



Christmas Basket program helps 128

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Lady Rockets beat up on Somerset

See Page A-12



Mount Vernon Signal

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Toys for Tots program is a success again this year...



Over 120 families and approximately 250 children were treated Saturday at the Rockcastle County High School through the local Toys for Tots program. Several volunteers, young and old, helped distribute the toys from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. In the top photo from left are: Loren Reynolds, Morgan Campbell, Alissa Snyder, Kyle Robinson, Jacob Loudermilk, Zach Loudermilk, Justin Poynter, Marie Poynter, Kara Canterbury, Sara Burdine and Dakota Molina. Back row, from left, are: Ryan Loudermilk, Brittany Blair, Sara Snyder, Lisa Burdine, Amy Burdette, Jon Burdette, Michelle Robinson and Sam Dotson. Front row, from left: Anna and Russell Poynter.

Mayor Kirby criminal case has pre-trial conference date

Rockcastle District Judge Scott Lawless set a pre-trial conference date of February 23rd for the criminal case against Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby.

The court action came during Monday's regular session of Rockcastle District Court.

Kirby, who did not attend the proceedings, was represented by her attorney, Jerry Cox.

Kirby was arrested September 23rd of this year and charged with Official Misconduct, first degree, a Class A misdemeanor.

The Mayor filled a \$500 cash bond at the time of her arrest and was arraigned in Rockcastle District Court on October 20th.

Kirby was charged with official misconduct after Rockcastle County School Superintendent Larry Hammond requested a warrant for her arrest from County Attorney Billy Reynolds.

Hammond said in an earlier interview that he had asked for the warrant for Kirby after she

instructed city employees to do away with limestone rock that belonged to him.

Hammond said the rock was in a wall in front of Henry and Phyllis Hines' home, which is located next to his home on Richmond Street in Mt. Vernon, and that Phyllis Hines had told him he could have the rock.

The rock was going to be removed to make room for the new poured concrete wall, as part of the sidewalk project recently completed on that street.

Hammond said Kirby instructed city employees to dump the rock into Lake Linville, where city employees were dumping other debris from the sidewalk project, after she (the Mayor) told him that she would have city employees bring the rock to his home.

Hammond said that city employees had originally taken the rock from the wall to property owned by the Mayor, while he (Hammond) was out of

(Cont. to A9)

Christmas program is a partnership with community

Nearly 100 children will receive gifts from county's DCBS office

Imagine for just a moment that you are a child away from your family and community at Christmas.

Stretch your imagination further in that you have little to no contact with family and friendly familiar faces.

You likely feel lonely, disconnected and depressed. Now imagine receiving beautifully wrapped gifts, especially for you from a friend, delivered by your social worker who remains your only connection to the community.

"Is that for me?" is a com-

ment frequently heard by workers as they deliver gifts, along with the observation that often children choose not to open the gifts immediately so they can admire the packages themselves longer.

Now imagine a community that is not limited to defining itself in terms of the ability to draw new industry or initiate improvement projects but a community that is best measured by the capacity to give to its least advantaged and most

(Cont. to A9)

Variety of weather in county in December

During the first 22 days of December, either rain or snow has been recorded on 15 of those days.

So far, a total 4.10 inches of rain and an inch of snow has been recorded at the Cox Funeral Home Weather Station in Mt. Vernon.

Weatherman Bud Cox said the recorded low temperature for the month was this Monday morning, December 22nd,

when the mercury dropped to 3 degrees. Cox said that tied the low for the year, which was recorded on January 26, 2008.

The recorded high temperature for the month was 66 on the 19th, three days before the recorded low.

In November, 2.98 inches of rain and snow was recorded at the weather station, adding to

(Cont. to A9)

6,000 food items collected at Rockcastle Middle

Each year, during the holiday season, Rockcastle County Middle School conducts an annual food drive to benefit the local food and clothing mission in the community.

Their goal for this year was 2,000 food items. The students and staff surpassed this goal by bringing in approximately 6,000 food items.

"We are so very blessed to have a school that, even in difficult economic times, under-

stand that when we give to others we receive so much in return," said RCMS principal Jason Coguer.

"Whether it's donating food or helping cancer patients at the local hospital, RCMS students always come through in a big way. The phrase 'more than just a building' is often used at RCMS to convey the love for others that is not only felt, but is shown," he said.



Some of the staff members at the local DCBS Protection and Permancy Office in Mt. Vernon are shown above with just a few of the items their office will distribute this Christmas to needy children. From left, are: David Townsend, Terri Pushell, Joyce Cummins, Amy Yates and Supervisor Cheryl Franklin. Not present were: Jennifer White and Kayce Storm. (Front page photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Over 6,000 food items were collected by students and staff at the Rockcastle County Middle School during their annual food drive. Shown above, from left are: Addison Atkin, Ashton Arvin, John Hughes, McKenzii Todd, Hannah Sowder, Principal Jason Coguer, Leshia Cromer, Robert Phillips, Tammy Miller and Gordon Pope.

Editor's Notes

By Richard Anderkin



As I traveled throughout the county in the past couple of weeks, working on our Christmas issue, I realized once again just how giving this county is.

Even though times aren't the best for many people, it didn't seem like the level of care for others was any less than in years past.

And as it should be, many of the less fortunate in our county will have a good Christmas thanks to the generosity of others, although it was probably a sacrifice for some of those who gave. Point is, Rockcastle County has good people.

I say this every year, but 2008 went by faster than any I can remember. There were things that I planned to do in January, thinking I had plenty of time to get them finished, but at the end of the year they're still not done.

Back to caring people. In September Dad died and the show of kindness was overwhelming. Our family certainly appreciates everything that was done or said on our behalf during a trying time.

Besides Dad, my brother-in-law Jason, lost his father in March, three months after losing his mother last December. Mom also lost her last sibling the first week of this month and Dad's sister Anne was buried last week.

Yes, it has been an unusu-

ally sorrowful year for us, but everyone's kindness certainly helps.

It is also time for me to thank everyone for their help.

Without the cooperation of those we deal with on a weekly basis, it would be very difficult to publish the *Signal*.

There have been very few times over the years when someone or some group has been uncooperative, even when the result of their cooperation didn't shine the best light on them.

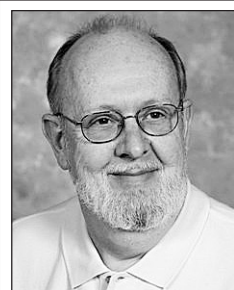
I also want to thank our advertisers, many of whom I consider friends. Your support throughout the years has been tremendous and certainly appreciated.

Again, thanks to everyone and I must warn you, I probably have the most cell phone numbers of anyone in the county since I don't sleep that well you never know when I might call.

We are always looking at ways to make our publication better so if there is something you don't think we are covering well enough, or something we haven't covered at all or you simply have a suggestion, just send us an e-mail at mvsignal@windstream.net.

We don't run anonymous letters to the editor, but we read all of our e-mails, even the anonymous ones.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us.



Rockcastle Memories

By David J. Griffin

It was a Golden Age

The 1950's became the era when Detroit produced automobiles that had their own distinctive look. They were anything but basic transportation. Not every car came with turn signals or backup lights. Drivers still proclaimed their intentions with hand signals.

A car of the '50's had so much character and could easily be recognized. Even girls knew one make from another, one year from another. I even found a poem that demonstrates this feeling about our cars. It is called:

*Memories
There was a time when just one glance was all that it would take,
And you would know the kind of car,
the model and the make.*

*So time moves on and so do we,
and nothing stays the same,
But I still love to reminisce,
and walk down memory lane.*

The automobiles produced during those years dramatically changed the way cars looked. They were ornately trimmed with lots of chrome, making bumpers, hood ornaments, and accessories glisten in the light of the sun.

In 1953, the basic Chevrolet sold for \$1,524. The next year General Motors adopted Panoramic windshields, setting a trend for decades.

Teenagers caught on to this "look" in their own cars. Companies like Warshawsky and J. C. Whitney sold anything that was covered with chrome. Each of us patiently waited for their latest catalogs to arrive to see what new chrome accessory we could purchase for our automobiles.

Almost every one of my friends had, at the least, chrome breathers sitting on top of their carburetors. Some of the fastest cars had several - one for each throat.

One that I remember distinctly was Charles Hensley. Now that young man knew how to use chrome to dress up his "ride"! You had to wear sunglasses when he raised the hood of his 1951 Chevrolet.

Another design that was characteristic of the 50's was the growth of the tail fins. These fins did not make cars go faster, and they certainly did not improve their performance, but they were very unique to each brand.

Cadillac was one of the first to bring this design into vogue, and it was followed by almost every automobile produced in that era. The 1957 Chevrolet had a distinctive rear end, a "look" that carried into the '60's. The '57 Chevy held its fins vertically, while the fins of the '60's carried the horizontal look. Think about the 1959 and 1960 Chevrolets.

1957 also brought about the advent of quad headlights on several models. The quad lamps were temporarily ruled illegal in several states. For that reason, several '57 makes can be found with either single or

twin headlights on each side.

That was also the year that Dick Clark launched American Bandstand on national television to capture the attention of teenagers after school. The Everly Brothers' song Wake up Little Susie was banned in Boston for its questionable lyrics about a boy and his girl in his car past curfew.

In those days, more teenagers than ever had their own cars. Most of their spare time was spent working on cars, cruising the drive-ins, and circling the local restaurants looking for chicks. One thing is for sure: teens in the fifties enjoyed their cars and had fun with them.

I wanted to customize my first ride, which was my grandfather's 1954 Chevy. Since it was a four-door, six cylinder, the most I could do to make it "cool" was to hang fuzzy dice from the rear-view mirror. When I actually purchased my own automobile (1958 Chevy), I really did rely on Warshawsky and J. C. Whitney for customizing my first set of wheels.

My first purchases were a chrome breather, dash knobs, spinner wheel covers, and eventually "Lakes pipes." I spent countless hours washing and polishing that old '58, and most of my friends thought I had the cleanest ride in the county.

The girls of those days loved riding around in our finely polished automobiles. They slid over and sat next to the driver - an impossibility today with the standard bucket seats. Wonder who came up with that idea anyhow? The full bench seat was much more comfortable, and I just loved having my date sitting by my side. (I could use just one hand even to light my cigarettes using a book of matches.)

The cars we drove were characteristic of our personalities. For some odd reason, I never did quit washing my automobiles. Even today, I spend

(Cont. to A4)



Versailles shop is truly Bluegrass

Kentucky is home to some of the finest artists and craftsmen in the nation.

Travel in any direction, inquire in nearly every county, and you'll find talented people handcrafting unique products.

From Blanket Creek Pottery near Falmouth to the hills of Rockcastle County where Jeff Underwood fashions rustic yard art, the offerings are nearly as varied as the personalities of the creators.

Many of the products are displayed and sold at art fairs and craft shows throughout warm-weather months. Finding outlets for other times of the year can be a challenge.

That's where people like the mother-daughter duo of Joyce Christopher and Wendy Batman come to the rescue.

After many years in the legal field, the Woodford County residents pled guilty to being bored by their work and decided to take their lives in a new and exciting direction.

Joyce and her college educator husband, John, had come to Kentucky in 1970 in an attempt to escape the student protests taking place on campuses

in Virginia.

They felt Kentucky would offer a safer environment in which to raise their two children.

"As soon as we got here, the ROTC building at UK was burned by student protesters," says Joyce.

The turbulent times were survived, with John continuing to teach at UK while Joyce served as housewife and mother, doing "lots of volunteering" and finding some time to hone her skills as a stained glass artist and seamstress.

John Jr. grew up to be an attorney, now based in Cincinnati, while Wendy joined her mom as a legal secretary while developing her talents as an artist.

Last May, the pair, ages 65 and 44, began giving serious thought to opening a shop that "would provide an outlet for what we do."

Traveling the state in a vehicle dubbed "Nannie's van," they made contacts with artists and craftsmen across Kentucky at fairs and festivals, purchasing a wide variety of handcrafted items.

(Cont. to A4)

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Our sincere thanks for your valued business.

We appreciate having you as our customer and look forward to serving you again in the New Year.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a New Year of health, happiness, peace and prosperity.

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Six local children were treated this year through the Rockcastle Sheriff Department's Shop with a Cop Program, which is also sponsored in part by the Mt. Vernon Lions Club. The six children were treated to a shopping spree on Saturday morning and then to a lunch at McDonalds. Shown above, front row from left are: Bethany Blevins, Gabriel Blevins, Stephen Blevins, Matthew Gadd, Santa Claus aka Mike Bryant and Deputy Rick Brummett. Back row, from left: Deputy Jason Kirby, Patrick Gadd, Andrienne Gadd, Sheriff Mike Peters, 5th District Constable David Mason and Mt. Vernon Lion's Club President Mike DeBorde. (Photo by: Richard Anderkin)



"Sights and Sounds of the Season" at Roundstone Elementary
Roundstone Elementary School students held their annual Christmas program on Thursday, December 11, 2008. Each grade level performed Christmas Carols, under the direction of Mrs. Sandy Allen, the music teacher. The emcees were fifth graders, Callie Carpenter, Sara Beth Clark, Kristen Forrester, and Jordan Sizemore. Instrumentalists performing were McKayla Blair, Adiah Coffey, Joy Frith, Alyssa Goodman, Dillon Long, and Lea Ellen Rogers. We would like to extend thanks to all who helped with the program and to all the parents and family members who attended.

Merry Christmas from the folks at
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Hi, my name is Seth Adam King. I am the son of John and Sheena Fry King, of Pine Knot. I was born November 25, 2008 at Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital in Somerset weighing 8 lbs. 8 1/2 ozs. and was 21" long. Paternal grandparents are John and Sandra King of Pine Knot. Maternal grandparents are Barbara Teal of Brodhead and Rick Fry of Mt. Vernon. Paternal great grandparents are the late Willard and Ella Mae King and Mr. and Mrs. Harold and Shirley Rollens of Sawyer, Ky. Maternal great grandparents are Clifford Fry of Hudson, Fl. and the late Francis Fry and Mr. and Mrs. Preston Holcomb o Brodhead. Maternal great great grandmother is Mrs. Florelle Brown of Brodhead.

Shingles vaccine

The Rockcastle County Health Department is now offering the Shingles Vaccine. A single dose if the vaccine is indicated for adults 60 years of age and older.

Shingles is caused by the varicella zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox. It is a painful rash often with blisters (Herpes Zoster). The rash appears on the face or body and can last 2-4 weeks and be very painful. Very rarely, a shingles infection may cause pneumonia, hearing problems, blindness, brain inflammation or even death. Only someone who has had chickenpox or gotten the chickenpox vaccine can get shingles. You cannot get shingles from another person. However, a person who has never had chickenpox or chickenpox vaccine could get chickenpox from someone with shingles. Shingles is more common in people over the age of fifty.

Please call the Rockcastle County Health Department at 256-2242 to schedule your vaccine appointment.



Happy 25th Anniversary Bill and Joyce Lear December 24, 1983

One by one each year flew by, since you both said "I do"... 25 years of memories,

shared by the two of you. From big events and holidays, To simple daily pleasures, Some tearful times along life's way, Some joy that can't be measured...



One by one each year now gone, But still they're yours forever... Each and every memory, You both have shared together!

With All Our Love, Bridgett and Shay Mom, Belinda, Frankie, Leandra, Levi, Lebrana, Dad and Mom, Ricky, Celena, Sasha, Alivia, Jeff, Brady, Jenny Sue and Mike



40th Wedding Anniversary

Gary and Brenda Smith celebrated their 40th anniversary with an amazing trip. First, the couple went to New York City and Manhattan. Following several days in the city the couple boarded a plane to Tel Aviv. They spent 10 days touring many historical sights in Israel, Bethlehem, The Sea of Galilee, and Jerusalem. Before leaving, both got re-baptized in the Jordan River.

Gary and Brenda reside in Mt. Vernon. They have two children, Glenn and Cloia (Darrell) and two grandchildren, Savannah Glenn and Shane Allen.

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2007 Chevy Aveo LS - Auto, 5K	\$242/mo.
2007 PT Cruiser - 30K	\$241/mo.
2007 Grand Caravan SXT - Stow & Go	\$242/mo.
2007 Dodge Charger - 26K	\$352/mo.
2008 Forenza - Auto, air, 12K	\$253/mo.
2007 Chevy Silverado - 4x4	\$264/mo.
2007 Ram 1500 - Only 9,500 miles	\$264/mo.
2006 Pacifica - Pwr seat, alloys, 35K	\$264/mo.
2005 Trailblazer 4x4 - Roof, pwr seat	\$264/mo.
2005 Nissan Quest - Quads, 36K	\$264/mo.
2007 Cobalt LT - Spoiler, alloys	\$275/mo.
2007 Chevy HHR LS - 32K	\$286/mo.
2007 Malibu LS - GAS SAVER	\$286/mo.
2007 Chevy Uplander LS - Alloys	\$286/mo.
2007 Taurus SE - Leather, roof	\$286/mo.
2006 Liberty 4x4 - Alloys, 31K	\$286/mo.
2006 Pontiac G-6 - Roof, 35K	\$286/mo.
2005 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4 - 44K	\$286/mo.
2008 Fusion SEL- Loaded	\$308/mo.
2008 Grand Prix - Spoiler, alloys	\$308/mo.
2007 Ford F-150 (2 choose from)	\$308/mo.
2007 GMC Sierra - Only 12K	\$308/mo.
2007 Equinox LS - Alloys, 32K	\$319/mo.
2008 Mustang - Pony Pkg, 9K	\$329/mo.
2005 Dakota Laramie - Crew Cab, 4x4, leather, 21K	\$329/mo.
2005 Cadillac CTS - Roof, leather, only 13K	\$15,990

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Our Readers Write

Thank You from Rocket Madness...

Dear Editor,

A special thanks to the following people, businesses and programs for their support during our annual Rocket Madness:

Arvin Family Practice, A Cut Above, Aletha's, Appliance Service Center, B&L Grocery, Brodhead Alumni, Brodhead Farm Equipment, Darlene Brown, Brunner Studio, Brodhead Pharmacy, B&M Liquidators, Coy and Linda Taylor, Celena's Hair Salon, Collins Respiratory Care, Community Trust Bank, Cox Hardware, Cox Law Office, Cummins Sporting Goods, Frances Whitehead, Dr. Karen Saylor, Tina Abney, Jeff and Lisa Smithern, Rockcastle Embroidery, Helen Abney, Mayor Clarice Kirby, Goff Excavating, Rep. Danny Ford, Coffey & Ford PSC, Long John Silver's, Waffle House, Climax Water, Lowe's Sporting Goods, Mark's Hardware, Shirley Martin, Marvin Owens Home for Funerals, Joyce Mink, Wolfe's Movie Warehouse, Mt. Vernon Signal, Juan and Amy Nicely, People's Bank, Phillips Realty, Potter's Clay Salon, Radio Shack, Renfro Valley, Richmond St. Eye Care, Rocket Sports Apparel, Rockcastle Hospital, Sabrian's Hair Design, State Beauty Supply, Jenny Sweet - Longaberger, Touch of Class, Valley Bingo, Pepsi Cola Bottling, Mitchell Tolle Gallery, Mary Mathis Insurance, Dr. David Bullock, Sonny's, El Cazador, Schwan's, Tea Cup Cafe, Clifford Collins, Brodhead Fire

Dept., Pout House, Doris Blanton, Booster Club parents, RCHS Food Service, Bill Sowder, Jamie Fain, Jennifer Brock, RCHS Band, Wendy's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Pizza Hut, Denny's, McDonald's, Peg's, Blimpie's, Brodhead Hometown Market, IGA, Godfather's Pizza, Uncle Charlie's, Mahaffey's Quick Lube, Singleton Insurance, Dolly Sodds Bakery, JROTC, Save-A-Lot, Lee's Famous Recipe, Ryan's, Dari Delite, Brodhead Commission, Kristy Bullock Gross, Sandy Burke, Loretta Dillingham, Jack's S&T, Jim Neeley, Rose's One Stop, Dowell and Martin Funeral Home, Johnny and Louise Bengé, Roy Todd Builders, Inspired Image, Renee Bullock, Haddix Detailing, Charlene Gentry, Rick Stansbury, Stephanie Harmon, McClure's Auto Parts, Berea Express Oil Change, Eagle Rock Insulation, Main Street Pharmacy, Spark's Flowers and More, Citizen's Bank, PBK Bank, Kathy Wright, Kwik Mart, Mt. Vernon Fuel Center, RCHS Cheerleaders.

Thanks Again,
Rocket Madness Committee

Speaking for those who choose not to...

Dear Editor,

It has come to my attention that comments have been made about my previous letters. The comments range from:

- (1) "good work, keep it up"
- (2) "it's entertaining"
- (3) "his dogs ain't in that fight"

To the first group, THANK YOU.

To the second group, "Hey keep buying newspapers."

To the third group, "NO, my dogs are not in this fight, BUT I AM!!! At the REQUEST OF NUMEROUS CITIZENS of Mt Vernon and Rockcastle County. I AM speaking for those who choose not to speak or are afraid to speak because of being intimidated by the mayor and/or the city council. I am speaking for others and for that I am not ashamed.

Thank you and have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Sincerely, Rick Courtney

"Memories"

(Cont. from A2)

too much time with a towel in my hand, making sure that my "ride" is squeaky clean. I just cannot stand driving a dirty car. My wife thinks I am too "pernickety," and I suppose she is right. I do know one thing; a clean automobile gets more looks than one that is covered with dust and grime, especially if it is black.

I suppose the shine of the chrome and the look of the '50's is why those cars are collectors' items today. I still wish I could "cruise around" in that old black '58 Chevy.

(You can reach me at mtmman@mis.net or you can drop me a line at P.O. Box 927 - Stanton, KY 40380. I appreciate your comments and suggestions.)

"Ken & Tucky"

(Cont. from A2)

When they were finished with what they call their "ooing and aahing trip," they had enough material to follow through on Wendy's long-time dream of having a business on Main Street in Versailles.

Truly Bluegrass debuted on Sept. 15 featuring the products of more than 50 artists and vendors.

It's a rare day when some of the artists from the area don't visit the 14x30 former real estate office for coffee and conversation.

Vada Dolph, a Washington state native whose father hailed from King Bee in Lincoln County dropped by on a cold and snowy Tuesday. The spry 77-year-old was checking on her numerous soft-sculpture cloth dolls displayed in the shop's front window.

Texas native Joan Wilhoit is a frequent visitor and talented artist specializing in murals and faux finishes. Reproductions of her canvas art pieces are displayed in the shop.

Wilhoit has an advisory team whose members include her friend and fellow Versailles resident Gwyn Hyman Rubio, author of several books including Icy Sparks, an Oprah Book Club selection, and The Woodman's Daughter.

According to Wilhoit, Rubio's late father, Mac Hyman, wrote the best-selling novel No Time For Sergeants, later a popular play and 1958 movie launching the careers of Andy Griffith and Don Knotts.

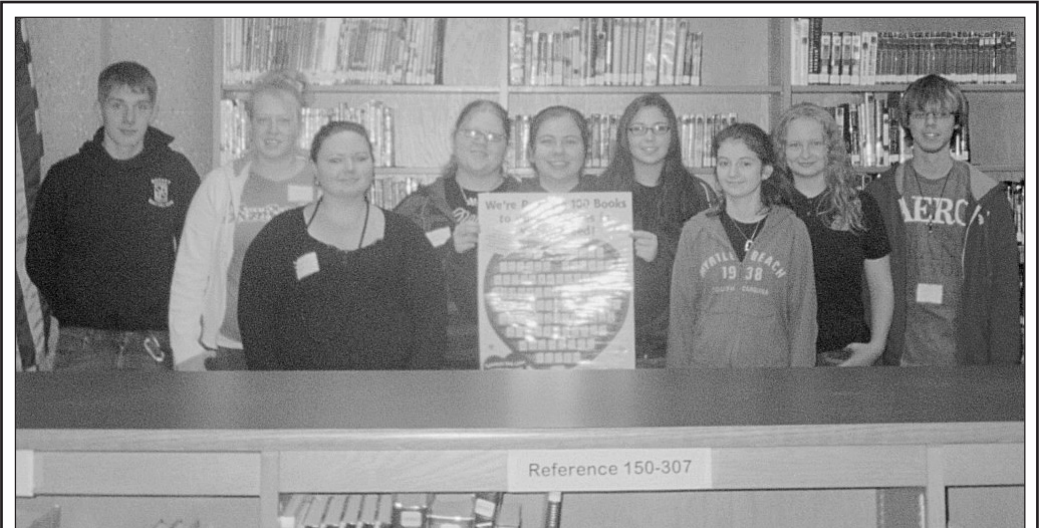
"We're simply surrounded by some totally awesome artists and it's been great having them come to us and getting to know them on a personal basis here in the store as they share their stories," says Joyce.

