

# Mount Vernon Signal

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Boys and Girls Win  
See Pg. A9

## Mt. Vernon holds last meeting of year 2002

Current Mt. Vernon Mayor Karen King resided over her last meeting on Monday night at city hall. King presented three city employees, Burgess Mullins, Dennis McClure and Junior Gray with watches in honor of their 20 years of service to the citizens of Mt. Vernon. King and the council also passed a resolution to make a walking track at the city's ballpark on the Old Mt. Vernon-Broadhead road.

The property has been used for several years by local sports teams and Mayor King said that it would still be available to them, but that the city would make a walking track around the outside of the property.

In January, current council member Clarice Kirby will take over as Mayor after beating King in November.

The council will also have three new members, Betty Busell, Steve Renfro and Brian Hansel.

They will join Clark "Joe" Mullins, Wayne Dillock and Lonetta Daughtry.

## Local Animal Shelter open for business

The Rockcastle County Animal Shelter is in full operation at Broadhead and people are adopting dogs and even some cats.

Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carloffs said that things had been going well at the recently opened shelter and that the county was using work release prisoners from the Rockcastle County Jail to help in the operation, which of course costs.

The animal shelter is run by Christina Trump and the phone number at the shelter is (606) 256-1833. Some fees apply and the shelter is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Feds refuse to let Brodhead man sell assets

The federal government has a strange way of doing some things.

For example, a recent arrest on drug charges of Larry Thompson of Brodhead has caused some problems with feeding his horses.

Family members are responsible for feeding his over 100 horses, but his attorney Jerry Cox of Mt. Vernon said that he had asked the court to allow Thompson to sell his horses, but the federal court has said no.

Thompson has been indicted in federal court, he is accused of running a major drug ring.

Cox said that it was his understanding that if Thompson's family decided to quit feeding his horses, the local health department would be responsible. Thompson is in jail and the case is still pending.

## State sets rate of five percent on delinquent taxes for payers

Pursuant to KRS 131.183(1), the 2003 tax interest rate charged by the Kentucky Revenue Cabinet (KRC) on unpaid and delinquent taxes has been set at five percent. Where applicable, the same rate is paid on refunds issued by KRC.

The rate, effective January 1, 2003, is based on the prime interest rate charged by Kentucky banks during October 2002. A recent survey of Kentucky banks showed that the prevailing average prime interest rate in October was 4.72 percent, which was rounded by law to the nearest full percent (five percent).



The cities of Brodhead and Mt. Vernon held their annual Christmas parades on Saturday. In the top photo Ray Philbeck gave Santa, (John Holbrook) a ride in Mt. Vernon's Christmas Parade. Country Charlie Napier, center photo, was the Emcee at Brodhead's Christmas Parade. In the photo at left Hope Renfro and her son, Keaton ride in one of Mt. Vernon's fire trucks during Mt. Vernon's Christmas Parade. Below, Goff Construction works along Hwy. 25 on Monday. The company was doing private work for a local developer and had all of their big equipment in tow.



## Patton lets eight out of local jail

Increased county prisoner levels, new mandates for lower prisoner numbers by the Department of Corrections and Kentucky's Governor Paul Patton's release of Class D felons, is putting the pinch on the Rockcastle County Detention Center.

The Detention Center has been a lucrative enterprise for Rockcastle County, bringing in over \$40,000 per month, on average, for the housing of state prisoners over the past few years.

However, Governor Patton's new edict, by way of executive order, releases many Class D felons from jails all over the state, including eight locally, Wednesday, at noon.

Jailer Miller, who is on the Jailer Association Board of Directors, says that the crisis being created is statewide.

"Counties have relied on the income generated by jails who have contracted to house state prisoners, and Rockcastle is no exception," Miller said. "Our jailer's association, and other county official's associations, are meeting to discuss options in light of Frankfort's recent decision to reduce the Class D felon population," he added.

The growing numbers in county prisoners being housed in the past few years had already affected the number of state prisoners that could be held by the Rockcastle County Detention Center.

"We have a moral obligation to be fair, and that includes the detention of county defendants who break the law, especially in serious matters, and with the increase in the meth problem all over the state, we focus on keeping dangerous defendants in jail, pending indictment if and when the Grand Jury meets," said County Attorney Jeff Burdette, who is responsible for prosecution in District Court.

Then, in October of this year, the state began requiring local jails to reduce their populations based on bed capacity, regardless of the number of state prisoners versus county prisoners. "That was unexpected, but we

could still make money. But with the Governor's plan to release Class D felons, that is troubling. We simply cannot foresee a possibility of breaking even now," Jailer Miller explained.

"I cannot believe there are no alternatives to releasing criminals back on our streets before their sentence is served," County Attorney Burdette said. "It is disheartening, disappointing and a slap in the face of our citizen juries, and the people who follow the law."

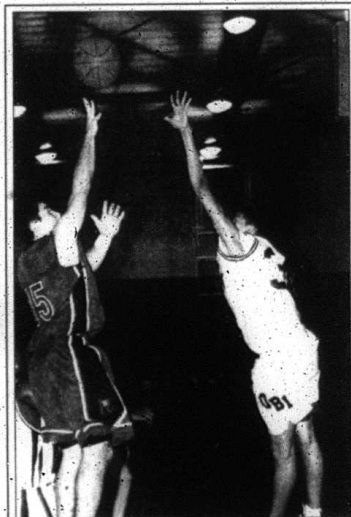
County Judge Executive Buzz Carloffs said the state has housed many of its inmates in local county jails because it is a cheaper method of housing prisoners than building state-operated prisons. "The fiscal court expanded our jail to house state prisoners in order to prevent local taxpayers from having to pay jail salaries. I think we now have around 42 state inmates. The loss of the eight who were released today, by the state, represents an \$80,000 loss in revenue to our jail over a year's period."

Carloffs went on to say, "Although I am not in agreement with such early releases, it looks as though it is just going to be a budgetary fact of life as the state seeks out the easier, cost-cutting measures."

Released Wednesday and what they were convicted of were:

Christy Robinson, promoting contraband, Verria Burton, trafficking in a controlled substance and two counts of trafficking in marijuana; Marietta King, burglary and theft by unlawful taking, under \$300; Mark Baker, receiving stolen property, under \$300; James Mason, flagrant disobedience; Larry Taylor, arson, 3rd degree; Tommy Collins, two counts of burglary, 3rd, theft by unlawful taking, under \$300 and receiving stolen property, under \$300 and Chris Newland, theft by unlawful taking, under \$300 and criminal possession of a forged instrument.

Some of these prisoners are being out with half their time served, the others are being released from there to six months early.



The Rockcastle County Rockets basketball team is consider the number one team in the 13th region in most polls. So far this season, they are 3-0. Aaron Cash, pictured above, is also considered the number one player in most polls. The Rockets play at Knox Central on Friday night. Cash scored 20 points against OBI to lead the Rockets. The Rockets have won two straight district games and will play Clay County on January 3, which will be a pivotal game.



## Points East

By: Ike Adams

I used to tell my now-adult children that, when I was growing up, that we used to be excited about Christmas on Blair Branch even when we were nearly sure that all we'd be getting under the tree was a three-pack of new underwear, a three-pack of socks and maybe a new pair of jeans if the weather had been good and the mines hadn't shut down because of bad coal-handing habits.

And to be perfectly honest, if you've been wearing the same three pairs of underwear all year and taking care of the laundry and you are a growing boy; there's some reason to be excited.

Postage stamps only cost three cents but my younger brothers and I would write our letters to Santa and stuff them into a single envelope addressed to the North Pole, C/O WTCW, Whitesburg, KY so that Don or Virginia Crosswaine could read them on the air.

And our letters were full of optimism. We asked for shotguns and fishing tackle, even though the oldest (me) among us was only ten years old and I had known for most of that first decade that whatever Santa was going to bring was most likely al-

ready stashed in the trunk of Dad's old Chevy or under lock and key at Uncle Willie's house just down the road. But you never actually knew for sure and writing those letters was an easy way to let our parents know what we'd really like in a perfect world.

I can tell you for sure that we sat around the radio for two weeks every evening from 4:30 til 6:00 PM right up til Christmas Eve and nobody—not a single letter writer—ever once requested socks and underwear for Christmas.

One year I wrote in for a full size western saddle. "It does not have to be as fancy as Roy Rogers' as long as it straps down good on a real big horse."

Of course, I signed this letter with the faithful pledge to leave a bottle of RC and a Jumbo Pie under the tree; in case Santa or anybody in his encouragement might be hungry after climbing down the chimney at our place, Royal Crown (RC) Cola Bottling Company and the folks at Rambo Bread, who made Jumbo Pies, were big sponsors of WTCW's "Letters to Santa" and we knew, practically from the time we left the womb, that if you wanted your letter read on the air,

you'd better end it by promising to leave some of the sponsors' products under the tree. As a consequence, RC sold more bottles of cola in December than it did in the other 11 months combined. Thank God, it aged well, because sometimes it didn't get consumed until the 4th of July next year.

So they read the letter on the air and Mrs. Crosswaine, in a rare fit of editorializing, wondered why any kid in the head of Blair Branch (we always included directions to our house in the letter) could possibly need a saddle and she actually giggled about whether or not we already had Trigger in the barn.

I was humiliated on the spot and ostracized by classmates the next day.

What we had was old Dock, a BIG Percheron work horse who weighed in at 1,600 pounds and thought he was a Jap-dog.

We rode him bareback with just a bridle and the bridle was just for show because he would go anywhere you asked him with gentle commands of "gee" "haws" "whoa" "grip" etc. Old Dock did as much in raising my brother Keith and me as our parents. He taught us how to plow. He knew precisely how a bull-tongue, double-shovel, nine-cut cultivator, or tinning plow should be running in the soil and he'd turn

around and stare you down if you were not handling the implement to suit him. Set the disks incorrectly on a harrow or over-load a sled and you got the same treatment.

So I wrote back to WTCW that very night and I told them that I had the best horse in the whole world and I wouldn't take a million dollars for him (and that was back when a million dollars was real money) and that they could kiss my hind end because I wouldn't be writing back ever again and they could keep their damned old saddle. They never read that letter on the air.

Old Dock died of old age in the summer of 1969 when I was a junior at Pikeville College. As best we know he was between 29 and 31 years old. He never had a saddle and he never really needed one.

In the meantime, I am coming up on 54 years. I really like those WigWam wool socks that are form fitting with finished heels and toes even if they do cost a bit much and I wear X-Large in long johns these days. Either one will do unless you have time to shop for a good, solid Hooper harr in the key of E or D.

And if you're buying me brushes, I'd really rather have combs than jeans.

## Stroke Prevention

Presented By: Dr. George W. Griffith

Strokes have decreased for several decades now, bringing it from a very common malady a couple generations ago, to a much less common problem now in spite of longer life experiences.

The first big step in preventing strokes came with treating hypertension. An elevated blood pressure is one of the biggest risk factors. In the last couple years, we have been able to show that even treating blood pressures, we considered normal a few years ago could reduce strokes by up to 36%. A person should have his blood pressure checked at least once a year.

An irregular heart beat called atrial fibrillation contributes to strokes because small clots form in the heart which can travel to the brain and block the circulation. Atrial fibrillation can be prevented in many cases by controlling high blood pressure and if it does occur, anticoagulants work well to prevent the forma-

tion of these clots.

These blood thinners include coumadin and medicines that alter the platelet function, such as aspirin. A medicine called ticlopidine has been shown benefits that are even greater than aspirin's benefits. Even newer medicines are showing promise of being more effective and having fewer side effects.

Another treatment with proven benefits is surgically unblocking the arteries of the neck. To determine if a person is a candidate for this type of surgery, special tests of the arteries and a consult with a vascular surgeon are required.

Finally, stopping smoking is one of the most important ways you can take charge in the battle to prevent strokes.



Dr. George W. Griffith

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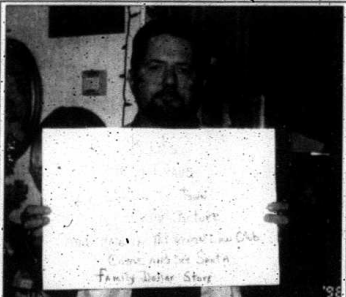
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Mt. Vernon Lions Club President David DeBoard met with Santa Claus recently. He has agreed to come to the Family Dollar Store to take pictures with the children of Rockcastle County on Thursday, Dec. 19th, from 8:30 pm to 8:00 pm (\$2 per picture). All the Lions Club members urge all parents to bring their children to support the Lions Club. All proceeds go to get glasses for children.

### We Join You In Prayer and Celebration

Christmas is a time to reflect on our blessings, and we're honored to count your friendship among ours.

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# Greatest Gift of All

By: William Jerry Ayers

For this Christmas story we must go back a few years. A father punished his little seven year old daughter for wanting a roll of silver Christmas wrapping paper. Money was very tight and he became real mad when his daughter tried to wrap a box to put under the small Christmas tree.

On Christmas morning the little girl brought the same little silver box to her dad and said, "This gift is for you daddy, with love." He was embarrassed by his overreaction the day before, but his anger flared up again when he opened the little silver box and found it empty. He yelled at her, "Don't you know when you give someone a present, there is supposed to be something inside the box." The little girl looked up at him with tears in her eyes and said, "Oh daddy, it's not empty, I blew kisses into the silver box, all for you daddy! The father was crushed. He put his arms around his little daughter and then he begged for forgiveness.

An accident took the life of the child only a short time later, and it is told that the man kept the little silver box by his bed and whenever he feels very discouraged, he would take out an imaginary kiss and remember the great love of the child who put it there. For this was his greatest Christmas gift of all.

And in a very real sense, each of

us humans, have been given a little silver box filled with unconditional Love and Kisses from our children, friends, our family and God. There is no more precious possession anyone could give.

## Joking with Jerry in December

By: William Jerry Ayers

Good humor will make this Christmas season a lot better.

Success is getting what you want for Christmas, happiness is wanting what you get.

Willie Maker... At Christmas time my wife thinks I'm a treasure. Craig... You are lucky, some wives think their husbands are a treasure.

Remember when the only thing open all night on Christmas was the mailbox.

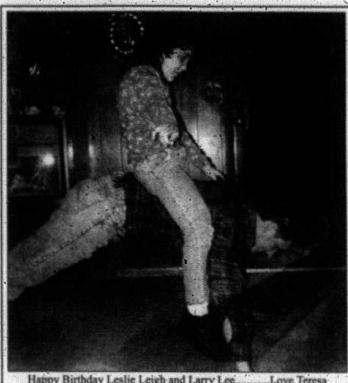
On Christmas... youth is a gift of nature; but age is a work of art. Grandparents are God's gift to children.

During the Christmas season money does talk, it says getobey. It's Christmas Time... a time to remember that the road between family and friends is never long.

Each day we live is a true gift from above.

A big "SMILE" is an inexpensive gift that you can give on Christmas.

And in a very real sense, each of



Happy Birthday Leslie Leigh and Larry Lee... Love, Teresa

## Roundstone holds Christmas Program

By: Preston Farrett

It was a wet slobby night With the rain being frightful, But inside the Roundstone gym The program was truly delightful.

An overflow crowd showed up Filling the bleachers and the floor, And many stood around the wall While some peered through the door.

Principal Noe opened the program And her remarks were few, For when she saw the huge crowd A loud wow was the best she could do.

The fourth grade performed "An Old English Carol" And with records and metaphors they played, It was a beautiful sight and sound As real live music they made.

The second grade's part was the "Wacky March" Their hats were called nutcrackers, And the music they played was wacky.

As they used their kazoo's and boomwhackers.

The third grade did the "Blitzen Boogie" Some had antlers of red and brown, A few cool reindeer had on sunglasses.

As the class boogied all over town.

The first grade did "December is a Time" Dingling jingle bells and sang of love and snow, And they all had on Santa hats As they sang and went "Ho-Ho-Ho."

"Johnny Works With One Hammer" Was the kindergartners' part, For they were Santa's toy makers And they worked with all their heart.

With a hammer attached to each arm And one attached to each leg and hand, They worked up to using five hammers As head, legs and arms up and down sped.

The fifth grade closed out the program

## 100th Birthday Celebrated...

Effie Reynolds Percival celebrated her 100th birthday on December 18th. She was born and raised in Mt. Vernon and spent most of her life operating several businesses including four restaurants and a variety store. Her husband, McKinley, passed away in 1978. She now resides in Louisville at the following address:

Twinbrook Hotel Apts. #115,  
3525 Ephraim McDowell,  
Louisville, KY 40205.

She would enjoy and appreciate hearing from past friends and acquaintances.

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## In Loving Memories

**My Loving Mother**  
I miss you mom, oh, so much  
Your smiling face and your loving touch  
How hard you had it all through your life  
Walking, carrying loads to raise your children right.  
You were good to everybody and worked hard  
But didn't complain even though you were very tired.  
You walked many miles on them long old roads  
Working, tagging and carrying heavy loads:  
I miss your head and seeing you in the nursing home  
You'd see me coming and smile a yard long.  
Now I can't see you I miss your loving touch  
But God couldn't stand you suffering so much.  
He took you home to ease all your pains  
To be with him where the glory of angels sing.  
Your smiling face I can no longer see to touch  
I miss you, mother, no one knows just how much.

It will be a sad Christmas where your presents use to be.  
*Sadly missed*  
*Ravenella Payne*

**In Loving Memory Of**  
**Nora Burdine**  
(Feb. 19, 1917 - Dec. 23, 2000)  
If roses grow in heaven Lord  
Please pick a bunch for me.  
Place them in my grandma's arms  
And tell her they're from me.  
Tell her I love her and miss her  
And when she turns to smile,  
Place a kiss upon her cheek!  
And hold her for a while.  
Because remembering her is easy,  
I do it everyday!  
But there is an ache within my heart  
That will never go away.

*Kim and the whole family*

It won't seem right without you being here with me



August Winstead celebrated her 4th birthday December 1st with a party at Chucky's Cheeses. Her family wishes her a very Happy Birthday.



Cameron Brown celebrated his third birthday on November 6th with a Spongebob Squarepants party at his home. He would like to thank everyone for coming and for all the nice presents he received. Cameron is the son of Cletis Ray and Rhonda Brown of Brodhead. He is the grandson of Cletis and Rose Brown of Mt. Vernon, Owen and Helen Noel of Brodhead and the Great Grandson of Virgil and Evelyn Mullins of Climax. He also send a special hello to his cousins Kaleigh Ann, Logan and Tanner Noel.

# Godfather's Pizza & SUBWAY

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From left: Tina Payne, Darlene Holt, Jerry Pensol, Roger Lovell, Edna Allen, Angie Miller, Brenda Houk

Godfather's Subway will close at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve and be closed Christmas Day. We will reopen day after Christmas at regular time.

# Scenes from Saturday's Christmas parades



Broadhead's antique fire truck carried Santa (John Holbrook) into town on Saturday. The sign was donated to the city by the Rockcastle Kiwanis Club.



Jacob and ArieAnna Lawson got a ride from Bonnie Barron on the KTEC bus during both parades on Saturday.



Jesse McCauley and the RCHS Band marched in both parades on Saturday.



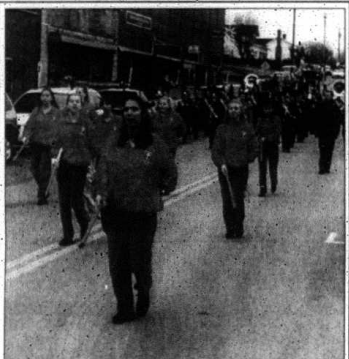
Shanna Lawson and Cub Scout members of 316 and Den 2 were all smiles Saturday at Broadhead.



The four wheelers were in full force in the Christmas parade on Saturday.



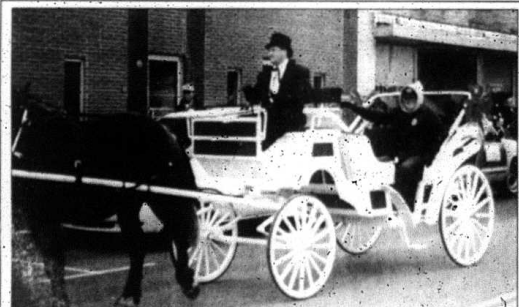
Josh Thompson of David's Tire Center participated in the E.J. Taylor Memorial parade at Broadhead on Saturday.



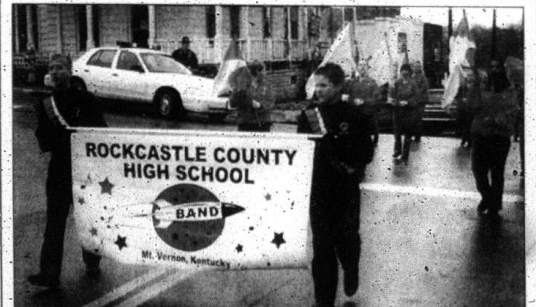
Cassi Ramsey and the RCHS Color Guard marched in the Christmas parade at Broadhead.



Broadhead council member, Everett Albright waved to the crowd on Saturday, as Jackie McKinney looked on.



Ray Philbeck gave Broadhead Mayor Walter Cash a ride in Saturday's Christmas parade. Several people attended the annual E. J. Taylor Memorial parade.



The RCHS Band made their debut in the Mt. Vernon and Broadhead Christmas parades.



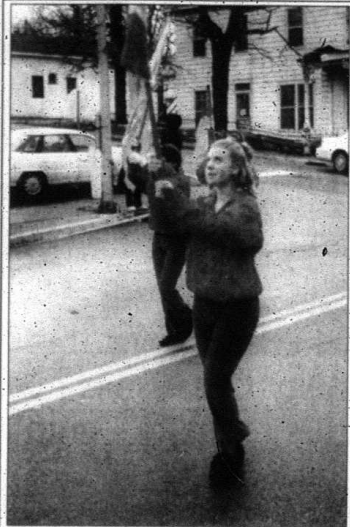
The E.J. Taylor family always has participated in Broadhead's Christmas parades. Saturday was no exception. The parade has been named in honor of the late Broadhead business owner.



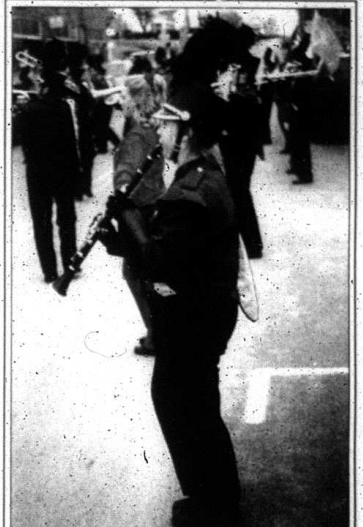
The Boy Scouts of Rockcastle County joined in the Christmas parade at Mt. Vernon.



Victoria Dunn coordinated the annual E.J. Taylor Memorial parade at Brodhead this year.



Samantha Anglin and the RCHS Color Guard marched in both parades on Saturday.



Elicia Sturgill, and the RCHS Band participated in the Christmas parade at Brodhead.



Brodhead Fire Department participated in both parades.



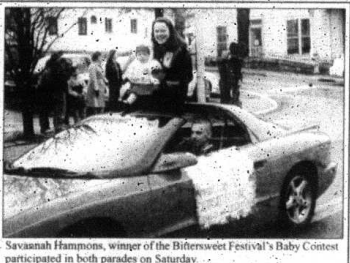
Cub Scout Pack 23 was the first place winner in the Mt. Vernon Christmas parade on Saturday. The group also participated in the Brodhead parade.



Jeanine Lawrence, Jacob Lawrence and Jody Mullins carry the banner for the Mt. Vernon Baptist Church on Saturday.



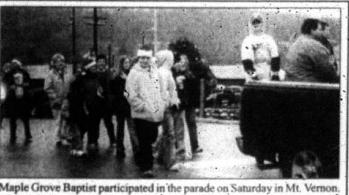
Bridgette Lear, Queen of the Bob Allen Pigskin Bowl, received a ride from Dackery Larkey.



Savannah Hammons, winner of the Bittersweet Festival's Baby Contest participated in both parades on Saturday.



Members of the Mt. Vernon Church of the Nazarene participated in the Mt. Vernon parade.



Maple Grove Baptist participated in the parade on Saturday in Mt. Vernon.



Jerry "Hooch" Cash drove his late model Chevrolet in the Brodhead parade.



Current Mayor Karen King got a ride from Joe Marth during Saturday's parade.



The RCHS Y-Club participated in Brodhead's Christmas Parade last Saturday. The club took second place in the float contest. Pictured are Amanda Cummins, Ashley Cottrell, Allison Anderkin and Travis Burton.

More photos appear on Page A-10



The Rockcastle County High School Junior Reserved Officers Training Course marched in Saturday's parade.

## The American Red Cross needs your help! Single family house fires growing at an unprecedented rate

The Daniel Boone Chapter of the American Red Cross launched an emergency appeal to help offset the expenses of the most recent surge of single-family home fires in its seven-county area last Friday. The expenses total approximately \$21,000 for a six-month period. Home fires are leaving many homeless and many others without the necessities of life. The American Red Cross responds to all single family fires in the disaster region that includes the following counties: Madison, Jackson, Lincoln, Owsley, Garrard, Lee, and Rockcastle.

"The Daniel Boone Chapter of the American Red Cross assists all families affected by providing emergency housing, groceries, new clothing, household items, medicine and transportation.

"The reaction I've heard most of from people, who realize the devastation inflicted upon the neighbor or church member is, 'What can I do to help?'" said Dawn L. Lewis, Chapter Executive Director.

The answer: Send a financial contribution now to the Red Cross, which is on the scene providing emergency assistance because "Help Can't Wait."

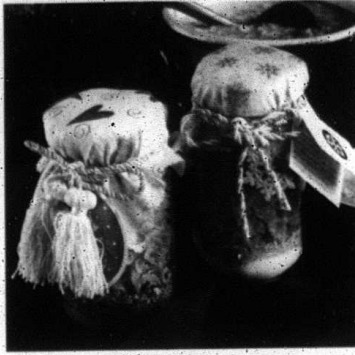
An average family of four involved in a fire costs the Chapter approximately \$5,000. Larger families require even more. The American Red Cross is in vital need of the public's support of this vital disaster-relief effort. "Contributing to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund is the single most important thing you can do to provide immediate help."

Financial contributions enable the Red Cross to provide free assistance to individuals and families regardless of the type of disaster or where it occurs. In addition to providing shelter, food and first aid, the Red Cross helps disaster victims pay for what they need most. This may include groceries, new clothing and rent, as well as emergency home repairs, transportation, household items, medicines and tools.

Lewis points out, "The Red Cross is not a government agency. We depend on the generosity of the American people, who come forward during times of need to help their neighbors. Ninety-two cents of every dollar spent by the Red Cross goes directly to provide services to help people."

All Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary gifts of time and money from the American people. Anyone wishing to make a financial contribution to the American Red Cross may do so by sending a donation to the Daniel Boone Chapter of the American Red Cross at 1835 Big Hill Road, Berea, KY 40403 or call (859)986-4221 to make a contribution by phone using American Express.

**Subscribe to the Signal 256-2244**



## Tasty Christmas gifts to make - soup!

Here's an idea for a great gift that's quick to make for all your hard-to-buy-for friends and neighbors—and it won't break your budget. You can buy the ingredients you'll need during your regular grocery shopping trip.

The culinary professionals at Pioneer Brand, producers of a series of gravy mixes, have developed two new soup mixes that are perfect for gift giving. Plus, your friends and neighbors will truly appreciate these thoughtful and tasty gifts from your kitchen. Simply fill quart jars with a pretty layered arrangement of ingredients to make Soup in a Jar. Each soup mix starts with gravy mix as its base. Additional

seasonings and pasta complete the mixes, which cost about \$2.25 each.

Simply filling a dozen jars is just about as easy as filling one. It's why we don't purchase a case of the quart-size wide-mouth jars found in grocery or hardware stores and make a dozen of the Soup in a Jar. Better yet, get your children to help you make your gift jars. In one evening, you can have all your Christmas preparations for your friends and co-workers completed. In the bustle and bustle of the holiday season, taking a moment to deliver creative gifts from your kitchen brightens the season for everyone. Thoughtfulness takes on a special meaning.

when you give gifts from your kitchen, you'll want them to look as nice as they taste. Show craft stores for small tie-die kitchen utensils and decorations. Generate recipe cards on the computer using colored paper, stick and designs. Add a colorful cloth, a ribbon and a card with the special instructions for simmering the soup, and you've got a great gift. You like, prepare the jar up to a month before Christmas.

### "Dreaming of a White Christmas" Soup in a Jar

- 1 package (2.75 oz.) regular or hot/creeper® gravy mix (Pioneer Brand recommended)
- 2 tablespoons chicken bouillon granules
- 2 tablespoons dried minced onion
- 2 tablespoons dried celery flakes
- 2 tablespoons dried parsley flakes
- 2 1/2 to 3 cups uncooked wide egg noodles or other pasta

Pour gravy mix into wide-mouth quart jar. In small bowl, stir together bouillon granules, onion, celery and parsley. Sprinkle over top of lid, then cover with fabric and tie with ribbon.

For more information and recipes, visit the Pioneer Brand Web site: [www.pioneerbrand.com](http://www.pioneerbrand.com)

### "Christmas Is Love" Soup in a Jar

- 1 package (1.81 oz.) regular or hot/creeper® gravy mix (Pioneer Brand recommended)
- 2 tablespoons beef bouillon granules
- 1/2 cup dried minced onion
- 1/2 cup dried celery flakes
- 1/2 cup red pasta or rice, shape: tubular; penne; or bean-shaped pasta

Pour gravy mix into wide-mouth quart jar. In small bowl, stir together bouillon

granules, onion, celery and parsley. Pour into jar to make second layer. Add onion, celery and parsley. Attach gift tag (below) and decorate jar as desired.

**Gift Tag:** Brown J. B. ground beef in a 4-quart saucepan or Dutch oven. Add contents of jar. 2 cups water and 1 cup (1/2 oz.) chopped tomatoes, undrained; heat to boiling on high. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 5 to 7 minutes or until pasta is tender; stirring occasionally. Garnish with shredded Cheddar cheese. Makes 8 servings.

\*Stir in 1/2 cup frozen peas or green beans, if desired.

**Tip for filling jars:** Use a funnel to pour the dry ingredients into the bottom of the jar.

**Decorating Tip:** Cut an 8-inch circle or square out of Christmas or other festive fabric to decorate the top of the jars. For extra padding, cut a 4-inch round of polyester batting and place on top of lid, then cover with fabric and tie with ribbon.

