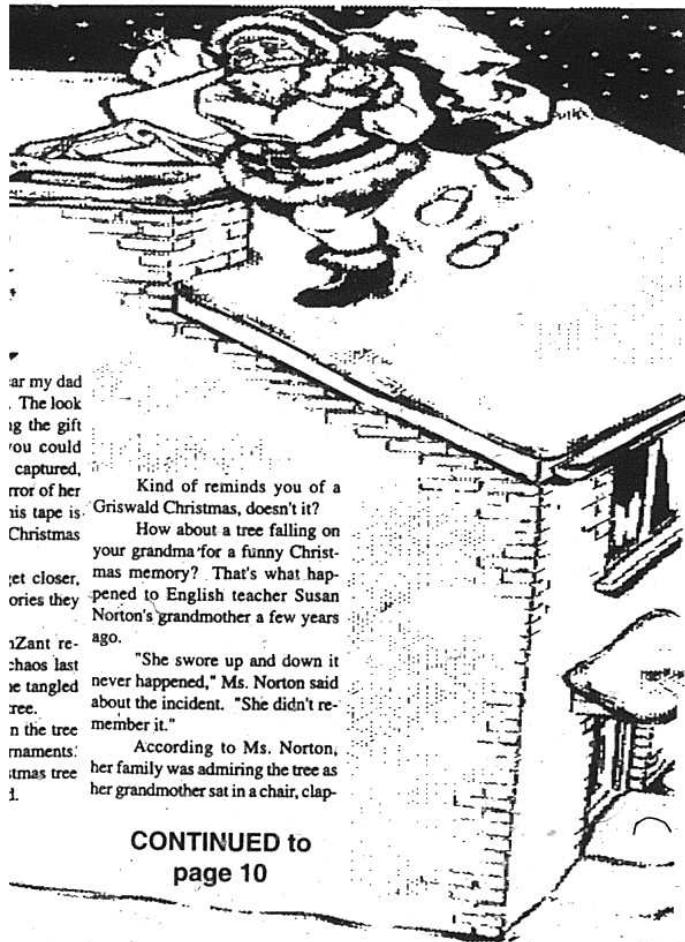
"Our cat climbed in the tree and was attacking our ornaments. She tried to eat the Christmas tree skirt," VanZant explained.

Ultimate Sugar Cookies

- 3/4 cup Golden Crisco or butter-flavored Crisco
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 1/4 cups all purpose flour
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp salt
- colored decorations or icing

Cream Crisco, sugar, eggs, and vanilla in large bowl at medium speed until light and creamy. Combine flour, baking powder and salt. Add to creamed mixture, mixing on low speed until well blended. Cover and chill dough for 1 hour. Preheat oven to 375. Roll half of dough at a time. Roll out on lightly floured surface to 1/4 inch thickness. Using a cookie cutter, cut into desired shapes and place on ungreased cookie sheets. Sprinkle with colored decorations or leave plain and decorate when cool. Bake for 8-10 minutes, or until edges are light brown. Cool slightly, then remove to cooling rack.

for giving, receiving, remembering



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Kind of reminds you of a
Griswald Christmas, doesn't it?

How about a tree falling on
your grandma for a funny Christ-
mas memory? That's what hap-
pened to English teacher Susan
Norton's grandmother a few years
ago.

"She swore up and down it
never happened," Ms. Norton said
about the incident. "She didn't re-
member it."

According to Ms. Norton,
her family was admiring the tree as
her grandmother sat in a chair, clap-

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Santa Suggests...

Gift ideas for the over- stressed shopper

BY TASHA SANDLIN

Christmas is right around the
corner. If you haven't bought your
gifts, it's crunch time, and the stores
are packed.

According to both students and
teachers, Wal-Mart is the place to
go.

For the stressed out shopper,
here are some ideas to get you
started.

Wal-Mart has a variety of items:
including jewelry, electronics, and
cosmetics. Of course "the more
you spend the more you get", said
an assistant manager.

If Wal-Mart's not your thing,
there are other places to shop. Guys
buying for a special someone, can
find diamond earrings for as low
as \$29.