"My husband says this shop has turned into a saloon for women without the booze."

Columnist Don White has served as editor at several newspapers in Kentucky. His Kentucky Traveler features are published throughout the state.



The Roundstone Cub Scouts Troop 263 provided Christmas for a little boy that is being housed at the Ashley House this Christmas. We are all very proud of these boys, for they have learned the true meaning of Christmas and thought of someone else other than themselves. The scouts would also like to thank Ms. Tammy and the Ashley House for the gift that was gave to them. The gift was very nice and the scouts plan on playing the game at there Christmas party. Pictured from left are: Dylan Bullen, Ira Hagard, Dylan Chandler and Devon Seaburg.



RCHS Book Club members recently participated in Scholastic Book Company's Read 100 Books Event to provide books to children who might not otherwise have access to reading materials. Students who participated include (left to right): Buck Blair, Samantha Adams, Lindsey Northern, Kayla Frederick, Alexis Brown, Tara Baldwin, Rebecca Ayers, Amanda Swinney, and Keifer Goff. Also participating but not pictured are Seth Adams, Kayla Moberly, Tashia Jones, and Danny Barnes. RCHS chose Save the Children as their choice for Scholastic to make a donation.

RCHS Book Club and Library have busy season

The RCHS Book Club recently completed two service projects to benefit others during the holidays, while the library hosted the annual book fair.

The first project, an annual event, was for the club to participate in Scholastic Book Company's "Read 100 Books" event. In two weeks' time all 100 blanks on the poster were filled by thirteen members. The club chose to have Scholastic's donation go to Save the Children to purchase books for students in Owsley County, Kentucky.

The second project, also an annual event, was the canned food drive tied in with the Book Fair held at the RCHS Library. A total of 149 cans or boxes of food were gathered for Ashlee's House in Mt. Vernon.

Book Club members are Samantha Adams, Seth Adams, Rebecca Ayers, Tara Baldwin, Danny Barnes, Buck Blair, Alexis Brown, Courtney Damrell, Kayla Frederick, Keifer Goff, Dylan Howard, Kayla Hurt, Tashia Jones, Kayla Moberly, Lindsey Northern, Amelia Smith, and Amanda Swinney. Officers this year are: Amanda Swinney, President; Alexis Brown, Vice President; Keifer Goff, Secretary; and Kayla Hurt, Projects Chairperson. Faculty sponsor is Mrs. Janet Wells, Library Media Specialist.

The library hosted its second annual book fair and received additional books to add to the collection. This year's theme was Feed the Hungry, Feed your Mind. Part of the fun was contests and prizes during this time. Winners who received shopping certificates were: Nick Shelton, Megan Powell, Stanley Baggett,

curately guessed the 79 items in the candy jar for a prize. Mrs. Jaclyn Cook won the teacher prize. Special thanks to those who assisted with the book fair: Mrs. Teresa Childress, Mrs. Sandy Alexander, Megan Baker, Rachael Hale, Reanna Hasty, Danny Barnes, Alexis Brown, Kayla Frederick, Morgan Harper, and Mrs. Janet Wells.

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Bookmobile Schedule
No service week of Dec. 22nd.
Mon., Dec. 29th: Spiro, Level Green, Willailla, Country Care.
Tues., Dec. 30th: Ottawa and Bee Lick.

Dedication Postponed
A ribbon-cutting ceremony, scheduled for Dec. 20th at Quail Park, has been postponed to a later date.

Project Graduation Meeting
There will be a Project Graduation 2009 meeting Monday, Jan. 5th at 6:30 in the high school cafeteria. Meetings will follow on the first Monday of each month. All parents/guardians of seniors are urged to attend.

Health Department Holiday Hours
The Rockcastle County Health Department will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 25 and 26 for the Christmas Holidays and January 1 and January 2 for New Year's.

Courthouse Holiday Hours
The Circuit Court Clerk, County Court Clerk, PVA and Sheriff's offices will be closed Wed., Dec. 24th, Thurs., Dec. 25th, Fri., Dec. 26th and Sat., Dec. 27th for the Christmas Holidays. The same offices will be closed Thursday, Jan. 1st, Friday, Jan. 2nd and Sat., Jan. 3 for the New Year's Holiday.

Aerobics Classes in Berea
It's time to get in shape! The Berea Parks and Recreation Department is excited to offer aerobics classes four nights a week. Want to add a challenge to your current workout? Join us for intermediate aerobics on Mondays and Wednesdays. If you are just starting out, try our Beginning Low Impact aerobics class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All classes are six weeks in length and will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Russel Acton Folks Center in Berea. For ages 14 and up. Space is limited. Call the Berea Parks and Recreation Department at 859-986-9402 for more information.

RCIDA Meeting
The Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority holds its regular meeting the first Monday of each month at noon on the third floor of the courthouse.

Historical Society Hours
Rockcastle Historical Society is open Mondays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the RTEC garage building. Due to the holidays, regular monthly meetings will not be held in Nov. and Dec. Meetings will resume in Jan., 2009.

NA Women's Meeting
The Women's NA Serenity Group of Mt. Vernon meets each Monday at 8 p.m. at the Christian Appalachian Project Community Center, 64 Beiting Lane, Mt. Vernon. Open meeting - non-smoking.

Kiwanis Club Meetings
The Rockcastle Kiwanis Club meets every Thursday at noon at Renfro Valley Lodge.

Women's Narcotics Meeting
There will be a Women's Narcotics Anonymous Meeting every Monday evening at 8 p.m. at the Community Center, sponsored by Christian Appalachian Center. For more information, contact the Healing Rain Center at 256-5810.

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

Narcotics Anonymous
Narcotics Anonymous meets Thursday nights at 8 o'clock behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon.

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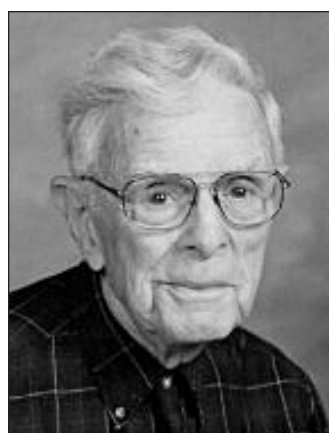
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Obituaries



Chester Byron Owens, Jr.

Chester Byron Owens, Jr. died December 19, 2008 at the Rockcastle Hospital. He was the son of the late Dr. Chester Byron Owens, Sr. and Gertrude Martin Owens. He was a lifelong resident of Brodhead. He was born March 8, 1917. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of 48 years, Barbara Jane Owens, a brother Richard Cherry Owens, and a special nephew Kenneth A. Parsons.

He was a naval veteran of WWII and a retired Postmaster of the USPS an organization he served for 42 years. Mr. Owens was a 55 year Lions Club member as well as a Lifelong Mason. He served on many Community organizations-City council member of Brodhead, Rockcastle County Ambulance Board, one of the original trustees of the Kentucky Christian Assembly, Brodhead Fire Chief, Deacon of the Brodhead Christian Church, Cemetery Board member, Cedar Rapids Country Club Board member to name a few.

He is survived by his sons, Dr. Byron M. Owens (Peggy) of Somerset, Philip M. Owens (Ginny) of Irvine, and J. Stephen Owens (Onna Kay) of Brodhead. Also surviving are 4 grandsons, Byron Patrick Owens, Thomas Byron Owens, Philip Daniel Owens and Jeffrey Hunt Owens. A grand daughter Angela Janette Owens and three great grandchildren. He also leaves behind a special sister-in-law Virginia P. Nunn, nephews Jimmy T. Parsons, Frankie L. Nunn and long time caregiver Sharon Lovins.

Services were held Sunday, December 21, 2008 at the Brodhead Christian Church with Bro. Tracy Valentine officiating.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to the Brodhead Christian Church P.O. Box 603, Brodhead, KY 40409.

Casketbearers were: Jeffrey H. Owens, Daniel Owens, Michael Parsons, Jimmy Parsons, Frankie Nunn, Roger Bray and Marvin E. Owens.

Honorary casketbearers were: Dale Bray, Walter Baldwin, Clay Colson, Regina Burton, Judy Petrey, Sheary Caldwell, Linda Adams, Margie Rose and Johnny Newland.

Condolences may be made to www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com

Zelma Fern Cromer

Zelma Fern Cromer, 89, of Mt. Vernon and widow of Arlie Cromer, died Sunday, December 21, 2008 at the Rockcastle Hospital.

Funeral arrangements are by the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home and are incomplete at this time.

A complete obituary will appear in the next issue of the Signal.

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

Rockcastle UNITE Coalition

Join Us!
The Rockcastle UNITE Coalition meets on the second Wednesday of each month, at noon, at the Renfro Valley Lodge.



Ralph Owens

Ralph Owens, 88, husband of Sarah Owens of Livingston, died Wednesday, December 17, 2008 at the V.A. Medical Center in Lexington. He was born on August 18th, 1920 in Livingston, the son of the late George and Bertha Gilliam Owens.

He was a truck driver in construction for years. Ralph was an Army Veteran of World War II. His hobby was fishing.

Those left to cherish his memory include: his wife, Sarah Owens of Livingston; two sisters, Clara Ivik of Brodhead and Jean Fossi of Shillington, PA; eight nephews, Wayne (Laverne) Henson of Livingston, Bruce (Lillian) Owens of New Castle, KY and Steven Fossi, Eddie Fossi, Terry Owens, Larry Owens, James Owens and George Owens; four nieces, Jenia Myers, Sharon Myers, Mary Ann Sears and Linda Fossi; and a host of friends and neighbors.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by: three brothers, Billy Ray Owens, Paul Owens and Lawrence Owens; three sisters, Beatrice Jones, Lucille Owens and Inez Myers; and infant twins, George Jr. and Helen Owens.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 20th, 2008 at the Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals Chapel with Bro. Dean Carpenter and Bro. Billy Medley officiating. Burial followed in the Red Hill Cemetery in Livingston.

Casketbearers were: Kenneth Gilliam, Clarence Gilliam, Roger Henson, Jeffery Owens, Bruce Owens and David Gilliam.

Condolences to the family may be made to his online registry at www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com

Edith Irene Hopkins

Miss Edith Irene Hopkins, 85 of Mt. Vernon, died Saturday, December 20, 2008 at the Rockcastle Health & Rehabilitation Center in Brodhead. She was born in Rockcastle County on December 29, 1922 the daughter of Elijah and Lela Mae Hunt Hopkins. She was a retired seamstress and a member of the non-denominational faith.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews and was preceded in death by four brothers, Earl, John, Wade and Berl Hopkins and one infant sister.

Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday, December 23, 2008 at 1 p.m. at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home Chapel by Bro. Eddie Nation. Burial will follow in the Maretburg Cemetery. Friends may call at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home after 11 a.m. Tuesday.

Donations are suggested to one's favorite charity or to the Gideons International.

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

The Signal office will be closed December 24th - January 4th Merry Christmas!

Buford Stone Ward

Buford Stone Ward, 72, of Mt. Vernon, died Wednesday, December 16, 2008 at the UK Chandler Medical Center in Lexington. He was born in Rockcastle County on March 23, 1936 the son of Enoch S. and Florence Witt Ward and was a member of First Baptist Church of Mt. Vernon.

He is survived by: four sisters, Wonedith Robinson of Ypsilanti, MI, Wendlene (Harold) Wallin of Loveland, OH, Emily (Roy) Baker of Knoxville, TN and Marie Rice of Dayton, OH. Several nieces and nephews also survive. He was preceded in death by one brother, Kermit Ward of Dayton, OH.

There were no services, the family chose cremation. Arrangements were by the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home.

Donations in memory of Mr. Ward are suggested to: First Baptist Church of Mt. Vernon Building Fund, PO Box 639, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456.

Subscribe to the Signal

Cards of Thanks

Thank You

Words cannot express my heartfelt thanks to each person who was so kind and caring during my recent lung transplant

Thanks to everyone who sent cards, e-mails, gifts and food, visited me or called. But, most of all, those who prayed for me before, during and after my surgery. Without those prayers, I wouldn't be where I am today.

I am truly blessed to have so many wonderful friends in my life.

I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a truly Happy New Year.

Love, Miss Jenny Phil Childress

The family of Phil Childress would like to express their sincere appreciation for the kindness and love shown during our loss.

We especially want to thank Cox Funeral Home, along with Schoppenhorst, Underwood and Brooks Funeral Home of Shepherdsville, Ky. for the service, care and compassion.

Thanks to all the churches in the Mt. Vernon area for the many prayers and kindnesses and a special thank you to Bible Baptist Church for the wonderful meal served and to the volunteers for their time.

To Brother Paul Chitwood of the Mt. Washington Baptist

Church, we cannot say enough for the beautiful service and the precious time you have spent with our family.

Also a special thank you to Dwayne Hutton for the beautiful sons that were special to our hearts.

To each of you who visited, called, sent cards, gifts, flowers, food and especially for the prayers, we want you to know that we will never forget your kindness. We have truly been blessed with a multitude of friends. May God bless each of you.

Dianne, Brent, Grandchildren and all the Childress Family

Elva Mullins

In memory of Elva Mullins who died 1 year ago, December 23, 2007.

There will never be a moment, I will not think of you Our special times together, the loving things you would do Memories so special, when you were by my side

Now tucked away inside my heart, forever to abide

And someday up in Heaven, again your face I'll see

When we meet upon that golden shore

Where the best is yet to be.

Sadly missed by your family Merry Christmas Mom

With Best Wishes At Christmas

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Two people were injured in a two vehicle crash on Interstate 75 around 3:30 p.m., Friday afternoon. The collision occurred near the 66 mile marker of the northbound lanes and caused one of the vehicles to overturn and the other to run into the median. Above, Rockcastle EMTs Becky Griffin, Amy Navarre, Dana Carter and Jamie McClure, along with help from others including Mt. Vernon firefighter Ryan Messenger, take a Tennessee man to a waiting ambulance. The Tennessee man and a Richmond woman, who was driving the SUV shown at right, were both taken to St. Joseph Hospital in Berea. The wreck caused major delays in both the northbound and southbound lanes of I-75. (Photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Local artisan to create baskets at Artisan Center

Janet Northern of Mt. Vernon will create baskets using honeysuckle vines and willow bark from 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. January 10th at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

Janet Northern has been making baskets for thirteen years and is primarily self-taught. She utilizes the wood and natural vines that she finds and gathers in the region surrounding her Rockcastle County farm to create her baskets. The Eastern Kentucky woodlands give Janet inspiration as well as material from which to work.

To prepare the honeysuckle vines, Janet boils the vines for 30 minutes and then strips off the outer bark to reveal the honey colored, pliable surface of the vine. When the vines are freshly cut they are pliable, but over time they dry out and need to be soaked in water to re-soften them. Janet's smaller baskets are often made with reed and driftwood.

Starting with an interesting piece of wood, Janet begins to design her asymmetrical one-of-a-kind basket forms, often creating multiple openings. She soaks the honeysuckle vines in water, attaches them to the piece of wood chosen, and begins to weave her forms into asymmetrical and beautiful shapes.

Janet also creates baskets from the inner bark of willow trees. These are usually started with a criss-cross pattern and a

square bottom. She tapers the willow bark into varying widths depending on the size and function of each basket. The bark is kept supple by soaking it in water before weaving.

Works by Janet Northern can regularly be found at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, located at 975 Walnut Meadow Road, just off Interstate 75 at exit 77 (Berea). The Center's exhibits, shopping, and travel information areas are all open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and the café from 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. The Center currently features works by more than 650 artisans from over 100 counties from all across the Commonwealth. For more information call 859-985-5448 or visit the Center's web site at www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is an agency in the Tourism, Arts & Heritage Cabinet.



Janet Northern



Regina Hull-Brown, Mt. Vernon Elementary School Family Resource Coordinator, stands among the many clothes and toys collected by her department along with help from teachers, parents and community members for the approximately 150 students who were selected for the Christmas Tree program at MVES. Parents were scheduled to pick up the items for their children on Monday and Tuesday at the school. (Photo by: Richard Anderkin)

No Paper Next Week!

There will be no Mount Vernon Signal the week of January 1st.

Our next issue will be January 8th.

The Signal office will be closed December 24th through January 4th.

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06 Chevy Crew Cab LT, Loaded.....	\$14,980
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06 Suzuki Grand Vitara, Nice.....	\$11,980
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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.

Lee, Marcia, Rachel and Aidan Cain

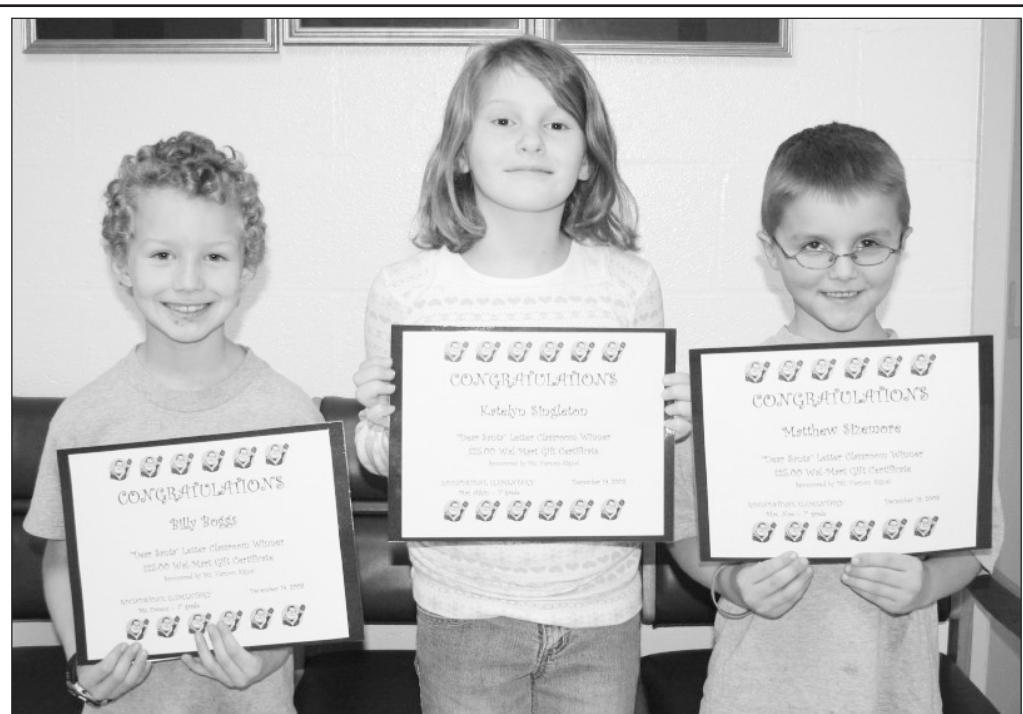
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First graders at Roundstone Elementary School, whose Letters to Santa were chosen as the best in their class this year, are shown above, from left: Billy Boggs, Katelyn Singleton and Matthew Sizemore. The three students received a cash prize from the *Signal*. Santa letters from each of the county's first grade students appear inside this week's C-section.



The first graders at Brodhead Elementary School, whose letters were chosen as the best this year, are shown above, from left: Andrew Didilo, Hailee Barnes, Savanna Sweet and Emily Thomas. The four students received a cash prize from the *Signal*.



First graders at Mt. Vernon Elementary School, whose Letters to Santa were chosen as the best in their class, this year, are shown above, from left: Gabriel Tackett, Allie Pheanis, Holly Miller, Adrianna Hellard, Ashley Cameron and Wesley Clark. The six students received a cash prize from the *Signal*. Santa letters from each of the county's first grade students appear inside this week's C-section.

Brianna and family says Thank You!

Hi Everyone,

We would like to say thank you to all of you from the bottom of our hearts for all the cards, letters and numerous things which have been sent to Brianna.

But most of all we thank everyone for the prayers. It is so good that we live in a community where people care.

The reason that we are writing this letter is because so many people have asked us to write them and let them know how Brianna is doing.

We think it is so wonderful that people care so much. However, by the time we take care of Brianna and Hunter there is not enough time in the day.

Brianna is doing good this time. She has not bounced back as soon as other times, but we think she is so aggravated by having to wear the C Coler, but it is so much better than the HALO she was in. She just wants to be a kid and run and jump and she is just not able to do that yet.

We would like to again say thank you to everyone for the prayers, and a special thank you to Bro. Eddie and Bro. Bryan, from First Baptist Church, who stayed with us the whole time Brianna was having this last

surgery. We would like to say thank you to the *Signal*, which goes all over the U.S. Brianna has gotten cards from all over. She even got a card and a key chain, from a Mayor in a town in N.C. She thought that was great. If you get time to send Brianna a card it would be greatly appreciated. The cards have almost quit coming.

The other day she got some cards from the Daisy Scouts and loved them. Thank you girls for your cards. She looks forward to getting them.

I hope some day we can be a blessing to someone else like you all have been to us. We pray and thank GOD for all of you, who are so special.

Mindy and Mamaw Betty
 GOD is so good
 Brianna McClure
 P.O. Box 738,
 Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456
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 (606) 256-3519 (606) 0137

Hi,

My name is Brianna McClure.

Since the writing of my last story, I have gotten bad news. I had to have surgery again on November 15th. They had to take a piece of my pelvic bone and put in my neck with two screws. I'm not in a HALO anymore, but I will be in a C Coler for 12 weeks.

I would like to say to all of you, Thank You. Thanks so much for all the cards, dollars, stickers and jewelry. I loved all of them, since there is not much I can do, I look forward to the cards. Mommy and Mamaw read them all to me and I show them where to put them so I can look at all of them. I can't thank you all enough for all you have done. I don't know all of you, but I love everyone of you, because Jesus loves me and I love you all.

Guess what! I got good news too! I got a new stepdad named Scotty Winstead and a new big step-brother named Roy Scott, which I love very much. Scotty is as good to me as my own Daddy Jamie McClure. I also got a new Nana Laverne Winstead and a new Poppy Dale Winstead, who I love very much. They are all very good to me. I also got new cousins Tristin, Connor and August and a new Uncle, Jeff.

My other Nana is Mary Hayes and the late Norman Hayes. NaNan Hayes comes up and plays with me alot when I'm having a bad day. I love her very much.

My other Nana is Connie McClure and Papa Shirley McClure. I love them a lot.

Again, thank you all so very much for everything. I also have two very special friends, that I love alot. They know who they are. Thank you all again, I can't wait to get back to school! I am home schooled now. My teacher is Mrs. Edna and she is so sweet. I love her and I get great cards from the school and teachers. I love them. Thank you all.

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Brianna McClure's life is still recovering after an April 6th auto accident.



First graders in Mrs. Jerrilynn Smith's class and Mrs. Janet Carter's class at Mt. Vernon Elementary School sang special songs for some of the Ventilator Care patients in the Respiratory Care Center on Tuesday afternoon. Students shown above, front row, from left, are: Jacob, Jeriann, Isaac, Lauren, Brittaney, Katie, Orion, Selena, Michelle, Isaiah, Andrea, Allison, Holly, Cameron, Leann, Aden, Lebrana, Shakeitha, Katherine, Nora, Eli, and Jason. Back row, from left: Wesley, Abby, Nichole, Tristan, Hunter, Braden, Daniel, Orrin, C.J., Logan, Sam, Walker and Justin.

Rockcastle County High School Academic Honor Roll



Rockcastle County High School senior Morgan Harper has a grade point average of 4.04 and is one of three students tied for the fourth highest ranking of the 207 seniors in the 2009 graduating class at RCHS. Harper is the daughter of Harold and Sherry Harper of Brodhead and is considering attending, Bellarmine, Transylvania or Western Kentucky University in the Fall where she will major in Chemistry. Morgan currently has advanced placement classes at RCHS in Calculus and Chemistry and as a junior she had an advanced placement class in History. Harper plays the baritone and has been a member of the RCHS Band for five years and was selected to the Western Kentucky University Honor Band. Harper is also a member of the RCHS BETA Club and National Honor Society, French Club and Y-Club. Harper enjoys reading, with *Brisingsr*, written by Christopher Paolini, being her favorite novel.