For more information and recipes, visit the Pioneer Brand Web site: [www.pioneerbrand.com](http://www.pioneerbrand.com)

**Merry Christmas Grandma Ruth! We love you! Alaina & Caroline**

# FOOD WORLD

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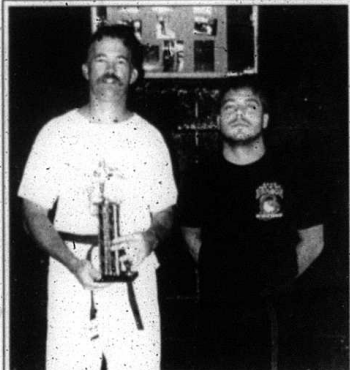
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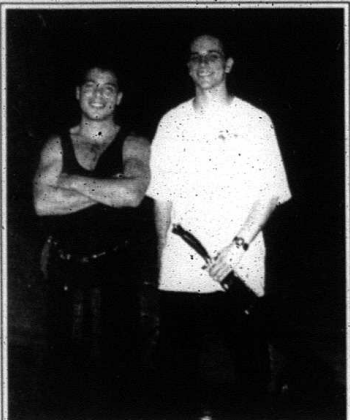
On September 22, 2002 Jay Parks (middle) from Eric Bullock's Mt. Vernon Shaolin Karate Club tested before 10th degree blackbelt Grandmaster Sin The' (left) in Lexington and received his first degree blackbelt. His instructor, 4th degree blackbelt Eric Bullock (right), accompanied him to the test.



On September 21, 2002 John Wells (left) participated in the National Shaolin Karate Tournament at Lexington Catholic High School in Lexington. He received a third place trophy in point sparring. Wells is a student at Eric Bullock's Mt. Vernon Shaolin Karate and is shown with his instructor Eric Bullock.



On September 22, 2002 Darryl Coffey (left) tested before Grandmaster Sin The' (center) in Lexington and received his second degree blackbelt. Coffey is a student at Eric Bullock's Mt. Vernon Shaolin Karate Club and also is head instructor of his own Shaolin Karate Club in Cora, Pa. Coffey's instructor Eric Bullock (right) accompanied him to the test.



On September 21, 2002 Joe Harmon (right) from Eric Bullock's Shaolin Karate Club participated in the National Shaolin Karate Tournament at Lexington Catholic High School in Lexington. Harmon received a second place trophy for the empty hand form - Monkey Han, and a second place trophy for the weapon form - Drunken Two Edge Sword. He is shown here with his instructor Eric Bullock. Eric participated in the tournament blackbelt demonstration by performing the empty hand form - Ground Dragon, and weapon forms - Chainwhip and Broadword and the Three Sectional Staff. For information about Shaolin Karate lessons call 758-4744.

## Air Travelers need to know their rights

Major airlines have become less customer service oriented and more focused on finding ways to be profitable, says AAA. This means air travelers need to be more savvy now that there are fewer flighty and airlines are constantly changing penalties and restrictions for ticket purchases and fare changes.

"Airlines leave it up to passengers to keep abreast of sweeping policy changes regarding schedule changes, flight cancellations, and ticket refunds," said AAA spokesperson Lilla Mason. "Travelers have to be much more knowledgeable about their rights."

AAA offers the following tips for people traveling by air over the holidays.

Travelers need to do their homework in planning flights. Always have a back-up flight in mind, start travel earlier in the day and avoid the last flight of the day, which is usually among the first to be eliminated.

Due to shrinking schedules, travelers should double-check to see if flights or times have changed. When you purchase a ticket through a AAA travel agent, any schedule change will be communicated directly to the client by a AAA travel employee.

Travelers are encouraged to purchase airline tickets with a credit card. In the event that an airline defaults and the traveler must cancel the trip, credit card companies generally

will not require payment because the service was never rendered.

If a traveler purchased a ticket and the airline then declares bankruptcy and ceases service, by law rival carriers must accept the ticket with a maximum of \$25 in fees each way. However, the carriers are not required to confirm space, thus forcing the traveler to fly "standby." This law may change in April 2003.

Be aware of time limits for re-scheduling and for credit card refunds. Most airlines will give travelers 60 days to re-schedule. Most credit card companies will observe the same time limit.

Purchasing airline tickets through travel agents can save time and money, even though a fee may be charged. Agents work for the customer, not the airlines, so if a problem occurs, travel agents will work to make sure their clients get to their desired locations as quickly and efficiently as possible.

## AAA projects slight drop in holiday travel

The 59.1 million Americans who plan to travel 50 miles or more from home this Christmas-New Year's period is down about one percent from the near-record 59.9 million people who took a trip during the 2001 holiday, according to AAA.

A total of 45.9 million travelers expect to take a trip by motor vehicle this holiday, approximately three percent fewer than last year's 47.4 million.

Another 11.2 million plan to go by airplane, nearly seven percent more than the 10.5 million during the same period in 2001. An additional 2 million are expected to take a trip by train, bus or other mode of transportation, the same number as last year.

Although travel may be down slightly from a year ago, this Christmas-New Year's should be the third highest traveled in at least the last nine years. A record 63 million people traveled over the 1995 holiday period.

"The most encouraging aspect of this year's travel forecast is that for the first time in a long time, Americans are returning to the skies in increasing numbers," said AAA spokesperson Lilla S. Mason. AAA projected a six percent increase in Thanksgiving holiday air travel.

Mason also pointed out that this year's total travel projection is still expected to be nearly four percent higher than the 2000 Christmas-New Year's holiday when 57.1 million people traveled over a trip.

The Southeast is expected to have the greatest number of auto travelers, with 12.1 million. Other regions and their expected number of motorists include the West, 11.5 million; Midwest, 9.7 million; Great Lakes, 7.3 million; and Northeast, 5.3 million.

According to AAA's survey, 33 percent of travelers plan to visit a town or rural area while another 31 percent expect to go to a city. Other popular destinations include: ocean beach, 14 percent; mountains, 7 percent; state/national park, 3 percent; theme/amusement park, 3 percent; lake area, 2 percent; don't know or other, 7 percent.

While 57 percent of travelers plan to stay with a friend or relative, another 32 percent will be staying at a hotel or motel. Other lodging plans include: cabin/condo, 5 percent; camp/trailer/RV/rent, 1 percent; bed and breakfast, 1 percent; no overnight stay or don't know, 4 percent.

AAA's holiday travel projections are based on a national telephone

survey of 1,300 adults conducted by the Travel Industry Association, which does special research for AAA.

AAA Blue Grass KY is a not-for-profit automobile club serving 321,000 members throughout Central and Eastern Kentucky and also in several counties in Virginia and West Virginia. Since its founding in 1902, AAA has been a leader and advocate for the safety and security of all travelers.

## Langford attends training

Sharon Langford of the Rockcastle County Citizens Foster Care Review Board attended the 2002 CFCRB Training Conference held at the Bowling Green/Warren County Convention Center Nov. 8-10.

The three-day conference provided reviewers with the opportunity to develop professional technical training and skills. Seminars and workshops addressed topics pertinent to board chairs and vice chairs, the medical and educational needs of children in foster care, counseling issues that arise from abuse and neglect, and the placement options and services available to children and their families.

Suzie Cashwell, Ph.D., acting director of the master's in social work program at Western Kentucky University, gave the keynote address at the awards banquet Nov. 8. A variety of foster care experts, Kentucky judges and Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) staff conducted general sessions and small-group discussions throughout the weekend.

The Citizens Foster Care Review Board Conference Committee planned the program. The Dependent Children's Services Department of the AOC in Frankfort, Ky., sponsored and administered the event.

Nearly 700 volunteers across the state serve as members of the Kentucky Citizens Foster Care Review Board. The Kentucky General Assembly created the CFCRB in 1982 as a way to decrease the amount of time young people spend in foster care. Today there are more than 140 local boards across the state.



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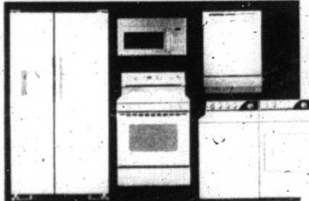
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# CAN I BORROW THE CAR?

## Ten Tips To Reduce Teen Auto Accidents

(NAPS)—Primarily due to their inexperience behind the wheel, teenage drivers are much more likely than adults to get into accidents. Fortunately, there are things parents can do to help keep their teens safe on the road, while boosting their own peace of mind.

In its new safety brochure, "Can I Borrow the Car?," GEICO offers these 10 tips for parents to help reduce accidents among their teen drivers:



Parents need to set very specific ground rules before giving their teens the keys to the car.

- 1. Limit night driving.** Many teen car crashes take place between 9 p.m. and 12 midnight. Beginning drivers should be restricted to driving during the day initially.
- 2. Keep it slow and safe for starters.** Remember that teens need to stay away from fast-moving, high-volume traffic until they feel comfortable in such situations.
- 3. Train for poor weather conditions.** Limit your teen's driving during periods of bad weather until the teen demonstrates a high level of competence and confidence.
- 4. Restrict cell phones to emergency use only.** Don't let bad habits begin. Provide your young teen with a cell phone for the car for emergency situations only.
- 5. Choose safe vehicles for your children.** Pay attention to the vehicle a teen drives as is important as his or her actual driving. Avoid small cars, trucks and sport utility vehicles. Look for automobiles with high safety ratings (air bags; crumple zones, etc.).
- 6. Remember you are a role**

model. New drivers learn a lot by example, so practice safe driving. Teens with poor driving records often reflect the behavior of parents with poor driving records.

7. Supervise as much practice driving as possible. Parents should take an active role in the teenager's driving practice. Make a firm schedule to supervise your future driver and stick to it.

8. Be firm about safety belt use. Require that your teenagers wear safety belts at all times—no exceptions.

9. Discuss realistic consequences of drug and alcohol use. Let them hear it from you that alcohol and drug use is totally unacceptable when driving.

10. Restrict passengers. Having more passengers in a car increases the chance of greater risk-taking, because of greater peer pressure and because it leads to greater distractions.

To get a free copy of GEICO's "Can I Borrow the Car?" Ten Tips brochure and other teen safe-driving materials, go to [www.geico.com/teen/best\\_safety\\_tips](http://www.geico.com/teen/best_safety_tips).

can be fun for older children as well.

- Fill the foot of a baby sock with batting, tie it shut just above the ankle and trim-off the cuff.
- Divide the sock into a body and head by tying ribbon (the scarf) around it.

• To make the hat, gather a colored sock together at the ankle and tie it with string. Leave enough string for a hanging loop. Cut off the foot, roll up the edge of the sock like a stocking cap and glue it on the snowman's head.

• Glue small buttons on the snowman's chest and draw his eyes and mouth with a marker. Cut a one-inch piece of pipe cleaner and poke it in for the nose. For earmuffs, wrap a piece of pipe cleaner around the head and tuck it under the hat. Glue on mini pompoms for ears. To see the adorable snowman, scroll around it.



A Taste Of Holiday Fun—Mock Toffee Bars are an award winning, easy-to-make holiday treat.

go to [www.familyfun.com](http://www.familyfun.com). After you've made your snowmen, celebrate with a delicious holiday treat.

**Cook Up Fun**  
This recipe for Mock Toffee Bars took first place in the Web site's cookie contest. Here's how to make it:

- Ingredients**  
**Saltine Crackers**  
 1 cup brown sugar  
 Pecan pieces  
 1/2 cup butter  
 12 oz. chocolate chips

Line cookie sheet with foil, butter heavily. Place crackers side by side to cover cookie sheet, salted side up. Combine butter and brown sugar and cook until it boils and bubbles (3 to 4 minutes). Pour over crackers and bake 7 minutes at 375°F. Remove from oven and sprinkle with chocolate chips. Spread chocolate with a spatula. Sprinkle with nuts and press into chocolate with a spatula. When cool, break into pieces and serve.

For more holiday craft and homemade gift ideas, visit the Web site at [www.FamilyFun.com](http://www.FamilyFun.com).



Michigan farm families have been growing apples commercially for well over a century.

1. Stir together flour, baking powder, soda, salt and 1/2 oz. chocolate chips.
2. In a large mixing bowl, combine remaining ingredients, except the turbinado sugar. Let stand about 5 minutes or until oats soften

slightly. Add flour mixture, stirring only until combined. Portion evenly into twelve 2 1/2-inch muffin-pans cups coated with cooking spray. Sprinkle batter with turbinado sugar.

3. Bake at 400°F about 20 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm.

**Yield: 12 muffins**  
 Variation: substitute 1 can (20 oz.) sliced Michigan apples, drained, diced for fresh Apples.  
 Suggested Michigan Apple varieties to use: Empire, Gala, Golden Delicious, Ida Red, Janagold, Jonathan, McIntosh or Rome. For more information, visit the Web site at [www.MichiganApples.com](http://www.MichiganApples.com).

## Consumer Corner

### A Proposal To Streamline Mortgage Settlement

(NAPS)—It looks like there's good news on the way for homebuyers seeking a simpler, lower-cost, less stressful mortgage closing process.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has announced a proposal to reform a consumer protection statute first passed in 1974, the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act. Among HUD's goals is to make it easier for consumers to "compare shop" mortgages, and to reduce closing costs for consumers.

The new Guaranteed Mortgage Package Agreement (GMPA) would allow lenders to provide a single lump-sum price for settlement costs coupled with an interest rate guarantee enabling smoother, "no-surprise" closings for borrowers.

With the current system, not knowing their final closing costs until the last minute, consumers are often frustrated by, not knowing their final closing costs until the last minute.

The GMPA eliminates this problem by providing a guaranteed cost figure at the time of application (coupled with a guaranteed interest rate upon lock-in).

In addition to the up-front cost guarantee, a key benefit of the GMPA is its single-price characteristic. Currently, the required good-faith estimate includes a long list of itemized settlement costs, the complexity of which makes it very difficult for consumers to compare loan cost among an "apples-to-apples" basis. Furthermore, HUD believes the GMPA will help drive consumer settlement costs down through package price competition between providers.



HUD has proposed reforming regulations that currently limit a one charge approach to real estate settlements.

ABN AMRO Mortgage Group, Inc. executives said that as more mortgage bankers embrace the single-price approach to packaging settlement services, the cost to consumers of obtaining a mortgage will be reduced. Additionally, as mortgage companies move toward offering a guaranteed, packaged loan product to retail and wholesale customers alike, local mortgage brokers will soon also be offering the consumer-friendly GMPA.

AAMG is currently ranked among the top 10 lending and loan servicing companies in the nation. To learn more about Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act reform, visit [www.hud.gov/cm](http://www.hud.gov/cm). To learn more about AAMG, visit [www.mortgage.com](http://www.mortgage.com).

## Food Facts Fancies

### Did Cool Glaciers Make For Tasty Apples?

(NAPS)—The next time you enjoy the flavor of a Michigan apple you may want to thank the Ice Age. Much of the world's best Michigan fruit of the world's best locations for apple growing.

When the glaciers retreated, they left behind Lake Michigan. One of the Great Lakes, it moderates temperature extremes and fosters balmier breezes across the apple orchards located downwind.

The glaciers also built a rim of hills along the lake's eastern shore, ideal for apple trees needing protection against frosts. Early settlers discovered that the climate is ideal both for varieties that thrive in the north and for others suited for farther south.

The primary northern-type apples are McIntosh, Jonathan and Northern Spy. All are said to deliver a robust and tangy tartness that befits the rugged north. Red Delicious and Golden Delicious among the two kingpins in Michigan orchards, ranking first and second respectively in production.

Jonathan and Northern Spy are especially fine for processing because they hold their shape in baking. Another processing favorite is Ida Red. Michigan is a leading producer of processing apples. Chances are those firm, tasty slices in your frozen apple pie probably came from Michigan.

You can also try them in this "appealing" approach to muffins.

### Brown Sugar Muffins

(Low Fat, Cholesterol Free)

- 1 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 tablespoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt (optional)
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 2 egg whites
- 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup unseasoned Michigan applesauce
- 1 1/2 cups diced, peeled Michigan apples
- 1 1/2 cups uncooked, old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1 tablespoon turbinado sugar

## Holiday Hints

### Simple "Homemade" Holidays

(NAPS)—You don't need to be gifted to unwrap new kinds of family fun this holiday season—just creative. From making holiday cards and gifts to holding decorating parties and holiday family cook-offs, there are a number of activities that can help you and your whole house ring in the season with smiles and laughs.

The good news is you don't have to do a lot of shopping

around for fun ideas. You can find them in newspapers, magazines, on TV and online. For example, FamilyFun.com offers a number of holiday suggestions in its "Activities and Crafts" section, like the ones that follow.

**Get Crafty**  
 Families can make Baby-Sock Snowmen to decorate their homes. The project is easy enough for a kindergartner to do with help, but

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**Continuation of Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation**

For the 12 Months Ending 10-31-07

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Free or Nominal Rate Distribution	991	991
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Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation	10,289	10,289
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Total Copies (Net Press Run)	11,280	11,280

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# Rockets are 3-0 with wins over Lynn Camp & OBI

The Rockets had an easy time with the Lynn Camp Wildcats last Friday night, leading from start to finish and winning 78-35. Nine Rockets got on the scoreboard for the Rockets with Aaron Cash leading the scoring with 21. Jason Reynolds hit for 12; Chris Settles got 11; Austin Miller 10; Blake Roberts and Ronnie McClure 6 each; Aaron Anderkin and Devin Taylor had 5 each and Elijah Lunsford got 2.

Monday night at Oneida Baptist Institute, the Rockets got down 7-0 to begin the game but soon came back and held the lead for the 68-55 district win.

Cash again led in scoring with 20; Miller was a close second with 18;

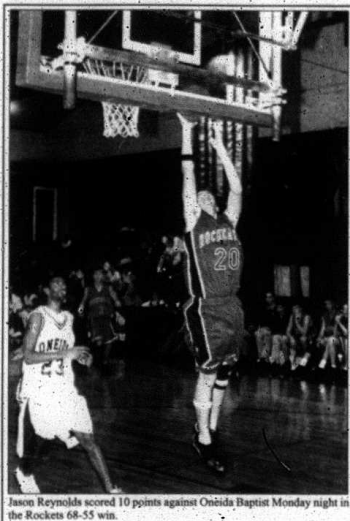
Reynolds got 10; Anderkin and Settles 9 each and Lunsford 2.

Anderkin had 11 rebounds in the game and Cash had the most assists with 6. Cash and Taylor combined for 6 steals, three each and the team as a whole was 20 for 30 in two point shots and 6 for 21 in three point attempts.

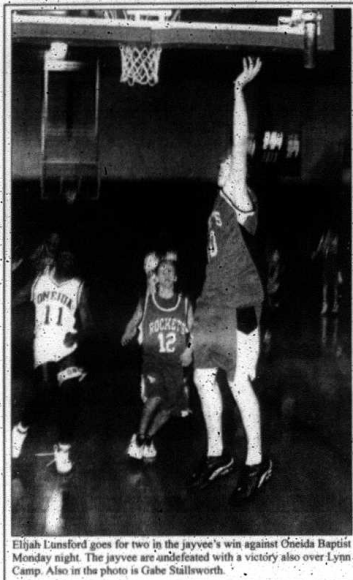
Miller came away with the best shooting percentage, hitting 6 of 7 from two point range.

The Rockets were 10 for 13 from the free throw line with Anderkin going 5 for 5.

Friday night, the Rockets will play Knox. Central away and will finish 2002 out with the Bioreta Invitational December 27-30.



Jason Reynolds scored 10 points against Oneida Baptist Monday night in the Rockets 68-55 win.



Elijah Lunsford goes for two in the jayvee's win against Oneida Baptist Monday night. The jayvees are undefeated with a victory also over Lynn Camp. Also in this photo is Gabe Stallworth.

# Hale named to Verizon All-District Team at GC

Three student-athletes from the Georgetown College football team have been named to the 2002 Verizon Academic All-District IV Team, as selected by CoSIDA. Senior Andy Hale and juniors Matt Brickey and Seth Faulkner were all named to the team for their outstanding performances on the field and in the classroom. Hale and Brickey were named to the Offensive Team, while Faulkner was selected to the Defensive Team.

Andy Hale, a senior wide receiver, holds a perfect 4.0 grade-point average at Georgetown. He is a native of Mt. Vernon and a graduate of Rockcastle County High School. Hale will graduate in May with a degree in Mathematics and Minor Degrees in Religion and Psychology.

Matt Brickey is a native of Louisville and is a two-year starter on the offensive line for the Tigers. Brickey is an Environmental Service major and maintains a 3.6 GPA.

Defensive back, Seth Faulkner, is a two-year starter for Georgetown. Faulkner, a Maysville native and graduate of Mason County High School, holds an impressive 3.76 standing in Accounting.

The Georgetown College football Tigers defeated McKendree College 35 to 9, Saturday, December 7th, in the semifinals of the NAIA football championship playoffs. They will now advance to the NAIA-record fourth consecutive national championship game on December 21st. The match-up with McKendree marked a rematch for Georgetown against the team that handed their lone loss this season, not to mention their first in three years. The Tigers dropped the season opener to McKendree by a final of 17-14.

Georgetown's senior class moves to an incredible 53-2 over their four amazing seasons, and will vie for their third straight title. The seniors have competed in the title game in each of their four seasons.

The "Rumble on the River VII" national championship game is set for Saturday, December 21st, in Savannah, Tennessee. Kickoff for the game is at 1 p.m. EST and will put the Tigers against Carroll (Montana) College. For ticket information, contact the Georgetown College Athletic office at 502-363-8115. Fans can also call Savannah directly for advance tickets at 1-800-552-3866.



Andy Hale

## Shootout

University of Kentucky Head Basketball Coach Tubby Smith will chair the 23rd Annual UK Wildcat Basketball Shootout for Easter Seals Kentucky scheduled from mid-November to January 31, 2003. With the help of the University of Kentucky and the school children of Kentucky, the project has raised more than \$2 million since its beginning. In 2001, \$52,000 was raised to provide state-of-the-art rehabilitation services for children and adults with disabilities.

Individual students participate by securing pledges for each basket they make during a three-minute basketball shootout at their school. Prizes are awarded based on the amount of money each child raises. The boy and girl who raise the most money statewide win seats behind the players' bench during a UK home game, visit the UK locker room after the game and receive a commemorative trophy.

# Girls beat Harlan and LCA

The Rocket girls added two wins to their record in their last two outings, destroying Harlan 68-24 and beating Lexington Christian Academy 63-51.

Against Harlan, it was the Rockets 20-0 at the end of the first quarter and 34-3 at half-time.

Altogether, 10 Lady Rockets got into the scoring column with Johanna Abney leading the way with 17 points. Tara Rowe and Ashley Kimberl each got 9; Jessie Hayes, Lauren Clontz and Bryanna Bussell each scored 6; Katie Parsons had 5; Heather Hammond 4 and Ashley Mink 2.

Clontz got rebounding honors for her team with 6 defensive and two offensive and Hammond came up with the most steals with 5 and Holly Ann Colson had the most assists with 3.

The Rockets were 20 for 37 for two point baskets and 4 for 10 from the three point line with Abney accounting for three three-point baskets.

Against Lexington Christian, the Rockets took a 16-11 lead at the end of the first quarter but fell behind by one, 24-23 at the half. However, a

good 24 point third quarter, during which the Rockets forced several turnovers and hit three three-point shots, put the Rockets up 47 to 34 and they went on to a 63-51 win.

Abney again led the scoring with 23 points; Rowe had 13; Hammond 10; Hayes 5 and Mink, Clontz and Parsons, 4 each.

The Jayvee lost in the first game at LCA 40-32. Sarah Rowe had 9 points for her team; Rachel Stalker and Ashley Kimberl, 8 each; Hollyann Colson 4 and Ashley Lunsford 3.

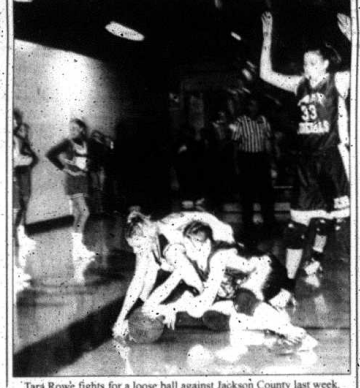
The freshman and jayvee team journeyed to Jackson County Monday night and the jayvee won in the opening game 29-26. Kimberl led the scoring with 13; Lunsford had 5; Colson and Allie Mink 4 each and Jessie Asher 1.

The freshmen played only two quarters and came out on top 26-14 with Heather Hopkins celebrating her birthday with a high ten points; Lara Cash and Asher, each had 6 and Rowe and Ainsley Bussell, 2 each.

The varsity will play next on Friday night in the Lexington Catholic 5/3 Lady Prime Time Classic. They will meet LaRue Co. at 6:15 in Catholic's new gym.



Heather Hammond defends a Jackson County player in a recent game.



Tara Rowe fights for a loose ball against Jackson County last week.

Funds raised support Easter Seal Kentucky facilities and programs through the state. Annually, Easter Seals serves over 16,000 children and adults with disabilities at Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Hospital in Lexington; Easter Seal Camp KY SOC, students and schools interested in participating should contact Dana Stefaniak at 859-254-5701 ext. 5368.

## Special Section January 9th

A special basketball section for the Rockets girls and boys teams will appear Thursday, January 9th. The section will also include the RCMS teams.

# Player of the Year

Rockcastle County High School senior, Marty Reagan, was recently named the 2002 Roy Kidd 3A Player of the Year.

Reagan finished the season at Rockcastle County as one of the most, if not the most dynamic players to ever play football at the high school level. He completed his high school career on the carpet at Cardinal Stadium, where he helped lead the Rockets to back-to-back appearances.

Reagan will leave with his name in the record books at Rockcastle in several categories including most yards gained rushing in one season, 2,279; most yards rushing in one game, 277; most career yards rushing, 4,341; most TD's scored in one season, 38; most career TD's scored, 87; most points scored in one season, 238; most career points scored, 536 and most career interceptions with 22.

Attending the banquet with Reagan, which was held at the KHSA office in Lexington on December 9th, were his mother and father, Lisa and Kelly Allen; his friend, Casey Taylor and her mother, Pam Taylor; Johnny Boone Saylor; Cleston Saylor and Coach Tom Larkey.

In 1990, the Kentucky News Network began a program to identify and honor the finest high school football players in the state. The award was named after the legendary EKV Football Head Coach Roy Kidd, who recently retired after 39 years and 315 wins.

Reagan joins several Class 3A athletes who have gone on to play in the NFL, such as Billy Jack Haskins, Jeremy Simpson, Tim Couch, Artise Pinner, Jeff Duggins, Shaun Alexander, Chris Rodman, Dennis Johnson and Tony Driver.



Marty Reagan is shown with retiring EKV coach Roy Kidd, at left, and RCHS head coach Tom Larkey, at right.



The Rockcastle County High School boys' varsity has proven already that they are the team to beat in the 13th Region. Monday night, after making the long trip to Oneida, they did not play as well as they had in their first two blowouts. However, they picked up another district win although they were down 7-0 at the beginning of the game. Shown above from left are: Austin Miller, Aaron Anderkin, Anthony Stevens, Blake Roberts, James Issacs, Aaron Cash and Chris Settles. Also in the photo at far right is head coach Clayton Cash.

## Our Readers Write

Dear Editor:  
I would like to say thank you to the Rock of Ages Mission. My daughter needed help with furniture. She was sleeping on the floor. Now she has a bed to sleep on.  
If we need help they will help. We

the people should sponsor this mission instead of sending money to other countries. This way we know where our money is going.  
Thank you Rock of Ages Mission,  
Martha Stauder  
P.S. They really help the needy a real friend in deed!

## It's Your Money

By: Jonathan Miller,  
Kentucky State Treasurer  
Need a little extra jingle for the Holidays? Santa could come early for you with much needed money for the holiday season.

That's because my office holds over \$50 million in unclaimed property, just waiting to be returned to thousands of rightful owners across the state. It's my job to return the money, and let me tell you, there is no greater thrill than presenting a check to an unsuspecting taxpayer.

When I tell people that they may be one of the rightful owners of unclaimed property, they usually look at me in disbelief. But so many people who weren't expecting a dime have found out that they are significantly richer. Perhaps they left money or valuables in a savings account or safety deposit box. Or they left a job but didn't get their last paycheck. Or they are the heir to someone who died before they could claim their property.

One of my favorite stories of holiday cash comes from Madisonville.

A lady living at the Ridgewood Terrace Nursing Home had moved to Kentucky from Tennessee and had left \$415.00 in her checking account. After seven years, the account was closed and the funds were turned over

to my office. I gave the check to her on December 23, 2001 and asked her what she would do with the money. Her response was "I'm going to buy presents for my grandchildren." It is nice to be able to play Santa Claus in real life.

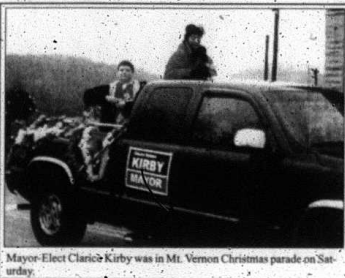
Most recently I have been taking your unclaimed property on the road and soon will be at a mall near you. My office had an unclaimed property booth at a mall in Lexington last month in which one man found he was owed over \$117,000 dollars in cash. I hope this could be you, so you can get that needed extra money to help pay your holiday bills.

Maybe you too will find money or property that is rightfully yours. By clicking a few buttons on your computer and typing in your name, you can find out if you are a rightful owner in the privacy of your own home. Simply access our continually updated database at [www.kytreasury.com](http://www.kytreasury.com). At our website, you can also do a nationwide search of unclaimed property databases, just in case Kentucky has not always been your home. And if computers scare you, you can always call us toll-free at (800)465-4722, and we'll do the search for you.

I hope this holiday season will prove to be rewarding for you, your family and your friends.



Members of the Brindle Ridge Fire Department participated in Saturday's parades.



Mayor-Elect Clarice Kirby was in Mt. Vernon Christmas parade on Saturday.



Livingston Fire Department drove their truck in the parades on Saturday.



Natalie Owens and the rest of the gang from the Rockcastle Rehab Center in Brodhead waves to the crowd on Saturday.



Mt. Vernon Fire Department was on hand for the parade Saturday.

## Subscribe to the Signal

### No Paper Next Week

Due to the Christmas holiday, the *Mt. Vernon Signal* will not publish next week. Our next issue will be January 2, 2003. The *Signal* office will be closed December 23-27, 2002 and will reopen December 30th

#### Notice

Due to changes of new office elected the Rockcastle County Sheriff's office will not be collecting tax bills after December 30, 2002. New collection date will be noted in the Mt. Vernon Signal in January 2003.

### RCMS Lady Rockets Booster Club

will be hosting the 6th, 7th & 8th grade girls banquet on December 19th at 5 p.m.

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Let us help you to prepare for a good job. Join us to learn new skills such as computer skills. For more info, call Kenne at 256-9612. Classes are free. Supplies are furnished.

#### 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 256-0789.

#### Narcotics Anonymous

Tired of drugs and/or alcohol controlling your life? Come join us at Narcotics Anonymous every Thursday at 8 p.m. behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church, located on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon. For more info, call 256-9263.

#### Alcohol Anonymous

Alcohol Anonymous meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon. For more info, call 256-2129.

#### Republican Party Meets

The Republican Party meets the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at Kastle Inn.

#### Center Hours

Rockcastle County Senior Citizens and Day Health Care Center hours are 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Mon-Fri.