"Get the good deals for Christ-
mas," recommended C & H Rauch
sales assistant Brenda Mobley.

If you're looking for cheap, but
nice gifts, for relatives or friends
try the Victorian Gift Box, located
in the Somerset Mall.

"We have nice things for men
and women" said manager Teresa
Ball.

For
around \$5 you
can get picture
frames or
candles.

Lotions are
good gift
ideas, also.
You can find
them at the al-
ways popular

Bath & Body Works. Aside from
those shops there are many other
places to buy for your loved ones,
including Dawhares and Hastings.

Now that you know where to
shop, how much are you going to
spend?

The amount to spend varies ac-
cording to how good the friend is
and how long you've known them.

An informal poll of students
and teachers says to spend around
\$50 for a best pal. For a casual
friend expect to spend around \$10-
\$25.

If you are in a serious relation-
ship, the same poll showed that
most people spend around \$100,
buying cologne, clothes, or what-
ever strikes their interest.

If the relationship is not seri-
ous, consider spending around \$10-
20.

Of course, no matter what gift
you buy there will always be a line
backed up to the door, taking the
gifts back. But, it's the thought that
counts.



Connie Riddle's Chocolate Chip Peanut Squares *

2 1/2 cups self rising flour
2 sticks Blue Bonnet margarine, softened
1 cup packed light brown sugar
2 eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla
1-12 oz. bag of semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 cup chopped peanuts (optional)

1. Blend margarine and sugar in a large bowl with an electric mixer on medium speed until creamy. Add eggs and vanilla, blending until smooth.
2. Gradually blend in flour. Stir in chocolate chips and peanuts (optional). Spread mixture into lightly greased 9 x 13 inch pan.
3. Bake at 350 for 25-30 minutes until done. Cool completely and cut into squares to serve.



Dreams and meaning:

Can they hold mysterious answers to life?

"That which the dream shows is the shadow of such wisdom as exists in man, even if during his waking state he may know nothing about it. We do not know it because we are footing away our time with outward and perishing things, and are asleep in regard to that which is real within ourself."

-Paracelsus

BY MINDY BULLOCK

Do dreams really hold the answers to parts of our life? Scientists still debate about whether dreams are simply fictional after thoughts of the day, or if they are clues to missing pieces of our life.

Everyone has experienced a strange dream that they thought was seemingly unaccounted for. But, perhaps this reverie was an insight into their deepest subconscious examining their motives, thoughts, and behaviors. Generally, when someone truly analyzes their dreams it proves to be a

worthwhile venture when they discover some of their values or needs.

Senior Theresa Chislum recalls a dream in which she was the Devil's girlfriend.

"I think the reason that I dreamt that was because I need to get to church."

Often dreams can symbolize a certain experience or feeling a person is going through like loneliness or confusion. Many times, dreams like these are ones we'd rather forget. No one likes to be reminded of pain or stress, especially at night when they are supposed to be resting.

"I have a dream that I'm locked in a tower, and it's full of toothpicks I have to stack up," said senior Heath Payne. "I can't leave till I do that, but I never got it done...It only happens when I'm stressed



out."

Because of immense interest in dream interpretation, a few common themes have been analyzed to discover their deeper purpose.

**CONTINUED to
page 13**

Common Dream Themes

Dreams of Falling: This dream may signify being "on top of the world" or rising above a struggle.

Dreams of Nudity: Some may believe these dreams have some sexual significance, but in general this is not the case. Usually, you must ask yourself if you are vulnerable, exposed, revealed, or open in your life at the present time.

Dreams of Losing Teeth: First, check your teeth because this dream may mean there's a real problem. If everything is in order, ask yourself if you have somehow "lost face" or spoiled your self-image.

Dreams of Losing Money or Valuables: This dream may also hold a literal warning, so make sure you still have your purse or wallet. This dream may also symbolize future loss or theft or losing some personal morals and values.