Hannah Ponder's work on sidelines makes headlines with Rockets, coaches, players

Although Rockcastle County senior Hannah Ponder began what could be a promising career this past fall, her work as a student trainer with the Rockets football team paid more immediate dividends for coaches and players.

When Coach Scott Parkey learned Ponder was interested in sports medicine, he suggested she attend a trainers' clinic last summer at the University of Kentucky. The experience prepared Ponder to play an important role for the Rockets, who finished 8-4 in Parkey's first year as head coach.

Ponder worked the sidelines during games and practices, making sure the team had proper care. Her duties included taping players to treat and prevent injuries, taking care of injured players and assisting Sheri McNew, a UK trainer, who frequently attended games and practices. Ponder also cleaned and organized the locker room, handled paperwork and errands for coaches, sold t-shirts and other merchandise and performed other duties around the coach's office.

Ponder did nearly everything but direct traffic in the parking lot after games.

"In addition to the above," Parkey said, "she decorated the locker room, helped the moms feed the boys on Thursdays, cleaned the locker room and training room, did laun-

dry and, most importantly, she got me and the other coaches peanut M&Ms on Thursdays."

Defensive coordinator Josh Martin said Ponder was an essential part of the team.

"She helps us get our players bandaged up and ready to play and she helps keep Coach Parkey organized. Otherwise, our players would be bleeding everything and our head coach would spend more time doing paperwork and cleaning than coaching football. Needless to say she is a big help."

Assistant coach Chris Bishop said Ponder was Parkey's "right hand woman" who was always "a step ahead of the coaching staff. What's more, she put up with the coaches "even if we were in a bad mood. She is wonderful."

It was a special honor for Ponder to work with Parkey. When she was two, she was the flower girl in Coach Parkey's and his wife, Christy's, wedding. Little did she know what a key role she would play in Parkey's first year as coach.

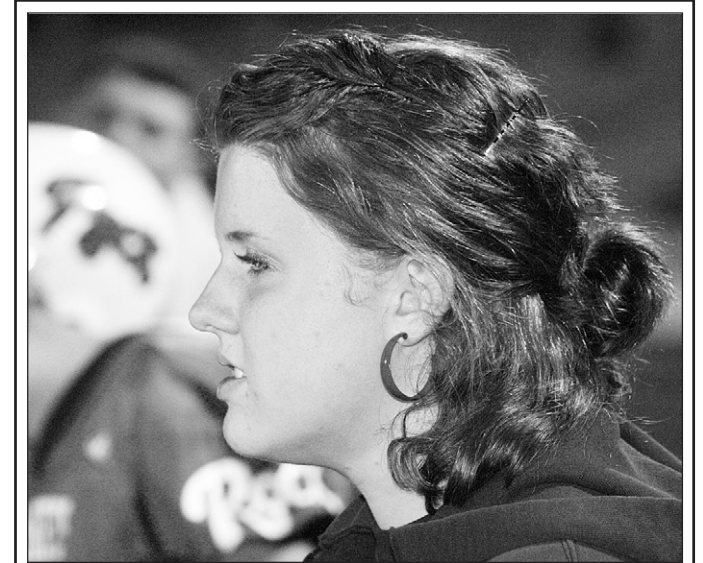
Ponder plans to pursue a career in sports medicine at UK. No one doubts that she will be successful.

"She was not intimidated by the responsibility or afraid to ask questions," McNew said. "I have been impressed with her personal skills, positive attitude and work ethic. This experience will definitely help her achieve her goal of becoming a health

care professional in the future."

In addition to the positive comments, long time assistant coach Tony Saylor had one more to add. "Hannah has been a super addition to the program and we will sorely miss her. Thank you, Hannah, for a job well done."

Ponder is the daughter of Jill and Steve Ponder of Wildie.



Hannah Ponder



and many thanks to our good friends, everywhere.



Front row from left: Lana Sturgill and Doris Lunsford. Back row from left: Jessica Barren, Lisa Evans and Tasha Burton

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No matter what your game, we hope your season is filled with fun and good times. We know we're thankful for the goodwill you've shown toward us this year.



Joshua Mullins and Sonya Robinson

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“Weather”

(Cont. from front)

the total of 40.14 inches of precipitation recorded this year.

Cox said precipitation in the county for 2008 was between four and five inches below normal.

“Mayor”

(Cont. from front)

town on business.

County Attorney Reynolds said Wednesday that he would ask for a March trial date in the case, on February 23rd, unless some type of plea agreement could be worked out before then.

The Mayor, who has said publicly she is innocent and would be found not guilty if the case were taken to trial, faces a penalty of not more than 12 months in prison and/or not more than a \$500 fine.

“Families”

(Cont. from front)

vulnerable children.

In the past several years, a tradition of doing just that has grown quietly and steadily through partnership with the local DCBS Protection and Permanency office.

This year, nearly one hundred children will receive gifts

that include clothing, personal items, games and toys, thanks to local businesses and community partners.

DCBS staff selects the children to receive gifts that are in their home care such as foster homes or relative placements, in addition to children in the community whose families may not otherwise be able to provide.

Renfro Valley has provided gifts for 40 children from monetary donations they collect throughout the year for this special Christmas project. Other donors include: First Baptist Church, Dari Delite, First Christian Church, Cash Express, Citizens Bank, Crossroads Assembly of God, Rockcastle Hospital and an additional 30 individual sponsors.

Each and everyday we make choices that will change the outcome of not only their lives but affects the lives of others.

On behalf of the children, DCBS staff thanks everyone who contributed.

*Merry
Christmas and
Happy New
Year
from all of us to
all of you*



Mr. Earl Phillips recently gave Mt. Vernon Elementary a Christmas gift. Phillips made corn hole boards to donate to the school for students to enjoy at recess. Pictured are MVES Principal Mr. Leon Davidson (right) and students Peyton Bowman, Joseph Cowan, Hannah Mullins and Janelle Brown accepting the gift from Mr. Phillips.

Amy Nicole Elliott took part in Western Kentucky University's 164th commencement ceremony on Saturday, December 13th. She graduated with magna cum laude recognition as part of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education.



During her time at Western she has been involved in Habitat for Humanity, Phi Eta Sigma, Student KEA, National Society for Collegiate Scholars and worked as a campus tour guide. She will start graduate school in spring 2009 for a Masters Degree in Elementary Education. Amy is a 2004 graduate of RCHS. She is the daughter of Dennis and Pam Elliott. She is the granddaughter of Murphy and the late Eva Martin and of the late Kenneth and Lois Elliott.



Adam Hensley, son of Ronnie and Rhonda Hensley of Orlando, graduated from Lindsey Wilson College on Saturday, December 13th. Adam received a Bachelors in Communications. Adam is the grandson of Andrew Johnson of Mt. Vernon, Louise Johnson of Richmond, Betty and Stan Wright of Orlando and the late Johnny Hensley, of Orlando.

Roundstone student is winner of essay contest

Roundstone Elementary School student Lea Ellen Rogers was recently selected as the recipient of the 2008 Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay contest in the elementary school category (K-3rd). Winners were selected based on their reflection of their most inspired Dr. King moment or speech in concert with the theme, “Moving Towards the Future Today, Embracing Change in a World of Difference”, and stating how she is using that inspiration to shape her life and community. This contest is a statewide competition, in which Lea Ellen was selected from entries submitted from across the Commonwealth, and to be one of the finalists in this competition is truly an honor.

Lea Ellen will be presented with a certificate along with \$300 U.S. Savings Bond at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Annual Celebration in January, 2009 at the Kentucky Historical Society in Frankfort, Kentucky.

We are very proud of you Lea Ellen!!! Roundstone Elementary students and staff

The following is Lea Ellen's essay:

Making the World a Better Place

By Lea Ellen Rogers

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a great leader who saw people treated differently, and he decided to fix this problem and change the world. The problem that I see in our community is that veterans are only recognized one day a year on Veteran's Day. Veterans are important to most Americans, and they are very good people

because they have served us by fighting for and protecting our country. If I could do anything to make the world a better place to live in, it would be to honor veterans more throughout the year instead of only one day a year.

The role that I would play in making a positive change to honor veterans would be to make a list of the veterans that live in my neighborhood, church, and community and make cards, gifts, and cupcakes for them on other patriotic holidays like Memorial Day, Flag Day, and the Fourth of July instead of only on Veteran's Day. My Sunday School class can make cards for the veterans that are in the local hospital and nursing home and deliver the cards personally to them. The cards would have patriotic symbols and would say, “Thank you for being so good to our country. We appreciate your service and all that you have done for us.”

If I could do anything to make the world a better place to live in it would be to recognize our veterans more. Veterans have served our country, now we should serve them.



Lea Ellen Rogers

No Paper Next Week!

There will be no Mount Vernon Signal the week of January 1st.

Our next issue will be January 8th. The Signal office will be closed December 24th through January 4th.



Caitlin and Austin Merry Christmas. We love and miss you. Love Bailey and Gavin Spoonamore

Thinking of You at Christmas

All of us at Brodhead Pharmacy would like to thank all of our customers for a great year.

Stop by to see us and let us help you with all your prescription needs.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Let us celebrate the birth of Jesus. God bless each and every one!



Front row from left:
Howard Saylor,
Brianna Mullins,
Michelle Coffey, Cherie Collins
and David Collins.
Back row from left:
Matthew Burkhart, Grahm Fay,
Rachelle Riddle and
Tommy Adams.

Not present:
Linda Wilson, Dennis Collins,
Carolyn Collins,
Brittany Perkins.

Howard Saylor
Pharmacist

Brodhead Pharmacy

David Collins
Owner

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CHURCH NEWS

Free Bible Courses

Free Bible Correspondence Course. Send your name and address to 3168 Quail Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456

Gospel Singing

Gospel singing at Crossroads Assembly of God located on US 150 December 28th starting at 6 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Christmas Eve Mass

Join us as we worship and praise our Heavenly Father for the gift of His Son. Let us come together to celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Christmas Eve Mass will be held Wed., Dec. 24th at 10 p.m. at Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church, William St., Mt. Vernon. Refreshments will be served following Mass.

Wanted

Anyone willing to work anytime, anywhere, whenever called upon. No train-

ing necessary, male or female, any age. Any nationality, race, size, shape or form. All participants accepted. Report to Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Welcome to attend Maple Grove Baptist Church. Best retirement and benefits available. Contact Bro. Jerry Owens for transportation at 606-256-3075.

Watch Night Service

Philadelphia United Baptist Church will have a Watch Night Service December 31st 8 p.m. to midnight. There will be singing and preaching. Eujan Webb and church welcomes everyone. We will be having snacks. Bring whatever.

Watch Night Service

Union Chapel Pentecostal Church will have a Watch Night Service December 31st starting at 8 p.m. with Evangelist Shannon Limeing. Pastor Ralph Reynolds invites everyone.

"Peace on Earth" seems an unlikely option this Christmas. War continues in Iraq and in many other countries around the world. People are killing each other even in places where there is no war. "There is no Peace on Earth" seems a more likely conclusion to draw. For those optimistic enough to believe that peace is a possibility, where should they begin?


"Peace on Earth" begins at home. Violence at home is still the most likely reason for a woman to be killed. Violence at home scars the kids and injures the adults. Violence at home spreads fear and anger throughout the household.

As a counselor I have had couples say to me, "Our children don't know we fight." That is denial of the worst kind. The children have most likely overheard Mom and Dad fighting when the parents thought they were asleep.

Even if the children have not heard, they "know." Kids have a sophisticated radar system that is tuned in to Mom and, secondarily, to Dad. When Mom is happy, they know it. When Mom is scared, they also know. While they may not have seen the actual conflict, they sense that something is amiss. They know that Mom is upset and Dad is angry. Violence at home affects them even if they have never seen it.

It is still true that most of the violent acts at home are committed by men. Yes, women are also capable of violence, but men lead the way. Only 5-10% of domestic violence is committed by women. Ninety-five percent of the time, the male is the aggressor.

What is it that makes some men so violent? Why is "peace on Earth" simply a pipe dream for many couples? The culture in which they live gives men permission to be violent. They grow up with heroes like Arnold



The Family Room
By: Dr. Roy Don Whitehead

Schwarzenegger, the governor of California, who is The Terminator on the big screen and has been reported to do degrading things to women in his private life. Boys watch professional wrestling which degrades women and glorifies violence. And other men may agree with them that sometimes it is necessary to "discipline the little woman" in the same way that children are disciplined.

The culture however does not make all men violent. Those who do become violent often have themselves been treated violently or

have witnessed violence. When Dad abuses them or they see him abuse Mom, they become angry. That anger then comes out later on in life, often at women, the same target that Dad chose.

Men who desire "Peace on Earth" must stand up and say that violence is not a part of what it means to be a man. The macho, machismo image of a "real man" must be laid to rest and replaced by the picture of a man who is tender and loving with his children and his wife.

Men who want peace must speak up and not tol-

erate violence. Men who want peace must not sit idly by while other men abuse spouses and children. Men who want peace must create a society which does not tolerate male (or female) violence.

Some countries have much less violence than the United States. Japan's murder rate is lower than in the U.S., perhaps due to their strict gun laws. Canada, which has more guns per person than the U.S., has a lower murder rate. Canadians have the means to kill but they do not, or at least not as often as Americans.

Something is wrong in America, and the problem begins at home. Stopping domestic violence will decrease the number of angry males who need to take their anger out on other citizens.

[If you need help because of a domestic violence situation, call Family Life Abuse Center at 800-755-5348.]

JOYS OF THE



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Join in singing Christmas hymns of praise

O, Come all Ye Faithful and
Join us as we worship and praise our Heavenly father for the gift of His Son. Let us come together to celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Christmas Eve Mass

Wednesday, December 24 @ 10 p.m. at
Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church
Williams Street • Mt Vernon, Ky.

The people of Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church wish each and everyone a Blessed and Holy Christmas and a Faith Filled New Year.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

from everyone at

The Banner

Richmond St. • Mt. Vernon • 256-9914



Front row from left: Tia Rogers and Christi Cahill.
Back row from left: John Tyler, Alex Tyler and Tom Tyler.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

from everyone at

Warm wishes to all of you for a joyous holiday season.

Many thanks for your continued patronage.

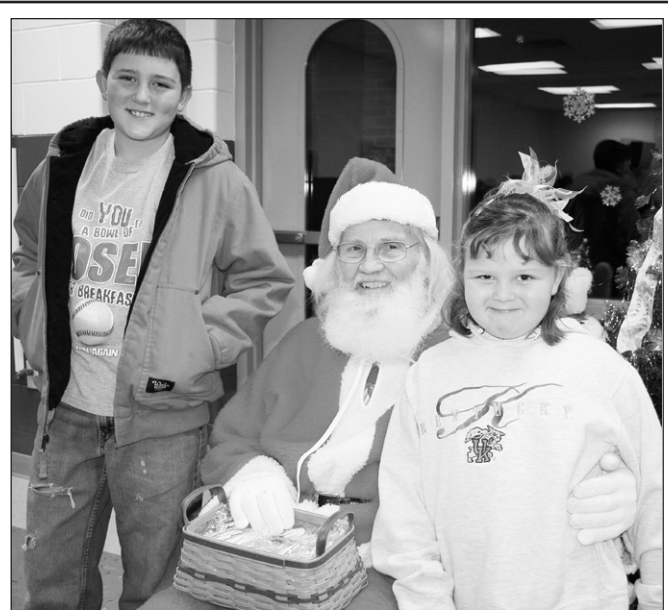


Front row from left: Sherry Cox and Bootsie Shepherd.
Back row from left: Brandi Lee, Mark Cathers, Courtney Hansel and Karen Durham.

Tiger Pause

Thanks to everyone that helped with and attended the December PTA meeting. BES celebrated the holidays with a family arts night. BES principal, Mrs. Caroline Graves, read

students "The Night Before Christmas". Students and their families painted wooden Christmas ornaments, choosing from gingerbread men, snowmen, or Christmas trees.



Santa Claus (John Holbrook) visits with Dylan and Emily Pigg at the BES PTA meeting.

Santa visited the children while they were painting their ornaments. BES thanks Mr. & Mrs. Arlis Proctor and John Holbrook for helping with our holiday family arts night.

Remember to check the lost and found box at school if your child is missing a coat. Any items remaining at the end of December will be donated to

charity.

BFRCA Advisory Council meeting is at noon on Friday, December 19.

Christmas break is December 22 - January 2. Students return to school on Monday, January 5.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from BES!



Mr. Arlis Proctor hands out wooden ornaments to students at BES Family Arts Night.

The Board of Directors and staff of Eastern Rockcastle Water Association

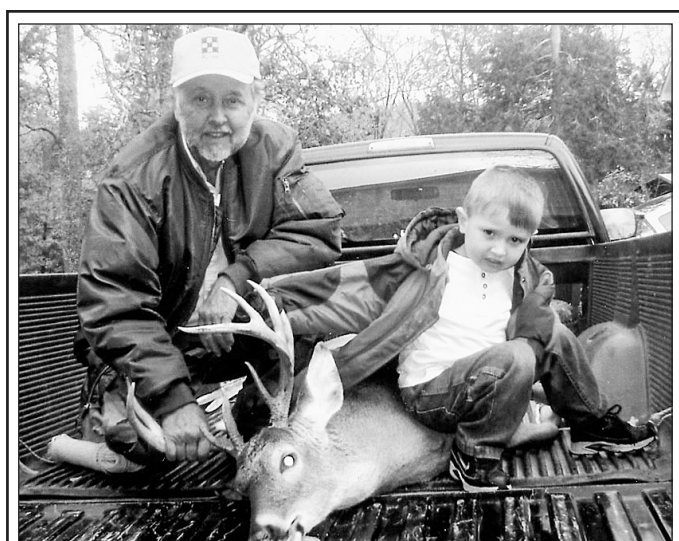
wishes all our customers a



Looking forward to serving you in 2009



Scott Adams and daughter, Charity, painting ornaments.



Tommy Burdette killed this 12-point buck Nov. 17th in Rockcastle County. With Burdette is his grandson, Dalton.

Open House

Sat., Jan. 3, 2009
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Peggy French and Pam Sturgill are the new owners of the former Marsha's Florist in Brodhead and the business will now be known as **Peg's & Pam's Florist**

We offer a wide selection of fresh cut and silk flower arrangements, casket sprays, live plants, Thomas Kinkade throws, Family Bibles and pictures. We also have windchimes, candles, Boyd's and Bearington Bears, cards and balloons. We have a large selection of headstone pieces and, new this year, we will rent silk casket sprays.

Come by Sat., Jan. 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for coffee, hot cocoa and cookies and look around.

Open 9 to 5 Mon. thru Friday and 9 to noon Saturdays
Orders also taken after hours and Sundays.

Season's Greetings

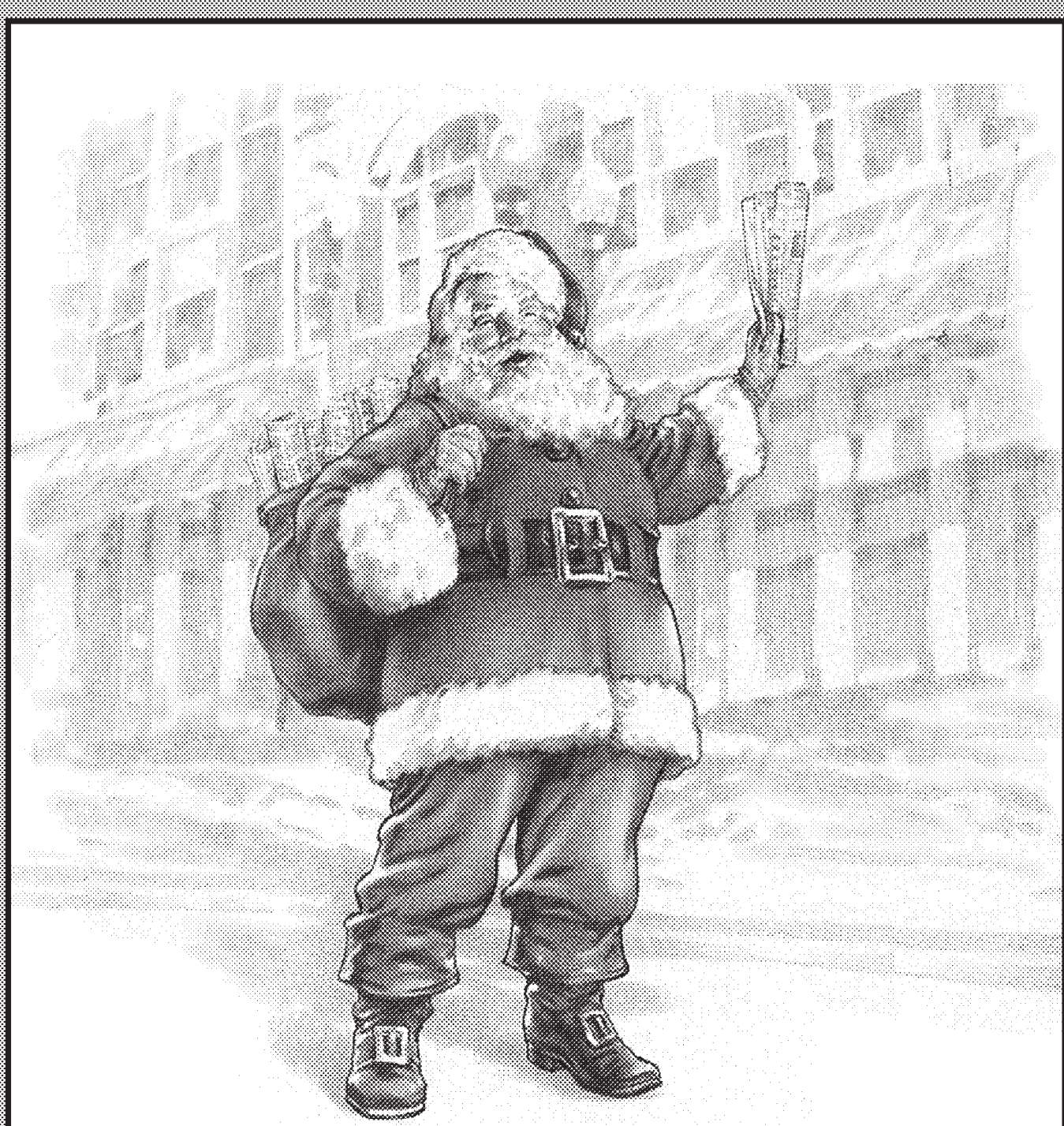
With warm regards to you and your family this holiday season. It's been a privilege and pleasure serving you.



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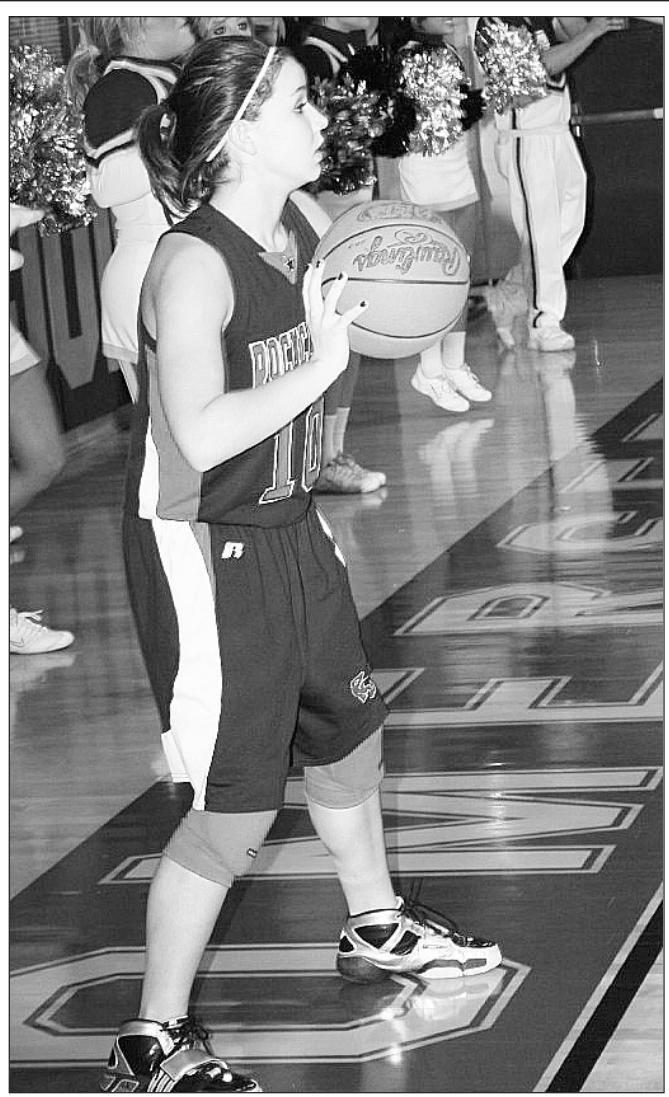
Delivering Our Thanks

We're ho-ho-hoping a bundle of good news and glad tidings lands in your mailbox during the holiday season.