#### Mission Hours

First Baptist Church Food and Clothing Mission's hours are Mon. & Wed. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Mission is located on 30 Church St., Mt. Vernon.

#### Bookmobile Schedule

Dec. 23-27: NO SERVICE  
Happy Holidays!  
Mon., Dec. 30: Scaffold Cane, Duponts, Anglin Falls, Clear Creek, Wildcat  
Tue., Dec. 31: Buffalo, Old 461, Negro Creek.

#### Fire Season

Due to increase in fire activity in

Kentucky the Kentucky Division Forestry is now taking applications for fall fire season. Call Co. Ranger 256-5031, Crew Leader 256-9884 or Crew Boss 256-0725.

#### Clothing Needed

The Rockcastle County Migrant Program is in need of light jackets and jeans to replenish the clothing closet. Please bring your donations to the Rockcastle Central Office at 245 Richmond St. or call 256-2157 for pickup.

#### Chair Caning

There will be a class on Chair Caning taught at the Extension Office on Fri., Dec. 20. Class is limited. For more details call 256-2403.

#### Diabetic Support

Group will hold their monthly meeting Dec. 16th at 6 p.m. in the basement of the Home Health building. The theme will be celebrating the holidays with low fat and low concentrated sweets. Bring a vegetable salad or dessert.

#### Gardener Class

Master Gardener Class will be offered locally by the Rockcastle County Extension Office beginning in February. For more information, call the Extension Office at 256-2403. Early January registration is required.

#### Scrapbooking Class

Free Scrapbooking class will be taught at the Extension Office at 10:00 a.m. on Jan. 17. For more details call 256-2403.

#### Quilted Purse Class

Jan. 17, 11:00 a.m. learn to make a Quilted Backpack Purse at the Extension Office. For a list of materials and to register call 256-2403.

#### Sew Turbans

Jan. 21 & 22 you are invited to Sew Turbans for Cancer Patients at the Extension Office. All turbans will be donated to cancer centers. All supplies are provided. Call 256-2403 for more info.



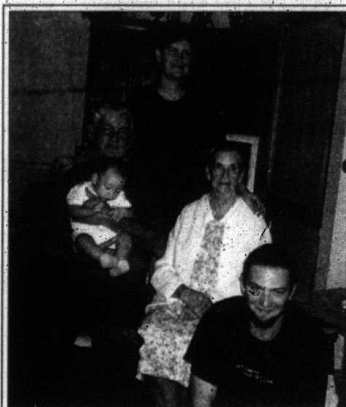
**Cromer - Brock**

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Alan Brock were united in marriage on November 16, 2002. Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Brock, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Cromer, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby French and Logan Brock gave their blessing to the couple.



**Kelley - Ingram**

Carissa Kelley and Brooks Ingram would like to announce their wedding. The event will take place at Fairview Baptist Church on Dec. 22nd at 2:00 pm. All family and friends of the couple are invited to attend. A reception will be held directly after in the Fellowship Hall.



**Five Generations**

Standing Vanessa Smith Egnor, Earl Smith sitting holding Aeryk Egnor, at right Clyde (Powell) Hite and Robert Egnor. The Egnors live in Summerville, SC, Clyde (Powell) Hite of Dayton, Ohio and Earl Smith of Broadhead.

**"What Saith the Scriptures"**

In James 4:11-12 we read, "Speak not evil one of another, brethren: He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?" In the kingdom of God, Jesus is King, the absolute monarch. Jesus has all authority, legislative authority, executive authority, judicial authority, in the kingdom of God. As Jesus said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Matt 28:18. Now some folks want to edge in on Jesus's authority. They want to be the lawmaker for the Lord, or to be the judge and jury in human redemption. Folks try decide that Jesus did not know what was taking about, for instance in the plan of salvation. They decide that men can be saved other ways other than what Jesus said. This is a very presumptuous and arrogant on their part to de-throne Jesus from his exalted position. Who am I that I can withstand God. Who am I to legislate new ways for man to be saved. Who am I to be judge and jury in evaluating the spiritual destiny of folks, with my human standards of thinking, Is 55:8, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD." I think I will let the Lord be the lawmaker and the final judge.

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Web Site: [www.WhatSaithTheScriptures.com](http://www.WhatSaithTheScriptures.com)

Time of Services: Sunday 10am Bible Study, Worship 10:40 & 6:00pm.

Wednesday 7:00pm. Radio program, Sunday 8am, 1460 AM

**Second Section  
Thursday,  
December 19, 2002**

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-- Luke Gooch



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**2002 Chevy C1500**  
Silverado, X-Cab, 4x4  
**\$23,995**



**2002 Mitsubishi Montero**  
Sport, XLS, 4x4, Leather, Sunroof  
**\$19,995**



**2002 Jeep Liberty**  
Limited, 4x4  
**\$20,995**



**2001 Chevy Blazer**  
LT, 4 Dr, 4x4, Loaded  
**\$17,500**



**2000 Toyota Tacoma**  
4x4, 5 spd, Alloy  
**\$11,995**



**1999 Nissan Pathfinder**  
SE, 4x4, Loaded, 40K  
**\$14,995**



**1999 Chevy C1500**  
Silverado, 5.3 V8, 4x4  
**\$13,995**

*Happy Holidays from all of us to all of you!*

'02 Dodge Grand Caravan, Sport, Rear Air, 25K	\$14,995	'01 Chevy C1500, V. Auto, Air, 11K	\$14,500
'02 Dodge Grand Caravan, Sport, Rear Air, 14K	\$15,995	'00 Suzuki Grand Vitara, 4 Dr, V6, 4x4, 5 spd	\$9,995
'01 Chevy C3500, Silverado, Dually, 4x4, Loaded	\$25,995	'00 Chevy S10, Extreme, X-Cab, V6, Auto, 29K	\$13,500
'01 Chevy S10, LS, X-Cab, 4x4, V6, Auto, 18K	\$16,500	'00 Dodge Caravan, SE, Fully Equipped	\$11,995
'01 Chevy Tracker, 4 Dr, Auto, 4x4	\$12,500	'99 Nissan Pathfinder, SE, 4x4, 34K	\$16,500
'01 Ford Windstar, Power W/L, Tilt, Cruise	\$11,500	'99 Toyota Tacoma, 4x4, 5 spd, Alloy, 24K	\$11,995

**Cars**

'02 Chrysler PT Cruiser, .....	\$14,995	'01 Chevy Corvette, Removable Glass, 6 spd, Headlamps 1 new	\$32,900
'02 Dodge Intrepid, All Power, Low Miles	\$14,995	'01 Chevy Impala, Fully Equipped	\$10,500
'02 Dodge Neon, 4 Dr, Auto, A/C, Sport Pkg	\$9,995	'01 Olds Alero, 2 Dr, Sharp	\$9,450
'02 Dodge Neon, 4 Dr, Auto, Air	\$8,995	'01 Ford Taurus, SES, Loaded	\$10,995
'02 Suzuki Esteem, 4 Dr, Auto, Air	\$7,995	'01 Buick Century, Loaded, Low Miles	\$10,995
'01 Pontiac Grand Prix, GT, Spoiler, CD	\$11,500	'01 Honda Shadow, Motorcycle, 1,300 miles, lot of extras	\$5,000
'01 Toyota Corolla, 4 Dr, Auto	\$9,995	'00 Pontiac Bonneville, .....	\$10,995
'01 Ford Taurus, SES, Loaded	\$10,995	'00 Dodge Intrepid, Local Trade, All Records	\$9,995
'01 Dodge Stratus, Auto, Air, Power Pkg	\$10,995	'99 Olds Alero, Auto, Local, 42K	\$6,500
'01 Hyundai XG300, Leather, V6, Luxury	\$14,995	'98 Pontiac Grand Am, 1 Dr, Local, 57K	\$5,995
'01 Hyundai Sonata, GLS, V6, 11K	\$12,500	'97 Toyota Camry, LE, Sunroof, Local	\$7,995
'01 Pontiac Grand Am, 1 Dr, GL V6, Sunroof, Alloy, Loaded	\$13,995	'97 Olds 88, Local, Loaded	\$4,995

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Andy Hiatt, Owners

## News from the Rockcastle County Courthouse

### Circuit Civil Suits

Phoenix Leasing, Inc. vs. Shreeff Corp., et al, judgement, CI-00337.  
Donald Barnes vs. Connie Barnes, petition for dissolution of marriage, CI-00338.  
Ford Motor Credit Co. vs. Jennifer M. Puckett; \$6,745.61 plus claimed due, CI-00339.  
Lisa Davidson vs. Thomas Courtney Payne, complaint, CI-00340.

### District Civil Suits

Peoples Bank vs. Jerry W. Watson, \$1,595.43 claimed due, C-00137.

### Deeds Recorded

David and Rissie Kidwell, real property located in Rockcastle County, to James Kidwell, No tax.  
Eleanor Jean Horrar, real property located in Lakeside Subdivision, to Eleanor Jean Horrar, Trustee, No tax.  
Christopher Phillips, real property located on Hammond Fork Road, to John and Wilma Coffey, Tax 25.00.  
The CIT Group, real property located in Rockcastle County, to Sherri and Luke Lantille, Tax 48.00.  
James F. Hawkins, III and Regina Hawkins, real property located on the waters of Buffalo Creek and Elkhorn Branch, to Nicky J. Hamn and others, Tax 115.00.  
Robert E. and Rosalind Philbeck, real property located in Rockcastle

County, to Ralph and Alice Hensel, Tax 80.00.  
Margo L. Feiertag Zars, real property located on Skaggs Creek, to Bernard Zars, Tax 25.00.  
William Kenneth Cummins Estate, real property located in Rockcastle County, to Farmers and Miners Bank, No tax.  
Clarence and Louise Carter, real property located in Rainbow Ridge Subdivision, to Lester G. Stewart, Tax 9.00.  
Bobby and Pam Cox, real property located in Mt. Vernon, to Glenda McFerron Smith, Tax 9.00.  
Jewell Hawk, real property located in McGuire Subdivision, to Renee Creech, Tax 30.00.  
Dorothy Elizabeth Nee, real property located in Countryside Estates, to Christopher Scott Barnes, Tax 65.00.  
J.C. Bradley, real property located in Rockcastle County, to Joe and Patsy Barron, Tax 28.00.  
Jewell Hawk, real property located in Mt. Vernon, to Glenda McFerron Smith, No tax.  
KoxAnna C. King, real property located in Rockcastle County, to Doug and RoxAnna C. King, No tax.  
Donald and Brenda Does, deed contract for real property located in Rockcastle County, to Country Home, Inc, Tax 179.00.  
James and Judy Kidwell and David Kidwell, real property located in Rockcastle County, to James and Judy Kidwell and Edward Donald and Linda K. Kidwell McWhorter, No tax.  
Samuel J. and Ruth Evelyn Mullins, real property located in Bee Lick section, to Kenneth Ballinger, Tax 25.00.  
Howell Harris Holbrook, Jr. and Lena Gill Holbrook, real property located in Rockcastle County, to Terry and Tammy Harris, Tax 38.00.  
Benton and Theresa Bullock, real property located in Dusty Trails Subdivision, to Larry and Phyllis Mason, Tax 8.00.  
Larry and Phyllis Mason, real property located in Dusty Trails Subdivision, to Margo Zars, Tax 33.00.

*\*Not the one...\**  
Christopher Jones listed in last week's Signal is not the Christopher Jones who lives on Negro Creek.

### Marriage Licenses

Natasha Leanne Nichole Bishop, 21, Rt. 1, Mt. Vernon, Administration Assistant, to Darran James Hubbard, 19, Rt. 4, Mt. Vernon, fork lift operator, December 14, 2002.  
Phyllis Ann McCormick Renner, 37, Brodhead, housewife, to Michael Angelo Surron, 33, Brodhead, self-employed, December 14, 2002.  
Debra Lee Abshire, 42, Rutland, Ohio, social work, to Kelly Dean Stewart, 42, Rutland, Ohio, insulating, December 14, 2002.  
April Dawn Thompson, 21, Crab Orchard, pharmacy tech, to Christopher Keith Todd, 28, Crab Orchard, December 13, 2002.  
Vickie Ann Siler, 37, Crab Orchard, unemployed, to Bobby Wayne Smith, 31, Crab Orchard, self-employed, December 11, 2002.

### District Court

**Hon. Walter F. Maguire**  
December 9, 2002  
Karen D. Jones: Learner permit/ no licensed operator, \$25 and costs; Improper registration, \$50 fine.  
Jason Scott Kirby: Carrying concealed weapon, dismissed on forfeiture of weapon to MVPDP; No license in possession, \$50 and costs; Operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, \$200 fine and costs, \$250 service fee, 2 days/time/served/30 day operator license suspension; Possession of marijuana, \$100 fine and 30 days/conditionally discharged, one year/confiscate and destroy contraband.  
Lewis D. Cotton: Assault, 4th degree, 30 days to serve 10/balance probated 1 year.  
Mark A. Overbay: Fines due (\$610.50 and fees), assessed 15 days.  
Tommy Brock: Operating on suspended license, \$50 and costs and 10 days/conditionally discharged one year, No insurance, \$300 fine.

Calvin Lewis Denny: Alcohol intoxication, dismissed on payment of court costs.  
James Matthew Dolny: Fines due (\$200.50), warrant issued/license suspended.  
David R. Frazier: Fines due (\$434.50), warrant issued/license suspended.  
James Matthew Dolny: Fines due (\$200.50), warrant issued/license suspended.  
Charles L. Joins: Operating ATV w/o headgear, paid \$120.50 total fine and costs.  
Larry K. Miller: Fines due (\$210.50); 20 hours community service work in lieu of fines.  
Cody S. Moore: Public intoxication, \$50 and costs; Possession of controlled substance, \$100 fine and 90 days/conditionally discharged two years/confiscate and destroy contraband.  
Greg E. Pyle: N-Res. Hunt, Etc. w/o Lic/Stamp etc (2 counts), \$100 and costs, and \$100 fine plus hunting privileges suspended three years in lieu of possession of deer, \$250 assessment for Rockcastle Co Wild Turkey Fed. plus 90 days/conditionally discharged two years.  
David W. Roberts: No operators license, \$50 and costs and 10 days/conditionally discharged; Failure to wear seatbelt, \$25 fine; Contempt of court (slander/libel), \$50 fine.  
Denny Ray Russell: Defendant non-compliant w/ADE, license suspended for failure to appear.  
David P. Snyder: Fines due (\$510.20), warrant issued/license suspended.  
Joseph Franklin Snyder: Overlength, paid \$20 plus court costs.  
Deana T. Vance: No operators license in possession, \$25 and costs.  
December 11, 2002  
Bobby Wayne Akers: Operating on suspended license and contempt of court, (slander/libel), warrant issued/license suspended.  
Steve D. Cox: Fines due (\$185.50), warrant issued.  
Bonita J. Dalton: No Ky. Reg. Plates and other charges, warrant issued/license suspended.  
Michael D. Goette: Operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, under 21, \$100 and costs/\$250 service fee/\$20 VCF/license suspended 30 days; Vehicle a nuisance, \$25 fine.  
Stacy M. Harris: Fines due (\$96.35), warrant issued.  
Kelly M. Jones: Speeding and other charges, warrant issued/license suspended.  
Daniel R. Kennedy: No operators license in possession, \$50 and costs.  
Jamie C. Medley: Faulty equipment, \$161.50 total due.  
Michael D. Goette: TBUT/Dipg/Shoplit, \$250 and costs and 90 days/conditionally discharged two years; Resisting arrest, \$100 fine and 30 days/conditionally discharged one year.  
Jonathan Osborn: Fines due (\$576.85), warrant issued/license suspended.  
Edward Lewis Rice: No insurance and failure to produce insurance card, warrant issued/license suspended.  
Billy S. Robinson: Speeding, \$28 and costs; No operators license in possession, \$25 fine; Improper registration, \$25 fine; Use/Possession Drug Paraphernalia, \$100 fine/confiscate and destroy contraband.  
Raymond Lloyd Williams: Violation KY EPO, \$50 and costs.  
Aaron L. Blackburn: Speeding, paid.  
Forest K. Duganig: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.  
Phillip B. Sparks: Faulty equipment, \$38 and costs.

### Seasons Greetings!

**B&M Liquidators**

**10% off  
Storewide**

December 21-24

Christmas Hours:

Monday to Saturday 9 to 6

Sunday 1 to 5

Christmas Eve 9 to 1

New shipment arriving

Thursday, December 19th

### Subscribe to the Signal

### Grand Opening.

**The Kids Shop  
consignments & more.**

57 W. Main St. Brodhead, Ky.  
All children come and register for free prize to be given away December 21st, must be present to win drawing at 3 p.m.

**606-758-9227**

(We are two doors down from Dari-Delite)  
Open Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



*It is the season  
to rejoice and celebrate  
the birth of our Saviour,  
Jesus Christ.*



August - Tristan - Roy Scott

**Merry Christmas &  
Happy New Year**  
from

**Appliance Service Center**

U.S. 25 - Mt. Vernon - 606-256-2626

## Hark! The Herald Angels Sing: Glory To The Newborn King

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2: 10-11

Wishing you tidings of great joy this holiday season and beyond.

**From the families and staff of  
The Law Offices of Jeffrey T. Burdette**

**Jeff Burdette  
Williams Reynolds  
Deanna Carpenter • Kathy Robinson  
Julie Adams • Jeannie Sizemore  
Daisy Collins • Brandi Thomas.**

**May God Bless You All**

**Real Estate For Sale**  
**Ford Brothers, Inc.**  
 Auctioneers - Realtors  
  
**606-256-4545 • 1-800-435-5454**  
 Contact us at: www.fordbrothersinc.com

**A Country Setting** in the new Sunnyside Estates Subdivision! This 28x60 doublewide mobile home has it all -- 3 spacious bedrooms, 2 full baths, living room, dining/kitchen combination w/refrig. **SOLD** range and dishwasher. Washing machine, drapes and blinds also included. Central heat and air. Call Jeff Cromer about M1588.

**Where Do You Want To Be?** If it's close to Mt. Vernon, in a comfortable 3 bedroom home with a nice wrap-around porch, then you must check out this home! This vinyl-sided one story home also features living room, dining/kitchen combination w/range and refrigerator, bath and den, plus a 1/2 basement and a 1 car detached garage. The central heating system will keep you warm as the days get colder. Located on Hwy. 25 South, Mt. Vernon. Priced at \$65,000. Call Jeff Cromer for details on M1646.

**Invest or Take Rest!** In this 14x70 singlewide mobile home and lot just off Hwy. 461 in the Dusty Trails Subdivision. It has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining/kitchen combo w/range and refrigerator, and utility, plus electric heat, carpeted floors, drapes and blinds. Also improved with a 12x20 storage building. Priced at \$31,900. Call Jeff Cromer to see on M1659.

**In a Class By Itself!** This lovely 2 story home features a floor plan on the first floor of foyer, living room, dining/kitchen, 1 1/2 bath, bedroom, sunroom and breakfast room. The second floor has possibly 3-4 bedrooms and bath and the full basement has a family room, rec room, and 2 car garage plus all the "extras" and the "special things" you will need for luxurious living. The home is situated on a well landscaped 2.19 acres. A must see to believe - priced for \$199,500. Call Sandy Bullen for your appointment. M1631

**Welcome Home!** This is what this 3 bedroom home says to YOU! Conveniently located on Royal Street, Mt. Vernon, this cozy home has living room, kitchen, 1 bath, full oil furnace, central air, city water, sewer and so much more. There's also a storage building. An excellent opportunity for only \$49,900 plus an extra lot is also available for purchase with the house. Call now! M1628

**Spread Christmas In the Valley** this year and in the years to come in this lovely brick home w/carport. Situated on 3 acres, m/l, this home features living room, dining/kitchen combo, 3 bedrooms, bath, utility and attic. Other features include central heat and air, m/wall to wall carpet and drapes, plus an outside storage building. Located on Hummel Road in Renfro Valley and priced at \$79,900. Call Jeff Cromer for your appointment. M1656

**The Perfect Place!** Enjoy the comfort of country living in this vinyl sided 1 1/2 story home located on Bethel Church Road in Bee Lick. The home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining/kitchen combo, utility, **SOLD** a large covered deck plus much more! There is also a 2 car garage and barn, situated on 10 beautifully maintained acres with end of the road privacy. M1616

**Enjoy Happy Days** in your own home without an outrageous payment! This mobile home and lot on Poplar Grove Road is attractive and affordable. Features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining/kitchen combination, plus a nice level yard with trees already planted. At only \$31,900, you don't have to wait another day! Call Danetta to make your appointment M1520

**Ya'll Come...** to see this wonderfully laid out home which offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining, kitchen and utility area. Each bedroom has its own walk-in closets and the kitchen has plenty of countertops and beautiful oak cabinets. There's 4 1/4 acres and a large deck. Located on Level Green Road and priced right at \$69,900. Call Danetta for your appointment TODAY! M1650

**day! M1666**  
**'Going Sports Goods Business' Inventory** and franchise agreement available. Save Thousands - Great Deal. Contact Ford Brothers for more information. M1601  
**Local Business Opportunity** - Food market/gas station, located in the Burr section of Rockcastle County just off U.S. 25, Mt. Vernon. City water, propane gas. Priced at \$139,900. Call for details on M1658.

**What Do You Have In Mind?** Here's a 153 acre tract (more or less), improved with a 12x20 cabin. Located on Trace Branch Road near Livingston. Priced at \$76,500. Call for an app't. to see the property. M1634  
**Think Country!** Tired of being cooped up? Then consider this 42.724 acres located off Highway 70 on 1650. The price has been drastically dropped to \$119,900. There is approx. 35 acres of farm land and the property is improved with a barn, 3 room older house, city water, 2 ponds and a tobacco barn. What a deal! M1569  
**9 ACRES** in the city limits of Mt. Vernon - privacy - city water and sewer available. Priced at \$29,900. M1614  
**Secluded, Yet Not Far from town** - Located on Cove Branch Road, here 72 acres, more or less, with a possibility of some market. **SOLD** - This property is near Roundstone Creek, but city water is also available. Call Danetta for details about M1647

**REDUCED! So Get In Before Old Man Winter** gets the upper hand! This vinyl-sided home is nearly new and has living room, dining room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms and 2 baths plus all the comfort of central heat & air and wall to wall carpet. You'll be cozy and comfortable and close to town, with this property, located on Wallin Street in Brodhead, within walking distance of bank, school and stores. Now reduced to \$74,900. Call Jeff Cromer today about M1623

**REDUCED! Country Home - Peace & Quiet!** This home features living room, dining/kitchen combo with oven range and refrigerator, 3 bedrooms, bath and utility room. Has gas heat, a new roof, and city water. Situated on 2 acres more or less just off Hwy. 490 in Livingston. Call Jeff Cromer to see **Reduced to \$39,900** M1577.

**REDUCED! Come See For Yourself!** The possibilities are endless! Located in the Dusty Trails Subdivision, just off Hwy. 461, this well-kept 1992 14x76 mobile home offers living room, kitchen/dining combination, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, **SOLD** utility room. Added features include: deck, central air, electric heat, gas log insert plus much more. There is also an 8x10 storage building on these two nice lots. Call Jeff Cromer for your appointment. M1611

**REDUCED! It's a Dandy - And So Handy!** This nice 'brick/vinyl home is conveniently located at 215 Shirley Street, Mt. Vernon. There is a living room, bedroom and utility room downstairs; kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bath and den upstairs plus city water and sewer, electric heat and some appliances. Call Jeff Cromer for an appointment - you'll be glad you did! Price reduced to \$64,500. M1592.

**LOTS**  
**Two lots in a great location** in the Renfro Valley area. Priced at \$8,500 and \$9,500. Near KOA Campground. Call for more information. M1443  
**3 Extremely Nice Wooded Lots** - These Lots contain approximately 1 acre each and road frontage from 180-ft. to 302 ft. City water available. Located on Brindle Ridge. Prices range from \$12,500 to \$14,500. M1344  
**REDUCED! We've got just what you've been looking for!** Spacious lots with city water, paved street and it's restricted. And, with its location on Ky. 461 in Pulaski County, you can enjoy the conveniences of easy access to Somerset, Lake Cumberland and I-75. Each lot is priced at just \$11,900. M1363  
**Wald Point** - Restricted subdivision lots for sale in the Wald Point Subdivision off Highway 461. Lots 1-6 and 8-12 range from nearly 1/2 acre to 2 acres and are priced at \$8,900 each. Lot 13 contains nearly 4 1/2 acre and is priced at \$29,900. Call for details or a plot copy. M1567  
**Countryside Estates Subdivision!** Three nice building lots each measuring 170x170. Buy today and begin building your dream home in this exclusive restricted subdivision tomorrow. Priced at \$7,900. M1610  
**3 Acres** with woods and city water located between Mt. Vernon and Somerset off Ky. 1152 - a great home site! Only \$5,900. M1624

**Livable and Lovelible!** This like new one story home is waiting for you to move right in. Located in the Woodland Subdivision, this home features three bedrooms, living room, dining and kitchen combination, and utility room. Other amenities include: attached garage, central heat and air, and a nice back deck. M1432

**Just Perfect!** This 97 model 16x80 home features living room, dining/kitchen combo, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and utility, plus central heat and air, wall to wall carpet, drapes and kitchen appliances. Situated on nearly an acre on Philadelphia Church Road in Brodhead and priced at \$36,000. Call Jeff Cromer to see M1591.

**Excellent View!** From this 1 story vinyl sided house, situated on 1.9 acres in the Rolling Hills Subdivision, features living room, dining/kitchen combination w/dishwasher, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and utility room, all with the comfort of central heat and air. This well-built home also has a front porch and back deck and is only 4 1/2 years old. No doubt one of the most beautiful homes in the area. Priced at \$11,000. Call Harold Bustle for your appointment. M1633

**Get Settled Before Old Man Winter Moves In!** Settle into this cozy 2 bedroom home located at 215 Williams Street, Mt. Vernon. This home features living room w/fireplace, dining room, kitchen and bath, plus a partial basement and gas heat. Fronts on Williams and Hamlin Streets and is priced at \$55,000. Call Jeff Cromer for details. M1645

**REDUCED! Here's The Deal!** This aluminum/vinyl sided frame house, surrounded by trees and shrubs, is situated on just under an acre with a detached garage and is fenced on 3 sides. The home features living room, dining/kitchen combo, 3 bedrooms and bath. Excellent starter home only 2 1/2 miles from Brodhead on Chestnut Grove Road. **Reduced to \$49,900.** Call Roy Adams for your appt. to see M1619.

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**  
**Prime Commercial Investment Opportunity!** This property is located near I-75 and the famous Renfro Valley on Highway 25 and consists of 26 acres, m/l, with city water and sewer. Call Jeff Cromer for more information. M1426  
**REDUCED!** This 3.28 acre tract, located at I-75 Exit 59 and US 25, has been reduced to \$39,900. This commercial tract has been surveyed. Invest to

- AGENTS**
- SAMMY L. FORD • 256-4588
  - DANNY R. FORD • 256-4446
  - DANETTA ALLEN • 256-2071
  - ROY E. ADAMS • 758-8400
  - JEFF CROMER • 355-0268
  - DAVID HENDERSON • 256-2034
  - PHYLIS WHITAKER • 256-2790
  - JEFF BURDETTE • 256-3538
  - DALE WHITAKER • 256-4227
  - MARGA UMBARGER • 453-2107
  - HAROLD BULLEN • 308-5901
  - SANDY BUSTLE • 758-8418
  - DEBRA C. SMITH • 256-3262
  - TERESA STEVENS • 379-5071
  - STEVE BULLOCK • 355-0245

**FUTURE AUCTIONS**

**Absolute Estate Auction of the late Ms. Irene Mills'**  
 45 Acres by the boundary Formerly known as the "Silas and Monnie Elam Place"  
 Saturday, December 21st at 11 a.m.  
 Bimble Section of Knox County, Kentucky

**Absolute Auction of Ms. Ima Lee Cromer's**  
 Mobile Home and Lot  
 Saturday, January 4 at 10:30 a.m.  
 135 Hideaway Cutoff Drive, Somerset

*We can take care of all your Real Estate Needs!*  
 Just contact one of our many knowledgeable agents!

Visit us at www.fordbrothersinc.com for more Future Auctions



**Be Nice to Each Other**  
 What advice would you give to a young married couple who are just beginning a life together? Occasionally I am asked for advice in such a situation. Here is my answer.

"The most important advice I can give to you as newly married couple is very simple. In fact it borders on the simplistic, but it is true. What is the most important thing you can do to make your marriage successful? Be nice to each other. That's it - be nice to each other. It is not complicated nor hard to remember, but it can be very difficult to do."

It is sad that sometimes we treat strangers better than we treat our mates.

John (not a real person) is a respected businessman in his city. He deals with difficult people all day and never loses his cool. When he comes home, however, he is a different person. He screams at his wife and tells his kids to "get lost."

We are nice to others but not to each other. We scream at each other when we would never do that to strangers. We say cutting things do each other when we would never do that to strangers.

Mary (not a real person) has been married to Joe for twenty years. She wishes that she had married somebody with more ambition and more money, and she is not hesitant about telling Joe how she feels. He dreads coming home to another lecture on his lack of ambition.

Is Mary like this with other people? Of course not. She is pleasant to her fellow church members and to the others in her club. While she does occasionally become upset with the children and say hurtful things to them, no one outside her family would believe she was anything other than the perfect wife and mother.

We need to be nice to each other even when we are angry. It is possible to be angry without being hurtful to the other. We can be loving and caring even when we are angry.

Mike and Linda (not real people) have learned how to do this. When one of them is upset, he says, "I have a gripe." The other says, "OK, what is it?"

He shares his gripe in a calm voice without being accusing. The other repeats what he has said, and then asks if this is what he means. When he is certain she has gotten the point, he says, "That's it."

Others share the communication of gripe is all that is necessary to resolve it. Sometimes one spouse or another must take some action to make the gripe go away.

Whatever the case, speaking of a gripe "with love" has a much better effect than screaming abusive words.

Many things are important in building a marriage. Communication and commitment are crucial. We must be able to talk to each other, and we must be totally committed to the marriage to make it work.

As a counselor, register and old married man, however, I am convinced that the most important principle that can make a marriage successful is "be nice to each other." Be as nice to each other as you would be to a total stranger.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Dr. Whitehead is a pastoral counselor with an office in Somerset. He has been helping individuals, couples and families to solve the problems of everyday living for seventeen years. He works with depression, anxiety, abuse and marital problems. You may contact him at 1-877-PASTOR-3 or 679-4134.

**Yards to Paradise**  
 By: Max Phelps

**Landscaping for Seasonal Decorations**  
 As your neighbors flock to crowded stores or sales yards for greenery and decorations, why not use items from your own landscape? There are so many plants that bear lovely berries or colorful foliage. You probably have some of them in your yard. Or you may want to plant at this time for future decorations.

Berry decorations could come from hollies and winterberries (leafless hollies), beautyberries, nandina domestica, pyracantha, bayberry, wax myrtle, sea buckthorn (seaberries), sumac, Indian hawthorns or bitternut.