Christmas brings back memories

CONTINUED from
page 9

ping. When the ornamented structure started leaning, her grandmother stared at it in horror. The whole family jumped to catch the falling tree.

Christmas trees seem to be a common problem for families. But, what if there is no electricity at your house to light the tree?

"One time when I was little, the electricity went out on Christmas Eve," Nikki Wood, senior, explained.

Not only would this burden the Christmas spirit with no twinkling lights, but it meant that the heat was off too. Fortunately, the one gift Nikki opened that night was flannel pajamas. Her family ended up making the best of their situation.

"It was pretty cool because we sat around a kerosene heater and sang songs," she said.

If Kentucky winters aren't your thing, perhaps you've pondered the idea of a Santa-fest on the beach. For senior Cathie Midkiff, the year her family spent Christmas in St. Augustine was a bad experience.

"It was the worst Christmas ever because there was no snow and no people," she explained.

So, if you're planning on making snowmen and snow angels at Christmas, steer clear of Florida (or any other warm climate region for that matter).

Not all Christmas memories are cheerful, though. The holidays bring gloomy memories for some.

Senior Missy Wilburn can remember the first year after her mother left and the strain on her father to still make Christmas great.

"I tried to be strong and told him how wonderful it was," she recalls.

Christmas wasn't quite the same for the Wilburn family that year.

"My mom was the one who made Christmas, who did all the cooking, who made all the decorations."

Most of the decorations went with her mother therefore making the tree a little bare. The dinner table was missing something too—her mother whose place was directly across from Missy. Needless to say, Christmas was hard for her family.

Television and movies often depict Christmas as a joyful, fun time. For most, it usually is. But, no matter how good or bad the memories are, once the carols are sung, they all start coming back.

Committees present to SBDM

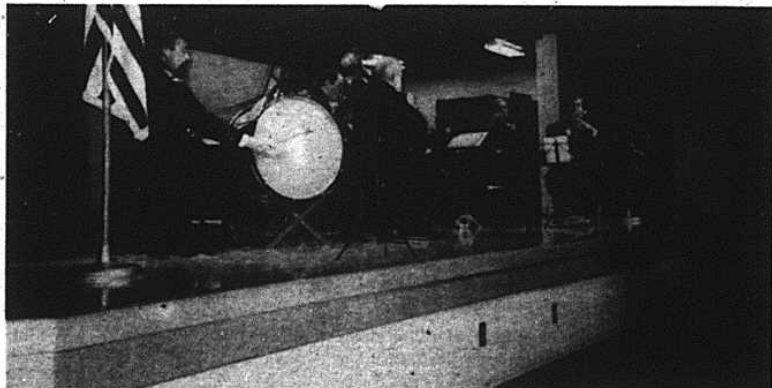
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nating blood.

Needs Assessment Committee representative Ms. Allene Cornelius told council members that a review of CATS results shows language arts is gradually improving, but the school still lacks in Writing, Vocational/Practical Living, and Arts & Humanities areas.

Professional Development representative John Wells also presented some suggestions for teacher professional development, suggesting it be held throughout the year.

Overall, the meeting went smoothly, and the council was provided with many good ideas to consider.



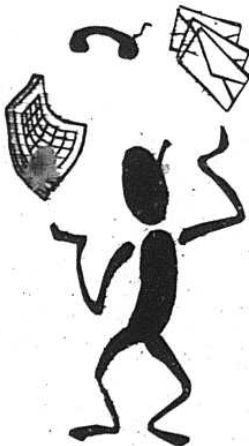
The Saxton Cornet Band performs before a crowd of over 150 students. The band uses authentic instruments and music to recreate a military band of the Civil War era.

Do you believe the parking lot needs more security? Let us know what you think by emailing norton28@highwired.com.

Let's talk about stress

BY MISSY WILBURN

It plagues our bodies every moment of every day. Some days it's good and some days it's a curse. Whether we want it or not, stress is here to stay. With the holiday season in full swing, students have



more to worry about than their next portfolio piece.

"It's really hard to go to school and make enough money to pay for my car," said senior Jennifer Carmack. "With Christmas coming up, I worry that I won't be able to get everyone something."