We appreciate your loyal readership.

Mount Vernon Signal

*Perlina Anderkin, Richard and Vonda Anderkin,
Spencer and Paige Bengé
Jimmy Perrin*



Lady Rocket Kristen Abney prepares to put the basketball in play against Somerset on Friday night. The Lady Rockets won 76-40 in their first district contest of the season.

Lady Rockets beat district foe Somerset

Middlesboro and Allen County-Scottsville also lose to Lady Rockets

By: Richard Anderkin
The RCHS Lady Rockets served notice to the rest of the 47th district on Friday night, that they will defend their district and region title with a vengeance.

After being tied with the Lady Briarjumpers at halftime in the first district game of the season at Somerset, the Lady Rockets put together an excellent second half and came away with a 36 point, 76-40, victory.

"We stood around a lot in the first half and let them get back into the game, but our players responded well to some changes we made at halftime," head coach Chrysti Noble said.

"Everybody did a better job in doing what they do well in the second half and everything clicked for us the way it is sup-

posed to," Noble said.

"It is a long year and we are just now beginning to play the games that count the most. We have got to continue to work hard to be able to accomplish the high goals we have set for this team, this season," she added.

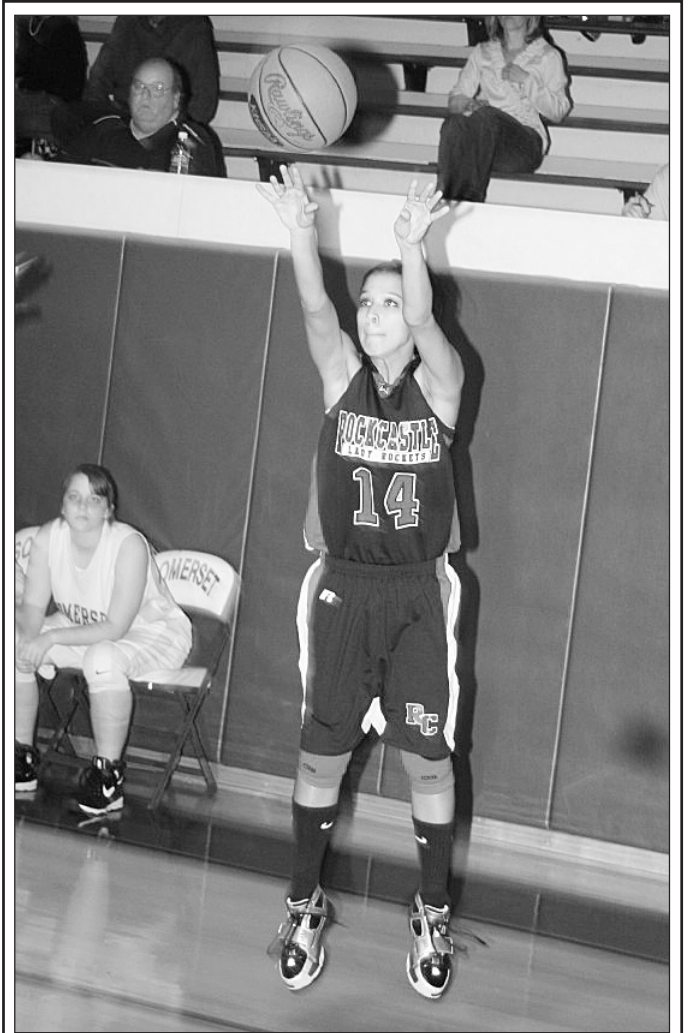
On Friday night, the Lady Rockets were led in scoring by senior Mary Saylor who had 21. Sara Hammond contributed 17, Jackie Alexander, 13, Angie Lawrence, 10, Nicole Locklear, 7, Ashley Robinson, 4 and Katy Mattingly and Cheyene Hensley, 2 each.

On Saturday the Lady Rockets beat Middlesboro in the first round of the Cumberland Falls Classic in Corbin.

The Lady Yellowjackets were no match for the Lady Rockets, who beat them by 40, 78-38.

The Lady Rockets were led

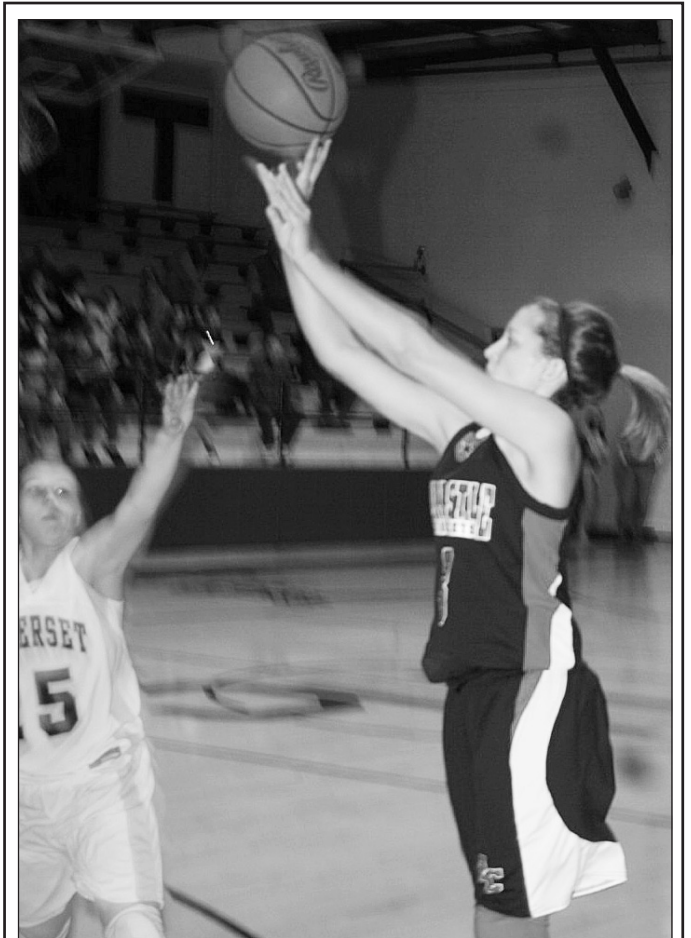
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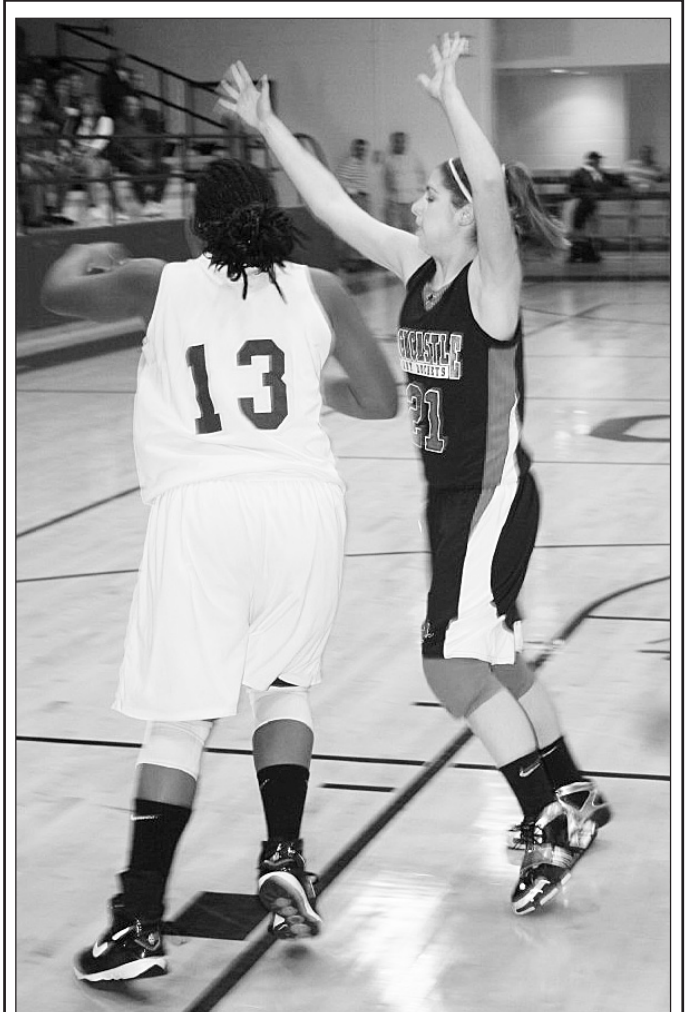
Lady Rocket Nicole Locklear puts up a jumper against Somerset on Friday night. Locklear had 7 points in the 76-40 district win over the Lady Briarjumpers.



Senior Katy Mattingly, applies pressure at half court during the Lady Rocket's district game with Somerset on Friday night. The Lady Rockets were tied with Somerset at half-time at 26, but came away with a 76-40 win.



Lady Rocket junior Jackie Alexander puts up a three pointer against Somerset on Friday night. Alexander had another good game, scoring 13 points to help the Lady Rockets to a 76-40 win.



RCHS senior Lady Rocket Jillisa Lay applies pressure to a Lady Jumper on Friday night. The Lady Rockets won 76-40.

Merry Christmas

Lisa and Leslie and all the employees at

Rose's One Stop Marathon Pizza and Cafe

would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to all our customers and invite you to stop by and try our fresh Krispy Kreme Donuts delivered daily, our hot Folgers coffee or Cappuccino, Hunt Brothers Pizza by the hunk or whole, or any other items on our menu which consists of a variety of sandwiches, burgers and fries.



From left: Lisa Saylor, Jayda Hubbard, Kisha Hubbard, Jayden Hubbard, Alice Hadley, Leslie Cordier, Patti Cox and Terra Bingham. Not present: Courtney Cordier.

Rockets lose at Somerset 52-50



Rocket junior guard Jamie Todd puts up a shot in the lane in the first half of the Rockets-Somerset game on Friday night. Although Todd suffered a sprained ankle in the second half, he still led the Rockets in scoring with 20. The Rockets lost the district contest 52-50.

The Rockcastle County Rockets trailed by as many as 13 in the third period of Friday night's district game in Somerset, before they fought back to take a two point lead over the Briarjumpsers 43-41 at the end of the period.

But, the Rockets couldn't close the deal, losing their third game of the season by two 52-50.

"I am proud of the way our players didn't quit and got themselves back into the game," said head coach Benny

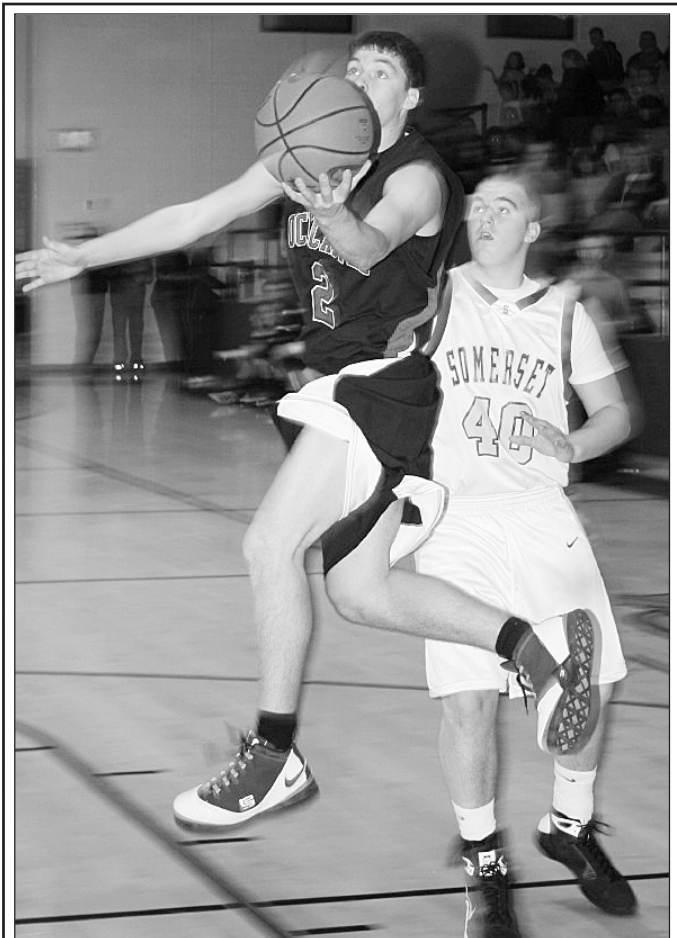
Blanton. "Because we still haven't played or practiced together enough yet, we made some

mistakes that I don't think we'll be making in January," he said.

"The way they handled (Cont. to A14)



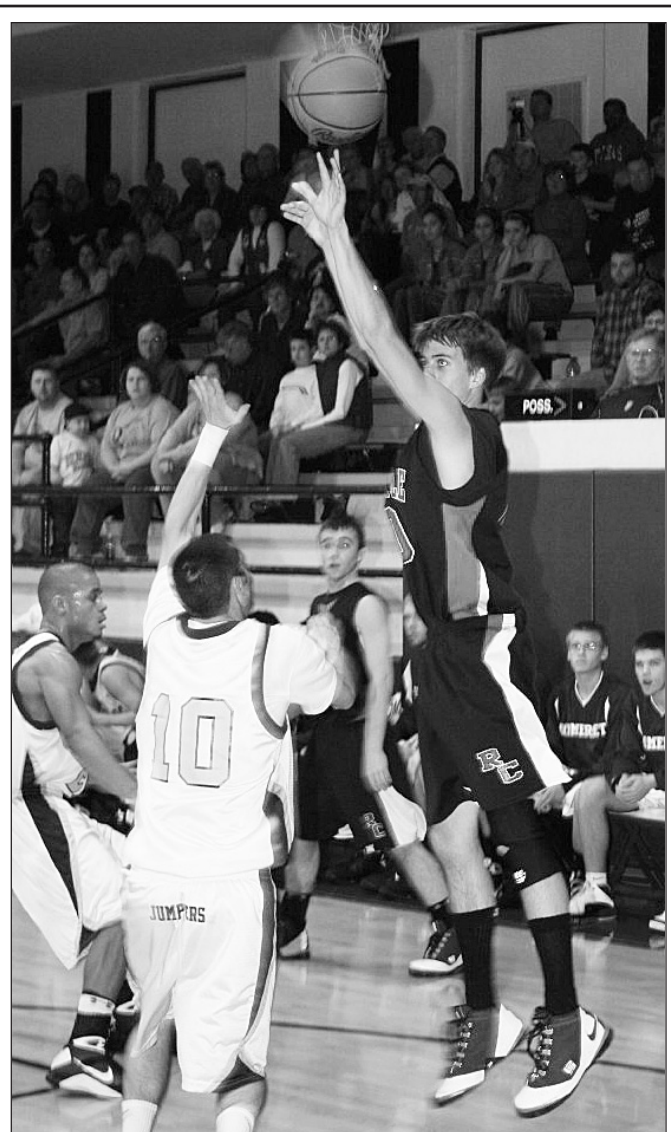
Rocket junior center Derek Thacker goes up for two of his 15 points against Somerset on Friday night. Besides scoring 15, Thacker was also a force for the Rockets on the boards.



Rocket senior Jared Smith drives to the basket in his team's district loss to Somerset on Friday night. The Rockets returned to action on Monday, when they began play in the Western Hills Invitational in Frankfort. The Rockets are now 3-3 on the season.



Junior Rocket Matt Bullens drives to the basket in an attempt to score two of his seven points against Somerset on Friday night. (RCHS photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Rocket junior Dustin Reynolds puts up a jumper in the Rocket-Somerset game on Friday night. Reynolds scored three points in the 52-50 district loss on the road.

Freshmen boys lose 3 straight

The boys' freshmen team played three games in the last week, against South Laurel, Know Central and Somerset.

The Freshmen fell by ten to South Laurel 54-44, and were led in scoring by Ben Lake who had 10.

Zach Reams had 9, Jadon Brock and Zach Walker had 8, Cody Noe 4, and Jordan Whitaker had 2.

The Freshmen couldn't get the going against Knox Central either as they fell 72-36.

The Freshmen Rockets were led in scoring again by center Ben Lake who had 8. Will Reynolds and Jadon Brock each put in 6, Zach Reams had 5, Cody Noe 4, Jason Kelley 3, and Zach Walker and Jordan Whitaker had 2.

Last Thursday night the Freshman lost to Somerset 52 to 39.

Brock led his team in scoring with 10, Lake had 9, Walker, 5, Whitaker, Kelley and Reynolds all had 4 and Reams scored 3.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



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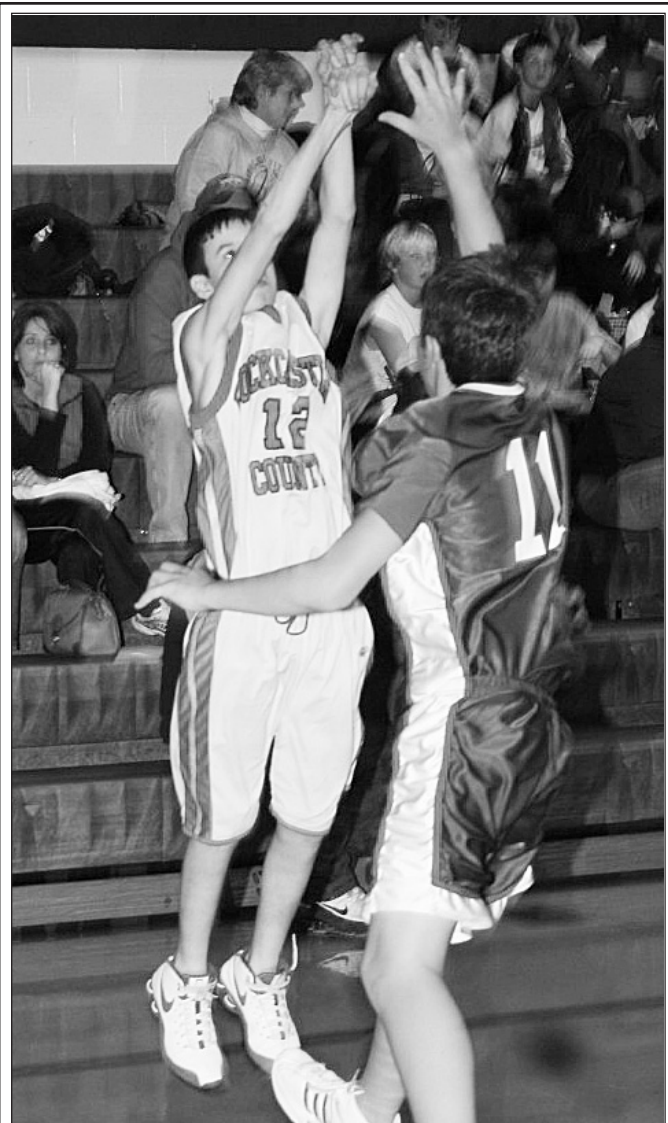
From left: Tara Brown, Allie Reynolds, pharmacist Danette Craig, Kevin Craig and Tanner Bray.

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RCMS 8th grader Tyler Smith drives to the basket in the 8th grade game against King Middle on Thursday night. The middle school teams are off for two weeks and will return to action on January 5th when they host Lincoln.



RCMS 7th grader Travis Bullock puts up a shot against King Middle on Thursday night. The 7th graders lost their ninth game of the season, 55-24.



RCMS 7th grader Cody Brown puts up a shot in his team's game against King Middle. All three RCMS teams lost and will return to action on January 5th when they host Lincoln County.

Boys JV win at Somerset

The Rocket junior varsity team beat Somerset 50-39 on the road last Thursday.

Travis Carpenter led all scorers with 19, Grant Burdette had 7, Matt Lunsford also had 7, Dylan Thacker, 6, Kyle Riddle, 4, Brandon Burdette, 3, Derrick Pittman, 2 and Josh McKinney, 2.

RCMS teams lose to King Middle

The RCMS Boys basketball teams were in action this past Thursday evening as they hosted King Middle. The sixth grade team kept it close throughout, but ended up on the losing end 31-27.

The sixth graders were led in scoring by Jacob McKinney who had 7. Sam Pensol had 6, Dakota Hasty and Douglas Nicely had 5, and Stephen Recor added 4. The sixth graders are now 3-8 on the year.

The 7th grade squad didn't have a good night either as they fell to King Middle 55-24. Leading all scorers with 8 was Corey McPhetridge. Andrew Burton had 4, Jarred Lakes and Jake Mink had 3, Tyler Harper, Tim Renner and John Hughes had 2 each. The seventh grade team is now 3-9 on the season.

The eighth grade team couldn't find a way to overcome their poor shooting percentage as they too fell to King Middle 55-38.

Blake Jones was the leading scorer with 14, Zack Poynter had 9, Chris Wren had 8, John Wilson 4, Ben Allen 2, and Eli Haddix had 1. The eighth graders are now 1-10 on the season.

Lady JVs easily beat Central

The Lady Rocket Junior Varsity and Freshmen basketball teams were in action on December 11 as they took on Madison Central.

The JV squad got the best of Madison Central winning by 20, 61-41.

Three Lady Rockets had double figures on the night. Angie Lawrence led the team with 17, Kristin Abney had 11 and Sydney Arvin added 10.

Other Lady Rockets who contributed in the scoring column were: Ella McQueary 8, Kadie Cobb 4, Holly Ham 3, Michaela Hunter and Megan Perkins had 2, and Casey Sturgill and Cheyenne Hensley each had 1.

Freshmen lose

The Lady Rocket Freshmen team didn't have their best outing of the season as they fell to Madison Central 48-30.

The Lady Rockets were led in scoring by Kadie Cobb and

Katie Cowan who each had 8, Alexis Chasteen 6, Michaela Hunter 5 and Bri Tillery had 3.

'Rockets'

(Cont. from A12)

themselves on the road, after falling behind, shows that this team wants to win and, with a lot of hard work and team play, they can do just that. The way we play in the two tournaments over the holidays will tell us a lot about the rest of the season," Blanton added.

Although he sprained an ankle in the third period on Friday night, junior Jamie Todd still led his team in scoring with 20.

Junior Derek Thacker had a very good game, scoring 15 points and grabbing numerous rebounds.

Matt Bullens scored 7, Dustin Reynolds, 3, Spencer Mullins and Matt Lunsford, 2 each and Bryan Clontz, 1.

The 3-3 Rockets were scheduled to play in the Western Hills Invitational in Frankfort on Monday.

After Christmas, the Rockets travel to Monticello for the Wayne County Invitational.

'Lady Rockets'

(Cont. from A12)

in scoring again by their senior point guard, Mary Saylor, who had 20.

Hammond had 14, Locklear, 11, Lawrence, 9, Mattingly, 8, Alexander and Robinson, 6 each, Kristen Abney, 3 and Ella McQueary, 2.