Cones and seedheads could come from pines and Decid. cedars, magnolias, lotus flowers, perhaps willflowers.

Evergreen boughs can be harvested from so many of the pines, cedars, junipers, spruce, etc. Hemlock boughs with small cones attached are especially cute. The branches of Balsam and Fraser fir perhaps have the best aroma of all. Ivy, honeysuckle, red-top photinia, laurel branches and some of the eu-

onymus species may not be traditional, but are attractively used as indoor decorations. (Let's not forget a few sprigs of mistletoe!)

Various grasses are wonderful for winter bouquets. Combined with a few bare branches, maybe red-colored dogwood or blueberry twigs, wildflower seedheads such as tassel and goldenrod may be used attractively. Fern fronds are also used indoors in some lovely arrangements.

Vines can be used in many ways. The traditional grapevine wreath, with greenery or fruit or seeds woven carefully into it is a perfect example of using landscape items from the yard or forest in seasonal decorating themes.

We often landscape to attract birds, bees, butterflies and so forth. Or to screen certain areas. Or to put a specimen prominently in the yard. This year consider some plantings in your yard which would be attractive anytime, but especially useful for branches and berries to decorate the inside of your home.

**Subscribe to the Signal**  
 256-2244

**Christmas Poetry Books**  
 by Letha French  
 1/4 Each  
 Available at  
 Aletha's Flowers or  
 Young's Pharmacy  
 in Mt. Vernon

**Mt. Vernon Dentures Holiday Special!**

**\$5 Off**

Dentures start at \$125 per plate - Most Ins. Accepted

**Dr. Steven Shuey, DMD**

**606-256-3026**

Located at 125 U.S. 25 South behind courthouse  
 (Owner Connie Denney, Receptionist Lori Cope, Lab Tim Blair)

*With joy in our hearts, we extend our warm wishes to you and your family for a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.*

*We appreciate your continued loyal support.*

Dr. Chism, family & staff

**Save-A-Lot**

**\*\*Save up to 40% Everyday on your total grocery bill\*\***

New Spring Hours: Mon. - Sat. 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. • Sun. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
**We Gladly Accept WIC and EBT**

<b>Extra Savings</b> Cook's Spiral Sliced Honey Ham <b>179</b> lb.	<b>Extra Savings</b> Boneless Sirloin Tip Roast <b>179</b> lb.	<b>Extra Savings</b> Clifty Farm Whole Country Hams <b>99¢</b> lb.
<b>Extra Savings</b> Armour Canned Hams <b>599</b>	<b>Extra Savings</b> We Now Have Fruit Baskets Assorted Sizes Available!!	<b>Extra Savings</b> Custom Made Fruit Baskets Available on Request!!
<b>Produce</b> Navel Oranges <b>349</b> 8 lb. bag	<b>Produce</b> Oranges or Tangelos <b>129</b> 3 lb. bag	<b>Produce</b> Idaho Potatoes <b>199</b> 10 lb. bag
<b>Produce</b> Red or Gold Delicious Apples <b>69¢</b> lb.	<b>Extra Savings</b> Turkey Breast <b>129</b> lb.	<b>Extra Savings</b> Turkey Breast <b>129</b> lb.
<b>Every Day Low Prices</b> Kraft Cool Whip Whipped Topping <b>149</b>	<b>Extra Savings</b> PEPSI ALL FLAVORS <b>250</b> 12 Packs	<b>Extra Savings</b> Gold Leaf Graham Cracker Pie Crust <b>79¢</b>
<b>Every Day Low Prices</b> Fancy Flake Coconut <b>99¢</b>	<b>Every Day Low Prices</b> Lt. Brown or Powdered Sugar <b>89¢</b>	<b>Every Day Low Prices</b> Golden Sweet Pecan Halves <b>179</b>
<b>Every Day Low Prices</b> Coburn Farms Cream Cheese <b>79¢</b>	<b>Every Day Low Prices</b> Brown 'n Serve Rolls <b>69¢</b>	<b>Every Day Low Prices</b> Lunar Mallos Marshmallow Creme <b>69¢</b>
<b>Extra Savings</b> Wylwood Broccoli Cuts <b>79¢</b>	<b>Extra Savings</b> Evaporated Milk <b>54¢</b> 12 oz can	

**Mt. Vernon Save-A-Lot Food Stores**

New Fall Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Fri. - Sat. 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sun. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
**We Gladly Accept WIC and EBT**

# Church News

**Free Bible Course**  
If you would like to receive a free 8 lesson bible correspondence course by mail, send your name and address to: Bible Course, Rt. 4 Box 297, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456.

**Mission Hours**  
First Baptist Church Food and Clothing Mission's hours are Mon. & Wed. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Mission is located on 30 Church St., Mt. Vernon.

**Church Services**  
Rose Hill Baptist Church services are Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m. Preacher is Larry Mink.

**Church Services**  
River of Faith Ministries, Inc. Pastor Marty White  
Service Times:  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
Wednesday night 7 p.m.  
More info call 256-6299 or 256-0438  
(located on Hwy. 1004 just past Jean's Restaurant)  
riveroffaith.com

**Services**  
Union Baptist Church at Red Hill Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Church Services 11 a.m.  
The church and Pastor Dale Walters welcomes everyone to come.

**Services**  
Church of the Nazarene  
40 Fair Street  
Mt. Vernon, Kentucky  
Sunday School 10:00 AM  
Worship 11:00 AM  
Wednesday Night- 7:00 PM

**Pastor Ova Land**  
If transportation is needed, please call 256-1381.

**Church Services**  
Pastors Omega and Glen Crain invite who so ever will to come and fellowship at Shilohbible Tabernacle on Sundays at 2 p.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m. Located at 385 Hazel Patch Rd., East Bernstadt. Full gospel church that lifts up Jesus' name. For more info, call (606)558-3371.

**Services**  
Church of Nazarene, 40 Fair St., Mt. Vernon: SS - 10 a.m. Worship - 11 a.m. Wed. night - 7 p.m. Pastor Ova Land. If transportation is needed, please call 256-1381.

**Rock of Ages Mission**  
The Rock of Ages Mission is accepting toys, food and money to buy items for Christmas Baskets. If you would like to donate, please stop by

or call us and someone will be able to pick up the donations. We have a lot of uniforms, shirts and caps of all sizes for men and women. If you need a uniform or uniforms, please stop in. As is everything else the mission has for the public, the uniforms are free. We still need furniture of all types. So, please call us if you can help. We hope you all have a blessed Christmas and God bless you in the new year. The mission is located at 447 S. Main St. Broadhead, across from Broadhead Pawn Shop and Arcade. Hours are Mon., Wed., Fri. 9 to 3. Tues. & Thurs. 9 to 1. James & Kathy Bizer  
PO Box 490  
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456  
(606)758-4203 or 758-8546

**Morning Worship**  
Sunday morning worship at Freedom Church in Kenfo Valley Village starts at 10 a.m. each Sunday. All denominations welcome.

**Mareburg Cemetery.**  
The Board of Directors of Mareburg Cemetery, Inc. announces the Internal Revenue Service has approved the Cemetery for non-profit status. All contributions or donations made to the Cemetery for upkeep or any other purposes are now tax-deductible. Anyone wanting to make a donation can send the donation to Mareburg Cemetery, Inc., Rt. 4 Box 239A, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456.

**Christmas Play**  
Berea Gospel Tabernacle on U.S. 25, Berea will host a Christmas Play entitled "Reason for the Season" on Sat., Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. Pastor Ralph Chastain invites everyone.

**Christmas Program**  
Livingston Pentecostal Holiness Church at Livingston will present "Christmas Because" on Sat., Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. Bro. Jaihey Miller and church welcomes everyone.

**Christmas Play**  
Maple Grove Baptist Church (Hwy. 1004 - Ofando) presents the play entitled "Christmas Guest" on Sun., Dec. 22 at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to this event to help us celebrate the birth of our Savior. Pastor Bro. Kenb Carr.

**Christmas Program**  
Mt. Vernon Church of the Nazarene 40 Fair Street will present "All Gods Children" on Saturday evening at 7:00 PM. This play was written and directed by Chrystal Fowler and we invite you to join us for this special time. We will have refreshments following the play in our fellowship hall. We look forward to seeing you.

**Monthly Singing**  
Flat Gap Baptist Church will hold their monthly singing Sat., Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. featuring Family Ties. Bro. Gordon Robinson and church welcomes everyone.

**Christmas Play & Dinner**  
Flat Rock Baptist Church will have their Christmas play and dinner on Sun., Dec. 22 at 11 a.m. Bro. Gordon Robinson welcomes everyone.

# My Little Soldier

**"Mikey" Bullock**  
I sit here in my room and think about all the memories I have with you. The first steps you took and the first time you said my name. Without you in my life is an on-going pain. I stare at your pictures but they're all getting old, I can only imagine how much you've grown. Your big brown eyes, and sparkled blonde hair. When I think of how life's treated you I know it's been unfair. Your my little soldier so brave, by so young. I hope someday you'll realize you are my life my dear son. So when I get lonely or there is no hope.

I think of my little soldier and what big steps you've taken. Being with new people and learning new things. I think about how things happened and it's all so strange. But I have hope, and I know you'll be strong. Your my little soldier in my eyes you do no wrong. Maybe sometimes when your playing with your toys. Or when your falling asleep at night. You'll remember our little song and how I held you so tight.

Everyone's looked me out and tried to make you forget who I am. But the strange thing is, when they look at you, your a miniature me. My little soldier and your only 3'.  
I love you Mikey,  
Merry Christmas,  
Love always,  
Mommy

## Merry Christmas Mikey

"Santa is on his way. He knows you've been a good little boy each and every day. You know it's been awhile. Since I've seen those big brown eyes and beautiful smile. But, I can see them in my mind As I always do. Merry Christmas Mikey Hope all your dreams come true. We love you Ma & Pa Boshers

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Frankfort, KY 40601-4323  
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Serra, Richard, Becca, Beth and Heather want to wish Emily a Merry Christmas. Emily is the daughter of Alison and Jason Campbell. She is the granddaughter of Vernon and Virginia Sowder and Charlotte and Skip Campbell. She is the great granddaughter of Fern Sowder.

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# Cards of Thanks

**Thank You**  
On November 23, my wife and sister were leaving our house to go to my father-in-law's funeral, when they were run over by his sister's truck, when the parking gear failed to hold the truck in park. By the grace of God my sister called me on our cell phone instead of 911. Her phone died as soon as she told me they had been ran over. As I turned my car around to head to the scene I called 911 with the information. My sister, Sharon, Martin and her family as well as my wife, Joleen Moss and our family would like to thank Rockcastle 911, the Rockcastle EMS, the Rockcastle Sheriff's Department and the Emergency Room Staff, X-ray Dept. and receptionist of the Rockcastle Hospital for their prompt professional and caring manner in which they handled this emergency. We would also like to thank our neighbors for

rendering aid in this situation. They were Carol Collins, James Jones, Joyce Jones, George Collins and the Livingston Fire Chief Sammy Stalworth. May God bless each of you and your families during this holiday season.  
The families of Joleen Moss & Sharon Martin

**Alma G. Allen**  
The family of Robert Allen wishes to thank everyone for the flowers and prayers during our greatest loss of Alma. We wish to especially thank Donnell & Martin for the professional way they conducted the funeral and to Pastors Bro. Wayne Henson and Bro. Burgess Daugherty. Also to Bro. Bill Medley and wife for their beautiful songs. May God bless all.  
Robert Allen & family

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**'03 Trailblazer**

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Local trade \$7,831

**'98 Ford Escort**  
4 dr., 27,000 miles, local trade \$6,271  
(2) '97 Cadillac Caters.  
Local trade \$12,981

**'97 Chevy p/u**  
4x4, auto, local trade \$9,990

**'98 Toyota Camry LE**  
4 dr., local trade, \$9,990

**'96 Ford Taurus**  
Local trade \$4,990

**'94 Oldsmobile Bravada**  
4 dr., AWD, leather, local trade, 52K \$9,990

**'94 Lincoln Town Car**  
Leather, extra lease \$7,990

**'93 Dodge Intrepid**  
Local trade \$2,995

We have too many to list -  
4x4, local trades, imports, etc....

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# From Long Ago...

Submitted by: Ray Evans  
3400 Capri Drive  
Louisville, KY 40218  
rayevans@aol.net

The following first appeared in the Mount Vernon Signal on November 27, 1908. It was recently transcribed from microfilm of that issue of the Signal. With these submissions, I am sharing these gleanings with the Signal's present readers.

### BROODHEAD NEWS

B. R. Willson and A. C. Kibwell of Lebanon Junction have been here all week bird hunting. - Miss Clyde Watson is at home from Brown Memorial spending the Thanksgiving holidays. - Mrs. J. Thos. Cherry is the guest of her niece, Mrs. E. H. Batag, at Lancaster. - Barbee McFer is in Harrodsburg Sunday and Monday. - The Candy Pulling at the Young Men's Club last Friday night was largely attended and highly enjoyed. - Dr. W. F. Carter is spending this week in Louisville and Shelbyville. - Dr. Percy Benton and his most estimable family have moved from this place to Mt. Vernon. - A heavy loss for Broadhead Mill Vernon has had a great gain. - Fred Evans was down from London Tuesday to see his cousin, John W. Evans. - Thos. W. Oscar and Burton Evans visited their aunt, Mrs. Laura Jones at Berea Tuesday. - John W. Jones and wife of Bedford, Ind., spent several days here with Mrs. Jones' sister, Mrs. W. T. Evans. - Mrs. J. W. Tate has as her guests Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Rigg and son, Lester. Mrs. Annie Edwards, Mrs. Lucy Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, all of Richmond. What they did for Turkey on Thanksgiving was a plenty. - Three buildings are under construction. Two dwellings are being built by J. G. Frith and a government building on Main Street. Post Master Robbin will occupy it with new up-to-date fixtures. - Don't forget the hot supper at M. E. Church tomorrow night. Go and help a good cause.

### PERSONAL NEWS

Pleas Ramsey is very sick with pneumonia. (Mr. Ramsey 1870-947 is the deceased brother of my grandmother, Ellen Ramsey Wolf Evans; 1866-1957). - Wade Durman has been on the sick list this week. - L. Warren Hughes was visiting friends here this week. - Judge P. D. Collier was here from Lincoln County Tuesday. - S. H. Martin has his cottage on West Main Street about completed. - Wm. Linville and brother were in Scaffold Cane Monday. - J. Tucker Bowling was in Crab Orchard Sunday on business. - Mrs. R. W. Dyche is visiting in London. The doctor will

join her Saturday. - Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Ball were over from Orlando Monday shopping. - Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Hughes came up Saturday. Mrs. Hughes remained over all week. - Elbert Hamsel and Roscoe Colyer spent a few days here with relatives and friends. - Misses Carrie and Alice Burton, of Livingston, are visiting Miss Wanda Lechleiter. - Rev. B. S. Davault has moved his family to town in the property of Wm. Foynter.

Mr. J. G. Hering, who was reported very sick several days ago, we understand, is much better. - Judge R. G. Williams came over to eat Thanksgiving turkey with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Williams. - Jan and Mrs. J. R. Cook, of Somerset, came last night to attend the burial of their nephew, Mit Cook. - Mrs. Woodward came down from London Tuesday to see her mother, Mrs. Capen, at Level Green, who has the fever. - Mrs. R. E. Thompson and daughter, Miss Tanna, are visiting Mrs. Thompson's mother, Mrs. W. M. Foynter. - J. T. Adams will soon put in a new building just back of his store to be occupied as a restaurant and butcher shop. - Chas. Adams was over from Berea Sunday calling on one of our most popular young ladies. Come again Chas. - John Conn, expert machinist from Conn Bro's shops at Lancaster was over during the week repairing E. T. Welch's saw mill. - Richard Brantman and sister, Miss Mary, were over from Wilde Monday. Richard is the proud father of a fine little girl born on the 20th. (According to my information, the little girl was Ester 1908-1925). - Dave Adams, who has been carpentering here most all fall, was called to his home near Gault Tuesday on account of the illness of his wife. - W. Deboard was in from Level Green Tuesday and told us that his mother-in-law, Mrs. Catherine Catron, is very low of pneumonia. - George Bell was down from Jellico last week visiting homefolks and hunting. George is a fine young man and we are glad to know that he is making good as a freeman on the L. & N. - U. G. Baker spent most of the week in Livingston, helping invoice the stock of goods belonging to him and R. A. Whitehead. Mr. Baker has sold his interest to Mr. Whitehead who will go it alone. - Dr. W. G. Daily, of Millersburg, was called here this week to see his brother, Mr. H. H. Daily and his brother's wife Mrs. S. S. Daily-both of whom have been very sick but better at this time. - Mr. Walter Keys of Cincinnati is the guest of his sister at the Langdon Dormitory. - Mr. James H. White has been

in Rockcastle most of the week writing insurance. - Dr. T. M. Pennington, of Stanford, took the Council degree here Monday night. - Mesdames Georgia McClure and N.H. Oliver are guests of Mrs. James Meadows. - Dr. Percy Benton has moved his family to this place and we gladly welcome them to our midst. - Mr. H.H. Daily has been very low with pneumonia, but we are glad to say he is better at this time. - Assistant Cashier A. B. Furnish is in Gallatin County this week looking after some important business. - Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Albrecht were guests of Jailer and Mrs. O. V. Jarret. Albert is taking a few days off to hunt. - Born to the wife of H. S. Coffey of the Wilde section a fine girl last week. Mrs. Coffey used to be Miss Bessie French. - Messrs. Dave Jackson, J. C. McKee and John Oberlin, of London, came down Monday to assist in installing Landrum Council. - Webb J. Millett and James N. Smith, of Norton, Va., came down Saturday to attend the reception given by Miss Russ Williams.

**LOCAL NEWS**  
The brickwork on the People's Bank building will be completed this week. The front is built of Bedford stone and pressed brick and is indeed a beautiful structure. Mr. R. H. Casey, the contractor, certainly knows how the work must be done. - We are pretty reliably informed that a new time card will go into effect about the 20th of next month making a considerable change in the running of the train. No. 23, the southbound passenger, will be due about 1 o'clock and No. 22, the northbound passenger, about 3 o'clock. What changes will be made as to the night trains we have not learned. A train will be put on between Richmond and Louisville to do local work and the trains running through here will be fast trains after leaving Stanford making only two or three stops between that point and Louisville. It is also said that another train will be put on between Cincinnati and Knoxville to do local work and the fastest local trains will be fast trains. Whether all or any of this talk of change will take place we cannot say, but if the meeting point is changed whatever the change may be the people of Mt. Vernon will feel a great relief as compared to the present arrangement.

**LIVINGSTON NEWS**  
Miss Annie Griffin, of Jellico, is visiting relatives here. - Mrs. J. H. Browning is visiting her mother, Mrs. Kate Magee, at Crab Orchard this week. - Miss Georgia McFerron is spending a few days with her parents at Pine Hill. - Mrs. Bob Clark is in Louisville. - Ormer Chesnut spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. James Anderson. - Mrs. James Stanley is visiting her daughter at Mersebonk Roads. - Misses Myrtle Chevring and Annie Griffin are visiting in Marensburg and Brodhead this week. - Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Browning and

Miss Essie Pike spent Sunday with the Misses Baugh at Mersebonk Roads. - Mesdames Susie Mullins and J. B. Hayes are on the sick list. - Mrs. J. Boreen and children are visiting near Mt. Vernon. - Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Foley are the proud parents of a fine girl baby. - Rasse, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Oliver, is very sick at this writing. - Born to the wife of Bud Anderson a girl baby. - Frank, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Will Turner died of scarlet fever Tuesday. - Mrs. Houston McFerron spent Sunday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. J. Childress. - The "Juniors" are planning a big day at Calloway Thanksgiving. - Mrs. Ida Taylor and infant baby died Thursday and was buried Friday.

**COVE NEWS**  
C. L. Riddell came up from Farrison Monday. - George Ball, of Jellico, is visiting relatives here and bird hunting. - Mr. and Mrs. Getz Felin, of Pine Hill, are visiting his father, Mr. W. A. Falin, this week. - Mrs. Ollie Bryant is visiting her daughter, Mrs. S. B. Ramsey this week. - Mrs. Mary Smith who has been quite ill is improving. - Mr. F. S. Mullins has bought the Reams Brothers' half interest in their store at Orlando. - Wallace Clark has moved to Wolf Creek. - Mr. Wm. McNew, who has been in very poor health for sometime, continues about the same. - E. J. Williams who has had pulmonary troubles for some weeks has recovered sufficiently to resume duties as telegraph operator at Orlando.

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## Mt. Vernon Personals

By Marie McKinney

Mr. and Mrs. C.S. McKinney visited friends in Rockcastle Hotel and Rehab Center in Brodhead on Sunday.

Those who have visited C.S. and Marie McKinney recently were their granddaughter, Teress Herbest of Florida; their daughter, Mrs. Sharon Lovins; grandpup, Jack Lovins; great granddaughter, Samarah Lovins; Jack's girlfriend, Ann Jackson and daughter, Alexis, Marissa and Jessica of Lexington, Mrs. Eunice Craft and granddaughter, April.

C.S. and Marie McKinney celebrated their 62nd Wedding Anniversary with their children on November 28th.  
Mrs. Ada Kirby and daughter, Barbara French, of Indiana visited Mrs. Bessie Kirby last weekend.  
C.S. and Marie McKinney visited their grandson, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lovins, Jr. and grandson, Dalton of Eubank recently.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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C.S. and Marie McKinney visited their grandson, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lovins, Jr. and grandson, Dalton of Eubank recently.  
We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## Fairview News

By: Mrs. Hubert Chasteen

Hello to all!  
Another dark and dreary day but warmer and the snow is gone.

Sympathy and prayers to all those who have lost loved ones.  
I'm still having trouble trying to write, but I wanted to wish everyone who reads this a blessed Christmas and a great year in 2003, and here is my "Christmas Prayer" to everyone.  
*"In this most blessed season, may our thoughts unite to share. The growing inspiration of this special Christmas prayer... May God grant us wise and loving hearts"*  
They each day we may see, new joys to give.  
New ways to live in peace and harmony.  
God bless you all!

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### The Christmas Celebration

Have you ever heard of elves, they live in the polar region and are Santa Claus helpers. They work in the toy factory, they work very hard it is unrel how fast they work.  
In the factory the elves they wrap lots of gifts, they wrap over two hundred gifts a year or even more it is the business of the year.  
When they get ready to load up the sleigh they have to get the reindeer ready and even Rudolph with the red nose!  
On Christmas, I get up early to see if they are any surprises in my stockings.  
Our door has a wreath made with holly and pine cones and our tree has an angel on the top. My best gift for Christmas would be peace on earth.  
-By: Jerika Robbin

We all love you, Jerika!

# Happy Holidays!

from your friends in the  
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### TOYS CANDLES BASKETS BOYD BEARS PARTY SUPPLIES TAPES AND CDS HERITAGE LACE STAMPED GOODS PICTURE FRAMES TY BEANIE BABIES GREETING CARDS FENTON ART GLASS CRYSTAL GLASSWARE CROCHETED LINENS THOMAS KINKADE ITEMS BOXED CHRISTMAS CARDS THROWS GAMES AND PUZZLES

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# 4-H Speech Contest Winners

The Rockcastle County 4-H Council held their annual 4-H Speech Contest on Tuesday, December 3, at Mt. Vernon Elementary School. Several youth participated in the 2002 contest. Listed below are the youth and the title of their speech.

**9 Yr. Old Division:**  
 Courtney Campbell-Divorce  
 First Place: Ella McQueary-The Farring Problem  
 Ashley Parin-A Special Picture  
 Nikki Jones - The American Flag  
 Kila French - My Niece, Savannah  
 Heather Bullock - A Believer  
 Second Place: Samantha Stewart-The Statue of Liberty  
 Samantha Hasty - Jody Adams  
**10 Yr. Old Division:**  
 Courtney Ham-Be Prepared For The Unexpected  
 Molly Coffey-The Effects and Prevention of Water Pollution in Ky.  
 Dustin Reynolds - Living on a

Farm  
 Amber Whitaker - Peer Pressure  
 Andrea Gonzalez-The Mad Hatter's  
 Regina Rice - Mrs. Brenda  
 Kara Canterbury-My Dog  
 Sadie/Dillon Auler - The Big Game  
 Megan Perkins - My Dream  
 First Place: Bethany Clontz - America, My America  
 Adrienne Childress - My Experience With Braces  
 Joanne Alexander - Space Travel: What Can We Learn From It  
 Ian Bullock - The Warning  
 Second Place: Devin Davidson - Peer Pressure  
 Amanda Peters - My Family  
**Reunion**  
 Ashley Miller - Drugs and the Consequences  
 Chastity Loudermilk - Friends Inside and Outside  
**11 Yr. Old Division:**  
 Brandon Busnell - Baby, What A

Surprise  
 Rachel Woodall - Every Day is a Chance to Serve  
 Laura Dollins - Four Steps to Help Keep a Healthy Lifestyle  
 John Lambert - Those Less Fortunate  
 Samantha Smith - My Baby Brother and Papaw  
 Katie McClure - Horrie Care  
 Brandon Young - Golfing  
 Second Place: Lauren Graham - Disaster in Paradise  
 Katrina Chasteen - What About M Mummy  
 First Place: Kay Maitingly-The Annoying Peas  
 Brooke Martinez-The Life of My Pug  
 Megan Hood-My Mother: My Best Friend  
 Britney Payne - My Favorite Animal  
**12 Yr. Olds**  
 First Place: Carri Hunt-Performing at Renfro Valley  
 Mary Saylor-Action in Acrophobia

Second Place: Rae Cowan - Down Memory Lane  
 Felicia Cleburn - Four Wheels of Chaos  
 Devon Mason - Importance of Education  
**13 Yr. Olds**  
 Second Place: Beth Pujiam - The Mystery of the Wind Chime  
 First Place: Drew Davidson - Bullying  
**15 Yr. Olds**  
 Champion: Anthony Cook  
 Convincing People to Join KYA  
**16- 19 Yr. Olds**  
 Champion: Amanda Cummins

## 4-H Poetry Contest begins

The Rockcastle County 4-H Council is sponsoring a 4-H Poetry Contest for student in 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Poetry may be submitted to the students teacher from December 9, 2002 through January 31, 2003. The following rules will apply:

1. Any 4-H student, 4<sup>th</sup> grade through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, can enter a poem.
2. Poems must be the work of the 4-H member entering the poem. (Poems from other sources will not be considered.)
3. Poem can be about any subject. (Not deemed to be offensive.)

4. One poem per person.
5. Poems must be the original work of the 4-H'er.
6. Youth name, birth date, full mailing address, grade, school and teachers name should be written or typed on the back of the poem.
7. Poems must have a title and be neatly printed or typed on regular size copy or typing paper.
8. Junior poems (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade) should be 3-24 lines in length.
9. Middle School poems (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> grade) should be 3-28 lines in length.
10. Junior 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners will be chosen from each grade per school.

(Cont. to B-8)

**Memories**  
 Congratulations to all youth for a job well done. Winners of each age category will have the opportunity to represent Rockcastle County in the Wilderness Trail Area Communications Day to be held in April 2003.



Youth from Rockcastle County Middle School gave speeches at the 2002 4-H Speech Contest.



Students from Mt. Vernon Elementary School participating in the 4-H Speech Contest.



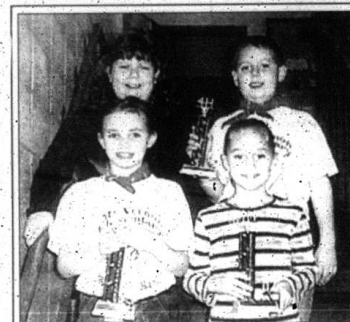
Youth from Roundstone Elementary School participating in the 4-H Speech Contest were Ashley Parin, Kara Canterbury, Molly Coffey and Laura Dollins.



Youth from Broadhead Elementary participating in the 4-H Speech Contest were Ashley Miller, Andrew Gonzales, Dustin Reynolds and Joanne Alexander.



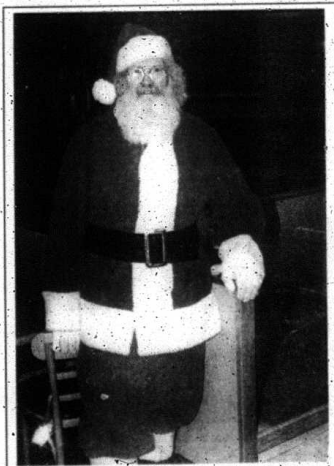
Amanda Cummins from Rockcastle Co. High School was the champion in the 16-19 year old category.



Bethany Clontz, Ella McQueary, Samantha Stewart and Drew Davidson were winners at the 4-H Speech Contest.

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# Visit Santa!!



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# Merry Christmas

from Danny and Gaylen Settles and the employees of

## Citgo of Mt. Vernon



From left: Angelia Bradley, Jack Arnold, Alice Cromer, Danny Settles, Gaylen Settles, Jennifer Kirby, Claude Sanders

# Salads... Year Round Favorites

By: Hazel Jackson  
County Agent for Family & Consumer Sciences

Almost everyone enjoys a salad, with a total. Salads are refreshing and come in all colors, shapes and sizes. Salads are in season all through the year. Some salads are light, some, salads are hearty and filling.

A salad means many things to different people. It can consist of torn lettuce with a few vegetables added such as carrots, broccoli, celery or cauliflower, or a congested salad with fruit. Some folks like chopped vegetables in a dressing. There are many ways to enjoy salads.

A salad can be a complete meal in itself. Adding meat and cheese to a lettuce salad makes it a "chef" salad. Chef salads are good meals in the summertime because you don't have to heat up the kitchen to prepare a meal. Stuff a tomato or green pepper with your favorite tuna or chicken salad. You have made a simple delicious "main course". Low-fat dressing makes the salad lighter and healthier.

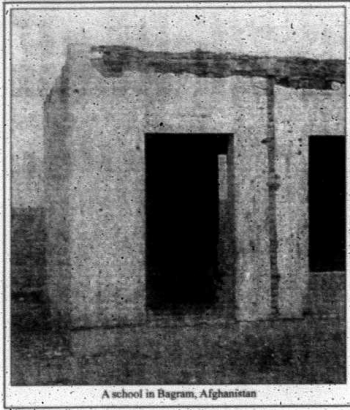
Fruit salads add sweetness to any meal. Combine your favorite fruits. It is your choice if you use a dressing. Many fruits are naturally moist and tasty and thus don't need an additional dressing. Fruits used in

salads can be fresh, frozen or canned. Fruit salads are in season all year. In the summertime add fresh bananas, apples and/or oranges to canned or frozen fruit. You can't go wrong with fruit.