Some people don't even need a reason to stress.

"I get bored when I can't stay busy. I just stress," said senior Chelsen Stratton. "I really don't stress any other time."

A recent poll showed that the main items RCHS students stressed over were money, family issues, school, work, and portfolio pieces.

According to Ms. Marla Thomas, Psychology Instructor at Madison Central High School, not all stress is bad. "Some stress can be constructive to help motivate students."

However, stress can cause negative effects in the body. When you become stressed, harmful hormones are secreted, essential cells die and pathways of memory in the

brain are broken.

In severe cases, stress can change the physical structure and chemistry of the brain. More noticeable symptoms include abnormal eating patterns, nausea, anxiety, irrational fear and even depression.

With so much at stake, what can we do to help prevent stress?

"Exercise is probably the best way to reduce stress," said Ms. Ruth Lane, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner from the Rockcastle County Health Department.

RCHS Instructor Mr. Pat Greene has a different approach to avoid stressful symptoms such as high blood pressure and restlessness.

"Put things into perspective and take a vacation. Drop everything and run like a mad person screaming," said Mr. Greene.

Christmas is a time for cheer, not panic attacks and ulcers. So during your holidays, make sure you have visions of sugar plums instead of portfolios dancing in your head.

Top 15 Ways to Reduce Stress

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1. Exercise | 6. Reduce Caffeine | 11. Sing |
| 2. Stretch | 7. Relax Emotions | 12. Read |
| 3. Breathe Deeply | 8. Talk to Someone | 13. Scream |
| 4. Take a Shower | 9. Take up a Hobby | 14. Meditate |
| 5. Get a Massage | 10. Cry | 15. Laugh |

What's in a name?

The zany names we call our pets and why

BY AMY CLARK

Many students at RCHS have pets with very weird names, but some names aren't as weird as you think. The stories behind the names are the really interesting parts.

"My dog is a toy rat terrier," said junior Dougie Hayes.

"I named him Radar because when the song 'Radar Love' came on, he started dancing back and forth."

Hayes isn't the only one who has a pet with an unusual name.

Senior Ellie Earhart has a very strange name for her dog.

"My chow's name is Kitty because when we called the cat, she came running," she said.

Senior Robert Payne's pet's name is exactly the opposite of Earhart's.

"I have a cat named Pup because

it whimpers like a little puppy and looks more like a dog than a cat," he said.

Teachers at RCHS also have some weird pet names.

"I named my cat Cocoa because she's black and brown and looks like chocolate," said English teacher Ms. Wanda Gonzalez.

Some students even name their pets according to their best friend's pet's name.

Junior Kaliesha Robinson named her dog Buttons because it has a spot on its head that looks like a button.

Her best friend, junior Daphne Adams, named her dog Zipper to go along with Kaliesha's dog.

Maybe all of these weird pet

names is where they came up with the cartoon Catdog!

If your pet acts like another animal other than what it is, maybe it's because of the name you gave it.

It makes you wonder what kind of weird names our pets have for us.

Protect yourself, know the signs

BY NIKKI WOOD

"He said, 'C'mon in the house with me, honey. We've had a rough evening,' just as sweet as can be. I didn't dream anything was wrong.

"But when we got inside, everything changed. 'Are you happy now? You ran her off, I liked her too. I don't care if you are my girlfriend, I can spend time with other girls without you starting fights with them and running them off.'

Then he started to hit me. He was so much bigger than me, all I did was raise my hands to protect my face. Then he tried to 'make up' for what he had done.

"I craved the affection, plus, I was afraid, so I did it. But there was nothing sweet about that either. He hurt me worse than he had before..."

These are the chilling words of Jane*, a senior at Rockcastle County High School. After that happened, she left the boyfriend, and hasn't been around him since.

At the time of the confrontation, she was taken by surprise, but in

retrospect, the girl realized that there were plenty of warnings of what lay ahead. She came to the conclusion that she had just not seen them until it was too late.