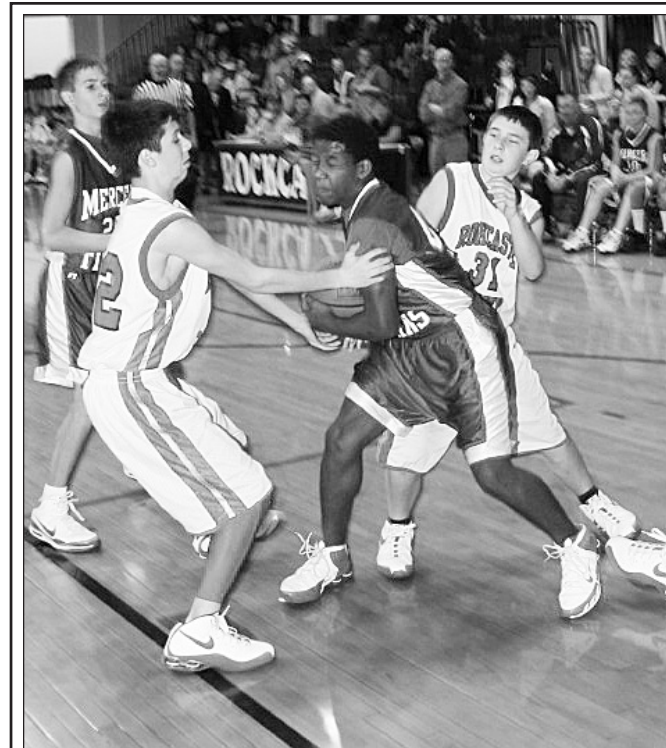
In the semi-finals of the tournament on Sunday afternoon the Lady Rockets defeated Allen County-Scottsville, 57 to 50.

The Lady Rockets trailed Allen County-Scottsville, who was 7-1 on the season, by one, 22-21 at the end of the first quarter but outscored their opponent by eight in the third period and held them off for their sixth win of the season.

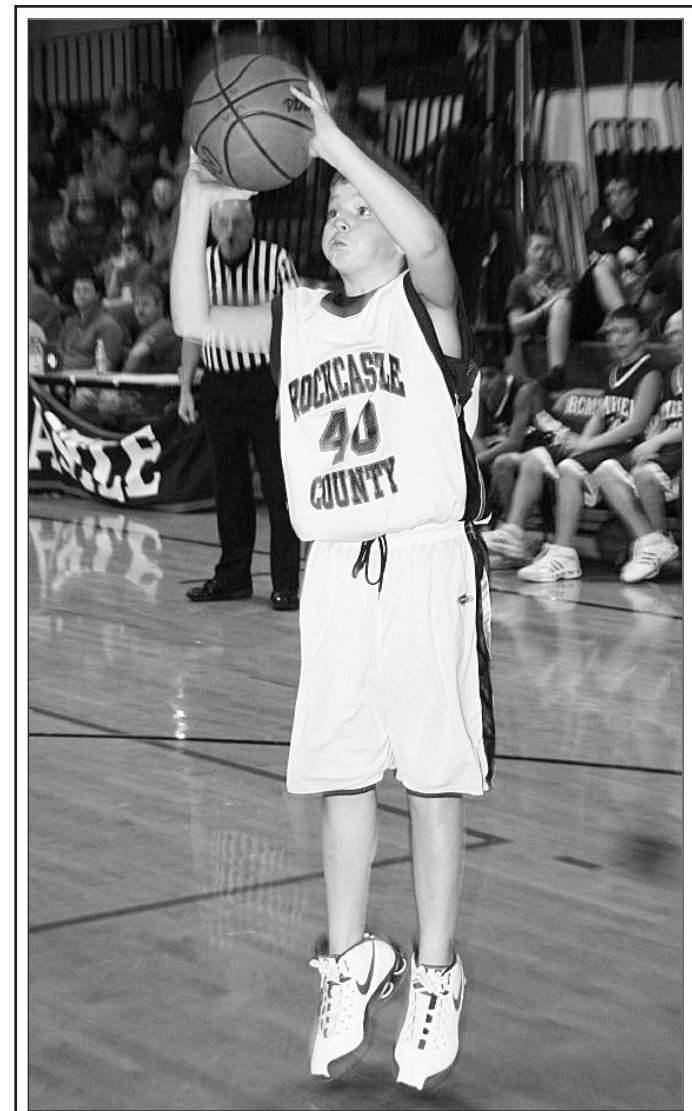
Junior Jackie Alexander led all scorers with 19. Robinson had 9, Saylor and Lawrence, 8 each, Hammond, 7, Mattingly, 5 and Jillisa Lay, 2.

The Lady Rockets were scheduled to play Jackson County in the finals of the tournament on Monday night.

After Christmas, the Lady Rockets head to Bowling Green to take part in the Greenwood Invitational Tournament.



RCMS 8th grader Ashton Arvin, left and John Wilson apply pressure to a King Middle player on Thursday night. Wilson had four points in the 55-38 loss.



RCMS 6th grader Douglas Nicely puts in a shot in the 6th grade game with King Middle. Nicely had five points in a losing effort. (RCMS photos by: Kevin Canterbury).

MERRY CHRISTMAS

With best wishes to you and yours this holiday season.

Rockcastle Sheriff Mike Peters and staff



From left: Deputy Clerk Connie Bullen, Deputy Ron Bradley, Jr., Sheriff Mike Peters, Deputy Shannon Franklin, Deputy Rick Brummett, Deputy Jason Kirby and Deputy Tammy Bryant.

Not shown:

Deputies Barry Adams, Mike Bryant, Dale McNew, Derrick Price, Ron Bradley, Sr., Joe Rush, Stanley Payne, Ed Brock, John Guilfoil and Roger Pigg.

Rockcastle County Courthouse • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-2032

Merry Christmas



Rockcastle County 10-year-old 4-H Speech Contest participants were front from left: Micheala Hurt, Leah Bustle, Emily Childress, Marina Blevins, Zeb Davis and Aaron Pevley. Back row from left: Laney Poynter, Christina Hensley, Julianne Kirby, Caroline Coguer, Lucas Gentry and Jacob Taylor.



Four students from the Launch Pad (Freshmen Academy) at Rockcastle County High School were recognized as students of the month. Pictured above from left: Jadon Brock, Casey Hunt, Bailey Lake, Jordan Kelley, and Launch Pad teacher Matthew Brown.

Launch Pad announces students of the month

On November 20th, 2008 four students from the Launch Pad (Freshmen Academy) at Rockcastle County High School were recognized as students of the month. Jadon Brock, Casey Hunt, Jordan Kelley, and Bailey Lake were the four students selected by the teachers in the Launch Pad as being most deserving of this distinguished honor for the month of November.

The four students were given a radio spot on the air at 1460 WRVK for thirty minutes. Mr. Charlie Napier hosted the interview which included the students and myself. Mr. Napier asked the students to tell the audience a little bit about themselves, what they thought high school would be like, if they were nervous about the transition from middle school to high school, any fears they had about changing schools, and how the Launch Pad teachers have helped them with navigation of a new school and helped ease their transition into high school.

After the radio spot, the students were rewarded with a tour through the Renfro Valley Country Music Hall of Fame and lunch at the Lodge.

"I would like to thank Mr.

Charlie Napier, Mr. Jesse Mahaffey, and Mrs. Ruth Hamilton for making this recognition trip possible for these students. I would also like to

thank these four students for being great kids and setting an example for others to follow," said Launch Pad teacher Matthew Brown.



Rockcastle County winners of the 4-H Speech Contest were, front from left: Amelia Eversole, Anna Poynter, Emily Childress, Anna Carter and Alyssa Bustle. Back row from left: Danielle McNew, John David Hurley, Micheala Hurt, Kelsey Mattingly, John Hughes and Laiken Coffey. These participants will compete in the Spring at the 4-H Communications Day for Wilderness Trail Area.



Rockcastle County 12, 13 and 14-year-old 4-H Speech Contest participants were front from left: Amelia Eversole and Casey Walker. Back row from left: Danielle McNew, Laiken Coffey, Kelsey Mattingly and John Hughes.



Rockcastle County 9-year-old 4-H Speech Contest participants were front from left: Tara Mink, Anna Carter and Alyssa Bustle. Back row from left: Heaven Davidson, Kristen Day and Cassie Poynter.

Subscribe to the Signal

Merry Christmas

from
**Rockcastle County Judge-Executive
Buzz Carloftis**

and the
Rockcastle County Fiscal Court

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

Our personal wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Front row from left: Amanda Owens, Court Clerk Patricia Martin, County Judge-Executive Buzz Carloftis and County Treasurer Joe Clontz. Back row from left: magistrates John Holbrook, Jan Stevens, William Denney, Billy McKinney and Ralph Allen.

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Rodney and Becky Smith
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*Closing at noon Christmas Eve
Closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day*

Yards to Paradise

"At Home for the Holidays"
Sooner or later you'll be staying home for the holidays. Maybe a weak economy has you traveling less, or perhaps you're saving for the "trip of a lifetime".

Some love to play the host for get-togethers. Others drive or fly for extended hours in "rush hour" conditions to reach a destination of their choosing which may or may not provide fun or tranquility. For whatever reason, if you have time to read the paper, you probably have time for a few ideas on doing something fresh and new at your place.

The routine visit to grandma's house, or an extended weekend excursion to a waterfront location in the off-season when things are quiet and peaceful (and more economical); those are some choices if you choose not to stay at home during the holidays.

But, this is a landscaping column and not a travel column, so I am thinking you're either wanting ideas to better welcome guests to your place, or you are already wishing for warmer weather and longer days so you can spend time in the backyard.

Here's a few ideas to help get past the cold or snow and employ creatively those days you usually stare out the window and shiver.

Dreaming now can lead to more of a paradise sometime in the future. Give the dreams room to develop and see what happens.

Not everyone is driven inside by chillier weather. Some actually enjoy it. Of course, I doubt there'll be a need for swimsuits or sun-tan cream unless you have an enclosed and heated pool or glass-enclosed sun room, Florida room, or outdoor greenhouse.

A walk in a private or semi-private backyard can be nice even in frigid weather if you're dressed well for the conditions. Seeing the squirrels or chipmonks scurry out of sight is much easier when the deciduous trees and plants have become naked after losing their leaves.

Tree trunks of many shapes and textures, maybe limbs of unusual shapes or colors, may catch your eye. Things you'd never pay attention to in summer when the shrubbery is cloaked in green can give you a whole different dimension to appreciate this time of year.

Maybe you could, if you haven't already, put up a feeder for the birds. And on a winter stroll, you may see where the robins or the squirrels made a nest and raised families last summer. Birds need an unfrozen wa-

tering hole to get a drink in winter—maybe you could provide them a place.

If you're thinking of outdoor entertaining in cooler weather, a fire of some type is almost a requirement. A trip to a home & garden store or a pool and patio merchant for a "ready-to-use" firepit or chimenea can meet the need quickly. A more substantial (but not instant) outdoor fireplace, in-ground firepit or stone oven could offer a bigger plus towards the ultimate backyard paradise.

Some outdoor lighting, whether traditional holiday lighting or simply a few inexpensive solar lights to light walkways and some points of interest, could make your home brighter this holiday season. Try something different. It doesn't have to be permanent or expensive. Experiment.

Suppose your home needs a makeover to give it curb appeal. Maybe the drive, or the walk, are boringly plain. Or in need of repairs. Would a new stamped concrete or brick paver drive be a huge improvement to your home? Would a new, wider, or stone topped walkway to your front door give your house some pop and make it more welcoming? Dream a bit. Even if it's not in the budget to do major improvements at the moment.

I've seen a number of tired looking brick homes get a paint job and fresh new shrubbery. The results can be stunning. Even making visitors double-check the house number to verify they've come to the right address!

Would a new entry door or extended entry way be something you should consider? Remember, our theme is transforming your yard—your abode—your address—into paradise. Most of us have to do that in steps. (Hopefully following a plan, even if it gets changed from time to time.)

If the view from the street is OK at your place, how about the view from inside? Do you look out your window and see a perfectly lovely view? I wonder if there is a simple change you could make to improve that look?

Whatever your reason for spending time at home this holiday season, I encourage you to make productive use of idle moments when you stare out on a bleak landscape. Dream of what could be.

Paradise is not created instantly. Have a blessed holiday season. And we'll have more ideas in future articles on turning your yard into paradise.

The author is a landscaper. Ideas, calls and emails welcomed.
www.rockcastles.com

Heating crisis program begins on January 5th

The Rockcastle County Daniel Boone Community Action Agency will begin the "Crisis" portion of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that assists households in a heating crisis on January 5th of 2009.

The deepening of cold winter weather, combined with rising utility costs, leaves many households unable to fully meet heating bills or purchase sufficient bulk fuel to keep their families safe and warm.

Last year over 1,000 county residents received financial assistance and emergency services from the LIHEAP Crisis component.

A household shall be considered to be in a home heating crisis situation when the household meets the basic LIHEAP eligibility criteria and:

- the household is within four (4) days of running out of fuel if bulk fuel, (coal, fuel oil, propane, kerosene, or wood) is the heat source.
- the household has received a past due/disconnect notice if natural gas or electric is the heat source; or
- the household's home heating costs are included as an undesignated portion of the rent and the household has received an eviction notice for non-payment of rent from the landlord.

For all bulk fuels (wood, coal, propane, fuel oil, kerosene) verification of a crisis situation may be self-declaration by the applicant. For natural gas and electrically heated households, the applicant must present an appropriate disconnect notice from the vendor.

Applications will be taken at convenient CAP locations. Applicants are encouraged to apply at the location nearest to them in their county or residence. Days, hours of operation and locations for Rockcastle County are: Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Daniel Boone Community Action Agency, Main St., Mt. Vernon.

LIHEAP is a statewide initiative sponsored by Community Action Kentucky in partnership with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS)

Signal office will be closed December 24th - January 4th



As the days until Christmas dash by, we'd like to take time out to thank all of you for stopping by our way this year.

JOHN'S



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606-676-0700

LONDON

565 Hwy92
606-862-4052

LONDON

1574 N. Main Street
606-878-0810

BEREA

219 Prince Royal Dr.
859-228-0188

MT. VERNON

635 Richmond Street
606-256-9300

DANVILLE

905 Hustonville Rd.
859-236-2655

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From left: Tom Tyler, John Tyler, Tim Hampton and Anthony Lear.

Merry Christmas



May peace and glad tidings visit your home this holiday season. We're grateful for your visiting us this year. Thanks!

Rose Hill Auto Sales and Bee Jay's

Carlos, Tara & employees

9207 N. Wilderness Rd. • Mt. Vernon

Mount Vernon Signal

Second Section

Thursday, December 25, 2008

Yes, Virginia, there is a

Santa Claus, aka John Holbrook

Yes, Virginia, there is a... John Holbrook Does Rockcastle County

Magistrate John Holbrook believe in Santa? "Certainly."



72-year-old John Holbrook has made over 100,000 key chains in his workshop at his home on Lake Linville.

Passersby often address Holbrook as Santa Claus. Even on his business card, Holbrook lists the jolly old man as one of several professions. The white hair and fluffy beard, and favorite red shirts and caps add credibility to his claim. Every year, two weeks before Christmas, Magistrate Holbrook dons the entire get-up – red fur-lined suit and cap, black belt and boots – and makes a daily appearance as Santa at the local Wendy's restaurant. He also is the special guest at various parties and private family functions throughout the holiday season.

"Kids believe and are usually eager to talk with me," Holbrook said. "But I've had some adults tell me I'm not fat enough to be Santa!"

The full beard is real. Holbrook said he began growing it while he was a graduate student at the University of Kentucky in 1971. He earned

his master's degree in social work and began a career as a child welfare worker in 1972. Although the name of the department has changed with each political administration, Holbrook said he has always worked in public assistance. Now he is dedicated to public service and in his third term as District One magistrate.

"I always thought I could make a difference," the 72-year-old public official said.

Holbrook's philosophy is simple: Stay busy. Besides his annual stints as Santa, Holbrook's many other "professions" included serving as stand-up comedian, poet laureate, magician, storyteller and wood spirit carver.

Carving keeps Holbrook busy. Seldom is he without a pocketful of carved key chains, bearing faces of wood spirits. The tiny faces with long beards, furrowed brows, wide noses and mouths pursed in an "O" shape are Holbrook's trademark. Although carved with the same electric tool, "each face is a little different, a little unique," he said.

Holbrook taught himself how to carve in 1990, and has kept at it all these years. He figures he has made over 100,000 key chains, and although he has supplied a vendor in Berea with many of his items, he has given most of them away. When he ran for magistrate, he would hand them out to potential voters, some even with the names of residents carved into the smooth backs. Also, Holbrook carves wood spirits on walking sticks, earrings, Christmas ornaments and even tobacco sticks.

There are hundreds of walking sticks and wood spirit

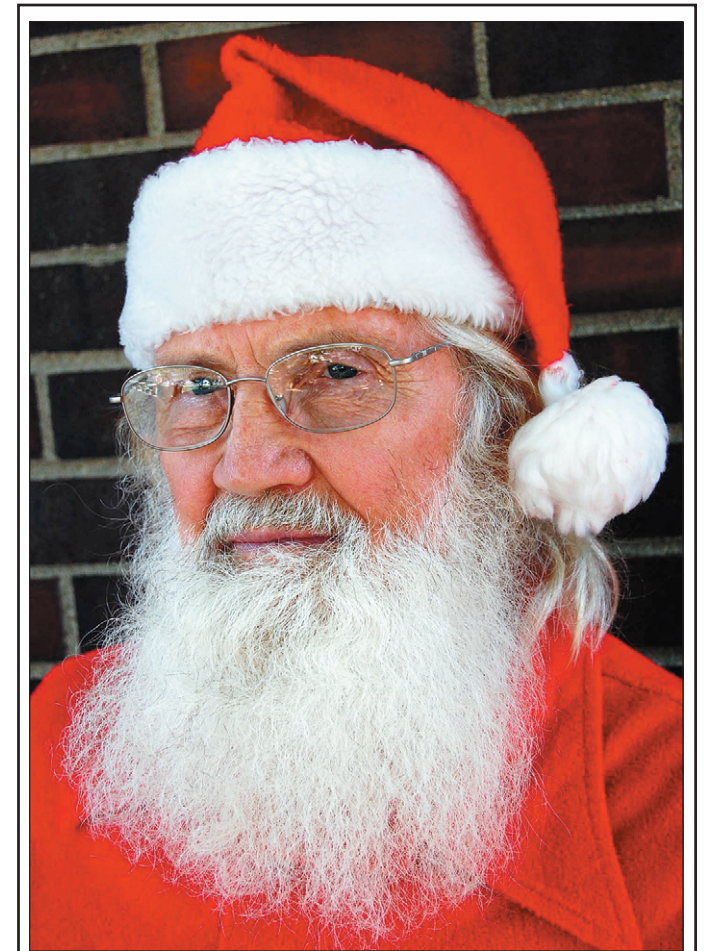
faces of all sizes in his workshop behind his home on Lake Linville. Holbrook ventures into the woods and uses pruners to cut Mountain Laurel and Sassafras trees for his hobby. Sometimes people bring him deer antlers, which he also carves for key chains.

Staying busy also means spending time with his wife of 46 years, Faye, who is an avid quilter; two children, and 80 nieces and nephews. Born in Letcher County, Holbrook is one of 10 children and is currently serving his third term as first district magistrate.

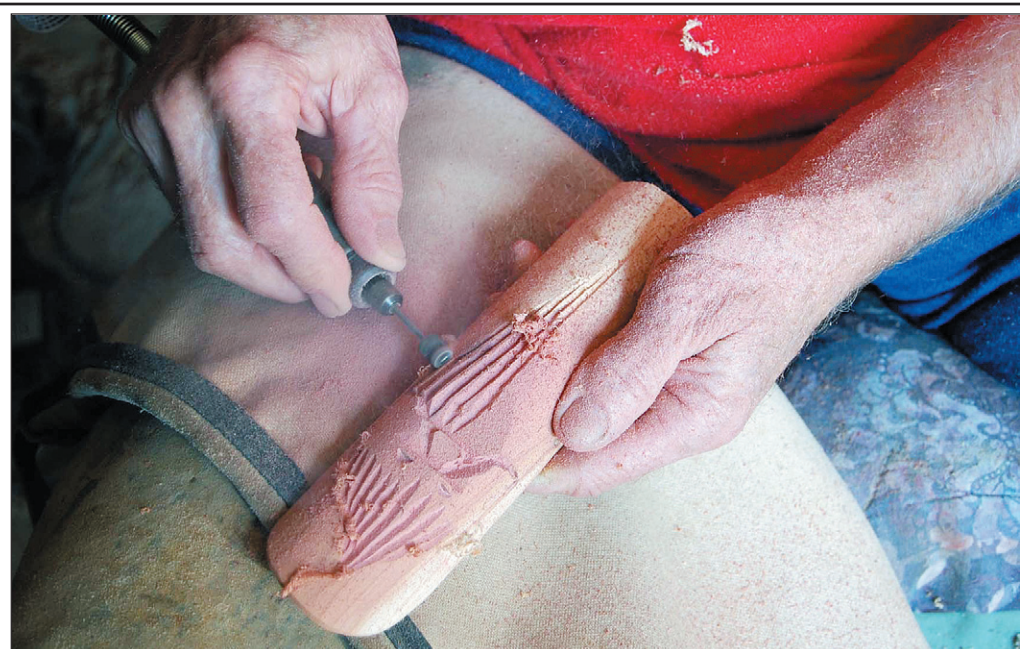
Serving his county as magistrate, entertaining children as Santa Claus, generously giving away carved trinkets to neighbors and strangers, Holbrook sums it up: "I just like to see people happy."

As newsman Francis P. Church wrote in his Sept. 21, 1897 editorial in response to 8-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon, "How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus... Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity

(Cont. to B3)



For many years John Holbrook has played Santa to the delight of hundreds, possibly thousands of Rockcastle County children. His last day on the job at Wendy's in Mt. Vernon will be Tuesday, December 23rd from 4-6 p.m.



Holbrook carves faces of wood spirits with each being a little different, a little unique.

*Peace
on
Earth*

Your goodwill has meant so much to us this past year.

Thanks for being such wonderful friends and customers!

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Pictured front row from left: Rebecca Renner, Amelia Woodall, Trina Frederick, produce manager Evelyn Fletcher, manager Linna Stewart, office manager Vanessa Hasty, Chelsea Hasty, Lavon Jett and Becky Lawrence. Second row from left: asst. manager Danny Smith, Lynda Neely, Brittany Scalf, Mickel McDaniels, LouElla Gadd, Vernon Bussell, Darrell Stewart, Travis Still, Jacob Bowman, Erick Bowling, Dustin Hale, Andy Hall and Amy Davis.

Not pictured: Danny Hurley, Tina Gail Bowling, asst. manager Thomas Oakley, Kayla Pingleton, LaRussa Lakes, Dana Cash, Callie Thomas, Anthony Prewitt, Blake Powell and Benton Doan.

**Closing at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day
Open regular hours New Year's Eve and New Year's Day**

News from the Rockcastle Courthouse

Circuit Civil Suits

Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc. vs. Johnny Bussell, \$54,242.35 plus claimed due.
 Daimler Chrysler Financial vs. Paul Evans, et al., \$5,917.96 plus claimed due.
 L&N Federal Credit Union vs. Virginia A. Pheanis, \$5,265.04 plus claimed due.
 Midland Funding LLC vs. Bert C. Newcomb, \$8,119.96 plus claimed due.

Amy J. Quinn vs. Robert Eugene Proper, complaint for child support.
 John Randall Barnett vs. Edith Faye Barnett, petition for dissolution of marriage. C-00344

District Civil Suits

Asset Acceptance LLC vs. Mary Price, \$3,733.19 plus claimed due.
 Asset Acceptance LLC vs. James P. York, \$274.98 plus claimed due.

claimed due.
 Capital One Bank vs. James S. Franklin, \$1,215.07 plus claimed due.
 Asset Acceptance LLC vs. Shane B. Rice, \$765.02 plus claimed due. C-00314

Small Claims

Jackson Energy Cooperative Corp. vs. Phil Mowery, \$1,079.52 plus claimed due.

Marriage Licenses

Bethany Brook Taylor, 19, Brodhead, student to Andrew Justin Gilbert, 24, Brodhead, welder. 12/10/08.
 Jessica Shay King, 18, Mt. Vernon, McDonald's and PJ's Daycare, to Brandon Scott Reynolds, 19, Mt. Vernon, McDonald's. 10/12/08.
 Bridget Nicole Wesley, 17, Livingston, student to Jeffery Lynn Mullins, 19, Livingston, IGA. 12/15/08.
 Heather Nicole Adams, 23, Brodhead, student to Christopher Dale McGuire, 24, Orlando, teacher. 12/16/08.