Most cooks have their favorite potato salad recipe - plain or fancy. For a change, try this:

**RED POTATO SALAD**  
3 Pounds red potatoes  
1 chopped white onion  
3 chopped celery stalks  
2 tablespoons sweet relish  
Dressing: 8 oz. Italian dressing  
Wash hand and all surfaces. Rinse and scrub potatoes under running water to remove any dirt. Cover potatoes with fresh water and boil in pan until tender. Do not peel skins. Allow potatoes to cool. Cut

potatoes into 1/2 inch cubes and place in large mixing bowl. Add onion, celery and sweet relish. Lightly mix the ingredients. Add dressing and toss lightly to coat ingredients. Chill until ready to serve. Makes 6 servings. 240 calories per serving. 5g fat, 42mg sodium, 4g dietary fiber, 1g protein.



A school in Bagram, Afghanistan

## Village adopted in Afghanistan

Virginia Stevens Broadbush of Brodhead (daughter of the late Colson Stevens and sister of Don, Jan and Danny, Ray Stevens and Iris Stevens Young) received the following email from her son, Lt. Col. Matthew Broadbush, who is commanding a task force in Bagram, Afghanistan:

"We have adopted the village of Dewanna. It has a population of about 3,000 and is located a few miles from Bagram. Some soldiers from my Task Force visited yesterday and distributed some humanitarian supplies. Attached pictures will give you an indication of how poor these people are. There is absolutely no plan to help put in windows when we have the opportunity.

If anyone or any organization you know would be interested in some charity work, this could be a great opportunity. You need just about anything you think can be of use because

they lost most everything during the fighting of the last 20 years. They especially need school supplies (paper and pencils), blankets and clothing, both children and adult (shoes, socks, warm underwear, sweaters, jackets, coats, pants, gloves, hats, etc.). Warm used clothing would be great.

Western clothing seems to be OK. Most adult men put a robe or blanket over their outer clothing. I have seen men wear just about everything underneath, including a Chicago Bulls Jersey.

The women wear burkas out in public. My guess is that they could turn most any garment that came their way into something appropriate for inside use or for underneath their burka.

You can mail anything you want to my address: Lt. Col. Matthew Broadbush, LIT 164-HHD, APO AE 09354.

## "4-H News"

(Cont. from B-7)

11. 1<sup>st</sup> place Junior winner will be judged for one overall county champion.
  12. Middle School 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners will be chosen each grade.
  13. Middle School 1<sup>st</sup> place winners will be judged for one overall county champion.
  14. Plaques will be awarded to overall 1<sup>st</sup> place winners. All participants will be awarded ribbons.
- For questions, please contact The Rockcastle Co. Extension Service at 256-2403.

*I wish you the best during this Holiday Season!*

May your Christmas be filled with love of family and friends and the New Year be one of health and happiness

Your Mayor-Elect of Mt. Vernon

Clarice Renner Kirby



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PREOWNED VEHICLES

18 TOYOTA CAMPS TO CHOOSE FROM STARTING AT \$6,900.	1997 ACURA COUPE. Local trade, loaded. \$8,900.	1998 BUICK LESABRE. V-6, auto, local trade. NEW ARRIVAL.	2001 BUICK CENTURY. V-6, auto, loaded.	1994 CHEVY CAMARO. V-6, 5-speed, air. \$5,950.	2001 CHEVY CHALIER. Auto. \$6,000. NEW ARRIVAL.	1996 CHEVY CHALIER. Auto. local trade. \$3,900.	8 COROLLAS TO CHOOSE FROM STARTING AT \$6,500.	
1997 CHEVY SILVERADO 6X4. Leather, 8 cab, with corner-iron pkg., low-low miles.	1996 CHEVY S-10. 6x2, V-6, auto, o/c. chrome. NEW ARRIVAL.	1996 CHEVY 434. X-cab, V-6, auto. leather. NEW ARRIVAL.	1999 CHRYSLER SEBRING LXI. Convertible, low miles, leather, excellent cond.	2000 CHRYSLER SEBRING LXI. Loaded, leather, local trade.	2000 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY.	1994 DODGE RAM CUMMINS DIESEL. Auto. air. \$11,900.	1997 DODGE STRATUS. Low miles, loaded. \$6,900.	1994 FORD F150 4X2. Auto, V-6, local trade. NEW ARRIVAL.
1997 FORD TAURUS GL. Auto, air, low miles. \$4,950.	1998 FORD MUSTANG V-6, auto, convertible, leather, low-low miles.	1999 FORD TAURUS SE WAGON. V-6, auto, local trade. \$6,900.	1999 FORD WINDSTAR MINIVAN. 2-Dr., fully loaded.	2000 FORD MUSTANG. Auto, air, local trade.	2000 FORD RANGER XLT. Auto, air, 4x4, 4.2L, 2-door. Tonneau. NEW ARRIVAL.	2001 FORD WINDSTAR. Excellent condition. NEW ARRIVAL.	2001 FORD WINDSTAR. Excellent condition. NEW ARRIVAL.	1998 GMC 434. 4x4, auto, leather, excellent cond. pkg., like new. NEW ARRIVAL.
1998 GMC 434. V-6, auto, leather, excellent cond. pkg., like new. NEW ARRIVAL.	1996 HONDA ACCORD. Auto, air, loaded, local trade.	1999 HONDA ACCORD. Auto, air, loaded, local trade. NEW ARRIVAL.	2000 HONDA ACCORD LX. One owner, local trade. NEW ARRIVAL.	1997 JEEP WRANGLER. 5-Cyl., auto, air, 4x4, local trade.	1997 JEEP WRANGLER. Sahara Package 4x4. 6-Cyl., auto.	2000 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4. Auto. NEW ARRIVAL.	1999 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4. 6-Cyl., auto, like new.	
1999 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL. Leather, with all the features. \$14,921.	1998 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL. Leather, loaded, low miles.	1998 LINCOLN NISSANTOR 6X4. 4x4, leather, all features included. NEW ARRIVAL.	2002 LINCOLN TOWN CAR. L4, leather, 7 colors, 3000 hours. NEW ARRIVAL.	1998 MAZDA MPV. V-6, auto, loaded. \$10,900.	1997 MERCURY MILAN. TANNER 4X4. New car trade, leather and loaded.	1998 MERCURY WILLAGER. MINIVAN. Leather, 5-Dr., all equipment.	1998 NISSAN 434 X-CAB. 4-Cyl., 5-speed. NEW ARRIVAL.	1998 NISSAN X-CAB 434. 5-Speed, air, leather. NEW ARRIVAL.
2000 PLYMOUTH NEON. Auto, air. \$7,900.	1997 PONTIAC SUNFIRE. Auto, air, local trade. \$2,950.	2002 SUZUKI 434. Auto, 4 to choose from. Starting at \$13,900.	1996 TOYOTA AVALON. Leather, roof, wheels, loaded. \$6,900.	2000 AVALON XLS. Leather, loaded.	2002 TOYOTA CARMY LES. Auto, air, 3.7 CHOICE FROM.	1993 TOYOTA COROLLA. Auto, air, one owner. \$3,900.	1995 TOYOTA COROLLA. 5-Speed, air, one owner. \$3,900.	1996 TOYOTA COROLLA. LA. Auto, air, local trade. \$6,900.
1997 TOYOTA COROLLA. Auto, local trade. \$6,900.	2002 TOYOTA COROLLA. Special Edition. 2 TO CHOOSE FROM.	2003 TOYOTA COROLLA. Low miles, 5-Model, 2 TO CHOOSE FROM.	2003 TOYOTA COROLLA LES. Loaded. 3 TO CHOOSE FROM.	2000 TOYOTA SOLARA SE. V-6, auto, air.	2000 TOYOTA SOLARA SE. 4-Cyl., auto, low miles, loaded.	2000 TOYOTA SOLARA SE. Auto, local trade, loaded. NEW ARRIVAL.	99 TOYOTA RAV4 4X4. Auto, air. NEW ARRIVAL.	1999 TOYOTA RAV4. Auto, air, loaded.
1999 TOYOTA RAV4. Auto, air, all buttons.	2000 TOYOTA RAV4. 4x4, loaded.	2001 TOYOTA RAV4. Leather, roof, wheels, one owner. NEW ARRIVAL.	1995 TOYOTA TACOMA 434 X-CAB. Local trade. \$6,950.	1995 TOYOTA TACOMA. 4x4.	1996 TOYOTA TACOMA 432. 5-Speed, air. \$4,500.	1997 TOYOTA TACOMA 434. 5-Speed, air. \$5,900.	1998 TOYOTA TACOMA. V-6, auto, 4x4. NEW ARRIVAL.	1999 TOYOTA TACOMA 434. Auto, air.
1999 TOYOTA TACOMA. NEW ARRIVAL.	2005 TOYOTA TACOMA 432. Auto, X-cab. NEW ARRIVAL.	2000 TOYOTA TACOMA. NEW ARRIVAL.	2000 TOYOTA TUNDRA 434. X-cab, auto, all buttons. NEW ARRIVAL.	2002 TOYOTA TUNDRA 434. X-cab, auto, all buttons. NEW ARRIVAL.	<b>BIG SELECTION OF TOYOTAS NOT PICTURED.</b>			

# Obituaries



## Homer Brown

Homer E. Brown, 69, of Rt. 3 Mt. Vernon died Thursday, December 12, 2002 at his home. He was the husband of the late Christine Powell Brown and was a retired agent for L. & N Railroad, a farmer, and was a former owner of the Dixie Kitchen Restaurant in Berea and the Renfro Valley Steak and Seafood House. He was born in Rockcastle County, KY December 24, 1932 to the late Elton Felix and Pattie Pearl Hayes Brown. He was a member and deacon of the Wildie Christian Church and was a member of the Berea Lodge 617 F & AM, a 32nd degree Shriner and the York's Rite in Richmond. He was a U. S. Army Veteran of the Korean War.

Survivors are his children; Debra Lynn (William) Lynch of Mt. Vernon, Felix Del (April) Brown of Frankfort, and Dwight Lee Brown of Mt. Vernon. Five grandchildren, Crystal Gayle Brown, Shauna Leigh Hall (James) Coffey, Lindsey Renee Hall (Graham) Helmen, Kalub Burks, and Robert Estill Brown. A brother Lemmie (Doris) Brown of Mt. Vernon and a sister Jean Brown Towery of Mt. Vernon.

Services were Monday, December 16, 2002 at Lakes Funeral Home in Berea, with Bro. Kenyon Parkey officiating. Burial was in the Berea Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Reggie Van Winkle, Glyndon Williams, Gerald Owens, Steve Towery, Gilly McNew, and Jim Cummins. Honorary pallbearers will be Carl Mowbray, Bobby Alexander, Jan Ivan Stephens, Shannon Franklin, Rick Bullock, Steve Smith, Graham Helmen and James Coffey.



## Martha Cox

Martha A. Cox, 99, of Auburn, died Tuesday, December 10, 2002 at the Medical Center in Bowling Green. She was born on September 30, 1903 in Glascock County, Georgia, the daughter of the late James M. Wrens, Georgia. She graduated from Wrens High School and obtained a degree from Georgia State College for Women in 1925. She moved to Kentucky and taught in the Langdon school, a Presbyterian school for mountain girls, in Mt. Vernon.

After her marriage to Richard F. Cox, Sr., who preceded her in death, she assisted him in the Cox Funeral Home in Grayson and also taught in the Pritchard High School. In 1951, she and her husband purchased the Cox Variety Store in Auburn, where she worked until her illness in November 2002. She was a member of the Auburn Legion Auxiliary for 68 years, was a former member of the Eastern Star, Auburn Women's Club and Grayson Women's Club, and was a member of the Auburn Christian Church.

Survivors are two sons, Richard F. Cox, Jr., of Auburn and James L. Cox of Atlanta, Georgia; two grandchildren, James L. Cox, Jr. and Lisa A. Cox, both of Atlanta, Georgia and two great grandchildren, Melissa Erin Cox and James L. Cox, III.

Services were Saturday, December 14, at the Cox Funeral Home with Rev. Eddie Nation officiating. Burial was in the Elmwood Cemetery.

Obituaries courtesy of local funeral homes



## Georgia Mason

Georgi Begley Mason, 69, wife of Ernest M. Mason of Carl Brown Road, died Friday, December 13, 2002 at the Rockcastle Hospital. She was born on September 20, 1933 in Lancaster, the daughter of the late Ahlah and Alta Lewis Begley. She was a homemaker, a devoted wife and loving mother. She enjoyed flowers, gardening and her pets. On April 22, 1952, she was united in holy matrimony to Ernest Mortimer Mason and from that union came two children, Karen Michelle and Laren Norville.

Survivors are her husband, Ernest M. Mason; a son, Laren Norville Mason, a daughter, Karen Michelle Mason, all of Rt. 4, Mt. Vernon; a grandson, Dillon Michael Fields; a brother, Clyde Begley and wife, Stacy of Springfield, Virginia and a sister, Ruth M. Fredericks and husband, Fred of Winter Springs, Florida. Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by five brothers and two sisters.

Services were Tuesday, December 17, at the Marvin E. Owens Funeral Home Chapel.

Donations may be made to the Rockcastle County Animal Shelter in memory of Mrs. Georgia Mason.



## William Mason, Sr.

William "Bill" Henry Mason, Sr., 73, of Florence died Saturday, November 23, 2002 at Hazard Appalachian Hospital). He was a retired police officer with the Covington Police Department, and a member of the Golden Rule Lodge #345 F&AM, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #1 and the Covington Retired Policemen's Association. He was a native of Rockcastle County, the son of the late George M. Mason and Mary Isaacs Mason of Orlando.

Survivors are four daughters, Tammy Wilcoxson and Cindy Bunch, both of Covington; Terri Snow of Florence and Vicki Couch of Hyden; three sons, John Mason of Burlington, Eddie Mason of Union and William H. Mason, Jr., of Florence; nine brothers, Bobby Mincey and wife, Norma Jean of Covington; Frank Mason and wife, Wanda of Mt. Vernon; Ernest Mason of Mt. Vernon and Jimmy Mason of Panama City, Florida; Donald Mason of New Paris, Ohio; George Mason, Jr. and wife, Janice; Ronnie Mason and David Mason; and Paul Mason and wife, Kaye, all of Orlando; three sisters, Dorothy Rader and husband, Charles, Mary Yountant and husband, Henry, and Karen Morgan and husband, Terry, all of Orlando; a step mother, Gladys Mason; 19 grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren and 48 nieces and nephews. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Yvonne Mason; a daughter, Sherry Carbone; four brothers, Coleman Mason, Earl Mason, Lincoln Mason and Andy Mason and two sisters, Sandra Vanwinkle and Betty Jean Mason.

Services were November 27, at South Funeral Home in Florence with Rev. Wayne Bowling officiating. Burial was in the Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Erlanger. Donations are suggested to donor's choice of charity.

This obituary courtesy of Marvin E. Owens Funeral Home in Brookfield.



## Clara Anile

Clara Ramsey Sutton Anile, 86, of Lexington and formerly of Lancaster died Tuesday, December 10, 2002 at the Lexington Center for Health and Rehabilitation. She was born October 9, 1916 in Marshall, North Carolina, the daughter of the late Riley Gaines Ramsey and Carrie Clemmons Ramsey. She was a member of the Christ United Methodist Church and the former owner of Sutton's Jewelry in Lancaster.

Survivors are her husband, Sam Anile of Lexington; a son, Ronald Sutton and wife, Carolyn of Berea; a daughter, Linda Chaney and wife, Bessie of Lexington; a sister, Evelyn Owens of Lexington; six grandchildren, four step grandchildren; seven great grandchildren; seven step great grandchildren and four step great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Charles Edward Sutton; a brother, William Ramsey and two sisters.

Beatrice Molye and Selma Frith. Services were Thursday, December 12 at Ramsey Funeral Home in Lancaster with Rev. Charles Cooper and Rev. Tom Ditto officiating. Burial was in the Lancaster Cemetery.



## Hazel Rigby

Hazel Rigby, 91, of Pur Rigby Road, Brookfield, died Tuesday, December 3, 2002 at the Rockcastle Health & Rehabilitation Center in Brookfield. She was born on May 29, 1911 in Renfro Valley, the daughter of the late George and Ollie Adkins Frith. She was a homemaker and a member of the Union Chapel Holiness Church.

Survivors are a son, Glen Rigby and wife, Faye of Brookfield; a grandchild, Anna Lee Huddleston and husband, Robert of Bronson, Florida;

two great grandchildren, Kristina Rigby and Nich Huddleston; five step great grandchildren; a very special niece, Kay Rigby and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Albert Rigby; four brothers, Roscoe, Tom, Roy and Bob Frith and two sisters, Manida Brooks and Mildred Coffey.

Services were Friday, December 6 at the Watson Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Buford Parkerson. Burial was in the Christian Church Cemetery.

## Donald Gatliff

Donald R. Gatliff, 68, of Rose Court in Berea, died Saturday, December 14, 2002 at his home. He was the husband of Helen R. Dailey Gatliff. He was a retired self-employed dry-wall contractor. A member of the Baptist faith, Don was born November 8, 1934 in Rockcastle Co., to the late Dennis and Ollie-Lyles Gatliff and was a Veteran of the US Army.

Besides his wife Helen, Mr. Gatliff is survived a son, Billy Jay (Lisa) Gatliff of Berea, KY two step-sons (Gary Smith of Waco, KY and James A. (Mary) Smith of Paris, KY a step-daughter Connie Jean (James) Cummins of Florence, KY, two sisters Ollie Wade (James) Towery of Dayton, OH and Georgia Brunkey of Carlisle, PA. He is also survived by four grandchildren, Hannah, Holly, Daisy, and Zoe Gatliff, four step-grandchildren Kristie and Jenna Smith and Emily and Brian (Sherry) Cummins and two step-great grandchildren Kaven Brown and Shelby Cummins. He was preceded in death by two brothers Jack and Eugene Gatliff.

Funeral services were Tuesday, December 17, 2002 at Lakes Funeral Home in Berea with Rev. Kenny Davis officiating. Burial was in the Scarfield Cane Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Carter Johnson, Charles McClure, Rex Oliver, Robbie Kenneth, and Eddie Mellone, Jimmy and Gary Smith.

## No Paper Next Week

Due to the Christmas holiday, the Mt. Vernon Signal will not publish next week. Our next issue will be January 2, 2003. The Signal office will be closed December 23-27, 2002 and will reopen December 30th

# Hallelujah!

May the coming year be filled with miracles & the promise of everlasting peace on earth. Noel!



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# Mt. Vernon Message

Upcoming Events: Students will return to school on Monday, January 6, 2003.

Mt. Vernon Elementary School Site Based Decision Making Council will meet on Monday, January 6 at 5:00 p.m.

Special Projects: We have just completed our annual Scholastic Book Fair. The theme for this year's reading event was "reading Roundup." The fair was held in our Library Media Center with Mrs. Sharon Lovell and Mrs. Janice Doherty acting as bookfair leaders. We are pleased with the success of this year's fair. All proceeds will be spent towards instructional materials for our classrooms.

We would like to thank these community businesses for sponsoring classroom libraries by purchasing books: Dowell & Martin Funeral Home (Asher's class); Bishop's Top Guns and Lake Lavinille Boat Dock (Ramsey's class); Cummins' Lumber Mill (Cummins' class); Lovell's Gun Repair (Alexander's class); Community Trust Bank (Price's class); and A Cut Above (Carrier's class). We would also like to express our appreciation to the numerous parents who sponsored their child's class by purchasing books for the classroom.

A family event drawing was held. Parents who attended the Reading Roundup Book Fair were invited to enter for a drawing for free books. Five winners were chosen by random drawing. Those winners were Aaron Pevley from Mrs. Layke's class; Jacob Milburn from Ms. DeBorde's class; Laiken Coffey from Mrs. Burton's class; Austin Stewart from Ms. Phillips' class and Amy Johnson from Mrs. Bullock's class. Each winner had his/her choice of a free book valued up to \$5.00.

We would like to express our appreciation to Mrs. Thana Connolly and her drama students for their motivating skits for our Reading Roundup Book Fair. Those "cowboy actors" are pictured.

A special thank you goes to Mrs. Lois Baker and Mrs. Mary Sue Hasty for donating their time to assist with our book fair. We appreciate their

volunteer work for MVES.

Project Wisdom readers for last week are as follows: Kaylee Vanwinkle, Alexandra Martin, Katie Cowan and Sarah Woodall, all students. Faith Spores, Instructional Assistant, was the mystery reader. Thank to all who have participated in this project.

Our quote for the week is "We must help each other be strong and kind. We must love one another. We must celebrate together, be sad together and work together."



Zachary McCracken, Jonathan Scalf, Sharon Hall and Diljen Holden.



Carly McClure, Megan Powell, Brian Morrison and Anthony Prewitt.



Scholastic Book Fairs also gave sixteen free posters of MVES students who had maintained perfect attendance through December 11. Those students are pictured with their free poster. Winners were Whitney Harrison, Toby Lawson, Charles Brandon McFerrer, Brian Morrison, Jonathan Graves, Cody Cromer, Adrienne Childress, Allison Burdette, Marvin Carpenter, Heather Clontz, Brent Callahan, Kim Chesnut, Rebecca Barron, Jacob Tyler Bullock, Chelsea Brown and Nathan Allen.

## Minds in the Middle

Congratulations to all of those students who had perfect attendance for the second grading period. We recognized those students Monday afternoon during our attendance program. Nicholas Kirby won a five CD Carousel Changer and several other students also won prizes. Mrs. Tammy Gabbard's class won the award for the best homeroom attendance, followed by Mr. Gabbard's and Mrs. Burton's homerooms. All three classes were made up of sixth graders. In this case, we are challenging our older students to follow the lead of our younger ones.

We had a great time Tuesday evening at our 21st Century Community Learning Center Open

House. Everyone particularly enjoyed the band and chorus concerts, and the free chili supper. We appreciate all those 21st CCLC teachers for their hard work this semester!

If you missed the band and chorus performances, they will be presenting their program again this Thursday morning at 9:00.

We would like to thank all of the local businesses who helped to support our RCMS Staff party. Everyone had a great time!

The 4-H speech contest was held first in the 11-year-old division, with Lauren Graham placing second. Among the 12-year-olds, Carr Hunt finished in first place and Rae Cowan in second. Drew Davidson was first in the 13-year-old division and Beth Pugham was second. Anthony Cook also came away with a first place speech in the 15-year-old division.

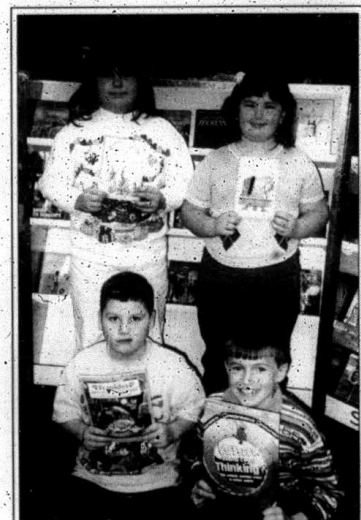
YSC Update

YSC would like to say THANK YOU to all who sponsored a child for Christmas. Community, faculty, businesses, and churches together are making a difference in the lives of students in Rockcastle County. Again Thank You!

Parental involvement produces higher grades and test scores; better attendance and more homework completed; higher graduation rates; and increased enrollment in education after high school. Statistics like these prove that parental involvement is critical to the education of students. Volunteers are always welcome and encouraged. If you can't volunteer during the regular school day, don't be discouraged. Volunteering can be done during the evenings and weekends. Chaperones are needed for after school activities. Contact the school for ways to volunteer. A volunteer is anyone, anytime, any place who supports school goals and children's learning. Be a volunteer today!



Richard Barron, Whitney Harrison, Amanda Peters and Kayla Lawson.

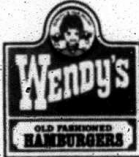


Austin Sebhart, Jacob Milburn, Amy Jo Johnson and Laiken Coffey. Not pictured is Aaron Pevley.

# In This Season of Giving...

We'd like to give you our heartfelt thanks. Merry Christmas!

from  
Danny and Gaylen Settles  
and all the employees at



Front row from left: Ernest Cromer, JoAnn Robbins, Carrie Noe, Anita Bradley, Abby Durham, Angie Mullins and Sherril Glover. Back row from left: Juanita Stewart, Estill Hopkins, Shirley Scalf, Lesley Alexander, Brandi Caryer and Danny Settles.

Wendy's will close at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve and close Christmas Day. Reopening day after Christmas regular hours.

Subscribe to the Signal  
606-256-2244

# Library News

By: Ms. Kathy McKibben  
Children's & YA Librarian

This past week the Rockcastle County Kiwanis Club purchased two rocking chairs for the Children's Library. This very special purchase was made in honor and memory of Mr. Donald Coyle, previous Kiwanis President. We wish to thank the Kiwanis Club for all of the many contributions that is makes to the public library.

This year Kiwanis helped us get a book grant, helped us purchase supplies for the Children's Library and purchased the chairs. Our hat is off to all of the Kiwanis members.

Also we would like to thank Mr. Jack Chaliff for hauling the chairs in the back of his truck. Thanks Mr. Jack! Our children's area now has a matching adult and child's rocker. We are confident that these new additions to the area will benefit the parents that bring their children to the library, especially those with little ones.

Our story hour was a hit with Santa (John Holbrook) surprising the children! Thanks Santa! We had 25 children and ten adults for our little holiday party here at the library. We have some grandmothers that bring little ones to the story hours and mamas that bring three and four children to participate. Some of the children from PJ's Daycare are

brought to the library a couple of times a month. The library staff and director really appreciate the good attendance from time to time, and the way the children that come regularly are so very well behaved during the program, and they pick up the toys, after playing with them. I would like to say a special thank you to the adults who helped me with the crafts, snacks and clean up. What a joy to work with good people in our community trying to make a difference in these children's lives.

For the last few months we have had a very special young man working here at the library along with the regular staff. Brady Philbeck has done a wonderful job helping out wherever he is needed. At the end of the month Brady will be moving on to continue his education at Berea College next semester. Brady's willingness to work and pleasant attitude has certainly been an asset. We wish Brady every good fortune in the future.

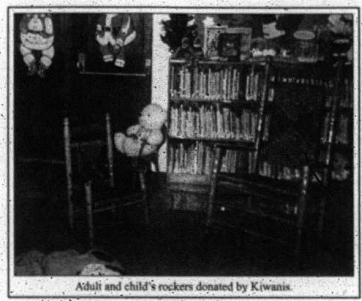
Our library staff would like to wish everyone in the community a very Happy Holiday and New Year. We hope the holidays will be filled with love of family and friends. May 2003 be a year filled with wonderful new challenges. Don't forget to make the connection. Connect@ your Library!



Brady Philbeck - We wish you well!



The children sing and enjoy Santa.



Abeji and child's rockers donated by Kiwanis.



Brady and Stacy Richards scanning the books that are returned to the adult library.



Ms. Kathy counts and sings with the children before Santa arrives.



The children visiting with Santa.

## No Paper Next Week

Due to the Christmas holiday, the *Mt. Vernon Signal* will not publish next week. Our next issue will be January 2, 2003. The *Signal* office will be closed December 23-27, 2002 and will reopen December 30th

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Merry Christmas

May peace and joy come to you during this holy season




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*Mary Mathis, Agent*

GREETINGS OF THE SEASON

May you and your loved ones enjoy all the splendor of this very special time of year. It's been a pleasure serving you.

From Danny and Gaylen Settles and all the employees at





From left: Josh Wallin, Jamey Fleming, Jackie Valerio, Janet Day, Denise Parsors and Gaylen Settles

KFC will close at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve and be closed Christmas Day. Reopening day after Christmas at regular time.

# Rockcastle graduates enroll at Spencerian

Spencerian College-Lexington Campus is proud to announce the following enrollment:

Leslie Saylor, to their Architectural Computer Aided Design Drafting (CADD) career track program.  
 Kyle Parsons, to their Computer Graphic Design career track program.

Ricky Barrett, Christopher Ramsey and Kevin Whitaker, to their Electronic Engineering Technology program.

All five are 2002 Rockcastle County High School graduates and enrolled in Spencerian College during the fall quarter in September.

Each student is a recipient of Spencerian's Tech Prep Scholarship. Spencerian College is one of the top career schools in the nation. The college was founded in Louisville in 1892 by Enos Spencer, a nationally recognized business educator for his time. The name Spencerian still stands for quality career education. Spencerian graduates hold positions in business and industry all across the country, and employers continue to seek Spencerian graduates to meet their employment needs.

Spencerian College is proud of its distinctive reputation earned over the past century. Yet, the college is positioned to prepare its graduates to meet the employment needs of the next century.

Spencerian opened its Lexington campus to serve Central, Eastern and Southeastern Kentucky in 1997 and moved to its current location in 2000, where it shares a beautiful campus with Sullivan University.

High school students enrolled at Spencerian can earn an Associate Degree in technical careers that include Computer Graphic Design, Electronic Engineering Technology, Computer Engineering Technology, Mechanical CADD, Architectural CADD and Civil CADD (Computer Aided Design Drafting), in less than two years.

Spencerian College, where your future begins now, is certainly gratified to have quality students like Leslie, Kyle, Ricky, Christopher and Kevin as part of its second enrollment for 2002.



Leslie Saylor



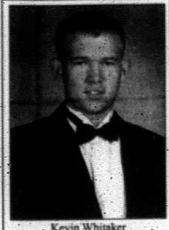
Kyle Parsons



Ricky Barrett



Christopher Ramsey



Kevin Whitaker

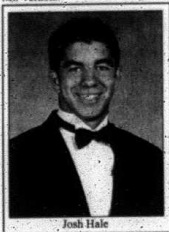
## Josh Hale honored for leadership and service

Joshua Todd Hale, a freshman at Georgetown College, has been named the recipient of the *William Anthony Beams Leadership and Service Scholarship* by the Lambda Chi Alpha chapter at Georgetown. The scholarship is an honor given by Lambda Chi Alpha to persons who possess characteristics of leadership and a desire to serve.

In presenting the scholarship, Jeremy Sexton, President of the Chapter stated, "We believe that competitive leadership skills are crucial. Of the many students joining Georgetown College, many will follow and few will lead. Lambda Chi Alpha has stepped up to the challenge of becoming the leaders of Georgetown College. Our chapter boasts that former president of the Association of Georgetown Students, the former president of the Baptist Student Union, three of the six voting members of the AGS Executive Council, and much more. And though we esteem the skills of leadership, we realize that leadership without service is wasted. We are

proud to present this scholarship to Josh Hale in recognition of his outstanding dedication to leadership and service as he continues to set the standard for leadership and service on our campus and throughout the community."

Hale, a 2002 graduate of Rockcastle County High School, is the son of John and Nancy Hale of Mt. Vernon.



Josh Hale

## School news deadline is Tuesday at noon

## Forward in the Fifth receives grant to work with parents

Forward in the Fifth has begun working with seven school systems in a six-county area of eastern Kentucky to establish Parent Information and Resource Centers to provide services for parents of children aged birth through 12th grade. On Monday, October 28, Forward in the Fifth hosted a luncheon at Boone Tavern in Berea to launch their new program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

Through its 16 years of working with communities and schools in eastern and southern Kentucky, Forward in the Fifth has discovered that parents with a low-level of education and low-income are less likely to seek help for their children from the school system and often are not aware of the many different avenues open to them. For parents who may have had negative experiences in school themselves, Forward in the Fifth is a neutral play that helps bridge the gap between schools and parents.