It probably wasn't her fault, though. Sometimes, when a relationship is just starting, it is difficult to tell whether or not the situation is safe.

"Everyone is on their best behavior at the very first of a relationship," Youth Services Director Mrs. Jill Ponder explained.

As things progress, however, the warning signs begin to appear. According to guidance counselor Mrs. Janice Miller, one of these is a quick temper.

If after spending time with your significant other, you begin to notice that they easily or frequently lose their cool, it may be a sign you should be a little cautious with them. This is especially the case if they use their fists on hard objects like walls and tables, then say that they can't feel it when they hit things out of anger.

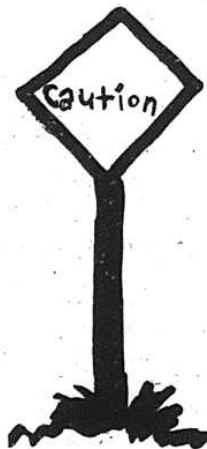
Mrs. Ponder warned that alcohol and drugs are also a flashing caution light.

"When you take someone who has other characteristics of an abuser, and you throw in drugs and alcohol on top of that, it only makes the situation worse," she said.

Mrs. Miller agreed, "That makes them uncontrollable."

It may also be time to worry if your sweetie gets too nosy. If they want to know everywhere you go, everything you do, and everyone you

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Rockets end season as Regional Champs

BY TARA COX

On the day after Thanksgiving most people are usually in one of two places: at home visiting with family, or crowding the malls on the busiest shopping day of the year. This was not the case in Rockcastle County.

A record 4,000+ fans piled into the bleachers at Rockcastle County Middle School on November 24 for the state AAA semi-finals game, where the Rockcastle Rockets experienced their first loss of the season to the Fort Thomas Highlands Bluebirds, 41-9.

It is a game that has been defined as "the most emotional game of Rocket football history."

"I was happy with the way we played. I knew it was going to be a big task in trying to win the game but the kids played as hard as they could. They [Highlands] were just the superior team," Head Coach Tom Larkey stated.

The loss, however devastating, was one that every team member can take pride in. The team showed their presence to the state champion football team, who also ranks seventh in the nation.

Highlands monopolized the



photo by Mindy Bullock

Senior Travis Ingram holds the football team's regional trophy at a pep rally last week. The team presented the trophy to Superintendent Larry Hammond and Principal Ruth Allen.

game from the time it began. By half-time, several people believed that all hope was lost for Rockcastle, but moments before half-time, senior fullback Sean Smith scored two points on a safety. This restored the hope of a Rock comeback for hundreds of fans.

After the half, sophomore tailback Marty Reagan completed a touchdown, and senior place kicker Greg Terry kicked for the extra point.

Until Highlands faced Rockcastle, quarterback Gino Guidugli had not been sacked all season.

Sean Smith succeeded in doing this not once, but twice.

Seniors may have lost their last chance at receiving a championship ring, but the legacy they have made will carry on longer than any ring they may wear.

This season was one full of bro-

ken records and newly-held titles. No other Rocket football team has advanced as far as state semi-finals, nor has any team gained the title of regional champions.

Head Coach Tom Larkey received the Associated Press' award for "Coach of the Year" in Kentucky.

Senior Derrick Bussell was selected for first-team all-state as a defensive back. He is the first RCHS football player to be named to first-team.

In another first, Rockcastle defeated the Bell County Bobcats. That game was one of six shutouts in the regular season, and also finished a perfect season, 10-0.

RCHS football had the number one ranked scoring and rushing defense in the state, and second for largest scoring margin in the state. Rockcastle had the third ranked scoring offense.

"When we went to football camp at the end of summer and at practice, I didn't really expect the season that we had," said Coach Larkey. "We were hoping to win six or seven games maybe get runner-up in the district."

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Protect yourself by knowing the signs

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talk to, you could be in trouble. Unreasonable jealousy is also a sign. If you're asked (told) to stop talking to your friends, forbidden to be with other members of the opposite sex, or told to stop doing things and going places without them, you should definitely look for an exit.