Lourdes Melendez, 33, Mt. Vernon, assembly to Victorino Valve, 36, Mt. Vernon, waiter. 12/17/08.

Deeds Recorded

Estate of Ira Glen Partin, Beth Ann and Ira Glen Partin, and others, property on Hwy. 1505, to Donna G Parker. Tax \$65.
 Michael S. Gabbard, Ingrid E. DeKauwe and Mark Mangus, property on Clear Creek Road, to Mark Mangus. No tax.
 Eugene and Nivra Senters, property on old U.S. 25, to Larry and Tammarra Senters. Tax \$3.50.
 Jack and Dawn Stallworth, property in Rockcastle County, to Ricky and Sharon Mullins. Tax \$17.50.
 Green Tree Servicing LLC, property in Rockcastle County, to Wayne and Christine McClure. Tax \$45.

District Court

Dec. 15-17, 2008
Hon. Jeffrey S. Laswell
 Solache Mora Armando: no operator's license in possession, \$50 fine and costs.
 William B. Cromer: probation violation, 30 days in jail.
 John D. Melton: No operator's license in possession, \$50 fine and costs.
 Donald E. Damrell: escape, 10 days/consecutive w/ balance of DUI.
 Elliott J. Dooley: failure to issue insurance card, \$50 plus costs; no operating license in possession, \$50 fine; contempt of court, \$50 fine plus time served.
 Randall S. Rose: possession of marijuana, use/possession drug paraphernalia, public intoxication, 10 days/concurrent.
 Lisa M. Bennett: failure to maintain insurance, \$500 fine plus restitution.
 Phillip J. Bingham: fines/fees due (\$128), bench warrant (bw) issued for failure to pay, 3 days or payment.
 Steven Blackwell: failure to produce insurance card, \$50 fine plus costs; failure to wear seat belts, \$25 fine.

Michael B. Blair: theft by deception, 10 days in jail/probated two years plus restitution.

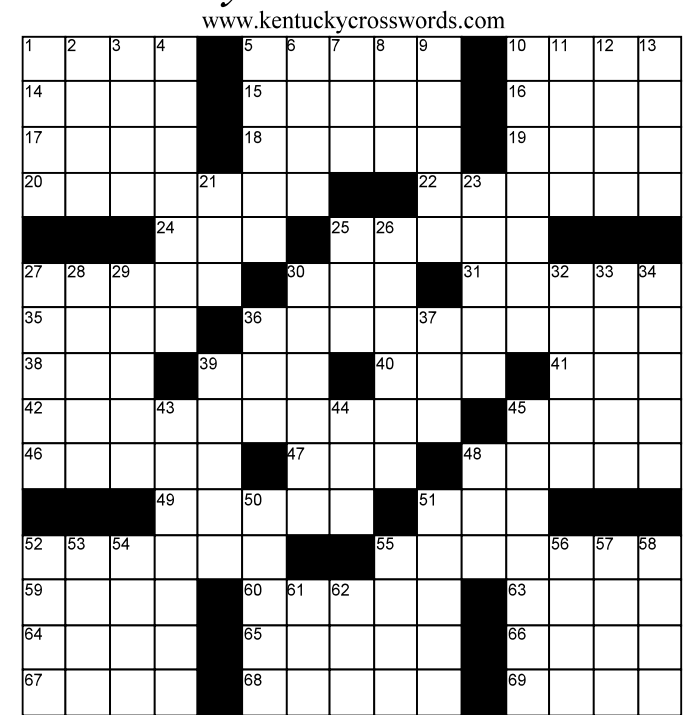
Roy C. Branstetter: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, sentencing order entered.
 James A. Dawson: failure to wear seat belts, \$25 fine; no operators license in possession, \$100 fine and costs.
 Jerry L. Denny, Jr.: receiving stolen property over \$300, sentencing order entered.
 William W. Farmer: receiving stolen property, sentencing order entered.
 Crystal Fields: speeding and failure to produce insurance card, operator's license suspended for failure to appear (fta).
 Tavorres Goins: speeding and failure to maintain insurance, operator's license suspended for fta.
 Robert L. Lear, Jr.: no/ex-

pired Kentucky registration receipt, reg. & title requirements veh. not oper. on hwy., failure to produce insurance card, bw issued for fta.

Denna R. Newcomb: failure to wear seat belts, \$25 fine.
 Charlie R. Page, Sr.: resisting arrest, \$100 fine; illegal sale of alcohol in dry territory, \$100 fine and costs.
 Brent A. Powell: fines/fees due (\$323), bw issued for fta/7 days or payment.
 Speeding: Melanie B. Ransdell, \$38 fine plus costs; John G. Crawford, operator's license suspended for fta; Duane E. Didonato, \$16 fine and costs; Victor M. Lucas, paid;

Daisy A. Wheatley: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, sentencing order entered.
 Michael W. Wombles: fines/fees due (\$188), bw issued for fta/5 days or payment.

Kentucky Crossword # 394



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- ACROSS**
- 1 Radiate
 - 5 Plant
 - 10 Think (over)
 - 14 Kentuckian, NPR broadcaster Adams
 - 15 Pleasant Island
 - 16 Stage solo
 - 17 Opposed
 - 18 Tennessee footballer
 - 19 Mend
 - 20 University at Bowling Green
 - 22 Pinpointed
 - 24 Nonprofessional
 - 25 Senses
 - 27 Chomper
 - 30 Lawyers' org.
 - 31 Lazes about
 - 35 Sore
 - 36 KY county, taken from Livingston in 1842
 - 38 Originally named Mayan
 - 40 Writer Fleming
 - 41 ___ king
 - 42 A KY county named for the river which runs through it
 - 45 Scarf material
 - 46 Theater for Kentuckian William Ray
 - 47 Grade A item
 - 48 Aerosol
 - 49 Increase
 - 51 Challenger
 - 52 KY county, home to Old Fort Harrod State Park
- DOWN**
- 1 Vex
 - 2 Solitary, or a Lee Co. area
 - 3 Horse feed
 - 4 KY county, original home of KFC
 - 5 Portal
 - 6 Common street
 - 7 Except
 - 8 Time period
 - 9 Kentuckian, actress Irene
 - 10 KY county, home to Berea College
 - 11 Russian river
 - 12 Old money
 - 13 ___ Between the Lakes
 - 21 Ring site
 - 23 KY county with 50 miles of shoreline on Barren River Lake
 - 25 J. Edgar Hoover's org.
 - 26 Restaurant activity
 - 27 Old Louisville holding company, ___ Kentucky
 - 28 Freeze
 - 29 Motif
 - 30 Limb band
 - 32 KY county, site of Lindsey Wilson College
 - 33 Chap
 - 34 Serpentine
 - 36 Elevator part
 - 37 Little bit
 - 39 Native KY county of Pee Wee Reese
 - 43 Home county of the Ohio River town of Augusta, KY
 - 44 Years ___
 - 45 KY county, home to Taylorsville Lake State Park
 - 48 Musical syllable
 - 50 Sketches
 - 51 First Kentuckian inducted into Country Music Hall of Fame
 - 52 Artist Chagall
 - 53 Mideast ruler
 - 54 Spanish flower
 - 55 Kentuckian, country singer Naomi
 - 56 Identical
 - 57 "Tristia" poet
 - 58 Earns
 - 61 Brainpower
 - 62 Kind of shot

Merry Christmas



It's time to deliver our message of goodwill and gratitude to the many kind folks who have visited us this year. Have a very merry season!

B&M Liquidators
 Hwy. 150 • Between Mt. Vernon & Brodhead • 256-0234

Holiday Sale
25% Off Lowest Price
 (Excludes Furniture Now 10% Off)

Wishing You a Merry Christmas!

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To better serve our customers, WRVK's business office has relocated to 35 Lovell Ln., inside Saylor's Furniture Store.

Our new office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday
 Closed for lunch 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m.
 Phone - 256-2146 • Fax - 256-9146
 email - manager@wrvk1460.com

DJ's
 Pete Stamper • Kevin Roberts • Charlie Napier • Wayne Combs
 Donovan Howard • Jeanine Lawrence • DJ & Request Line - 256-1460
 WRVK Manager - Jeanine Lawrence

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Everyday thru December 31st
 ALL accessories are **HALF OFF** and **V3 Razrs** are **FREE***

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FREE ACTIVATION &
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*Certain Terms & Conditions Apply. See Store For Details. Limited time offer while supplies last. Offers valid only with a 2yr. contrat. Upgrades require Trade-In. ** With New 2yr. Activation.

Christmas shopping at Health and Rehab Center

It's that time of year when the residents at Rockcastle Health and Rehab Center get to do their Christmas shopping. Thanks to First Baptist

Church of Mt. Vernon every year on the first Tuesday in December, they provide items for our residents to "shop" for their family

members.

Members of First Baptist Church come to the facility with lots of items so that the residents have the freedom of shopping – and they never have to leave the facility! Residents can "purchase" gifts for their family members and also for their self – and best of all it's FREE! First Baptist always has plenty of members to wrap the residents' purchases. For

residents not able to come to the shopping spree, First Baptist members will load a cart with gift items and go room to room so that every resident has an opportunity to "shop".

First Baptist Church has provided this shopping spree for the residents for the past 15 years. Residents and staff would like to say Thank You First Baptist Church for your kindness.



Pictured from left, Kathy Wright brings Laura Daniels to the shopping spree. Helping is Betty Cain, member of First Baptist Church.



Members of First Baptist Church wrap presents for Evelyn Poynter.



Cindy Mink picking out presents at the shopping spree and Rockcastle County Health and Rehab Center.



Cora Norton got help shopping from her room from members of First Baptist Church.



John Holbrook has hundreds of walking sticks, like the one above in his workshop.

"Santa"

(Cont. from B1)

and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to our life its highest beauty and joy."

Yes, there is a John Holbrook, and he exists as certainly as generosity and service to neighbors exist.

Reprinted with permission of the Kentucky Association of Counties', *County Line Magazine*....



Here's hoping your Christmas is sheer purr-fection!
It's been great having you as our customer.

Merry Christmas from everyone at
Rockcastle Veterinary Clinic



Front row from left: Dr. James Chism and Marcia Chism.

Middle row from left: Sue Rodefer and Kathy Bryant.

Back row from left: Brandon Gray, Brenda Estes, Amanda Chism, Joan Linville and Kayla Dobbs.

Not present was Gina Combs whom we wish a very speedy recovery!

School St. • Mt. Vernon • 256-2801

Closing at noon Christmas Eve - Closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day



As we celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, it is a time to reflect on our many blessings, and be thankful for all that the Lord has done for us.

We would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" for your patronage this past year.

Merry Christmas!

Betty, Mary, Harold, Rachel, Sarah, Laura, Louise, Joyce & Jamie

Hiatt's
5&10

Main St.
Mt. Vernon
606-256-2691

Recycling program underway in Rockcastle Schools

Rockcastle County students are learning first hand about the three Rs: reduce, reuse and recycle. The county's schools have joined a recycling program launched by Joanie Alexander, a Rockcastle County High School junior, in cooperation with the Rockcastle County Solid Waste Office. The program is sponsored by Citizens Bank and Community Trust Bank.

All Rockcastle County schools are participating in the recycling program, including the Area Technology Center, Academy for Academic Achievement and Central Office.

"I got the recycling bins placed in every school a few weeks ago," said Alexander, who began the school recycling project after graduating from the Rogers Scholars program in July. "It took awhile to get everything going, but it's finally underway! The project seems to be doing really well." She thanked those who have made the program possible, with special thanks to Citizens Bank President Corey Craig.

Three bins were placed in each room for the recycling of paper, plastic and aluminum. The Solid Waste Office provided large bins for central collection points, such as hallways. James Renner, the county's solid waste and PRIDE coordinator, picks up the recyclables from each school.

Renner said the schools are collecting more recyclables, especially paper, since the bins were placed in all classrooms. He began picking up recyclables at the schools last year, but some schools chose not to participate and the main item collected was cardboard.

"I want to thank Joanie for getting the money for the bins

and placing them, and everyone who made that possible," Renner said. "We're really happy to see the schools come on board with recycling."

Citizens who want to recycle can use the free drop-off center at 2528 South Wilderness Road. It's open 7 a.m. until 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. The center accepts plastics #1-7, any paper, cardboard, metal cans, aerosol cans, aluminum cans, glass, rechargeable batteries, computer equipment and most electronics (no TVs or microwaves). For more information, call Renner at 256-1902.

"Some community drop-off points for recycling will be available in the next six months," Renner added. The county received a state grant to purchase portable drop-off containers, and Renner said they will be in place by July.

"I congratulate Joanie on making her vision a reality, and I appreciate Citizens Bank, Community Trust Bank and the Solid Waste Office for supporting this important project," said Tammie Wilson, PRIDE vice president and chief operating officer. "Recycling is such an easy way to reduce the energy and natural resources needed to make products we use every day. By recycling in school, students will pick up a good habit for life."

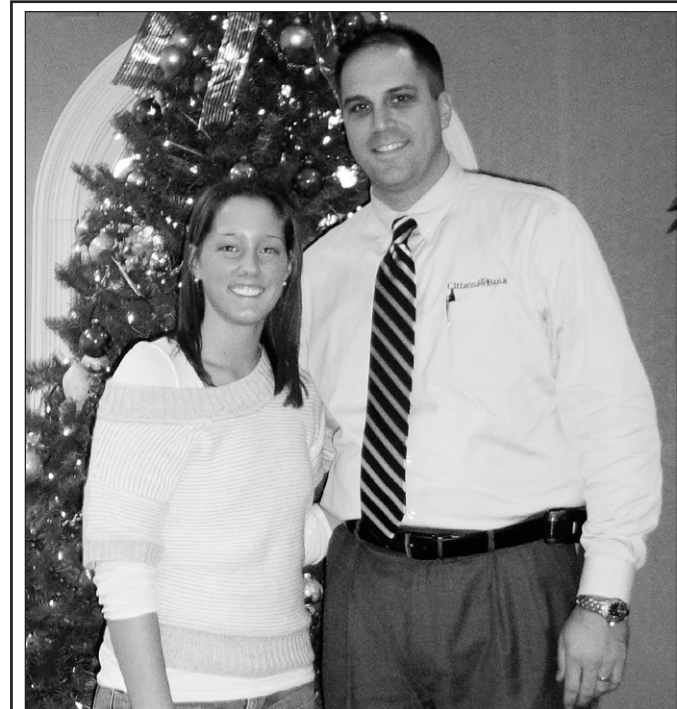
"The Center is very pleased that Joanie chose to partner with PRIDE in such an innovative way," said Jessica Melton, associate director of education and training for The Center for Rural Development, which sponsors the Rogers Scholars program. "By coordinating such a large-scale and environmentally conscious project, we feel she has become a role model for how Rogers Scholars participants can and

should 'think big' when planning their community service component projects. We salute Joanie for her groundbreaking efforts."

Rogers Scholars are tasked with starting a community service project in their hometowns. The Rogers Scholars program is an intensive, one-week summer course that develops technological skills and fosters an entrepreneurial spirit, leadership and commitment to rural Kentucky. Sixty high school juniors are selected

from 42 counties in southern and eastern Kentucky for the program annually. For more information, visit the Rogers Scholars web site at www.rogersscholars.com.

Alexander won the region's PRIDE Volunteer of the Month Award in September for launching the recycling program. PRIDE promotes environmental cleanup and education in 38 counties of southern and eastern Kentucky. The PRIDE web site is www.kypride.org.



Joanie Alexander, who organized the school recycling program, with Corey Craig, president of Citizens Bank, the program's primary sponsor. Three recycling bins, pictured below, were placed in each classroom to collect paper, plastic and aluminum.



Library News

Pam Chaliff



It's time once again for "Books For Bikes." This is the Library's sixth year for this event and this time will be different than ever before.

Our program is "Books for Bikes: Reading for Wheels" and there will be a variety of prizes, including scooters, bikes, hi-tide casters and skateboards.

The rules remain the same Children 3-12 may participate and can check out books from the public library, the bookmobile or their school library.

Forms will be available at the library for the child to either draw a picture or tell about each book they have read. These forms must be returned to the library in order for the child to be eligible for the prizes.

Registration for this year's program begins December 29th. Prizes are on display in the main library.

Further details, concerning the "Reading Social and prize drawing, will be given at a later date.

The library will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The library will also close at 4 p.m. on New Year's Eve and be closed New Year's Day.

The Library staff wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

At times, the library may not be open during regular hours due to weather conditions. Closings will be announced on WRVK.

Mt. Vernon Chiropractic

Dr. Max Meyer and staff would like to thank all of our patients for giving us the opportunity to serve you.

To all we wish a



and a New Year filled with health, peace and prosperity.

Massage Therapy Available beginning December 22nd

Covered by: Auto Accidents, Workers Comp, Humana, Anthem, and most other major medical insurance. We will verify coverage for you.

Gift Certificates Are Available! They make a perfect gift for Christmas!

70 School Street • Mt. Vernon (Former KU Bldg.) 606-256-1986

Country Care

Day Care

Now Enrolling

256-KIDS (5437)

www.countrycaredaycare.com

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

from the folks at

Brodhead Tobacco & Tanning

With sincere best wishes to all during this season of peace and joy. We're so glad to have friends and neighbors like you.



Shown in front is Mike Brown. Back row from left: Ginny Todd, Sue Brown, Marie Carter, Jason Carter, Debbie Santo, Gary Santo and Elisha York. Also shown are security detail Charlie Brown and Poochie Carter.

Hwy. 150 • Brodhead • 606-758-4328

Closing at 5 p.m. Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day • Open regular hours New Year's Day

MERRY CHRISTMAS

May the blessings of Christmas be with you today and always.

Thank you and Happy Holidays

from

Sabrina's Hair Design



Seated from left: Lindsey Carpenter, Stephanie Cameron and Erin Maggard.

Back row from left: Tina Abney, Sabrina Bishop, Sheila Nicely and Laronda Bingham

Closed December 24th - 26th • Open New Year's Day

Chamber holds annual Christmas Dinner



Some of those in attendance at the recently held Rockcastle Chamber of Commerce Christmas Dinner at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame in Renfro Valley, were from left: Jim Bullock, Gertha Mink and Roy Donovan Adams.



Over 30 people attended the annual Chamber of Commerce Christmas Dinner at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and Museum, including, from left: J.B. Stevens, Jay Lawson and Shauna Lawson.



Members of the Rockcastle County High School Chamber Choir, under the direction of Miss Amber Thacker, performed at the annual Chamber Christmas Dinner held recently at the Hall of Fame in Renfro Valley. Shown above, from left are: Carri Hunt, Bethany Clontz, Starla Bond, Brittany Boreing, Dalton Hutton, Michael Browning, Chelsea O'Rear, Felicia Chestnut, Jacilyn Bullock and Johnna Ballard.



Sharing a word at the recent Rockcastle Chamber of Commerce Christmas Dinner, were, from left: Jailer James Miller, Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby and husband, Paul.



Casey Hunt, left and older sister, Carri, get ready for a Violin duet, which they performed at the annual Rockcastle Chamber of Commerce Christmas Dinner.



Rockcastle Chamber members Glenna and Larry Smith, were present at the Chamber's annual Christmas Party, which was held at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame in Renfro Valley. The Smiths own and operate the Snack Shack in Mt. Vernon.

Photos by:
Richard
Anderkin

"What Is Written"

We want to continue our study of some of the outstanding attitudes that were manifested in the first church as seen in the book of Acts. In Acts 2:42 we read, "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Notice that they were steadfast in the apostles' doctrine. This word steadfast is defined as: to be earnest towards, to persevere, be constantly diligent, to give unremitting care to a thing. These folks desired and were committed to sound doctrine. This is how brethren can dwell together in unity, "And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart." Ac:2:46. As Amos said long ago, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" ch. 3:3. Yes these believers were in unity, for they all had the mind set to follow sound doctrine. But in time, not all would be satisfied with the truth. In Acts 15 some were teaching erroneous things, "Paul and Barnabas had quite a dispute and argument with them" ISV. After the looking at what the Lord had already revealed; truth prevailed with most the brethren, "Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church," vs.22. All problems can work out when folks love the truth!

Providence church of Christ - 758-8524
E-mail: Dan.McKibben@Juno.com

Web Site: www.WhatSaithTheScriptures.com

Time of Services: **Sunday** 10am Bible Study, Worship 10:40 & 6:00pm; **Wed.** 7:00pm. Radio program, Sun.8am, 1460 AM



May His divine spirit warm and watch over you and yours this holiday season.

TO OUR GOOD FRIENDS
Everywhere

All the best to you and yours this holiday season.
We appreciate your business.

A Cut Above

Mt. Vernon • 606-256-5317



Dicie Allen, Terri Woodall and Sherry Barron



From left: Shirley Scalf, owner Ercel Cromer, Sheila Owens and Marty Reynolds.

Jack's Pro Hardware

160 Williams Street • Mt. Vernon • 256-4363 or 256-3514

Heavenly Hope Books and Gifts

160 Williams St. • Mt. Vernon • 256-3514

Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day
Open regular hours New Year's Eve • Closed New Year's Day

CAP Christmas Basket program serves 128 families in Rockcastle

Friday morning, Christmas came early this year, for some 128 families and 22 elderly people in Rockcastle County, who received Christmas baskets through a program sponsored and administered by the

Christian Appalachian Project, (CAP). The Christmas Basket program serves six counties in the Cumberland Valley region of Kentucky, including Rockcastle County.

Friday's Christmas Basket program and distribution took place at the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon, where the church's huge all-purpose room, was filled with gifts and volunteers, who were giving CAP and recipients a helping hand.

This year, approximately 2,200 people served in the Cumberland Valley region.

According to a CAP spokesperson, each county takes applications for 100 families with children, and 20-30 elderly persons.

Those applications are taken during the month of August and spots are filled very quickly. CAP uses the USDA guidelines to determine if families qualify for this program.

These "baskets" include gifts for each member of the family as well as a food voucher for a Christmas dinner.

This program is made possible solely through individual sponsors. These sponsors come from all over the United States, and each state is represented. Sponsors are sent letters in July. They are able to choose how many and/or how large a family they will sponsor.

This year, CAP had 80% repeat sponsors. Without these generous sponsors, the Christmas basket program would not

be possible.

The Christian Appalachian Project is an interdenominational non-profit Christian or-

ganization that has had a long-standing presence in Rockcastle County. CAP serves the county

through various programs in Rockcastle, including:
-Adult Learning Center

(Cont. to B7)



Volunteers from the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon including, Delores Morris, left and Carol Pybas, helped get refreshments ready for some of the families who received Christmas Baskets through CAP.



Several volunteers helped CAP with their Christmas Basket Program held at the First Baptist Church on Friday. From left are: Mike O'Brien, Jessica Soule, Bryan Phelps and Kevin Denaria. Phelps, who is the Youth Minister at First Baptist, brought the message in a service before the give-away began.



Volunteers Luke and Karen Dodson hauled out items for Sharon Helton and Pam Kelly at the Christmas Basket program sponsored by CAP. Friday's program took place at the First Baptist Church in Mt. Vernon. (CAP program photos by: Richard Anderkin)

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



Front row: manager Denise Parsons. Back row from left: Peggy Nolan, John Griffith, Jason Allen, Amanda Smith and Lucy Cole.



Front row from left: Darlene Burdine, Tracey Shelton and Andrea Reynolds. Back row from left: Michael Thomason and Ryan Owens.

Employees not present for photos: Courtney Parsons, Stephanie McCauley, Janet Patterson, Lisa Thompson, Maria Kersey, Gerald Polk, Jacob Lawrence, Keesha Bussell, Sara Cain and Rebecca Ayers.

KFC will close at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve and be closed Christmas Day. KFC will close at 10 p.m. New Year's Eve and will be open New Year's Day.

Merry Christmas

*May peace and joy
come to you
during this holy season*



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Mary Mathis, Agent

20 Church St. • Mt. Vernon • 256-0047



RCHS students and sister and brother Hayley and Zachary Davis performed at the second annual combined Christmas Concert at RCHS on December 15th.