At the luncheon, Forward in the Fifth executive director Ginny Eager explained that one goal of the program is to assess the needs in each community and tailor the work to meet the local needs. "We don't want to recreate anything. We want to build on and add value to what's already there in the counties," Eager said.

Key components of this new program include: establishing seven Centers at high poverty schools where low-income students are not performing well, working with early childhood providers to reach parents of children aged birth to five, expanding the existing Forward in the Fifth

parent leadership training program, providing parent involvement training for school administrators and teachers, and establishing a mobile resource center to serve families who cannot get to the Centers.

Forward in the Fifth is working with superintendents, school personnel and parents in Estill, Lee, Jackson, Madison, Owsley and Rockcastle Counties on this program. Statistics show that the populations in these counties are educationally disadvantaged. While the statewide figure for adults without a high school diploma is 23.9 percent, in these counties it is 34.3 percent. Nearly 38 percent of the students enrolled in these schools qualify for free or reduced school lunches.

At the initial meeting of the advisory committee on October 28, representatives of the school systems discussed the strategies they already use to serve parents. Eager wants to encourage "cross-community fertilization on the advisory committee" so that schools can share ideas about what already works for them. Eager also emphasized that everything in this program will be tied back to helping students achieve more in school.

Forward in the Fifth, is a private, nonprofit educational improvement group. Its vision is that members of our communities will have the educational opportunities necessary to give full and productive lives. Our mission is to raise educational levels in the region; encourage lifelong learning by providing opportunities for parents, educators and community members and to foster partnerships between communities and schools.

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 \*STOLEN: White with tan male Jack Russell dog. We would like whoever that stole our dog Monday night/Tuesday morning (Dec 9/10), from our home on Carl Brown Road to please bring him home. This is a very special dog to us, my great grandfather gave him to me and my brother. He means alot to us, but probably wouldn't mean much to a stranger. He is not near broken, he can't be used for breeding purposes, and he's not comfortable with strangers, especially kids. All we want is our dog, just please bring him to our road and drop him off and he will find his way home. Or if you have seen our dog, please call at 256-8095.

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# Happy Holidays

Warm wishes to all of you for a  
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Many thanks for your continued patronage



Front row from left: Shanna Lawson, Crystal Cotton, Dawn Mullins, Cindy Griffith and Alice Faulkner.  
Back row from left: Julie Pigg, Jenny Bray, Donna Stayton, Donna McClure, Matt Gromer, Corey Craig, Cathy Howard,  
Jeanine Lawrence, Becky Mays, Sandy Durham, Karen Bullock and Terina Helton.

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# Animal shelter in need of support

By Valerie Sluder  
I am writing on behalf of one of Rockcastle County's newest additions, the Rockcastle Animal Shelter. I hope to put a little more information about the shelter and request the support of the community for this much needed facility.

As many of you may recall, the dream of a safe place for displaced pets was started about five years ago by a group of dedicated volunteers known as R.A.A.P. This "group" primarily consisted of two loyal members. I think thanks should be given to Terry Lunce and Vickie Myers for all the hard work they provided to get this project started. After being turned down for all the grants and loans that were applied for, the county offered to take over the matter, as they would be eligible for financial support. I believe this also may have helped the county out of a lawsuit that had been filed by the Tricie Foundation regarding the lack of a county shelter. So it seemed a win-win situation and for the sake of the animals, R.A.A.P. chose to turn over their property and their plans to the county. As a result, Rockcastle now has a very nice facility, which is in desperate need of community support.

I know that R.A.A.P. had difficulty gaining supporters, but did end up with a handful of very concerned and giving individuals and businesses. I am asking anyone who ever showed support along the way to please step forward now and help to make this shelter a success story for the betterment of our four-legged friends instead of just a dumping ground for irresponsible pet owners. And for those of you who were hesitant to help before, now would be a wonderful time to do something, anything, to provide some much needed support.

I believe the county has been hesitant to promote this facility because they believe nobody is interested. I was told the only way to get the

county more involved with running a first-class establishment, was to show that there is public support. I was told all decisions are made by Judge-Executive Buzz Carlotta and the County Magistrates and that I should call these people and express my concerns. Therefore, I would like to ask that, at the very least, anyone interested please call those folks, or tell them face-to-face, that this is an important issue and we all want to see more support, more advertisement information and more concern given to this matter.

In the meantime, for those of you who are able and willing, there is an immediate need for many things. First, and foremost, spread the word! The shelter has been full of pets since before it even officially opened. Without any advertisement or promotions to draw attention to these animals, their fate is almost certain to be death. These animals are only allowed to remain at the shelter a few days before being disposed of. I believe that many people do not even realize the shelter is open with so many pets available for adoption. I know for sure that very few people know where the shelter is. We must change this lack of knowledge if any of these beautiful pets are to find the homes they are deserving of. Let's all start talking "up" the shelter, suggest to friends and family that they go to the shelter to adopt their next family member. If anyone out there puts out any type of newsletter or publication, please take it upon yourself to mention and promote the shelter.

The shelter is located off Hwy. 25 on Old Sigmon Road to the first road to the right, named K-9 Run. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 10:30 to 3:30 and Saturday 9:30 to 12:30. However, the shelter is currently being managed by a very caring and giving person, Chris Trump, whose main goal is to find homes for these animals, there-

fore, she will meet anyone interested in adopting a pet at any time on any day, including evenings of late at night, if that's the only time you can get there. All you need to do is give Chris a call at 256-1833 and she will set up an appointment at your convenience.

There are many wonderful older dogs and cats and several puppies all ready and waiting to join someone's home for the holidays. Please consider creating "Christmas Magic" for these helpless helpless animals who were unfortunate enough to be born unwanted to uneducated owners, who either do not have enough sense to spray and neuter their pets, or they are unwilling to shell out a few dollars to do the right thing. I would encourage everyone to spray and neuter their pets (and maybe someday we wouldn't even need the shelter), and for those of you who open your homes and hearts to a shelter pet, Dr. Chiam has generously offered to give a 15% discount towards the operation. He also will give a free vet exam after you first acquire your new pet so you can rest assured you have a

healthy new friend. He will also give a \$2.00 discount on the state required rabies vaccination. So please, please give a pet a home for the holidays. They will give you so much in return.

Besides the need for public exposure, the shelter has some pressing tangible needs. There is a need for bedding, especially for this winter. Please gather up any old blankets, towels, sheets, rugs, robes - anything that is soft and clean that could be put on the cement floors to provide a "nest." Dog food, cat food, cat litter are all needed right now and will always be needed. Small metal buckets for water are needed, as are large food storage containers. First-aid items are needed: alcohol, peroxide, cotton balls, gauze, etc. Chris would also be very appreciate of some brushes and nail detraglers and some muzzles to help make everyone more presentable. The last time I spoke with Chris, which was a couple weeks ago, she was in desperate need of a washer (a dryer was donated) and a refrigerator. If you have either of these, please call Chris to see if there

is still a need.

To sum up, we have a very nice facility to help the creatures we have domesticated, the creatures we are responsible for, God's creatures. We must now support this endeavor. I know of no shelters that are self-sufficient. They all depend on donations and community support in order to survive. Those of us who have a kind heart, and a good moral upbringing, have been having to "pick up" after those of you who are heartless and without morals, for all of time in Rockcastle County. Our homes runneth over with appreciative pets, but there comes a time when we cannot properly care for any more of these abandoned animals. There is no longer any excuse for anyone in this county to dump pets that they never should have had to begin with, along our roads. However, should someone make this choice again, there is also no excuse for any of the rest of us to drive by and leave a scared and confused animal on the side of the road, waiting a slow death of starvation of the sometimes quicker method of death by automobile, per-

haps causing an accident in the process. We have been forced to endure this situation long enough. This shelter is a blessing and everyone needs to recognize the valuable role it could have in this community. All the political hopefuls seemed real big on improving, updating, beautifying Mt. Vernon - we must have change they all said.

Well, let's change the way we deal with the animals entrusted in our care. Let's cotne of age, let's get educated. Spay and neuter. In the meantime, support this shelter any way you can. Please let these politicians know you want to see some publications/information being given to the community. Please give anything you can - bedding, food, medical supplies, etc. Please, please consider giving the biggest gift of all, a good home to these lonely pets whose time is always running out.

\* Important note: If your pet becomes lost, please remember to check the shelter quickly and often. Your pet will only have a few days at the shelter, just as all the animals there, before it will be gone forever.

## Merry Christmas



Front row from left: Danny Ford, Dusty Wright and Roy Adams.  
Back row from left: Danetta Allen, Sam Ford, David Henderson, Jeff Cromer and Clarissa Hodge.

## Happy New Year

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## Gift card grant program available to area residents

Financial Assistance Network has a gift card grant program to help consumers who need to stretch their gift giving budgets. The gift cards can be used to purchase cameras, audio systems, luggage, jewelry, office and desktop electronics and more from Internet and catalog merchants.

To qualify, individuals must have income of less than \$32,171. Families will also qualify to receive a \$150 gift card package if they have over \$7,500 in credit card balances and the balance is not getting paid off due to high interest rates. Seniors and the disabled can qualify for up to \$250 in gift cards. Volunteers can also qualify to receive a \$250 gift card package if they promise to give the gifts they receive to at least two people in need.

"Financial Assistance Network has hundreds of thousands of gift cards that will be distributed to consumers before the end of the year," says Gary, Compton, a volunteer at the not-for-profit agency. "We are very excited about the gift card giveaway program because several gen-

erous individuals and companies are also buying gift cards at national retailers for us to distribute to needy individuals and families. In addition to the catalog and Internet merchant gift cards, we will also be distributing gift cards from many national retailers including Barnes & Noble, Brent Bow, Blockbuster Video, Borders's Books, Circuit City, Eckerd, GAP, GNC, Hollywood Video, Home Depot, JC Penney, K-Mart, Olive Garden, Payless Shoe Source, Regis Shack, Red Lobster, Sears, Staples, Target, Toys-R-Us, Wal-Mart and many more. We expect to distribute at least \$4,000 gift card giveaway packages in the Lexington area before the end of the year."

Individuals that qualify can receive a gift card giveaway package by sending five first class stamps to: Financial Assistance Network, Gift Card Giveaway Package GCG-05M, P.O. Box 60848, Washington, DC 20039-0848. Consumers can also get information by calling 202-882-6000 or by visiting Financial Assistance Network's Internet website: [www.GiftCardGiveaway.com](http://www.GiftCardGiveaway.com).



Renee Burdett and Teresa Viehle, teachers at Roundstone Elementary, are shown with American Patriot handbooks presented by Jpan-Towery, field rep for Woodmen of the World.



Zandell-Hasty and Patty Renner are shown with the American Flag presented to Roundstone School by Woodmen of the World field rep. Jean Towery.

## Nurse Practitioner joins RHRC staff

Nurse Practitioner Debbie Wesley, APRN, DC, has joined the staff at Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Center, Inc. (RHRC).

A 20-year employee of Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc., Wesley earned a master's degree from the University of Kentucky in family nurse practice in May.

In her new position, Wesley makes rounds each weekday morning at the nursing facility and interacts with patients to determine their needs. She then consults with physicians regarding treatment and standards of care.

"Debbie adds another important dimension to the care we provide residents," said George Griffith, M.D., the facility's medical director and one of five physicians serving the facility. "A team approach in medical care is truly important and Debbie's expertise brings a welcomed addition to the team at Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Center."

Wesley admits that it is sometimes confusing for patients, who presume she is a doctor.

"Sometimes patients call me 'doctor,' but I'm quick to tell them I'm not a doctor, and I prefer they call me Debbie," she said. "I am a nurse who is also a primary care provider. I can examine them, assess their needs and make sure they get the care they need, whether it's from a doctor, me or another member of our team."

Administrator Mike Deborde said Wesley's interest in older patients and her advanced degree made her a great find for Rockcastle Health and Rehab Center.

"Having a nurse practitioner on staff really sets us apart from other

long-term care centers," said Deborde. "Her expertise as well as her long history with our doctors and people in the community increases the quality of care each patient receives."

The Broadhead facility is licensed for 114 beds and provides nursing and rehabilitation services for patients. The facility recently received accreditation from the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Only about six percent of the state's long-term care facilities are accredited.



Debbie Wesley

## Central Body Service

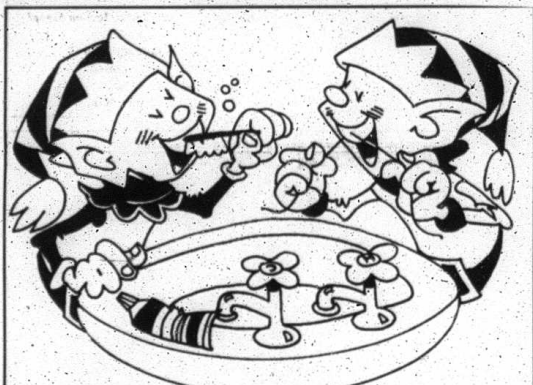
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Wishing you lots of smiles and laughter, throughout the holidays and after! Thanks for giving us so much to smile about this year.



Front row from left: Dr. Robyn Keeling and Dr. John H. Parsons  
Back row from left: Sandy Bowles, Cheryl Brown, Brenda McKinney and Linda Wilson- RDH

**Dr. John H. Parsons & Associates**

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# SEASONS Greetings



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from

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## Rockcastle Hospital hires new CFO

Charles David "Bud" Black, Jr. has joined Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc. as chief financial officer. Black fills the position vacated by Steve Estes, who was promoted to chief executive officer in July.

Estes was pleased that Black chose to relocate to Mt. Vernon for the position.

"We conducted a broad search for an experienced chief financial officer and were very fortunate to find someone of Bud's caliber to join our team," Estes said. "His combination of health care experience and financial management will be an asset to us as we continue to meet the fiscal challenges all healthcare organizations are facing today."

As the country's largest employer, Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc. manages a multi-million dollar budget each year. It's a responsibility the organization's management and board of directors take very seriously.

"This region can be proud that Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc. is not only financially sound, but exceptionally attuned to the best fiscal practices," said Joseph I. Lambert, chairman of the Board for RHRCC. "I continue to be impressed with its practical approaches to keeping costs down without compromising quality."

Quality was a factor in Black's decision that it was the right opportunity for him.

"When I asked financial experts who work with a variety of health organizations which facility had the best financial leadership and systems in place, they said it was Rockcastle Hospital. This was a good choice for me because I always welcome an opportunity to work with the best," said Black.

The location also was a plus. Once Black and his wife, Diane, find a home in the area, they will be about an hour closer to their daughter, Gina, who works in Lexington.

Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc. is a not-for-profit community hospital, which is accredited by the Joint Commission

on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). It operates inpatient and outpatient acute care programs, 60 long-term care beds for ventilator-dependent patients, a home health care service, and Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

The hospital was established in 1956 and treats patients from across Kentucky, Tennessee and several other states. For more information, log on to [www.rockcastlehospital.org](http://www.rockcastlehospital.org).

## Military Greetings

Your favorite person in the U.S. military (that could be you, or someone you know) can be the Big, Mad! Big Woman on Campus-so to speak when a big package of fan mail is received to be shared with the unit and even with other units.

A.U.S. Marine who contacted our office during the last campaign said they "can't get enough" of those supportive cards and letters: "One of my fellow Marines recently received a package from you filled with mail... Could you please send more of those heartfelt letters... we can't get enough of them."

Your nominee for BMOC/BWOC can be stationed either in the U.S. or overseas, or assigned to a ship.

Required information includes the military member's name and complete military mailing address-be sure the address is current and complete, along with your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address (if any). All military names and addresses are kept completely confidential.

Send to: Friends of Our Troops, PO Box 65408, Fayetteville, NC 28306. We thank you and so will all the men and women in uniform! They "can't get enough!"

P.S. See the website [www.troopfanmail.net](http://www.troopfanmail.net) for more information on the fan mail campaign.

## Priceless Christmas Gifts You Can Give

By: William Jerry Ayers  
The gift of caring.  
The gift of love.  
The gift of laughter.  
The gift of understanding.  
The gift of music.  
The gift of forgiveness.  
The gift of honesty.  
The gift of sharing.  
The gift of one's self.  
The gift of RELIGION.



Recent State Registered Nurse Aide graduates include: Seated (from left to right) Jessica Baker, Shaina Lewis, Violet Adams, Becky Rowland, Tammy Holden and Kerrielle Barron; Standing: Jennie Carver, Jessie Clouse, Erica Gay, Jennifer Dooley, Regina Anderson, Joy Callahan, RN (instructor) and Natasha McGuire.

## Twelve new state Registered Nurse Aides join workforce

Twelve people graduated this month from a State Registered Nurse Aide (SRNA) course sponsored by Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center (RHRCC). They all are employed by the Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc. or Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Center, Inc.

Graduates include Violet Adams, Regina Anderson, Jessica Baker, Kerrielle Barron, Jennie Carver, Jessie Clouse, Jennifer Dooley, Erica Gay, Tammy Holden, Shaina Lewis, Natasha McGuire and Becky Rowland.

"We are extremely pleased to have these capable people join our workforce here in Rockcastle County," said Betty Purcell, nursing director for RHRCC.

"They are enthusiastic, caring, and will help us continue to provide the high level of nursing care our patients have come to expect."

With a national shortage of healthcare professionals, trained nurse aides are in high demand. The SRNA graduates spent 75 hours studying theory and practical aspects of nursing care. The course, which normally costs \$400 or more from a college, is provided free to those hired for the position, and personnel are paid for the time they spend in class.

"It's a fast-paced class that covers a lot of material," said Joy Callahan, RN, training director for the hospital. "This class prepares people to take the state test, which will allow them to work anywhere that is state approved for Medicaid. Of course, we want them to keep working right here."

State Registered Nurse Aides provide a variety of services including bathing and feeding patients, making their beds, and repositioning them. Jennifer Dooley likes the job's vari-

"State registered nurse aides, like all nursing professionals, must have a caring attitude, genuinely want to help people, become part of their lives and take care of them," said Ponder. "They make a difference for each resident each day-not only by meeting their physical needs, but by meeting their emotional and social needs as well. Sometimes it's as simple as listening when a resident needs to talk or holding their hand 'when they need it.'"

Ponder, Purcell and Callahan all encourage people who think they would like this type of work to learn more about it through the SRNA course. Rockcastle Hospital offers classes as it has the need for more SRNAs. For more information, or to

sign up for the next class, contact Joy Callahan at 606-256-2195.

Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc. is a not-for-profit community hospital, which is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). It operates inpatient and outpatient acute care programs, 60 long-term care beds for ventilator-dependent patients, a home health care service, the Medical Arts Building and Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Center, Inc. The hospital was established in 1956 and treats patients from across Kentucky, Tennessee and several other states. For more information, log on to [www.rockcastlehospital.org](http://www.rockcastlehospital.org).

## Golf pass first on gift giving leader board

As the holidays approach, finding the perfect gift for your favorite golfer has never been easier. Plus, when you purchase the American Cancer Society's 2003 Kentucky Golf Pass, you help the fight against cancer, too.

The American Cancer Society's 2003 Kentucky Golf Pass is the gift that keeps on giving throughout the year. The Golf Pass entitles golfers to play at some of the most beautiful locations in the state by offering free or discounted rounds at over 160 courses. The 2003 Golf Pass also offers free practice/range balls at select driving ranges. Some restriction apply.

The Golf Pass is valued at more than \$3,000, but you can get it for just a \$35 donation to the American Cancer Society. Each additional Golf Pass purchased will be offered for a \$25 donation. The Golf Pass is valid during the 2003 calendar year, with some exceptions noted on the pass.

"This year you can check off all the golfers on your shopping list with

one easy phone call," says Marri Harris, Community Representative for the American Cancer Society. "The American Cancer Society's Golf Pass is the perfect gift for any golfer - it's the right size, color and style and most importantly, will place you first on the gift giving leader board! Whether you're shopping for family, friends or co-workers, the Golf Pass is guaranteed to bring good cheer."

For more information about participating courses in your area or to place an order, contact the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345. The Golf Pass may also be purchased at the following outlets in Rockcastle County: Castle Cleaners and Community Trust Bank.

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service.

## No Paper Next Week

Due to the Christmas holiday, the Mt. Vernon Signal will not publish next week. Our next issue will be January 2, 2003. The Signal office will be closed December 23-27, 2002 and will reopen December 30th.



Charles "Bud" Black

Wishing you the best and brightest of holiday seasons

The families of Jackson Energy wish your family a warm and bright holiday season. We look forward to serving you in the New Year.

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## Holiday Hints

### Pomegranates: An Elegant And Colorful Addition To Festive Holiday Decorations

(NAPS)—If you're searching for fast and fabulous centerpiece ideas or a homemade holiday gift from the heart, consider something innovative this year: the pomegranate. Because of its deep red coloring and extra-large size, the Wonderful variety of pomegranate can be used as a festive addition to any holiday decoration.

Throughout its 5,000-year history, the pomegranate has been revered not only by painters and sculptors, but also recognized in many cultures, religions and mythology as a symbol of love.

Pomegranates are easy to work with and make a dramatic statement in any centerpiece. Here are some basic tips for how to decorate with pomegranates and step-by-step instructions for a classic candle ring.

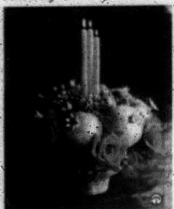
Enhance the color and textured surface of pomegranates by applying a light coat of cooking oil to the surfaces. Remove excess with a paper towel. Buff the surface till it shines!

Or, if you prefer extra sparkle without losing the rich burgundy red color, dust the untreated surface of the pomegranate with an aerosol spray glitter, available at craft stores. The fine glitter adds a bit of sheen to the surface and dresses up the fruit for the holidays. If you can't find the spray in craft stores, try glitter hairspray from the beauty supply store. (Note: Don't try this if you have already shined the surface of the fruit. It won't adhere to a shiny surface.)

#### Classic Candle Centerpiece

1. Fill the hollow half of a pretty pedestal bowl with floral foam.

2. Insert 2 or 3 candles in the center, close, but not touching each other.



The deep red color and versatility of the pomegranate helps make this classic candle ring a quick and easy holiday centerpiece or a great gift.

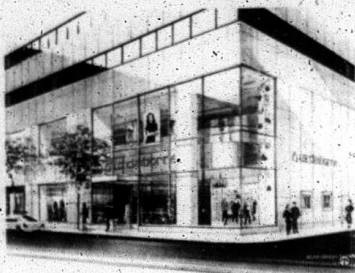
3. Use ivy or garland to surround the candles and cover the foam.

4. Nestle in fresh pomegranates (on skewers) and roses.

5. Decorate with smaller, natural items such as nuts, pinecones, holly and ribbons.

To secure pomegranates in a formal arrangement, insert two 6-inch bamboo skewers at least 1/2 inch deep into the fruit. Space the skewers about 1 inch apart. Then place the skewers into the floral foam to hold them securely. Using two skewers instead of one will better support the weight of the fruit and prevent it from turning in the foam.

You'll find the Wonderful variety of pomegranate in plentiful supply from mid-October through December. And, by visiting the Web site, [www.pomegranate.com](http://www.pomegranate.com), you'll find more pomegranate decorating ideas, recipes and eating tips.



### A Fashionable Destination For The Style Savvy

(NAPS)—A city already known for its fashion savvy now offers a new destination for those connoisseurs of style and sophistication. Amid the hustle and bustle of New York City's Fifth Avenue, the recently renovated Lis Claiborne flagship store offers the world's largest and most one-of-a-kind. The functional and modern two-story store is a structural embodiment of the Lis Claiborne brand. The classic and feminine open environment is both pleasing to the eye and makes shopping a pleasurable total experience. Notable design elements include an original installation of bright blue pods by internationally acclaimed artist Dale Chihuly. The sculpture becomes public art thanks to the two-story glass wall that brings the radiant natural light from outside to the interior of the store. Inside, a wide stone aisle creates a path that leads visitors toward the escalator and up to the grand second floor. Mini-boutiques within the store, including the popular accessory walk on the ground level, have been well received by locals and tourists alike. The combination of quality products and distinctive architectural detailing has placed this store on the must-see list of tourists from around the world. Centrally located on the corner of Fifth Avenue and 52nd Street, the store is just a few steps away from Rockefeller Center and St. Patrick's Cathedral. For more information about the store and the best of Lis Claiborne fashion in your area visit [www.lisclaiborne.com](http://www.lisclaiborne.com).

### I'll Be Home for Christmas

Just hearing the phrase, "Home for Christmas" brings instant feelings of nostalgia to most of us.

Our memories differ. They may be centered on the sights of the tree with its gaily-wrapped presents, the sounds of carols, or the smells of special foods.

But one thing that is common to all of us, no matter the tradition that sparks the memory, is that all these activities centered on the people we love and call family. Those feelings of home are evoked wonderfully by Hallmark Cards with their holiday commercials.

Those of us who are going "home" for the holidays usually have a place to live already, but somehow it's not the home we need for Christmas. So, why do many of us travel long distances this time of year? Be-

cause it's so important to be with those we love and who love us in return. We're not "home" without them.

There are hundreds of Kentucky children who will be spending the holiday in a residential children's home. We once called these places "orphanages" and in a real sense the children living there are today's orphans. Many of them or the victims of such severe abuse and neglect that they will never return "home."

Unlike those orphans of yesterday, these children do have living parents. Parents who are alive but are unable, often due to alcohol and drug abuse, to make a minimally acceptable home for their children.

However, even in a warm environment, these children feel "homeless." The holidays are a difficult time for them and those of us who care for them because of the constant reminders that everyone needs a family and a home of their own, especially in this

time of year. We struggle to find enough financial support to buy the children nice gifts, and we feel guilty, just as many parents do, when we can't afford more. But, tragically, gifts are really not what the children want. They, too, want to be "home" with family for Christmas.

This is why at Buckhorn we now have many more children in foster care than in our residential program. Foster parents are amazing people. As a nation, we are legally and morally responsible for all children who, through no fault of their own, are without a home and a family. Today, it is the foster parents who carry the real burden for the rest of us.

A few years ago, we placed a very difficult young man with a host of physical and emotional problems, with a first-time foster family. The

married couple had two beautiful and talented daughters, who were wonderful quarters as well. Now, they also have a foster son with some severe limitations.

We'll never fully understand how they managed, but the couple never gave up on becoming that young man's family and making their home his home. The two daughters graduated from college and now are both social workers, employed by Buckhorn. The young man earned his all-ami graduate, from high school. He still lives at home.

The popular holiday song entitled "I'll Be Home for Christmas, if only in my dream." Blessed are those families who open their hearts and homes to the dreams of children, in this time of year when we remember the Child who is at the heart of the Season.

Email the Signal at [mvsignal@sun-spot.com](mailto:mvsignal@sun-spot.com)

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# The Racing Reporter

## By Gerald Hodges The Racing Reporter A different racing game for Stewart

Will the next few months be heaven or hell for Tony Stewart? Stewart is great race car driver, but during the winter months, he won't be doing much racing. Instead, he will be wearing a jacket and speaking into a microphone quite often.

Stewart won the NASCAR Winston Cup championship by 38 points over Mark Martin. By his own admission, Stewart says he's glad the season is over.

"Will he continue to have problems as NASCAR's top-ranking ambassador? He will be able to adjust and take it all in stride."

"Boy, it's a good thing Stewart didn't go for an off track championship, because he would have finished several laps down after each race. Several fans had been in the garage area."

The Columbus, Indiana native was 43rd in points after the season-ender at Daytona. His Home Depot Zippadell managed to stay focused on the racing aspect in spite of Stewart's misfires off the track to bring home the trophy.

Stewart has reportedly said he loves racing, but hates the P/R part. "I don't think I am running for a political office," said Stewart. "It's not an elected office. I've just been told by my quote someone responsibilities. If everybody is going to make it a lot more complicated, I'm going to be pretty disappointed, to be perfectly honest."

"I occasionally don't think he will be all smiles during the winter months, but I do expect him to make it through and add his own unique style to the championship mix."

He will probably be a different sort of champion. One that is not so politically correct. But I don't think he will be the worst champion in NASCAR's history. He will probably have one or two races with photographers or other people, but I think Home Depot officials will see to it that he generally behaves in public.

I don't think we will see as much of him on television as we have of other media programs as we have of other champions in the past, but don't look for him to embarrass the sport.

"I don't think Stewart has reached the level of Dale Earnhardt and Kyle Petty, but he has a lot of respect from the other drivers that he races with on Sunday, and that means a whole lot more when you're competing than what you and I think of as pushing and shoving."

Stewart's Winston Cup title marked his ninth driving championship in 23 years of racing, beginning with a karting championship at the Columbus (Ind.) Fairgrounds in 1980 at age nine.

**Top-25 final unofficial points leaders:** 1. Stewart-4641, 4. J. Gordon-4607, 5. Johnson-4600, 6. Newman-4593, 7. R. Wallace-4574, 8. Kenseth-4432, 9. Jarrett-4415, 10. Rudd-4323, 11. Earnhardt Jr.-4270, 12. J. Burton-4259, 13. Elliott-4158, 14. Waltrip-3985, 15. Craven-3888, 16. B. Labonte-3810, 17. J. Green-3704, 18. Martin-3703, 19. Blaney-3670, 20. R. Gordon-3632, 21. Harvick-3501, 22. Petty-3501, 23. Sadler-3418, 24. T. Labonte-3417, 25. W. Burton-3362.

**Wimmer is hottest Busch driver**

Scott Wimmer is hotter than a hot jalapeno pepper in a hot Texas pan. Even though Greg Biffle wrapped up the Busch Series championship before the final race of the season, it was Wimmer that stole the spotlight during the latter part of the season.

Midway into the season, Wimmer's racing future was in doubt. Sponsorship problems surrounding the No. 23 Bill Davis team left everyone wondering what was in store for them.

But then, came Dover and Wimmer's team was in victory lane two weeks later at Memphis, they had won again. Wimmer wrapped up the season by winning the last two races at Phoenix and Homestead.

He won four out of the last eight races.

"We weren't running too well at the beginning of the season," said Wimmer. "We needed to up and performance, and we did. We worked harder and did the things that needed doing so we could finish better."

**Top-25 final Busch Series points leaders:** 1. Biffle-9199, 2. Keller-4655, 3. Wimmer-4488, 4. McLaughlin-4253, 5. Sprague-4206, 6. McMurray-4147, 7. K. Wallace-4078, 8. Hamilton-4058, 9. Compton-4042, 10. Riggs-4023, 11. LaJoie-4021, 12. Ramos-3804, 13. Sauter-3644, 14. Parker-3540, 15. J.