Mrs. Miller explained that jealousy and nosiness go hand in hand with control. When your sweetheart tells you how to live your life, they probably aren't doing you any favors. "A common one is, 'Stop wearing makeup, you're beautiful without it,'" she said.

An ex-girlfriend/boyfriend may be able to tell you more about the person that you are dating, but take the information that you receive with a grain of salt, because an ex may hold old grudges and give you false details.

A whole list of people who tell you horror stories about your partner, though, is a definite red flag.

Some key things to remember are that abuse can be many things,

not just hitting. Abuse can be physical, sexual, or even emotional.

A common myth about abuse is that it is always male to female, but men can be abused by women, as well.

"Mostly boys come in because their girlfriends are insanely jealous, or control freaks," explained Mrs. Miller. She did stress however, that she has seen cases where the girl actually physically harmed the boy, or the two were mutually abusive to one another.

"I think that the boys are a little embarrassed at being abused by their girlfriends though, because of the role society places on them, so they aren't as likely to come in," she said.

According to Mrs. Miller, reported incidents of abuse within relationships at RCHS have risen within the last five years. Obviously, the problem isn't going away.

If you recognize any of these things in your relationship, please get help, and distance yourself from that person. No one ever hit someone because they loved them.

Dreams may mean more than you think

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"I had a dream that I was flying through my house...I landed on my couch. Then, I ran up stairs and jumped and I couldn't fly anymore," said senior Zach Pennix.

Experts say that flying dreams can signify a "top of the world" feeling or maybe rising above a struggle. However, there are some dreams that don't seem to have any

meaning at all.

Sophomore Elizabeth Matekovich once dreamt she was being chased through the mall by the Trix rabbit and he was throwing cereal at her.

"Maybe it means not to eat cereal?" said Matekovich.

So do dreams really hold mysterious answers to life? Perhaps we'll never know, but some students aren't very concerned with what these midnight visions are all

about. Senior Rachele Hammond believes that dreams are overrated.

"Because it's a sense of false reality," said Hammond.

Maybe so, but humanity will always be trying to decipher dreams to find some sort of meaning in a very stressful and strange world.



Black and Blue doesn't deserve a beating

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Harsh. But, why change something so good? Obviously the "Backstreet formula" has worked in the past. The group is smart not to change too much. Their mix of lovey-dovey ballads and jamming dance tunes seems to have worked great so far. And it's true that *Black and Blue* isn't much different.

The song slated to be the next single, "The Call", is an edgy rock song that teaches an interesting way to cheat on your girlfriend--tell her the battery on your cell phone is running low. "Get Another Boyfriend," "Shining Star," and "Every-one" (not to be confused with their earlier hit "Everybody") are all worthy dance tracks, as well.

The ballads that the Backstreet Boys are famous for still

exist in full force, too. First release "Shape of My Heart" is much the same as their mega-hit "I Want it That Way," but lacks the explosion the previous ballad caused. Other typical BSB love songs include "I Promise You (With Everything I Am)" and "More Than That", which will have every girl wanting to hook up with one of the Boys.

"Time", one song written by all five guys together, is a mellow song that talks about friendship through the test of time (hence the title). The ending track, "How Did I Fall in Love with You," closes the album with a soft love song about two best friends questioning the route of their feelings.

Black and Blue, a CD the group promoted in a 100-hour world tour, is a compilation of 13 songs (plus a bonus track if you buy it at Wal-Mart). The group is proud

of this album and feels it is a step up for them.

Member AJ McLean said in an interview with MTV, "...We wrote seven songs on this album, two of which were written by all five of us, as a group."

They also had a larger role in producing and deciding which songs were to be included on the final cut.

Overall, the latest album from these princes of pop, hasn't changed a great deal. But, that's ok--what they've always had is still working.

The Backstreet Boys have disproved the theory of a boy band's two-year life span. They've been together for eight. Backstreet's back alright and their album is still good stuff, no matter what the critics have to say.

Have a safe
and happy
holiday!

Terri, Sherry, and Dicie wish you a Merry Christmas from...

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