RCHS Band members from left: Rachel Hemsley, Tara Baldwin, Samantha Taylor and Hannah Tyler played clarinets at the second annual combined Choir and Band Christmas concert at RCHS.



RCHS Band Director Greg Daugherty conducts *Sounds of the Season* at the second annual combined RCHS Band and Choir Christmas Concert, held last week. Daugherty has been Band Director at RCHS for 14 years.

“Cap Christmas Baskets”

(Cont. from B6)

- Child and Family Development Center
 - Family Life Abuse Center
 - Healing Rain Recovery Center
 - Rainbow Respite
 - Grateful Threadz Used Clothing Store and eBay store
 - Grateful Breads Food Pantry
 - Family Advocacy and Housing
- Family Advocacy (formerly known as Outreach) began as Father Beiting (founder of CAP) distributed clothing, furniture, food, and other items to families in need or in an emergency situation in the 1950's. This program now helps families with emergency assistance as well as organizing the Christmas Basket and School Readiness distributions.

The Signal office will be closed Dec. 24th through Jan. 4th



A capacity crowd of over 300 people attended the second annual combined RCHS Band and Chorus Concert held in the RCHS auditorium on Monday, December 15th. Shown above are some members of the RCHS Chorus, front bottom row: Tara Baldwin, Starla Bond, and Andrea Mink. Second row, from left: Robyn Sturgill and Seth Adams and back row, from left: Victoria Howard, Brittany Boreing, Charles Alcorn and E.J. Wynn. The RCHS Chorus is under the direction of Miss Amber Thacker.



Liz Phelps, who works with CAP, was busy loading boxes full of items for some of the 128 families who were served at Friday's Christmas Basket program.

Merry
Christmas
&
Happy
New Year!

from your friends at



US 25 North • Mt. Vernon • 256-5611 or 256-0818
Closing at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas Day
Closing at 10 p.m. New Year's Eve and open at 8 a.m. New Year's Day



From left: Stephen Redmond, Mike Clark, Krista Owens, Lillian Ribble, Joey Reeves, Emily Miller, Sara Begley, Dillon Hughes, Stephen Deaton, Lakin Halcomb, Matt Willis, Carol Baker, Chris Settles, Gaylen Settles, Danny Settles and Jack Stephens. Numerous other employees not present included Carrie Asberry, Marsha Harris, Tiffany Smith, Ashley Smith and Vanessa McCoy.

Classifieds

CLASSIFIED RATES

• Local Rates - \$4 for 25 words or less - .10 each additional word
 • Display Classifieds \$5.00/Inch
Deadline for Classifieds is 10 a.m. TUESDAY

For Rent

For Rent or Land Contract: Doublewide mobile home in Sunnyside Estates on 1/2 acre lot. 606-308-2319 or 256-5692. 52xntf
For Rent: 3BR House w/one bath, fuel oil heat. \$325 month, deposit and reference required. No pets. 256-9226 after 6:30 p.m. 5x2p
For Rent: Nice 2BR mobile home. \$375 month. Available approx. Jan. 1st. Call 606-758-4985. 5x2p
For Rent: Duplex in Brodhead. All appliances furnished. Call Patty 758-9666. 5xntf
For Rent or Sale: Two, two bedroom houses for rent or sale in Mt. Vernon. First month's rent plus security deposit re-

quired. Call 256-9914 or 606-308-4990. 6tfn

For Rent: 2BR/1BA home near Livingston. \$350 month - first and last. 859-248-8938. Serious inquiries only. 6x1p

For Rent: 2 BR trailer, Brodhead, 481B Tyree St. Carport, storage, nice yard. \$250 month/\$250 deposit. No Pets. Credit references checked. 758-9683 or 606-510-3719. 4xntf

LAND LAND LAND Pulaski County

Between Somerset & Mt. Vernon on Hwy. 934. Ideal building tracts with features such as woods/pastures/ views, water/electric/telephone. Suitable for DW or Home. 2.1 acres with woods @ \$24,900 (\$1245 down, \$267/month). 4.2 acres with open rolling pasture @ \$31,500 (\$1575 down, \$338/month). 5.7 acres with woods @ \$33,900 (\$1695 down, \$364/month).

Garrard County

Near Berea on Gabhard Rd. 11 acres with woods close to I-75 for \$42,500 (\$2125 down, \$456/month). 13.5 acres on Brock Road for \$33,500 (1,675 down, \$359/month). Abundant Wildlife!!!
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1-800-998-2063 fax 986-6173

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9 to 5; Sat. 9 to 1; Sun. by appt.

4115 SCAFFOLD CANE RD. - 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 story on 2 acres. Barn, greenhouse and above ground pool. The home has 2 bedrooms on 1st floor and 2 bedrooms on 2nd floor, finished bonus room, plus a basement with stone woodburning fireplace and storm shelter. \$279,000. MLS31676
49 TERESA LANE - Nice singlewide in great setting. Two full acres of space and privacy. Home has had so many updates! Great two car garage has been added with even more storage space. New appliances. \$54,900. MLS32410
2916 WILDERNESS RD - Custom built 2 story home on poured concrete basement. Kitchen recently updated. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 car attached garage and 2 car detached garage with upstairs storage or living quarters. Huge deck and above ground pool. \$230,000. MLS32342
270 ROSE HILL - 3 bedroom, 3 baths, full living quarters in basement, nice patio, nice porch. Over size 2 car garage. Walk-out of your own back yard and go fishing in lake. \$149,000. MLS32283
6732 S. BRINDLE RIDGE - Custom made 4 bedroom home is on a permanent foundation. Walls are 2x6 with thermal windows, oak cabinets and so much space. Oversized garage has electric and 220 wiring. 6 stall barn has electric, a corn crib and smaller loft. \$139,900. MLS31819.
MULLINS STATION RD - Nice lot for a small home or mobile home in town with all city utilities priced to sell only at \$7,500. MLS32173
8999 MAIN STREET - Location! Location! The Livingston Market has been operation for over 85 years has come up for sale and all the equipment. Approx. 2500 sq. ft. and approx. 900 sq. ft. in basement with walkout 1600 sq. ft. of this building is less than 10 years old. \$59,000. MLS32174
MAIN STREET, LIVINGSTON - Nice city lot 65x103. No zoning, mobile home is allowed. City sewer and water. \$10,000. MLS32175
7604 BRINDLE RIDGE RD - Neat 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick ranch on 10 beautiful acres. Full finished basement and double car garage are in the house. Huge 30x50 metal storage building and double car garage with two office rooms are on the property. \$129,900. MLS31817
4247 SCAFFOLD CANE RD - Be sure to see this one-of-a-kind home located in a scenic country setting and only minutes from Berea or Mt. Vernon. Features include 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, full finished basement, great room design, new interior paint plus much more. 1 acre lot. \$185,000. MLS30086
6485 SCAFFOLD CANE RD - Country home with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Sold as is. Large front porch and walkout basement. \$30,000. MLS31110-3176.
8 DEEP HOLLOW RD - 1 acre lot. Wooded. Within 3 minutes of Renfro Valley, 9 minutes of exit 76 Berea. \$28,500. MLS30763.
402 INDIAN LANE - 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with new shingles, fenced backyard, partial basement w/ 4' walkout doorway. Barn. MLS30937
402 INDIAN LANE - 6 acres of nature and woods. Barn already built on property, no restriction. **SOLD** this property. \$39,900. MLS30938
8 C. VALLEY DRIVE - Beautiful meadow in front on this wooded tract. This tract has several home sites and lots of privacy. 10+ acres. Wildlife, trees and tons of nature to explore. **Sale Pending** in Berea and I-75. Utilities are at the backstop road. Doublewide are welcome. \$95,000
BEREA. We have many nice homes listed in Berea. Call one of the above agents for a showing.
APPROX. 20 ACRES overlooking I-75 at Exit 62 Renfro Valley. Property has high exposure from I-75. Water and sewer on the property. Some mobile home and camper site hookups on the property. Great potential as commercial or development. Priced at \$275,000. MLS 25741
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY at I-75 Exit 62, Renfro Valley approx. 1 acre lot (leased) sewer, water, electric. Blacktop parking lot. Building on site. Call for more information. \$150,000. MLS25739.
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY with large building presently used for pizza sales. Located at Renfro Valley Exit 62. Over 2,400 sq. ft. of retail space. Large walk-in cooler, central heat and air. Approx. 1 acre with ample parking overlooks I-75. \$175,000. MLS 25740.

For Rent: 3 BR, 1 1/2 bath house, 481A Tyree St., Brodhead. Garage, carport, nice yard. \$400 month/\$400 deposit. No pets. Credit references checked. 758-9683 or 606-510-3719. 4xntf

For Rent: 2BR trailer, 476 Tyree St., Brodhead. Outbuildings, carport, nice yard, garden space. No pets. \$300 month/\$300 deposit. Credit references checked. 758-9683 or 606-510-3719. 4xntf

Duplex For Rent in Brodhead. 2BR, washer/dryer/dishwasher. Call Amy Nicely 256-8700. 3xntf

For Rent or Sale: 3 BR/2BA trailer on large lot in Sunnyside Estates, Mt. Vernon. Non smoker, credit check, no pets. \$350 month/\$600 security deposit. Sale price \$55,000. 1-606-758-8681. 1xntf

For Rent: 2 and 3 bedroom trailer, starting as low as \$200 month plus \$200 deposit. Call 256-9889 or 606-308-5389. 3x4

For Rent: 2 bedroom trailer in Mt. Vernon. 859-358-3560 or 256-9943. 47xntf

For Rent: Small 2 bedroom trailer in Mt. Vernon. No pets. Also, house in Brodhead. 758-4729. 40xntf

For Rent: Accepting applications at Mt. Vernon Housing Authority on Mondays 9 a.m. til 12 noon. Rent based on income. 256-4185. 14xntf

Accepting Applications: For 2 and 3 bedroom units at Valley View Apartments. Rent based on income. Call 256-5912. Equal Housing Opportunity, TDD for hearing impaired only. 1-800-247-2510. 36tfn

Property For Sale

For Sale By Land Contract: Rustic Alpine style house. 3633 sq. ft. with 4 acres of mostly woodland, located 3/10 miles from city limits of Berea. Will take trade in. 606-256-9053. 6x2p

For Sale: 2,397 sq. ft. 3BR/2BA home w/CHA, storm cellar, lg. barn and a 38x72 metal garage w/electric. All furniture in home is nego. All on 5.23 acres. \$149,900. 606-758-8681. 1xntf

For Sale: (1) Lot - 6 acres wooded on Breezy Hollow Lane, \$23,500. (2) 7.7 acres cleared on Breezy Hollow Lane, \$29,900. (3) Two lots on Breezy Hollow, 1.4 acres, to be sold together, \$8,500. 256-3213 or 308-2953. 16xntf

Lots For Sale: Castle Ridge Subdivision. Use same entry way as Bible Baptist Church. All lots have city sewer and underground utilities. starting at \$12,900. 606-256-5692 • 256-4504 • 308-3730. 20xntf
For Sale: Mobile home lots, located in Sunnyside Mobile Home Park. 1.2 acre lots - \$500 down and \$100 per month. Call 606-256-5692 or 606-256-5648. 43xntf

Posted

Posted: No trespassing on property of Darrell and Helen Whitaker, located on East Fork of Skaggs Creek and Cut Gap. Keep out!! 32(08)x51p

Posted: No trespassing on land belonging to Donald Bowman on Cow Bell Hollow Rd. at Saltpetre Cave. Violators will

be prosecuted. Not responsible for accidents.

Posted: No trespassing or hunting on land of J.B. Baker located at Climax.

Posted: No hunting/ATVs on land belonging to Billy Whitaker on Skaggs Creek.

Posted: No hunting/trespassing on property belonging to Farmer Waddle and Clista Spivey heirs n Hwy 490. Violators will be prosecuted. Not responsible for accidents. 6x6p

No Hunting/Trespassing on Murphy Martin's land on Plantation Lane and Murphy Martin Rd. 6x2p

Posted: No hunting or trespassing on Ed Wilson Farm, 5320 Hummel Road, Wildie. 44(08)x52p

Posted: No trespassing. No ATVs on property belonging to Carla Whitaker Carpenter and Warren Whitaker (formerly known as Wesley Mink property) located at High Dry, Long Branch (Pongo area). 32(08)x25p

Posted: No hunting/trespassing on property belonging to Farmer Waddle and Clista Spivey heirs on Hwy. 490. Violators will be prosecuted. Not responsible for accidents. 42(08)x25p

Posted: No trespassing on Crawford Place - Old Brodhead Road. Danny Smith. 47tfn

Posted: Absolutely no hunting, fishing or trespassing on property belonging to Mark and Debbie Cummins. Violators will be prosecuted. 9x52p

Posted: No hunting, trespassing or ATVs on land belonging to Victoria Reese at Roundstone. Not responsible for accidents.

Posted: No trespassing on property known as C.B. Owens Farm across from Fairgrounds in Brodhead. Violators will be prosecuted. 25tfn

Posted: No hunting or trespassing on property owned by Doug and Judy Brock known as Brock's North Hill Farm at Maretburg consisting of the Swinney Place, Brock Place, Hensley Farm, Lakes Farm. 3tf

Miscellaneous For Sale

For Sale: Seasoned firewood. 606-453-2027. 5x6p

For Sale: Seasoned firewood. \$50 load, delivered locally. 606-308-3409. 5x4p

For Sale: Good green orchard grass square bales hay. 758-8190 or 606-392-1396. 3x4p

For Sale: Cemetery lots, Cresthaven Cemetery, Mt. Vernon. Call Bill Dowell at 308-1058. 31xntf

For Sale: Firewood. Call 256-0195.

Carhartt stonewash denim jeans, relax or regular fit. \$26.50. Large selection of Carhartt rough and casual wear. Napier Brothers Clothing Store, 35 Public Square, Lancaster. 859-792-2535.

Mobile Homes For Sale

(AAA) **Looking For A Home?** Do you own land or have family land? Zero down easy financing for 1st time home buyers! Govt. funds available for limited credit. Call 606-365-9119 to get prequalified! 51x12

For Sale: 2006 Giles doublewide mobile home, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, front and

rear deck, guttering and underpinning. Must be moved. All appliances including washer and dryer stay. Serious inquiries only. 758-4735 or 758-8994. 7tfn

For Sale: 3 bedroom, 2 bath doublewide home, recently remodeled, situated on 1/2 acre lot off Hwy. 461 in Sunnyside Estates. 606-308-3432.

Motor Vehicles For Sale

For Sale: 2007 Suzuki Reno hatchback, 4 door, AC, CD player, power windows, excellent condition, bumper to bumper warranty. \$8,800. 758-9605 after noon. 42tfn

For Sale: 51 Chevy, two door, original, runs good, \$2,500; 1999 Ford Dually, extended cab, 7.3 diesel, 70K, \$12,500; 2004 Futian Tractor, 3 cyl. diesel, 4WD, front end loader, \$4,800; 2007 model 14x7x7 enclosed trailer - like new, \$3,800; 1964 Ford dump truck, only 39K, \$2,500; 2000 Chevy, 4WD, \$8,500; 49 Ford street rod, \$10,000; 1972 Chevy pick-up, \$2,000; 1989 Dodge camper van, \$3,800. Also several farm tractors and equipment. Several riding lawn mowers. 606-256-4739 or 606-308-4739. 4x2p

Sixth Annual Books For Bikes: Reading for Wheels

Register @
Rockcastle Co. Public Library
 60 Ford Drive
 Mt. Vernon, KY 40456
 256-2388

Registration Begins December 29th.
Children ages 3-12 can participate.

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 45 Mercury Dr., Mt. Vernon - \$129,900
Deep Vista Rd., Mt. Vernon (19.17 A) - \$85,000
SOLD! 215 Pine Hill Circle, Mt. Vernon - \$12,000
SOLD! 17 Big Sinks Rd., Brodhead - \$95,000.
 3.03 A on Menifee Hill Rd. - \$24,900
 2.5 A on Menifee Hill Rd. - \$18,900
SOLD! Lot #4 - East Fork Rd. 2.57 A - \$18,200
 Lot #7 - Hwy. 1249, 3.7 A. - \$25,000

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256-0044
 (606) 875-7673

Featured Property
 3 bedroom, 3 bath brick home in Hunter's Ridge. Above ground pool, large lot, dead end street, front porch, back deck, dining room and office, nice landscaping. Call to See. Larry, Best Realty Services - 606-875-7673 or 606-256-9851.

Help Wanted

AVON: Recruiting and Sales. appointment fee \$10 or free brochure - All Rockcastle. 606-758-9642. 52x8p

Drivers: Dedicated Runs! Top consistent freight, miles, top pay and home-time @ Werner Enterprises. 800-346-2818 x150. 4x3p

Epperson Air Conditioning • Heating • Plumbing • Electric is seeking HVAC mechanics and plumbers. Call 606-679-7476, 112 W. University Dr., Somerset, Ky. 42503. EOE and Drug free work place. 24xntf

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Notices

Notice is hereby given that Dortha Barnett Kirby, 407 Crutcher Pike, Richmond, Ky. 40475 has been appointed executrix of the estate of Clyde Roland Barnett on the 15th day of December, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Dortha Barnett Kirby or to Hon. John D. Ford, 45 East

Main St., O.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before June 15, 2009 at 11 a.m. 5x3

Notice is hereby given that Gary D. Kirby, 239 Wildflower Lane, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 has been appointed guardian of Gary Lee Kirby on the 10th day of December, 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Gary D. Kirby on or before June 10, 2009 at 11 a.m. 5x2

Notice is given that Larry B. Smith has filed a final settlement of his accounts as Executor of the estate of Rebecca Smith, deceased. A hearing on said settlement will be held January 19, 2009 at 11 a.m. Any exceptions to said settlement must be filed before said date. 6x1

Notice is hereby given that Jeffrey Sampson, 3598 Burnt Ridge Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 has been appointed executor of the estate of Wanda Sampson on the 2nd day of December 2008. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Jeffrey

Sampson or to Hon. Frankie C. Blevins, Jr., Blevins Law, 400 Richmond Rd. N., Ste. C, Berea, Ky. 40403 on or before June 3, 2009 at 11 a.m. 4x3

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Service Commission of Kentucky will hold a hearing on January 13, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, in Hearing Room 1 of the Commission's offices, located at 211 Sower Boulevard in Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of cross-examining witnesses of Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU") and intervenors in Case No. 2008-00251, which is an Application of KU for the Adjustment of Base Electric Rates and in Case No. 2007-00565, which is an Application of KU to File a Depreciation Study.

Prior to the Public Hearing on January 13th at the Commission's offices, the Public Service Commission will hold three (3) Public Meetings to provide an opportunity for ratepayers who would be affected by any increases and are not parties to this case to speak directly to the Commission at the following locations on the dates and times noted:

Madisonville, Kentucky
January 6, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., Central Standard Time, at the Madisonville Community College Health Campus-Auditorium located at 750 North Laffoon Street

Middlesboro, Kentucky
January 8, 2009, at 5:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, at the Middlesboro Community Center located at 705 North Petersborough Avenue

Lexington, Kentucky
January 12, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, at the Bryan Station High School-Auditorium located at 201 Eastin Road

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Pat Winstead M04434

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Performed by the RCMS Music Department

“A Glorious Christmas”

Submitted by A. B. Sharpe

For the second time in three days the auditorium of Rockcastle High School was filled with a standing room only crowd. Thursday evening, December 18th, “A Glorious

Christmas” was presented by the Rockcastle Middle School Music Department. This was the debut performance for the 6th grade Beginning Band. They deftly played the Christmas classics “Jingle Bells”, “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” and “Up On the Housetop”, under the sure direction of Mr. Greg Daugherty. Not only has he expertly guided these new musicians on the basics of individual instruments and musical notation, he has brought them together as a group able to perform in unison. It’s hard to believe that less than 4 months ago most of these budding musicians had never played a note.

The RCMS Chorus, which includes many musicians and is under the spirited leadership of Ms. Cassandra Smith, then took center stage and opened with

the well-known “Gloria Deo”. Next, a choir of angels (Caleb Coffey, Jessica Harris, Shalontha Morgan, and Angel Spurlock) blended their voices in a heavenly “Angels from the Realm of Glory” that was remarkably meshed with the Chorus singing “The First

Noel”. Deanna Alexander and Anna Poynter rendered a divine duet “What Child Is This?” and Angel Spurlock transfixes us with her performance of a “Silent Night” while also accompanying herself on the piano. Rylan Cromer soulfully crooned “Feliz Navidad” evoking fond memories of Trini Lopez for many of us. The Chorus then sang an animated “No School Tomorrow if it Snows” and ended their set with a Chorus led audience sing-along of “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer”, “Silent Night”, “Jingle Bells” and “White Christmas”.

The 7th and 8th Grade Band presented “A Glorious Christmas”, “Santa Claus is Comin’ to Town” and a “Concerto for Sleigh Bells and Band”. The audience really relished their performance and was left wishing for more. They are more accomplished and include several members of the High School Marching and Concert Band. They will be competing as a concert band later this winter against many other area schools. The resounding finale was a combined effort of the 6th, 7th and 8th Grade bands and the Chorus. “We Wish You a Merry Christmas” rang out

loudly.

We now look forward to the New Year. New opportunities abound. Including an opportunity that all can enjoy, eating at Pizza Hut on the first Monday of the New Year, Monday, January 5th. As the kids return to school, after weeks of celebrations, why not order-in or eat-out at Mount Vernon Pizza Hut. Mention the Band and the Band will receive 20% of your order. Tight times and all the budget cuts really impact our local arts programs. They need your support. We thank you for all your support in the past year. God bless you all.



Eighth grader Rylan Cromer.



Angel Spurlock



The Rockcastle County Middle School Chorus



7th and 8th Grade Band

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From left: Tootle, Danny, Rita, Jackie. Not pictured: Doug

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Freda Parsons

Jerry Smith

Lois Hager

Judy Rowe

Rita Smith

Michelle Ratiff

Tausha Bryant

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Mount Vernon Signal

Third Section

Thursday, December 25, 2008

Comprehensive Care Center holds Community Day

Mt. Vernon Comprehensive Care Center held its annual Community Day on December 12, 2008.

The event was well attended though the weather was icy and cold. Mt. Vernon Comp Care Center has provided mental health, substance abuse and mental retardation services since 1967. The purpose of Community Day is to honor, recognize and show appreciation to those in the community who demonstrate excellence in providing services to children, youth, families, the Rockcastle community, the city, county, state and country.

Several individuals and one regional group were honored this year at the local mental health center. Several physicians were honored for providing excellent patient care and for "coming back home" to provide this care in Rockcastle County where they grew up.

Dr. Kimberly Cornelius was present to accept her award for "Compassionate Caring Services Provided to Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Clients and Families."

Dr. Karen Saylor, Dr. David Bullock, Dr. Tony Arvin and Dr. Callie Mullins Shaffer were also honored for the excellent compassionate services they provide to children, adults and families in Rockcastle County.

Both Dr. Vasilli Arkadiev and Dr. Enedino Corales, psychiatrists at the Mt. Vernon Comp Care were honored for their empathy and caring as well as for their knowledge and expertise in the field of psychiatry, especially with psychiatric medications.

Local physicians, including Dr. George Griffith, were honored and thanked for collaboration with the local mental health center staff, especially in regard to medications, so that optimum treatment can be provided to clients per Carolyn Reppert Morris, Team Manager. Dr. Cornelius also spoke regarding the importance of this.

Other community leaders honored were Mayor Clarice Kirby for her support and outstanding contributions to CRCCC in helping to erase the stigma of mental illness. NAMI

Cumberland River was recognized for its outstanding contributions in the same effort in the eight county NAMI Cumberland River, located in Mt. Vernon.

Another very special award was presented to Mr. James "Jim" Cox, retired teacher, for the many contributions he made to Rockcastle County's youth.

An old high school "Flambeau" (yearbook) was passed around showing Mr. Cox teaching his biology, math, general science classes. He also made a difference in the lives of those he coached in football and was instrumental in Comp Care's school-based provision of mental health and substance abuse services. Mr. Cox recognized the needs of students and their families throughout his teaching and administrative career.