Sauter-3538, 16. Hmiel-3416, 17. Lewis-3279, 18. Hornaday-3268, 19. J. Green-3209, 20. Froy-3158, 21. Means-3148, 22. K. Earnhardt-3145, 23. T. Bodine-3071, 24. Grubb-2885, 25. Leffae-2646.

**Bliss wins truck championship, will move to Busch Series**

"Mike Bliss, who won his first NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series title, announced he would move to the Busch Series next season."

Meanwhile, several truck teams are having problems locating sponsors for the upcoming season. Interest among sponsors to jump on board a truck isn't as keen as it is in Winston Cup and Busch. While it costs just as much to run a truck race, the television ratings are much lower than a Busch race.

"Kevin Knappl is one that, No. 60 1-800-Rent Cat is one that won't be around next year. If the team doesn't land a sponsor, then Knappl will take over. Bliss' ride with Xpress Motorsports."

Petty Enterprises is also seeking a sponsor for their team. The team plans to run Adam Clarke for rookie of the year honors, Clarke, who has run two races this season. He is running a number of the tracks as an instructor for Richard Petty's driving school.

Bobby Hamilton's three-truck status is also in jeopardy. Hamilton would like to get Ryan Hemphill in one of his trucks, but to far there is no sponsor. Bill Lester, who has driven the No. 8, for the past two years, might not return.

"I'm not sure he's been funded by DaimlerChrysler, but it will not continue unless a major sponsor can be found. There is still no word on whether Robert Pressley will remain in the No. 18 truck."

**Final top-10 points leaders:** 1. Bliss-3359, 2. Crawford-3313, 3. Musgrave-3308, 4. Lettler-3156, 5. Starr-3144, 6. Setzer-3132, 7. Pressley-3072, 8. Cook-3070, 9. Knappl-3039, 10. Gibbs-3010.

**Racing Trivia Question:** Which Winston Cup driver had the most wins during 2002?

**Answer:** Last Week's Question: Winston Cup driver Jimmy Spencer is out of a job at this time.

## Dale Jr. in the Rearview Mirror

Dale Earnhardt Jr. and his No. 14 team finished 11th in the final Winston Cup points standings. Prior to the beginning of the season, Earnhardt had said, he hoped to finish higher in points.

"We didn't hit our goal, which was a top-five finish, but I don't think any of us will worry about that this off-season," he said. "We finished really strong, and we just missed getting back into the top-10 in points."

"If you look at the numbers, we did better than ever before. We had more top-fives, more top-10s and we led more laps, so I think we grew as a team."

"Yeah, we struggled after that big hit in Fontana (in April), but once we all got together and began communicating better, we really came on strong. I don't see any reason why we can't string together that sort of consistency all year next year. We were more consistent than we had ever been in the last 10 or 12 races of the season. We're a good team, and we can be a great team - so we're going to keep working on being the championship contenders I know we can be. The first few tests of the new 2003 Monte Carlo have made us really excited about the potential for that car and for the Bud team. Look out!"

For those fans that need an off-season Dale Jr. fix, fret not.

Just because he's not going to be in your living rooms in the Budweiser car each Sunday, that doesn't mean he'll be completely out of sight. Dale Jr. will be featured alongside some of the world's biggest stars on television during the next two months.

**Budweiser Shootout all set**

The Budweiser Shootout, which marks the opening of the 2003 NASCAR racing season all set for February 9.

The Budweiser Shootout is a non-points All-Star race that kicks off the 2003 NASCAR Winston Cup Series season. The 70-lap race will feature the 2002 Bud Pole winners along with past champions of the Budweiser Shootout.

The field for the Budweiser Shootout is now finalized at 19 drivers. Included in the who's who of NASCAR stars are Kurt Busch, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Jeff Gordon, Tony Stewart, Jimmie Johnson, Bill Elliott, Dale Jarrett, Rusty Wallace, Ryan Newman, Wally Burton, Matt Kenseth, Ricky Craven, Ricky Rudd, Kevin Harvick, Mark Martin, Geoffrey Bodine, Ker Schrader, Todd Bodine and Terry Labonte.

## Where is Petty Enterprises going?

"With 200 wins, Richard Petty has more Winston Cup victories than any other driver in the backyard. No wonder he's called 'The King.'"

He retired in 1992, eight years after his last win, but that was way back when Ronald Reagan was President. Richard Petty continued to run the team and all of the Petty Enterprises until Kyle took over the reins two years ago.

Since then, there haven't been many bright spots or consistency on the track for either of the three Petty teams.

"The past was fun, the future looks bright," Kyle Petty said. "A lot of great things are on the horizon for Petty Enterprises."

Let's hope so. Because all three of Petty Enterprises' Winston Cup teams have managed to land some pretty good sponsors. But with mediocre performances, a Fortune 500 Company is not going to leave their name on a losing team forever.

Though the effort has been there, the personnel wasn't always. Just changed before this season, when the team hired Robin Pemberton, Rusty Wallace's former crew chief. He created a lot of excitement, and Petty has confidence that their teams are on the upswing.

This past season, all three teams finished in the mid-20's often. In the '43 Dodge, Richard Petty's old car, John Andretti had an average finish of 25.3 this season. Although that's better than four spots from 2001, he also finished 28th this year - three positions better than last. The 44 Dodge has been driven by several drivers this year after Buckshot Jones, who was fired early, but it rarely finished better than the 20's. And Petty, driver of the 45 Dodge, averaged a 22.1 finish - almost 10 spots better than last year.

With Andretti openly committed to come back to the 43 car, and the sponsor set to return, and Petty set to take on a new sponsor for his 45 car, he believes the two cars continue to improve and average a finish at least in the high teens. He hopes the 44 team will come together soon and follow suit.

In three years, Petty believes the team can consistently finish in the top 10.

"That is what it is all about, running up front and winning races," he said. "That's the direction we're continuing to move. There are cycles in all sports - look at dynasties like the New York Yankees and Boston Celtics - and we have made a lot of changes and a lot of strides to get back to the right spot in that cycle." Petty, at one time, wondered if it would be possible to succeed on the Cup circuit with a three-car team. But, after seeing how much the top teams were able to improve in one season, Petty is convinced he's got the right plan in place.

"You look around the garage, and a lot of people are having trouble making these multi-car teams work." Petty said. "Some people say three-car teams won't work, but maybe two-car teams will. Others say a two-car team doesn't give you enough information or tests, so you have to have three cars. Then you have Jack Roush, who has either four or five or six teams, depending on how you count them."

"We think we have hit on the way to make a three-car team work, and work well. And it's starting to show on the race track, especially this year. We're not where we want to be yet but we sure seem to be headed in the right direction."

Petty's plan hinges upon having everyone on the team, work as a team. Not just to help the 43 or the 45 car succeed.

"The thing is everybody has to be pulling in the same direction," he said. "The guys who work on the 45 car have to be, just as happy - and I mean sincerely happy - when the 43 guys do well or the 44 guys do well, and vice-versa. Having everybody work together having everybody pull from the same drawer, as far as cars and engines are concerned has little that."

"There is a big picture. A lot of little pictures that add up but there is a big picture. Obviously, ours is to have three Petty Enterprises cars running at the front at the end of every race. That is what all of the little pictures will start coming to the forefront."

Petty Enterprises has been able to succeed by drawing on the Petty name, and promoting several charitable organizations. But unless the Petty's begin to land some top-10 fin-

ishes, their sponsors are going to be ginning off faster than the Democrats in this year's elections.

## Elliott receives most popular driver award

Bill Elliott edged out fellow racer Dale Earnhardt Jr. to win the NASCAR Most Popular Driver Award for 2002. Elliott and Earnhardt battled for the leader position in recent months as fans across the country placed more online votes than ever before as part of the only fan-based NASCAR award. The announcement was made Friday during the National Motorsports Press Association's.

Elliott, a 27-year racing veteran who drove a Ray Everingham Dodge this season, has won the Most Popular Driver Award more times than any other driver - this marks his 16th victory.

"Everyone knows that the fans are the real heart of NASCAR. I owe many thanks to them because my fans have stuck by me and kept me going all these years," said Elliott, a Dawsonville, Ga., native. "I am fortunate to be part of this great sport and be recognized by this award."

## Marlin cleared to race

MOORESVILLE, N.C. - Sterling Marlin has been cleared to race.

Marlin will begin testing the No. 40 Coors Light Dodge at Talladega Superspeedway on December 9 and 10. During this time, Marlin will be fitted for the HANS device.

Marlin suffered a non-displaced fracture of the #2 cervical vertebra as a result of his accident at Kansas Speedway on September 29. Due to the injury, Marlin was sidelined for the remainder of the 2002 season and Jamie McMurray took over driving responsibilities in the No. 40 Coors Light Dodge.

**Racing Trivia Question:** Who is the youngest champion in NASCAR Winston Cup history?

**Answer:** Last Week's Question: Ford won the Winston Cup Manufacturer's championship.

## Recap of the Busch season

Greg Biffle, driver of the Roosh Racing No. 60 took home the trophy as the 2002 Busch National Series champion. Even though he entered the season as one of the favorites, the early going was rough. Although Biffle started out the season with a 22nd place finish in Daytona, he quickly moved to the front after

the next four races to take the early championship lead. That lead would slip last beyond one week as Biffle struggled over the next seven events, finishing in the top 10 only two of them and suffering three DNF's and four finishes outside the top 20 that saw him slide to eighth in the standings. He regained the Busch Grand National Series championship lead after a second place finish in the Stacker 2/GNC Live Well 250 at Daytona in July and held it for the final 17 events.

Biffle ended the season with four wins, 20 top five and 25 top 10 finishes.

Second-place Jason Keller had his strongest ever run for the title. Keller led the standings on four separate occasions and although he was able to hold it through two consecutive events only once, he never dropped below fifth in points. He also added five wins to his total, the most he has ever had in one Busch Series season.

He settled into second in the points standings after Daytona in July and paced Biffle step by step over the last four of these years," said Elliott, a Dawsonville, Ga., native. "I am fortunate to be part of this great sport and be recognized by this award."

He garnered three place honors in the Busch Grand National Series for 2002 but he wasn't even supposed to be there. His No. 23 Bill Davis Racing entry ran the season unsponsored. Davis planned to shut down his Busch Series operation after the July race at Daytona International Speedway due to the lack of sponsorship.

The results at the start of the season didn't give much reason to continue the operation out of his own pocket. Through the first 13 events the team had managed only three top 10 finishes and was situated 11th in the standings. The threat of closing the doors made the No. 23 team regroup and they racked up four consecutive top 10 finishes and climbed to sixth in points by the appointed Daytona event. Given the sudden improvement in performance, Davis didn't have the heart to pull the plug and was soundly rewarded for his faith in the team. Wimmer got his first Busch Grand National Series win in the MBNA All American Heroes 200 at Dover International Speedway in September and would add three more.

Continued to D6



# Season's Greetings from State Auto.

All of us at State Auto would like to wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

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Donnie Singleton, Agent  
Janice Adams & Tara Boone

## ALLTEL introduces limited edition UK calling card

ALLTEL has introduced a new limited-edition long-distance calling card featuring University of Kentucky head basketball coach Tubby Smith.

The 30-minute card is free when customers visit any ALLTEL retail location and sign up for any ALLTEL service.

Participating retail locations include: Ashland, 619 S. 15th St.; Campbellsville, 1715 East Broadway; Elizabethtown, 1897 North Dixie Highway; Lexington, 151 Martin Luther King Blvd. and 2325 W. Nicholasville Road; London, 719 N. Main St.; Somerset, 305 N. Main. "ALLTEL is excited to offer this card as we celebrate 100 years of

University of Kentucky basketball," said Terry Beeler, ALLTEL's market area president for Kentucky. "ALLTEL is proud to be a corporate partner of UK Athletics."

The card can be used for domestic use only. The cards cannot be used for international calls and are available while supplies last.

ALLTEL, with more than 12 million communications customers and more than \$7.7 billion in annual revenues, is a leader in the communications and information services industries. ALLTEL has communications customers in 26 states and provides information services to telecommunications, financial and mortgage clients in more than 50 countries.

## Gas price declines 9 cents since last month

The nationwide average price of self-serve regular gasoline has declined 9 cents per gallon since mid-November and currently averages \$1.37 per gallon, AAA said today. The state average price is \$1.38 down 11 cents from one month ago.

Last month the average nationwide price was \$1.464 per gallon. One year ago the average price was \$1.122 per gallon. Statewide last month's average price was \$1.39. One year ago the average price was \$1.08.

Gasoline prices were unseasonably high in October and November as demand for gasoline remained strong and tension increased over Iraq's compliance with United Nations' arms resolutions. While demand for gasoline among consumers remains high, the start of arm inspections in Iraq has eased pressure

on the price of crude oil. Since mid-November, gasoline prices have decreased an average of 17.3 cents per gallon in the Great Lakes region to \$1.329. Prices have fallen 13.1 cents in the Midwest to \$1.339 per gallon, and moved 9.8 cents lower in the West to \$1.426 per gallon.

The national average prices for self-serve regular unleaded gasoline for AAA's mid-December survey for the last five years are: 2001, \$1.122; 2000, \$1.496; 1999, \$1.31; 1998, \$1.023; and 1997, \$1.216.

AAA's Fuel Gauge Report is based on data from Oil Price Information Service, the nation's most comprehensive source of petroleum pricing information.

As the nation's largest motoring and leisure travel organization, AAA provides more than 45 million members with travel, insurance, financial and automotive-related services.

## Decorate for the Holidays, but, KU says, do it safely

The holiday decorating season is here and lots of electric lights and decorations will be hung with care. With that in mind, people can make their holidays safer and more enjoyable by first taking some safety pre-

cautions. Here are some tips on electrical safety from Kentucky Utilities Company (KU).

### Christmas Tree

• Locate the tree away from heat sources that could dry it out, such as

heating ducts, radiators, the fireplace or the television.

• Keep the tree stand filled with water, and preservative to prevent the tree from drying out.

• If you use an artificial tree, choose one that's fire-resistant.

• Never string electric lights on a metal tree.

**Decorations and Indoor Lighting**

• Check for damaged insulation, cracked sockets and bare wires.

• Never overload circuits or extension cords. Follow the manufacturer's guidelines for the number and type of light strings that can be linked together safely.

• Do not run cords under rugs, through doorways, around sharp corners or over radiators or pipes.

• Locate cords where they won't create a tripping hazard.

• Connect decorative lights to multi-outlet power strips that contain their own breakers.

### Outdoors

• Use only decorations made specifically for outdoor use.

• Use ground fault circuit interrupters for added safety.

### General

• Do not use water on an electrical fire.

• Unplug all holiday decorative lights before you leave the house, or go to bed.

Kentucky Utilities Company, based in Lexington, is committed to serving communities by producing reliable, low-priced electric energy to more than one-half million customers in 77 Kentucky counties and five counties in southwestern Virginia. KU is a subsidiary of LG&E Energy Corp., headquartered in Louisville. LG&E Energy is part of the E.ON AG group of companies. E.ON AG is headquartered in Dusseldorf, Germany.



## Favorite Chicken And Biscuits For Families On The Go

### Cheesy Chicken Biscuit Sandwiches

1 (16.3-oz.) can Pillsbury Grands! Refrigerated Buttermilk Biscuits

1 lb. boneless skinless chicken breast halves, cut into eight 1 to 1½-inch strips  
¼ teaspoon salt  
¼ teaspoon pepper  
8 (½-oz.) slices American cheese, cut in half

Heat oven to 375°F. Separate dough into 8 biscuits. Press out each biscuit to form 5-inch round.

Place chicken strip in middle of each dough round. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Place 2 cheese slices halves on top of each chicken strip. Fold both sides of dough to the center, slightly overlapping. Secure with toothpick. Place on large cookie sheet. Bake at 375°F for 18 to 20 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink. Remove toothpick before serving.

Makes 8 servings.

## Tips to help avoid those 'return to sender' blues

Submitted by: Kim Owens, Mt. Vernon Postmaster

The U.S. Postal Service doesn't like to see the 'Return to Sender' Blues. Its purpose is to provide every household and business in this nation with the ability to communicate and conduct business with the world. The Postal Service provides prompt, reliable and economical services for the collection, transmission and delivery of messages and merchandise, but it needs help.

• Preparing and delivering the mail is a postal employee's job, but there are some things customers can do to help ensure letters and packages are handled efficiently. Here are a few simple steps to take to avoid the 'Return to Sender' Blues.

• Address unknown. Notify the Post Office and your personal and business correspondents, when you move. As a recipient of mail, make sure your mail moves with you. You can get and complete an official change-of-address form at your local Post Office or online at the USPS web site at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com).

• No such number. Verify the address; is the house or Post Office box number included? Did you include the street, city and state? Remember, using the apartment or suite number is important as well as directionals (E, W, N and S) and street suffixes (Ave., St., Blvd and 'Rd'). Countless pieces of mail have to be returned because the address did not exist or the Postal Service was unable to determine where the mail was meant to go.

• No such zone. Never guess about the ZIP Code. If you are not certain, call your local Post Office to obtain the correct ZIP Code, visit [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com) or call 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777).

• Never lose touch because your forwarding order has expired. Remember, the Postal Service will forward mail to your new address for 12 months free of charge. The Mover's Guide even provides notification cards so you can let correspondents know of your new address.

• Package every item you want to send correctly. Things like keys, coins, rings and bracelets should not be mailed in a letter. The Postal Service uses high-tech machines to process mail in the most cost-efficient manner possible. Chances are good that the letter containing these items will be damaged in a machine and may have to be 'Returned to Sender.'

• Package the mail piece securely. When mailing parcels, use packaging tape. Don't rely on cellophane tape, twine, string or staples.

• Print or type the complete address horizontally in the appropriate center of the envelope or parcel. Avoid address remakes, use manila-proof and waterproof ink when addressing.

The Postal Service does everything possible to provide you with efficient mail service. With a little assistance, it can help you avoid the 'Return to Sender' Blues.

## Automation opens door for mail handling

Submitted by: Kim Owens, Mt. Vernon Postmaster

Did you know that even though Postal Service automation has opened the door to unmatched speed and accuracy in the handling of your mail, your personal touch and attention to complete addressing is now more important than ever?

Today, letters speed through optical scanners and sorters faster than the eye can see. Reading the left address information is necessary for the computer controlling the scanner to make the best choice. Incomplete address information not only could slow the processing of your letter, it could even cause it to be misdelivered.

Common omissions that cause

delays or misdeliveries are:

- Using the wrong route number.
- Using a street address when you receive your mail at a PO Box.
- Missing or incomplete street suffixes such as Ave., St. or Rd.
- Missing directional such as N, S, E and W.
- Missing secondary indicators such as Box # or Apt #.

• Incorrect or no zip code. If you need a zip code your Post Office lobby has a zip code directory. Zip codes can also be obtained by accessing the USPS's website at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com) or call 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777).

Remember, complete addressing keeps your letters from getting lost or misdirected.

## Racing Reporter . . . cont. from D5

to the total by season's end. Winner concluded the season with four wins, 11 top fives and 17 top 10 finishes.

Racing Trivia Question: Who won this year's Winston 'Cup Manufacturer's title'?

Answer: To Last Week's Question: Matt Kenseth's five Winston Cup victories topped all other drivers during 2002. Kurt Busch was second with

four wins.

Gerald Hodges/The Racing Reporter is a syndicated NASCAR columnist. If you have a racing question that you would like answered send it to The Racing Reporter, P.O. Box 160711, Mobile, AL 36616, or e-mail it to:

1103355.405@compuserve.com.

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## Seasons Greetings



As we celebrate the joyous holiday season, my deputies and I would like to wish each and everyone a very Merry Christmas. May your days be filled with joy, peace and the best of health.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

from

## County Clerk Norma Houk

and Deputies Janet Burdine, Tina Gibbs, Becky Smith, Sonya McGuire and Anita Moore

Closed December 24th and 25th and January 1st - 5th



## Two ways to cut winter fuel bills

Now that the trick-or-treaters have come and gone, most of the leaves have been raked and the gutters cleaned. It is time to turn your attention to winterizing the interior of your home.

Perhaps the most important thing you can do to prepare for the blustery weather that lies ahead is to take steps now to improve your home's energy efficiency. By performing a few simple tasks, you can easily lower your fuel bills significantly and keep your family warmer, regardless of how cold it is outside.

The first job that should be performed is to seal drafts to prevent the flow of cold air into the house and warm air from escaping. According to Doug Fritsch, 84 Lumber's home improvement expert, every door and window should be air tight, and other potential trouble spots should be examined as well.

"Of all the weather protection products for sale, caulking and weather stripping often cost less and works better than most others," said Fritsch. "Caulking should also be applied in several other areas that many people do not consider such as around the exterior of water faucets, dryer vents and where phone cable wires and plumbing enter the house."

When examining sources of drafts, consider the following list of places to caulk:

- Around windows and doors;
- Around basement sashes;
- In splits between joints in wood siding;
- Cracks between door thresholds and stoops;

Between dissimilar materials such as wood and masonry, steel and masonry and wood and metal.

Along the bottom of siding where it meets the foundation of a house;

- At dormers and roof flashing;
- Around gable vents and roof vents;

- At power, phone line and plumbing entrances;
- Around water faucets and dryer vents;
- Around fixed storm windows.

To caulk, you will need two products: a metal caulking gun shell and the caulking itself, which comes in a variety of types and prices. "I recommend a latex caulk with silicone because it is durable, easy to apply, easy to clean up and bonds well to most surfaces," says Fritsch. "100% silicone caulk is also very good although it costs a little more." Most 100% silicone caulk lasts for 20 years or more.

Fritsch said, "It is important to read the label carefully and consult an 84 Lumber associate before buying, paying particular attention to the recommended uses, application temperature, resistance, and the life ex-

pectancy. It is also important to apply the caulk correctly. A good general rule of thumb is to apply a continuous bead about half as thick as the gap you are filling."

Weather stripping also can save you plenty in heating and cooling bills. Consider this, a little crack around the exterior door of an average home (about 14 inch or so) if compounded, would be equivalent to a six inch square cut through the face of the door. The heating, cooling loss, gain would be horrendous over a year's time!

An easy way to test for air leaks around doors and windows is by placing a dollar bill between the window sash and sill or the door and the door frame. Close the window or door and try to pull out the dollar. If it comes out easily, you need to consider adding weather stripping.

Look for these places where weather stripping protection can make a difference:

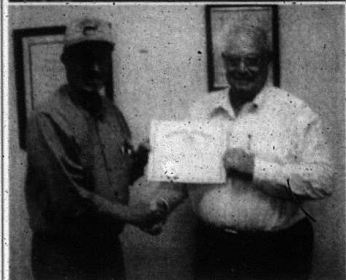
- Around windows and exterior doors;
- Around attic door panel or drop down stairs;
- Doors to basements, garages and crawl spaces;
- Around storm doors;
- Along the bottom of garage doors.

Most often, weather stripping is nailed, screwed or glued directly to doors and windows. However, most sponge rubber door and window weather stripping has an adhesive, backing, making application that's much easier. Fritsch says, "A great product to use on doors and windows is Touch 'n Foam. It is very important to use Minimal Expansion foam to prevent sealing doors and windows shut. For larger areas like pipes and exterior holes you may use the original Touch 'n Foam product."

It is also important to eliminate doorway drafts by installing a door sweep on the bottom of exterior doors, as well as doors that lead to basements and garages.

In addition to these cost effective methods of trimming your fuel bills, it is important to have adequate insulation in your attic or crawl space. "Having an uninsulated or under-insulated attic can be one of the greatest sources of heat loss," said Fritsch. "We recommend that your attic has at least 12-16 inches of insulation, depending on the climate in which you live. If your house is built over a crawl space, you should have at least 6" of insulation between your floor joists."

- Other winterizing suggestions:
- Replace furnace filters;
- Have your fireplace chimney cleaned and inspected;
- Install carbon monoxide detectors;
- Insulate exposed water pipes.



Lloyd Cain, top picture on left, and Jack Dailley, bottom picture at right, recently received 35 years of service awards for serving on the Rockcastle Co. Conservation District Board. Congratulations and thank you Lloyd and Jack for your time and dedication.

Subscribe to the Signal  
(606) 256-2244

### No Paper Next Week

Due to the Christmas holiday, the Mt. Vernon Signal will not publish next week. Our next issue will be January 2, 2003. The Signal office will be closed December 23-27, 2002 and will reopen December 30th.

## Plan ahead for Old Man Winter

During cold-temperatures and wintry weather, it's a good idea to plan ahead for a possible power outage just in case Old Man Winter takes down the electric lines.

Here are a few good ideas to be prepared for a winter power outage:

- Don't open your refrigerator or freezer except when it's absolutely necessary. A closed refrigerator will keep food cold for up to 12 hours, and a well-filled freezer will preserve food for two or three days.
- Open faucets slightly so they drip. This will prevent your pipes from freezing if there's no heat.
- If you have a kerosene heater, make sure your room is well-venti-

lated. Fossil fuel-burning space heaters can cause fumes to build up.

- Never use a charcoal grill for heat, the fumes are harmful.
- Turn off or unplug all appliances so they don't trigger an electrical overload when the power comes back on. Leave one light switch 'on, though, so you'll know when power is restored.
- Keep a battery-powered radio - with fresh batteries - on hand so you can hear announcements about the weather.

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## Happy Holidays

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## HOLIDAY GREETINGS

May your holiday season greet you with plenty of good friends and good cheer. Our deepest thanks to you for making our year a ringing success!

**Mt. Vernon Wholesale Plumbing & Electric Supplies**  
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Renfro Valley, Ky.  
256-3669

Front row from left: Dr. James and Marcia Chism, Barbara Hall, Xena, Brandi, Sandy, Bandit, Abby & Blackie  
Back row from left: Brenda Estes, Kathy Bryant, Sue Roderfer, Vickie Myers, Fanny & Dillinger

## Rockcastle Veterinary Clinic

School St. • Mt. Vernon • 256-2801

# Seasons Greetings

*from our families to yours*



Front row from left:  
Angie Courtney, Joan Edgington  
and Tanya Simpson

Middle row from left:  
Connie Graham,  
Dana McKinney, Vickie Petrey,  
Trena Burdette  
and Kim Daugherty

Back row from left:  
Keith Smith, Sheri Griffin,  
Freda Renner, Cathy Smith  
and John Payne

Front row from left:  
Kelley Ponder, Kelley Bullock,  
Anthony Asher, Dave McMurray,  
Carol Sims, Glenda Gentry  
and Jeremy Reynolds

Back row from left:  
Debbie Brock, Sheila Lovell,  
Pam McClure, Anita Shackelford,  
Tonya Branscum, Linda Wilson,  
Genevieve Reppert, Ashley Clark,  
Blanche Johnson, Violet Cash,  
Dolores Phelps, Virginia Hansel  
and Elaine Vaughn



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# Roles vary for Center, on stage and in life

**By Melissa Beazer**  
People play various roles in life. Perhaps no one knows this better than Luther Center.

With the opening of "I'm Sorry the Bridge is Out, You'll Have to Spend the Night," Center is set to star in his 25th production with Roundtown Players.

In this production, Center will play Dr. Frankenstein, a role he says is fun and easy.

"This one's like, as an actor, park the old brain at home, just have fun with it, and that's what I really need," Center said.

Center has been involved with Roundtown Players since about 1985 and originally he wasn't in it for the acting.

"I'm an engineer at DuPont and a gentleman who works there, also an engineer, was doing tech back in '85 and I just moved from Columbus back to Circleville and he asked me if I'd be interested in helping out and that's how it started out," Center said.

"I came to do tech on The Kummer Stumbles, was the name of the show and I've been on and off ever since," Center said.

Center came to the theater a novice, but he said it was something he had always thought about doing.

"I've always been a show off," he said. "I had never done anything in my life in that vein. I always thought I could. I just always thought I could. Finally I just decided to on a little tiny part so I tried for a few and of course I got the part, because I was there all the time."

From there Center has been involved in a lot of roles at the theater. "I thought I did pretty good and I guess other people did too because since that time I've had a lot of leads out there and so forth," Center said.

But those are not the only type of roles Center plays. In everyday life Center plays many roles. There's the one of music aficionado, for example.

"I'm just a music fanatic," he said. "I'm a Beatles fan, my license plate says Beatles Fan, I like the Who, but I'm more of an alternative rock fan, but that doesn't mean what it used to," he said. "I find myself drifting toward old country music also."

Being a huge music fan, he should have a lot of music. And he does, he has more than 3,000 records in his collection and boasts three CDs that he has. But his love for music was so strong that he decided he wanted to make it also.

"I always wanted to sing in a band. I always thought I could sing in a band and I auditioned for a band and ever since I've been singing in a band as well," Center said.

He is the lead singer of a local classic rock cover band called Magic and when he's up there he thinks about acting.

"The stage helped a lot with that (singing) because I don't get nervous at all on stage. Now I did at first, but after a couple of productions I never get nervous. I know, I know my lines so I don't have anything to be nervous about," he said. "And that helped a lot when I was singing in a band. I never once got nervous in the band so that was pretty cool."

Magic is on a hiatus right now, Center said.

"It's been a good run. I enjoyed it. We all show various levels of disinterest right now, but we still do it," he said.

When he's not playing the lead singer role, Center may be found playing the sportscenter role: He does the play by play announcing for Friday night football games on CGTV-5 along with Terry Leasure.

And when it's not time for that role perhaps he can be found playing the role of full-time engineer with DuPont. Center realizes the considerable difference between his work and his hobbies.

"To me, being an engineer and being artsy as well is something that

to me comes pretty natural," Center said. "I don't think and this is just my opinion, I don't think I excel at either. I'm just real good at both."

By trade, Center is a mechanical engineer for which he holds a degree from Georgia Tech. He also holds a degree in physics from Eastern Kentucky University.

Center is a 1976 graduate of Rockcastle County High School.

"I grew up in Central Kentucky, Rockcastle County, for those people who go to Lake Cumberland, which they all do from up here they pass right by my old high school," Center said.

Then Center found a job with DuPont and moved to Circleville, where he currently plays all the above roles plus that of a father. Center has a son, Andy.

But among all these roles Center's upcoming role as Dr. Frankenstein is one the public won't want to miss he said.

"If this is any incentive for people to come not only do they get to hear Luther sing, which is something they might have done before, but they get to see him dance and that alone is worth the price of admission," Center said.

Center said his character is not as complex as his last character, but he still tries to find his way around them in the same manner.

"I take pride in developing a character or at least a voice if not a character," Center said.

He said the depth of the character usually determines how much preparation is involved with forming the character.

"If the character is very complex it can be hard each night to get into the character," he said. "Sometimes it requires saying 'I need some quiet time guys I'm going to go over to this corner in the dark and close my eyes and think about this'."

"That in some cases, it's like I'm ready - let's go," he said. "It's all over the place - it depends."

But no matter how he gets into the roles he plays it's obvious, even to him that he plays a lot.

"By the time I'm 30 I've never done anything on stage, and now I'm going just a little bit of everything," Center said.

But doing everything can sometimes leave Center wanting more.

"I sometimes wished I excelled at something in particular, but at least I do real good at a lot of things," Center said.

With all these roles it's sometimes hard for Center to find time for himself, but he says he makes it a point to.

"It's hard," he said. "One thing I

do is I shut down some days I kinda disappear and don't let anybody find me."

That's why if you try to find him playing one of his roles today, most likely you'll find, because today is a shutdown day.

The following are Center's answers to the snapshot questions.

**Favorite Part of Acting with Roundtown Players**

"The theater folk for getting a laugh (if it's a comedy)."

**Least Favorite Part of Acting with Roundtown Players**

"Rehearsal."

**First Job**

"Selling vacuum cleaners door to door."

**Favorite Snack Food**

"My favorite I almost never eat because it's fattening, it's probably Doritos, but I don't eat them anymore so it's popcorn."

**Favorite Restaurant**

"JR Hooks"

**Dream Trip or Vacation**

"My ultimate thing would be a five day cruise where I pick the live bands for each of the five nights."

**Favorite Movie**

"Pulp Fiction"

**Best Advice Ever Received**

"Just be nice to people."

**Personal Hero**

"My paternal grandfather, he was a great guy and my dad."

**Life Goal**

"Raise a good son, a son that can be his over man. I would like to retire from DuPont with a full career, there at a reasonable young age and what I would like to do after that is pursue acting as a profession."

(This article is a reprint from The Circleville Herald's October 12, 2002 issue.)

## No Paper Next Week

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December 23-27, 2002

and will reopen December 30th.



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Merry Christmas and sincere thanks to our customers and friends this holiday season.



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# It's Your Money

**By: Jonathan Miller, Kentucky State Treasurer**  
 You may have read with disgust about how former Tyco CEO Dennis Kozlowski looted his company, and its shareholders for hundreds of millions of dollars. Not only did he use company funds to pay for a \$1 million party for his wife, a \$600 shower curtain and a \$15,000 umbrella stand carved in the likeness of a French poodle, Kozlowski and his cronies apparently out-and-out stole millions of dollars from Tyco in the form of unpaid, zero-interest loans.

The impact on Kentucky has been devastating. Last month, Tyco announced it was forced to close its plastics facility in Louisville, forcing the unemployment of up to 177 workers. The Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, moreover, had an unrealized loss of over \$11 million due to the stock's precipitous fall. While teachers will feel no loss in benefits due to the Systems' excellent management and diversified portfolio, thousands of Kentucky families have not been so lucky. Scandals like Tyco have resulted in far too many families facing a dramatic reduction in their retirement savings and 401(k) plans.

The Dennis Kozlowski of today's Wall Street run Robin Hood on his head. These unscrupulous CEOs give to the rich, and steal from the rest of us.

This summer, I joined state treasurers and pension fund leaders from 15 states in an effort to reform corporate America from the inside, as major shareholders of the nation's largest companies. Reform efforts like ours have already started to produce real results in terms of eliminating conflicts of interest on Wall Street.

But more is needed to deter corporate misconduct - legislative action will be required to dramatically overhaul the loose regulatory culture that allowed these corporate chieftains to pilch themselves at the expense of working families and their retirement accounts.

So far we have made one small step in Kentucky. A collaboration among my office, Attorney General Ben Chandler and a coalition of state legislators led by Senate Minority Leader David Karen has recently introduced the Corporate Responsibility Act of 2003.

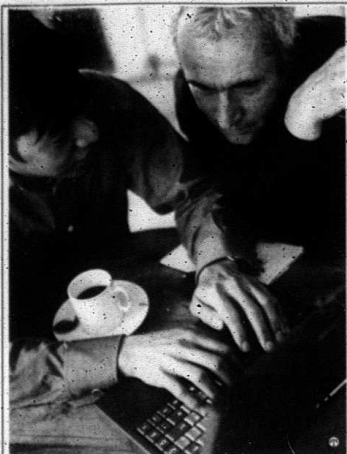
This legislation would crack down on corporate executives in Kentucky who cook their accounting books to defraud shareholders and the public. Today, an average person who lies about their finances to get a credit card faces a prison term, while a corporate executive that falsifies business records only would receive a misdemeanor "slap on the wrist. That's wrong, and this legislation would correct the inequity without increasing the regulatory burden on small businesses.

The bill would also place pressure on non-Kentucky corporations with whom the state does business or in whom our pension funds invest. For example, the state would no longer do business with corporations like Tyco that relocate overseas, in name only, to avoid paying their fair share of American taxes and to weaken shareholder protections.

Any permanent solution to this rash of corporate fraud will need to come from the federal government. Bills have languished in Congress that would prohibit offshore tax havens, impose stiff new criminal penalties for corporate pension fraud, and crack down on stock option abuses.

America's economic system is the greatest in the history of the world, and the overwhelming majority of businesspeople in Kentucky and across the country are honest and ethical. Working together on the state,

and federal level, we can weed out the bad apples like Dennis Kozlowski who harm the business community's reputation and thwart business expansion and job creation. And in so doing, we can ensure more corporate accountability, protect the retirement funds of our citizens and help restore confidence in the stock market.



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## Getting More From Business Travel

**QUAPS**—A recent survey from the Travel Industry Association of America (TIA) suggests that business travel is still well below 2000 levels, and won't fully recover until 2003. Yet despite the state of the industry, travel continues to remain very affordable.

With dramatic reductions in prices for airline tickets and hotel stays, many are hopeful business travel will increase over the coming months. With this in mind, "travel warriors"—people who travel frequently on business—should maximize options like hotel frequent guest programs and airline frequent flyer programs, designed to reward them for their loyalty to a particular company.

One of the considerations to consider when selecting a hotel frequent program is the variety of rewards that can be earned. In most cases, rewards are earned based on the number of hotel stays or the amount of money spent for accommodations. The key to earning the most rewards is to analyze each program to determine which structure will allow members to reach their top level sooner. Reaching the top or elite level of a program lets members earn rewards more quickly.

These programs offer many tangible benefits, including the ability to earn a free night's stay at any of the hotel chain's locations. Most of the top-rated hotel programs also offer the all-important airline frequent-flyer miles. In the world of frequent or loyalty programs, airline miles are a valuable currency.

Loyalty programs are continuing to evolve and are finding more ways to appeal to frequent travelers. Some have begun to offer gift certificates as a redemption option. These gift certificates can be used at some of the country's top retailers or restaurants.

The La Quinta hotel chain goes even further. Through its new La Quinta Returns program, members can earn airline miles, free night certificates and gift certificates that can be used at more than 200 national retailers and



Hotel loyalty programs offer express check-in, room upgrades and many other benefits.

restaurant. The chain also offers tickets to professional sporting events and entertainment venues, including jazz clubs, comedy clubs, amusement parks and rounds of golf at 1,600 resorts across the country.

While it's important to know that a hotel loyalty program provides an assortment of first-rate rewards, it's good to know that certain membership benefits are also available during each stay. Standard membership benefits usually offered to entire prospective members to join—such as express check-in, free faxes, free local calls, room upgrades and even in-room welcome gifts can play a crucial role in making the decision to join a program.

Savvy travelers should consider other elements of a loyalty program. The program's mix of partners can increase the ability to earn miles or points. For example, some have a credit card partner that allows points or miles to be earned based on purchases using the card. Others even offer bonus points for doing business with certain rental car companies, mortgage companies and financial services companies.

In today's competitive travel industry, there is a myriad of travel loyalty programs to reward travelers for their patronage. A little research could lead to free gift certificates for meals, free shopping, entertainment and even free vacations. For more information, visit [www.LQ.com/returns](http://www.LQ.com/returns).

## No Paper Next Week

Due to the Christmas holiday, the Mt. Vernon Signal will not publish next week.

Our next issue will be January 2, 2003.

The Signal office will be closed

December 23-27, 2002

and will reopen December 30th.

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 May the light of His love shine upon you this Christmas season.  
 Our best wishes are with you.

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# CHRISTMAS

## HOPE IT'S UPLIFTING

We know it gives us a lift to serve you.  
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## BACKGROUND ON BUSINESS

### Good Communication Skills and Services Can Boost Sales

by June Applegate

(NAPS)—Small business owner Linda Denny has sold millions of dollars' worth of insurance products and created innovative sales programs for several major corporations.



Applegate: "great idea, that anyone can easily incorporate into a daily routine."

"I take notes on every phone call I make or accept," said Denny, who recently established an Arlington, Va.-based consulting firm that helps companies better understand the powerful women's market. "To free my hands for note-taking, I attach a headset to my office phone. When I'm out and about, I use a headset for my Sprint wireless phone. With the headset, it's easy to take notes about what we are discussing during the conversation."

Denny said she got into the habit of taking notes on the phone when she was working as a compliance officer for a major insurance company. She said her telephone call journals (she uses stenography pads) have been extremely helpful when it comes to following up with clients. She also uses the notes to book future appointments, keep track of commitments made during the call and to meet deadlines.

Denny and other successful small business owners I've met understand that no matter how small their business is, they can appear much bigger to clients if they have the right communications services.

For example:

• An affordable Web site gives your business a "storefront to the world" 24 hours a day in cyberspace. (Sprint and DellHolt can provide reliable hosting services at competitive rates for small businesses.)

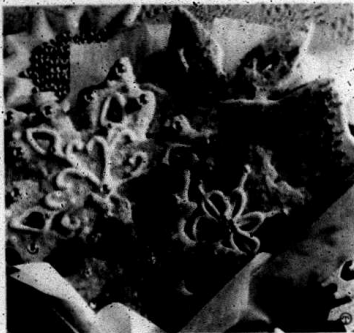
• A toll-free number encourages clients or customers to call your company at no charge to them. You can order several toll-free numbers, using one or two to track response to advertising or marketing promotions and others for employees to call the office.

• The right long-distance plan can make it affordable for you and your employees to make outbound sales calls and return calls promptly to improve customer service. Along with flat per-minute rates, look for plans that offer the flexibility to add or delete options as your business grows or changes.

No matter what company you rely on for phone service, be sure to order enough lines to handle a surge in call volume. Test out that old answering machine and sign up for a reliable voicemail system. Change your outgoing greeting frequently to keep customers updated on your schedule. Offer an after-hours number for emergencies or forward your office calls to your home.

• When you leave a voicemail message, be sure to speak slowly and repeat your phone number twice," advises Denny. "Say it slowly and say it twice. Nothing is more frustrating than getting an important call that you can't return because you don't know how to reach the person."

June Applegate is author of 201 Great Ideas for Your Small Business, and founder of www.SBTV.com (Small Business TV), a multimedia Web site providing four resources for business owners. For more great ideas, visit www.sprint.com/ideas21.



### Trim The Tree With Snowflake Cookies

(NAPS)—Cookie baking is one holiday tradition that most of us are reluctant to give up, even if it means making just one special cookie. Since kids love to help with holiday projects, plan now to set aside one weekend afternoon and bake beautiful snowflake-shaped cookies that can be used as tree ornaments or as gifts for favorite teachers.

Sparkling Snowflake Cookies were developed in the Quaker Kitchens to be extra easy. A packaged cake mix limits the number of ingredients needed to five, and these are mixed by hand in a single bowl. Rolled oats add a naturally nutty flavor to these buttery cookies.

#### SPARKLING SNOWFLAKE COOKIES

About 2 1/2 Dozen

- 1 pkg. (18.25 oz.) white cake mix
- 1/4 pound (2 sticks) butter, softened
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 cups Quaker oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
- Assorted sugars, candy sprinkles, decorator icing

Heat oven to 350°F. In large bowl, combine half the dry cake mix with butter, egg and vanilla; mix thoroughly with large spoon. Stir in remaining cake mix and oats; mix well. Divide dough in half. On well-floured surface using a well-floured rolling pin, roll each half 1/8 to 1/4 inch thick. Cut dough with 3-inch snowflake or other large holiday cookie cutter. Place about 1 inch apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Sprinkle with sugar, if desired. For ornaments, poke a hole at the top of each cookie with drinking straw. (Repeat immediately after baking if hole closes). Bake 8 to 9 minutes or just until set (centers may still be soft). Carefully remove to wire rack; cool completely. Decorate unsugared cookies with frosting and sugar or candy sprinkles.

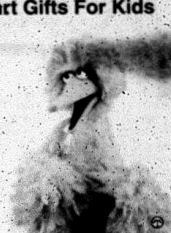
### Unwrapping Smart Gifts For Kids

(NAPS)—If you're looking for smart ideas for children, you may want to research educational software, toys or videos. They make terrific gifts because they're fun and educational, and can spark a lifelong love of learning.

Children from babyhood through preschool age can learn from new software featuring characters from the beloved TV show Sesame Street. For over 20 years, Sesame Workshop (the creators of Sesame Street) has been a leader in educational programming. In fact, the non-profit group is the single largest educator of children in the world.

New Sesame Street software includes Sesame Street Toddler, Sesame Street Preschool and Sesame Street Baby. Each includes games and activities hosted by the familiar Muppet characters, as well as original songs and video clips from the TV show. Based on years of research on how kids learn, the software teaches basic skills from letter recognition and simple math to recognizing colors and shapes.

Children can also learn from two other software products inspired by Sesame Workshop: Dragon Tales TV shows. In Dragon Tales: Dragon Frog-Jamboree, the lovable dragons from the top-rated preschool show in America invite children ages three to six to join



Fun and learning for kids with Sesame Street's Big Bird.

them for adventures in Dragon Land. The software challenges children to use critical-thinking and social skills as they search for the Dragon Frog, who have wandered off to play.

In Sesame Street Monster Clubhouse, children have fun while dancing, singing and laughing with the lovable monsters from this popular Sesame Street segment. Kids will build critical thinking skills and stretch their creativity as they join the zany members in the clubhouse.

For more information on these Sesame Workshop CD-ROMs, visit www.encycusa.com.

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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.

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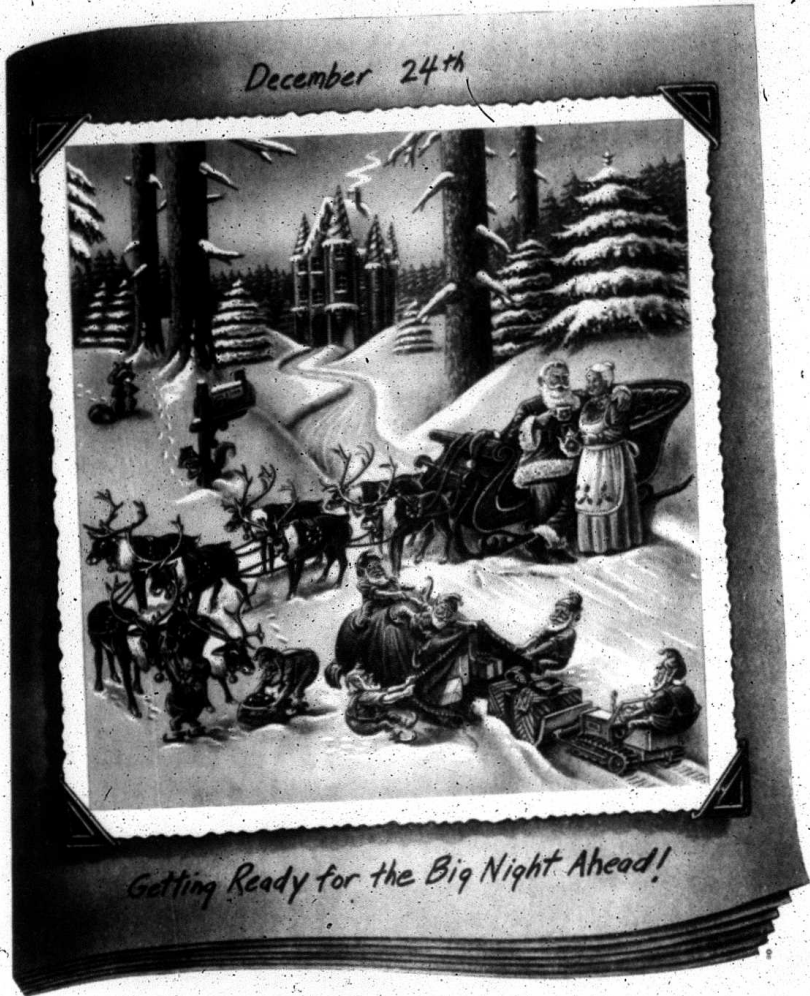
**We're Checking It Twice...**

And you're at the top of the list of people we'd like to thank this year!  
 It's always a pleasure seeing you.

Margia and Dr. Lee Cain with Rachel Kim McFerron, Leda Taylor, Sheila Whitehead, and Dr. Margena Osborne.  
 Not pictured - Terri Lynne Abney

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# Merry Christmas



May all your holiday memories be cherished.

Merry Christmas and thanks.

*from the staff of*

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# America's Defenders

## U.S. Army Transformation: Troops Using High-Tech Equipment, Training to Meet New Face of War

(NAPS)—With lessons learned from the Gulf War, "the new face of war" in Central Asia, the U.S. Army is challenging soldiers to excel as part of a faster, more effective fighting force built on the strengths of superior training, technology and information networks. This evolution is a key element of the Army's Transformation plan, an Army-wide focus on how it responds to any threat, anywhere in the world, with speed and stealth.

Transformation centers on preparing the Army to challenge and defeat the new face of warfare. "Which is increasingly found in small regional conflicts instead of the traditional Cold War style battlefields. Developing new kinds of soldier skills is the key element to the success of this plan."

The central focus of Transformation is the training and preparation of the Army's soldiers to ensure they are the best-equipped and trained Army in the world. The Army's Transformation strengthens this focus on soldiers by continually investing in new technologies, strategies and training.

A critical capability of Transformation will be the deployment of a combat brigade in 96 hours. A combat division within 120 hours and five divisions within 30 days. This quick response time will allow the Army to prevent the escalation of regional skirmishes into full-scale wars.

The primary physical aspect of Transformation is the introduction of advanced equipment. Phase One includes the introduction of the Stryker, a light-armed vehicle that sits upon eight technologically advanced wheels. With 10 different types of Strykers designed for various missions, Strykers possess ultramodern technology with lighter armor, advanced thermal tracking and protection against unconventional warfare.

"The Stryker is the new vehicle that we're fielding," said Spc. Michael Minutaglio, a vehicle commander based at Fort Lewis.



Wash. "Their mobility and technology really helps us get the infantry into the hot spots quickly and safely. It will be a tremendous asset to us in battle."

A secondary feature of Transformation is enhanced tactical integration among Army units, both on the ground and in the air. Battle-proven helicopters such as Apaches, Black Hawks and Chinooks provide critical support to troops, vehicles and long-range missile systems. As Transformation unfolds, soldiers will increasingly utilize satellite intelligence, robot weapons and aerial drops.

"Aviation's main role is infantry support, providing air and fire support for their ground operations," said Chief Warrant Officer Lisa Jewett, an Apache copilot based at Fort Hood, Texas.

"However, we understand that it's critical for us to work as one team to achieve the mission objective."

In addition to the Army's focus on tactical Transformation, they have also addressed other 21st century demands in terms of soldier care and environmental resources. For example, the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) developed the 31W combat medical Occupational Specialty, a.k.a. the 91 Whiskey, to operate as a key part of small, mobile medical detachments, able to provide state-of-the-art medical treatment in any battle environment with precision and care. These nurses combine the skills and training of licensed practical nurses and combat medics. As some of AMEDD's core medical assets, 91Ws possess the medical skills to care for today's 21st century soldier.

Likewise, the environmental world, the Army is forwarding

advancements in areas such as solar and geothermal energy sources, "green" bullets and alternative-fueled vehicles. These advancements in environmental research allow the Army to be better prepared when it deploys throughout the world on various missions, whether adapting vehicles and soldiers to a foreign terrain or building Army bases on unfamiliar lands.

"With these advancements in training and technology, the Army continues to establish itself as the preeminent military force in the world, able to combat enemies anywhere with measured speed and resolve. This ability is built upon the strength of the soldiers within the units and the nation behind them."

"Given the world climate these days, I think that my pride for the Army and America has increased because I now know that I joined for a reason," Jewett said. "And if called upon, I will gladly do my job to protect America."

For more information about career opportunities in the U.S. Army, visit the Web site at <http://goarmy.com>.

**Quick facts about U.S. Army Transformation**

- 130 new Army units, led by the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army, designed to better meet the demands of 21st century warfare.
- Can have a combat brigade anywhere in the world within 96 hours and a combat division within 120 hours.
- There are 10 different types of Strykers, with uses including engineering, medical evacuation and troop transport.
- Since 1990s, the Army has begun Transformation of the Transformation Army unit, based at Fort Lewis, was the first to begin the Transformation process in 1995.
- Other BRACs in Alaska, Louisiana, Hawaii and Pennsylvania will soon begin Transformation.
- Additional information on Transformation can be found at <http://www.army.mil/afso/TransformationIndex.htm>.

# Valentine Pageant

Wishing Upon a Star pageant productions will hold their First Annual Natural Valentine Pageant on February 1, 2003. The pageant will be held at the National Guard Armory in London.

Age groups for the pageant will be: girls 0-11m, 12-23m-2 yrs., 3-4 yrs., 5-6 yrs., 7-11 yrs., 12-14 yrs., and 15 and up. Boys 0-2 yrs., 3-5 yrs., 6 and up. Every contestant will receive a gift from cupid. Winners will receive large crowns, trophies and

stays. Sunday best or pageant wear is the recommended attire for the event. There will be no double crowning and no one goes home empty handed. Deadline for the event is January 13th with an entry fee of \$80. Ticket sales are available to help with cost. For more information and entry forms call (606)877-8919.

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## Insulate now to save on winter fuel costs

As the mercury continues to drop with the onset of winter, and heating bills start to rise, now is an excellent time to check your attic to make sure you have the proper amount of insulation. Attic insulation is generally easy to install and will save you plenty in both heating and cooling bills.

According to 84 Lumber insulation purchasing specialist Bob Marinelli, there are many different types of insulation on the market.

"The type of insulation you use depends on the space you are insulating," said Marinelli.

"Blanket and batt insulation is used primarily on attic floors and walls when there is a large, easily accessible area to cover. Foil insulation also works well in those areas acting as a vapor barrier in protecting against radiant heat loss. Loose fill insulation is generally used for nooks and crannies where blankets or bats can't be used."

Blanket and batt insulation is the most common type used by do-it-yourselfers. Blankets come in long, single rolls, while bats come in short lengths packed several to a package. Fiberglass insulation is the most common type sold and is available unfaced, or faced with kraft paper or foil on one side. The paper makes the insulation less permeable to air and water vapor and eases installation. Loose fill insulation comes in bags and can be blown or poured using pneumatic equipment. A third option is rigid insulation, which are boards made with various types of plastics and foams.

Marinelli said homeowners and builders need to consider the R-value (or resistance) you want to achieve in determining how much insulation is necessary to adequately do the job. The higher the R-value, the more insulation value the product has. The

climate in which you will determine how much insulation is necessary to adequately do the job. (Please see section on energy audits.)

When installing fiberglass insulation, be sure to take safety precautions. Wear an OSHA-approved dust mask to protect yourself from the fine particles of fiberglass which fly through the air and can cause irritation. It's important to make sure the mask covers your nose and mouth securely. Also wear goggles, gloves, long-sleeves and a hat to keep particles off your skin. And it's advisable to take a break every 15 or 20 minutes and move into a fresh air area for several minutes.

Batt, blanket and loose fill insulation may be used between ceiling/floor joists. You need not fasten the insulation between the joists; gravity holds the insulation in place. If using a vapor barrier, it should be installed beneath the insulation facing toward the heated room below.

If the joists are exposed, lay temporary flooring (a piece of plywood works well) and begin laying the blankets at the outer edge of the attic space and work towards the center. This will allow more headroom in the center of the attic for whatever cutting and fitting needs to be done. Lay long runs first and use lefthanders to fill gaps and shorter spaces. Ends of batts should be cut to fit snugly around cross bracing.

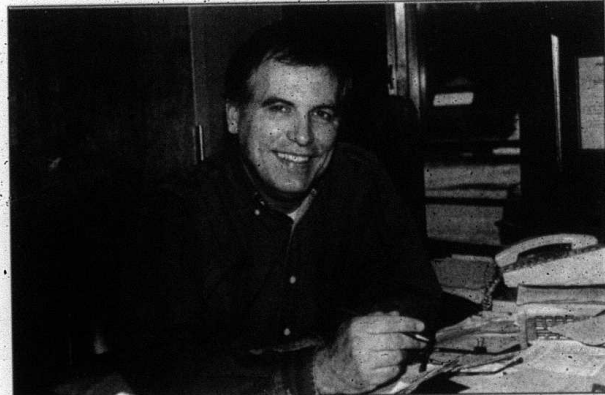
If a second layer on insulation is needed and the cavity has been completely filled, the additional layer of material should be placed perpendicular to the joists. If the ceiling is insulated with loose fill insulation, you can increase the R-value by simply pouring more material between the joists, right on top of the old existing insulation. It's important to avoid pouring loose insulation into recessed light fixtures or other heat producing equipment. If the ceiling is insulated with blanket or batt insulation and has some loose fill placed on top of it, you can either add unfaced insulation or more loose fill to increase the R-value.

No matter which type of insulation you use, you'll always get a quick and profitable return on your investment by reducing your heating and cooling bills. The sooner you act, the more you'll save.

84 Lumber Company was founded by Joe Hardy in 1956 in the town of Eighty Four, Pennsylvania, where the original store continues to operate. Today, 84 Lumber Company operates 436 stores in 34 states with 14 more stores scheduled to break ground this year. 84 Lumber employs more than 5,000 associates nationwide. For 46 years, 84 Lumber Com-

pany has been providing professional contractors, remodelers and serious do-it-yourselfers with quality building materials, supplies and expertise. For more information on 84 Lumber Company please visit our website: [84lumber.com](http://84lumber.com)

# Merry Christmas



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 Happy New Year.

## County Judge-Executive Buzz Carloftis

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(NAPS)—Since September 11, 2001, Americans have learned what it means to be a hero. We have seen heroes in action, watched them on our TVs, seen what we believed were ordinary people face up to extraordinary challenges. We have seen them die heroic deaths in ways that others might live. Knowing their sacrifices, we are a little smaller as individuals and a little bigger as a nation.

When we think of America's heroes, we remember those who rushed into the burning buildings of September 11 and those who braved the enemy's cockpit of a doomed aircraft, and also Americans of the more distant past, such as those who died in the wars commemorated on holidays such as Veterans Day and Memorial Day.

Today, we can still walk in the footsteps of America's heroes, though the remnants of these real people, who rose to unreal heights, shaping our nation, and ourselves. We find inspiration in where they lived and worked) and we protect these places for all generations as part of the National Park System.

For example, Clara Barton's home in Glen Echo, Maryland, is preserved as a national historic site, commemorating her work as the founder of the American Red Cross. Barton's life speaks to us of how adversity can reveal our strengths. The Civil War transformed her from a schoolteacher and government clerk into a force of compassion, traveling the front lines with the Union Army, tending to the ill and wounded and raising donations of medical supplies. In the 1870s, while providing medical aid in France during the Franco-Prussian War, she learned about the International Red Cross and subsequently



Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, lived in this house from 1897 until her death in 1912. It is now under the care of the National Park System, which protects more than 100 national historic sites.

founded the American version. As at the national historic site that was the Washington, D.C. home of a man born into slavery who died wealthy and respected: Frederick Douglass. A journalist who focused on racial issues and spoke for the equality of all people before the law, Douglass provided counsel to presidents and fought for the end of slavery. His autobiography still offers hope to anyone struggling against overwhelming odds. He was born the property of another man, but left behind a legacy of freedom.

California boasts a different type of park, one that reminds us of the heroic efforts of ordinary people doing ordinary work at a dangerous and critical time in our history: The Rosie the Riveter National Historical Site is dedicated to the women who fought on the home front during World War II. Armed not with weapons of destruction but of industry, building ships and other needed supplies without which the war effort would have collapsed.

The historic sites of the National Park System have become the touchstones of the heroic spirit. For information on these parks, how to get to them, and what you'll find there, visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov), the Web site of the National Parks Conservation Association, America's only private, nonprofit, national-park-advocacy organization. At times of commemoration, visit the parks for inspiration and for contact with the hopes and aspirations of America.



Pictured above are some of the students from Mt. Vernon and Brodhead who-attended the 10th Annual Farm Field Day-held in October at the farm of Bill Gene and Nancy Sigmon. The event is held annually for 4th/5th graders in the county. Sponsors of this event are Sigmon Farm, Rockcastle Co. Conservation District and USDA Natural Resources Cons. Service. Thanks to all who donated for lunch, and to those who volunteered to work, speak or drive a tractor.

## NewsTRENDS

### Contrary To Corporate Trend, Workers Remain Committed To Volunteering

(NAPS)—American workers are committed to volunteering. At the same time, they believe employers are actually pulling back from community involvement.

That's a key finding of a recent Prudential Financial survey showing that 80 percent of employees express a willingness to participate in company volunteer programs.

However, only 64 percent of those surveyed believe their employers support or encourage volunteerism. That's a 12 percent decline since 1998. And, according to the survey, only two of five companies that do provide volunteer programs encourage family involvement.

Other findings of the survey include:

- Fewer than half of those surveyed report that their employer sponsors volunteer programs.
- A vast majority of part-time employees—83 percent—say they would participate in a corporate-sponsored volunteer program.
- In the 25-to-44 age group, 51 percent of employees say their employer encourages family participation in company sponsored volunteer programs.

But, not all companies are pulling back. Prudential Financial, for example, continues to expand its Global Volunteer Day, now in its eighth year.

Global Volunteer Day started as Prudential Financial's National



A recent survey suggests that employees welcome volunteer programs sponsored by their employers.

Volunteer Day "We wanted something that would get many employees involved in their communities along with their families and friends," said Gabriella Morris, president of The Prudential Foundation and vice president of community resources. This grew into a Prudential tradition that is making a difference in communities across the globe.

The first Volunteer Day in 1995 involved more than 5,000 Prudential employees and their families in over 100 community service projects. Volunteers picked the organization in their community for which they would volunteer.

Global Volunteer Day is held the first Saturday in October. In 2001, there were 37,000 volunteers that participated in 837 projects in 18 countries, all 50 states and Puerto Rico. The volunteers consisted of employees and their families and friends.

Children are invited to participate as well, depending on the age of the child, location of the project and the type of work being done.

Prudential associates and their neighbors collected food, worked at food banks and soup kitchens, cleaned parks and camps, painted shelters and schools, fixed senior citizen's homes and held Halloween parties for children in need.

"For more than a century Prudential has been committed to contributing resources to the communities in which we have a presence," said Art Ryan, Chairman and CEO of Prudential Financial, Inc.

"The need of these communities has never been greater than it is today," added Ryan. "Global Volunteer Day is a simple extension of Prudential's commitment to and involvement in communities around the world. It's part of the fabric of our company."

To learn more about the survey or strategies for corporate involvement that could be used by other employers, visit the Web site at [www.prudential.com](http://www.prudential.com).

# Season's GREETINGS To You!

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