Mrs. Jill Stevens Ponder was also recognized for "making a difference" in the lives of Rockcastle County students and their families.

Mrs. Ponder began her mental health career at the Mt.

Vernon Comprehensive Care Center and was instrumental in helping the center begin its first school-based counseling services in the region.

Mrs. Ponder identified the needs of students and their

families quickly and was able to access mental health, substance and other services needed in a timely and compassionate way.

Lawrence Bullock, retired art teacher, custom sign de-

signer and artist was also honored at the event for "making a difference" in the lives of Rockcastle's students and for the professional signage he cre-

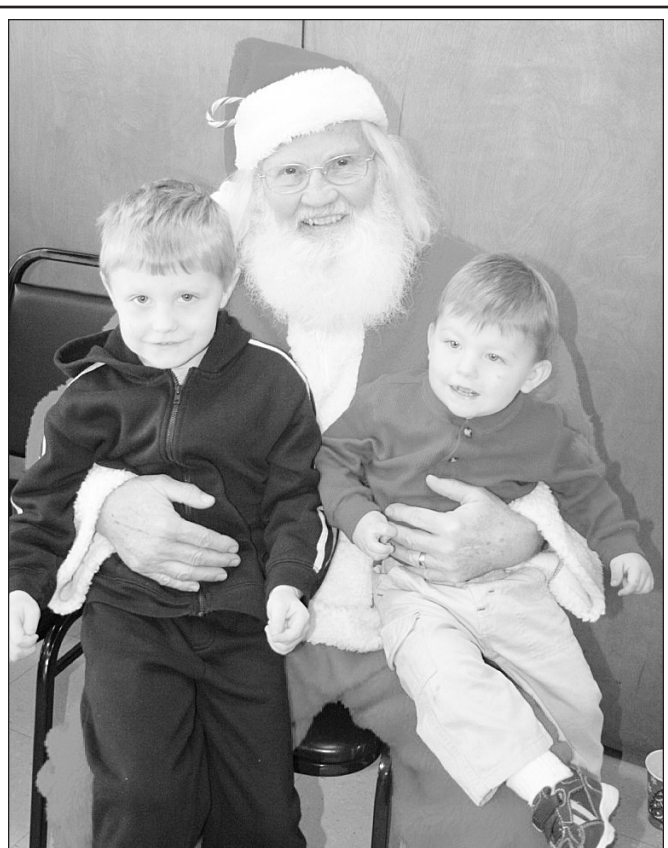
(Cont. to C2)



Some of those in attendance at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day in Mt. Vernon on December 12th were from left: Gary Reppert, Heather Taylor, Shirley Cummins and Sherry Vaughn.



Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby, center, was honored for her support, understanding and contributions in erasing the stigma of mental illness, at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day in Mt. Vernon on December 12th. Mayor Kirby also accepted the award for Mt. Vernon City Police Asst. Chief Eddie Delaney for Compassionate Caring Services provided to Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center and their families. As Assistant Chief, Eddie Delaney served and protected the clients and staff at the Mt. Vernon Comp Care Center.



Caleb Cameron, left and brother Carson, visited with Santa, aka, John Holbrook, during the annual Community Day at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center in Mt. Vernon on December 12th.



June Stevens, left, and Eddie Fields, were two of the many people who attended the annual Community Day on December 12th at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center in Mt. Vernon.



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From left: Skyler Hayes, accepted Dr. Tony Arvin's Award, Brandy Bullock accepted Awards for Compassionate Care provided by Dr. Karen Saylor, Dr. David Bullock and Dr. Kevin Rowe. Dr. Kimberly Cornelius accepted her award and Dr. Callie Shafer's Award for "Compassionate Caring Services Provided to Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Cener Clients and Families". Danny Jones, Executive Director is shown with Dr. Kevin Rowe's Award. The awards were presented at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day in Mt. Vernon on December 12th.



Rockcastle Team Manager, Dr. Carolyn Reppert Morris, left, Danny Jones Executive Director, center and Board Chairman Roland D. Mullins are shown accepting awards for Dr. Corales, Pyschiatrist who has served the Mt. Vernon Comp Care Center since 1978 and Dr. Arkadiou, Psychiatrist, who has served clients at the Center since 2005, at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day in Mt. Vernon.

Community Day

(Cont. from C1)

ated for both NAMI Cumberland River and the local office.

Assistant Mt. Vernon Chief of Police Eddie Delaney was recognized for the safety, security and protection he has provided for both clients and staff at the local mental health center. He has rendered these services with compassion and caring throughout his career with the Mt. Vernon Police Department.

Both Sheriff Mike Peters and

Mayor Clarice Kirby spoke of Delaney's devotion and dedication to protecting and serving the city of Mt. Vernon.

Morris also spoke highly of Delaney's commitment to keeping the mental health center, clients and staff safe. Executive Director Danny also added his gratitude to Sheriff Peters, Chief Terry Jackson and Delaney for their service to Comp Care.

Should mental health, substance abuse or mental retardation services be needed, the Mt. Vernon Comp Care Center is dedicated, committed and honored to serve.

Please call 606-256-2129 for more information.



Jill Stevens Ponder, center, accepted an award for "Making a Difference in the Lives of Rockcastle Students and their Families," at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day. Ponder is shown with CRCCC Team Manager Dr. Carolyn Reppert Morris, left and Executive Director Danny Jones. Mrs. Ponder was the Family Resource Director who did Needs Assessments Identifying Rockcastle's Substance Abuse and Mental Health needs.

Community Day photos by: Richard Anderkin



Rockcastle County Sheriff Mike Peters is shown accepting and Award for "Compassionate Caring Services Provided to the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Families and Clients" from CRCCC Board chairman Roland D. Mullins, at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center Community Day in Mt. Vernon on December 12th. Sheriff Peters and his deputies transport mentally ill patients to State Psychiatric Hospitals for treatment from the local mental health center.



Wayne Bullock, right, Nami President (National Alliance For Mental Illness) Cumberland River is shown accepting NAMI's Award for outstanding contributions the NAMI Chapter has made to the Mt. Vernon Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center, at the Care Center's Community Day in Mt. Vernon on December 12th.



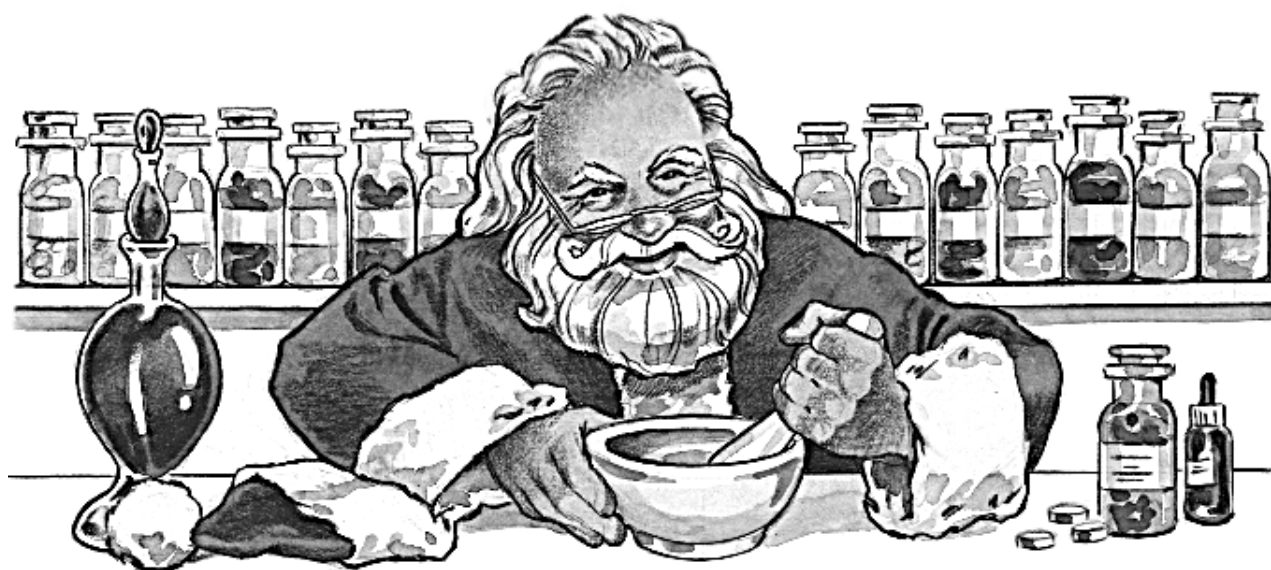
Artist Lawrence Bullock, a retired Art teacher and a Custom Sign Designer, is shown above accepting his award for "Making a Difference in the Lives of Students in Rockcastle County." Mr. Bullock is shown with CRCCC Executive Director Danny Jones, center and Board Chairman Roland d. Mullins, who is a former Executive Director of CRCCC.



Jim Cox, right, is shown accepting his award from CRCCC Board Chair Roland D. Mullins, for "Making A Difference In the Lives of Rockcastle County's Youth", during the annual Community Day at the Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center in Mt. Vernon. Mr. Cox was instrumental also in recognizing the need for Mental Health and Substance Abuse services provided within county schools.



Carolyn Reppert Morris, left, Team Manager at CRCCC is shown with Mt. Vernon City Police Chief Terry Jackson, center, and CRCCC Executive Director Danny Jones. Jackson received an award for providing protection and support to the clients and staff at the local Mental Health Center, at the annual Community Day.



Have a Happy and Healthy Holiday!

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Front row from left: Teresa Shafer, Trish Harmon and Vernie Conner. Back row from left: pharmacist Tim Young, Scott Barnes, Alma Hoggard, pharmacist Tracy King and Janet Day. Not present: Shirley Cromer, Sandra Durham and Jamie Jones.

ROCKCASTLE PROFESSIONAL PHARMACY

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Open until 11 a.m. Christmas Eve • Closed Christmas & New Year's Day

First Graders' Christmas Wish Lists

The following Letters to Santa were written by students at Mt. Vernon Elementary School. First grade teachers at Mt. Vernon are: Jerrilyn Smith, Janet Carter, Jamie Bryant, Kathy Price, Kaci Brown and Kristy Isaacs.

Dear Santa,
I hope your reindeer feel good. I am not feeling so good today. I hope you buy me a light saber from Star Wars. I like the red one and I would like another blue one.

Love, Jason Wickland
Dear Santa,
I want a Power Ranger and Transformer for Christmas. I hope you are doing good.

Love, Cager Doan
Dear Santa,
How are you? I want a Hannah Montana wig, a Hannah Montana shirt, pants, and boots, and a microphone, and sunglasses. I will leave you some cookies on the table.

Love, Allison Newcomb
Dear Santa,
I would like you to come through the door because I do not have a chimney. There are cookies and milk waiting for you in the living room. Please put my presents under the tree. I want some army men and hot wheels.

Thanks, Sam Philbeck
Hello Santa,
I want some tools for Christmas. I would like some screwdriver, wrenches, a hammer, some nails, some wood, and a measuring tape. I don't have a fireplace, so please come through my front door.

Thanks, Andrew Hurt
Dear Santa,
I want a horse for Christmas. It is at Walmart. I want a doll for Christmas, too. I want a doll with black hair. Her skin is brown. Thank you for the presents.

Love, Katherine Coffey
Dear Santa,
I want a necklace for Christmas. I want it to look like a flower. I want a ring to go with it. I would like a new little teddy bear, too. I want a baby doll with a bowl and a spoon and a fork.

Love, Lebrana Sparks
Dear Santa,
I want a reindeer's bell for Christmas. I want an X-Box 360 for Christmas. I want to

come to the North Pole to see you. I would play with you.
Your friend, Blayne Kelley
Dear Santa,
I want a Nintendo DS, an X-Box 360, and remote control car. I want some race cars. I want a puppy if my dad lets me have one. I want a collection of rocks. I love you, Santa.

Love, Cameron Bullock
Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want an easy bake oven to make cupcakes with, or brat magic hair color. I know you are always busy making toys but I was wondering how long does it take's to make all those toys? I have been really good all year and I hope bring me what I want for Christmas. I hope you have a good Christmas!

Love, Aden Amburgey
Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer doing? I hope you have a happy Christmas. If you will can you write me a letter back?

Love, Leann Tankersley
Dear Santa,
What I would like for Christmas is a remote control car that can go on land and water. How are the reindeer doing? How is Rudolph doing? There are milk and cookies waiting for you in the living room.

Love, Logan Bullock
Dear Santa,
I hope you have a good Christmas. I hope it will snow here for Christmas. This year I would like to have a new outfit.

Love, Nora Pulliam
Hello Santa,
I want an easy bake oven that makes cupcakes for Christmas this year or new pair of shoes. I have been really good all year.

Love, Shakeitha Kates
Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas the characters from the movie Batman like Batman, the Joker, the Penguin, and Clay Face. I would also like a Star Wars helmet and a Clone Trooper and a Laser gun and Clone Trooper Lagos and an X Box 360.

Love, Jonathan Howard
Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas are the cars off of the movie Cars. I have been really good

this year; I hope you have a good Christmas. I will put out Christmas cookies for you on Christmas.

Love, Walker Lay
Dear Santa,
I want a new house for Christmas. I also want you to come in through the front door and I would like to have a new video game. I hope that Jesus has a good birthday and Santa I hope that you have a good Christmas.

Love, CJ Cameron
Dear Santa,
How are the reindeers? I hope they are doing fine. I am not sure what I want for Christmas just yet, but I'll let you know soon. Have a happy Christmas.

Love, Holly Miller
Dear Santa,
You are the best Santa Clause ever! This year for Christmas I want a X Box 360 and C3PO. I really want a lot of things for Christmas, but I think you know what they are.

Love, Eli Price
Dear Santa,
I want to have a bicycle, a Harley Davidson motorcycle and a police car for Christmas this year. Merry Christmas! I hope you have a good one.

Love, Justin Denney
Dear Santa,
I want a red and blue Darth Vader Light Saber. Santa you can unlock the door and come in, there will be cookies waiting for you. How long does it take the elves to make all those toys?

Love, Gabe Robinson
Dear Santa,
I would like to have the High School Musical video for Christmas.

Love, Nicole
Dear Santa,
I wish I had a bb gun for Christmas. I wish I had a present under the tree. I wish I had been good.

Love, Daniel
Dear Santa,
I want WE for Christmas. I've been a good boy. I want a remote control car, a laptop and a cell phone.

Love, Zachary
Dear Santa,
I want a BB gun for Christmas. Thank you for my present.
Love, Jacob

Dear Santa,
I would like a new Thomas movie, a toy helicopter, and a Hannah Montana poster. Thank you for the toys last year.

Love, Tristan
Dear Santa,
I want a new barbie doll and a teddy bear, too. Thank you for my toys.

Love, Katie
Dear Santa,
I have been good. I love you, Santa. I make my bed. My mom wants a baby. Thank you for my toys.

Love, Abby
Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want the game Star Wars Battlefront, the game Civil War, a shoot gun, and Secret Service. I have been good! Please come to my house. There will be Christmas cookies and milk.

Love, Braden
Dear Santa,
I want a baby doll. I have been good. Thank you.

Love, Selena
Dear Santa,
I want a Hulk toy and an Iron Man toy for Christmas. I like you. Come to my house and you will get cookies.

Love, Devon
Dear Santa,
I have been good. Come to my house. I will leave you some cookies. I want a Baby Alive. Thank you.

Love, Jeriann
Dear Santa,
I love you. I have been good. I help my family, I want boots. I hope you bring me boots. Thank you.

Love, Isaac
Dear Santa,
I would like a BB gun, a cowboy hat, and a transformer. I will leave cookies and mild

for you.
Love, Orion
Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a Baby Alive. I would like a Princess Kitchen set. Thank you for the toys last year. I will leave you cookies. I will leave you some milk too.

Love, Rosemary
Dear Santa,
I have been good. I love Santa. I would like a real camera. I would like a real phone. I would like new shoes. I will leave you cookies and milk.

Love, Brittney
Dear Santa,
I have been good. I obey my parents. I have perfect attendance. I want a airhogs helicopter.

Your friend, Wesley

(Cont. to C4)

Enjoy the Beauty of the Season

May you revel in the splendor of the season and marvel at the miracle of all living things large and small.

With appreciation and warm holiday wishes from all of us.




Aletha and Justin Bryant

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from
Aletha's Mt. Vernon Florist
Maple Drive • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-8601

Open until Noon December 24th • Closed Christmas Day & New Year's Day

Season's Greetings

To wish you the gift of faith, the blessing of hope, and the peace of His love at Christmas and always.



From left: Rick Reynolds, Marvin Owens, Jack Bussell, Judy Owens, Bob Beatty and Nelson Graves.

Marwin E. Owens Home for Funerals and Monuments

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

Merry Christmas

from

Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance

Mt. Vernon • 256-2050



Front row from left: Betty Sue Bullen and William K. Bullen.
Back row from left: Stacie Thacker, Connie Woods, Shelley Mullins, Marlene Lawson, Curtiss Willis, Christa Taylor and Susan Lovell.

Farm Bureau will be closing at Noon December 24th and be closed December 25th and 26th and January 1st.

Dear Santa,
I want tap shoes, I want an iPod. I have been good.
Love, Isaiah

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl. I want some shoes. My brother is being good. I got a little dog. A am going to leave you cookies and milk.
Love, Michelle

Dear Santa,
I like you. I would like a video game for Christmas. I would like drums and guitar for Christmas. I would like a mouse for Christmas.
Love, Hunter

Dear Santa,
I would like a Power Ranger helmet, some video games and I would like some Leggo's too. I have been a good boy.
Love, Oririn

Dear Santa,
I would like a Barbie Doll and clothes for Christmas. I have been a good girl this year.
Love, Lauren

Dear Santa,
I have been a super good boy this year. Please bring me a Ben 10 watch and costume. Tell Rudolph I said Hi and Mrs. Santa and bring my brothers a gift and my sisters. Thank you Santa and Mrs. Claus.
Charles

Dear Santa,
I have been a very nice girl this year. Please bring me a High School Musical Barbie house. Could you bring my brother a game too? Thank you Santa for my gift. Tell Rudolph I said a Hello.
Your friend, Ella

Dear Santa,
I have been a super good boy this year. Please bring me a Hot Wheels set. Could you bring my cousin a Pokemon too? Thank you Santa for my presents. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Brandon

Dear Santa,
I have been good all year. Please bring me some Hannah Montana flip flops. Thank you Santa for my presents. Tell Donner I said Hello.
Your friend, Adrianna

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good girl this year. Please bring me a new guitar! Could you bring my brother a ball? Thank you Santa for my presents. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Lakisha

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring me some roller skates. Could you bring my Sissy a Barbie doll? Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Hannah

Dear Santa,
I have been kind of naughty this year. Please bring a a Batman toy. Could you bring my dog a bone? Thank you Santa, for my clothes. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Jacob

Dear Santa,
I have been super good this year. I want a 30-0-6 this year. Could you bring my Dad a new 12 gauge shotgun because he wants to shoot rabbits? Tell Donner I said Hello.
Lane

Dear Santa,
I have been just a little bit naughty this year. Please me a \$1,000,000. Could you bring my Mom a \$1,000,000 too? Thank you Santa for my present. Tell Rudolph I said Hi.
Felicity

Dear Santa,
I have been a super good boy this year. Please bring me a bow and arrow to kill a deer. Could you bring my sisters some presents? Thank you Santa for my present. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Dustin

Dear Santa,
I have been a super good boy this year. Please me \$1,000,000. Could you bring my Mom and Dad something cool? Tell the elves I said Hello.
Your friend, Alex

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring me a High School Musical Barbie House. Could you bring my Mon a new popcorn maker? Thanks for my presents.
Love, Jaylon

Dear Santa,
I have been just a little naught this year. Please bring me some new roller skates. Could you bring my mom something too? Thank you Santa for my present. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Madison

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. I want a Star Wars helmet and blaster. Please bring my

mom a new coat. Thank you for bringing those. Tell Rudolph I said Hi.
Love, Brexton

Dear Santa,
I have been good at home but a little naughty a school. Please bring me a toy bazooka. Could you bring my dad a real army gun? I like the Army Hummer you gave me last year. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Blaine

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good boy this year. Please bring my teacher a pink sweater. Thank you Santa for giving me a real computer. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Zachary

Dear Santa,
I have been a nice boy all year. Please bring me a fake pistol 99. Could you bring my brothers one too? Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Your friend, Ben

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. Please bring me a toy T-Rex that can walk, roar and scare dogs. Could you bring my Mom a fur coat?
Jaden

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year. Please bring me a dog. Could you bring my sister a sweater this year? I like you Santa.
Your friend, Alexis

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. I want a Star Wars helmet and blaster. Please bring my mom a new coat. Thank you for bringing those. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.
Owen

Dear Santa,
How are you and the deer? Are you coming to my home? I would want an E-Pet-a cat. I want to get my ears pierced. I want to get some doggie earrings.
Love, Callie

Dear Santa,
I would like a computer, Hannah Montana Doll, camera, and shoes. I really hope I get some of these toys for Christmas.
Love, Gracelyn

Dear Santa,
I want an orange car for Christmas. The car I want is a Camaro and this sign on the front "Z28". If I got this car I would play with it outside. I have been a good boy. Chocolate chip cookies is what I would leave you if you brought me this car. Please bring me this car.
Sincerely, Will

Dear Santa,
I want a Honda Dirt Bike and a four wheeler by Suzuki. I also would like the "Need for Speed Undercover" video game. I have been a good boy. I help my dad build a fire in the fireplace. I will leave you some chocolate chip cookies, milk, and a card under the tree. I would even like the weld on headlights for my go cart.
Love, Drew

Dear Santa,
I want a "Baby Learns to Potty" present. I have been good this year and I've been looking forward to making you cookies.
Love, Bailee

Dear Santa,
This is Kylee, I'm doing fine. Here are some things that I want for Christmas. A boy Baby Alive, and Wii games. I would like Bingo DS games, white leggings, a new TV with dish, and a lava lamp.
Love, Kylee

Dear Santa, (aka Aunt Melissa),
I would like a BB gun for Christmas. I also want a robot and protective glasses. Also a sled, ice skated, roller skates, deer stand, tent, deer feeder, bunny call, deer call, squirrel call, a Rifle, Musket, and a bear call.
Love, Reece

Dear Santa,
Have you been doing good? How are you elves? Is Rudolph okay? For Christmas, I want a remote control truck.
Love, Trent

Dear Santa,
Can you please get me a Barbie, a computer, and a black basketball? Have a nice Christmas.
Love, Amy

Dear Santa,
How are the elves doing? I have been good this year. I would like some Transformers, Play-Doh, and a new game for my Gameboy. I will be leaving you some peanut butter cookies and milk.
Love, Kyle

Dear Santa, Claus,
One thing I want for Christmas is a Furreal Dog named Big Cat. Another thing I want is a Furreal dinosaur named Rex. I will leave you a glass of milk and cookies. I want these toys because they look fun. But I want Biscuit the most. Will you please come to my how and taste my cookies. I hope they're tasty.
Love, Halee

Dear Santa,
I'm here to tell you what I want for Christmas. The Smash Wii Game is what I would really like for Christmas. The second thing I would like is the Narnia Prince Caspian Movis. The third thing is a Guitar Hero. These are the things I want for Christmas.
Love, Aidan

Dear Santa,
A Hannah Montana and High School Musical game, Hannah Montana Mat, and Z Box 360, Hannah Montana costume, and a Hannah Montana bike. These are some of the things I want for Christmas.
Love, Santina

Dear Santa,
I want a Ben 10 toy for Christmas. I will put out milk and cookies for you to drink and eat. I want my stocking filled with candy. How are you and your reindeer doing even Rudolph the red nosed reindeer?
Love, Hunter

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas is a four wheeler because I want to ride in the snow. I want a trampoline and some Pixos to make pictures. I have been a very good boy. I will leave chocolate milk and cookies. I hope you bring my presents.
Love, Chanler

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? How is Mrs. Claus doing? I want an Xbox 360 game Indiana Jones because I like it. I will leave out milk and cookies. I have been more good than bad. I want a Playstation2 Safari Hunting Game. I don't know why I want it.
Love, Robert

Dear Santa, (aka Mom and Dad),
I want a play kitchen because I can play plus a pistol gun. One more thing I want is another Batman game for my Game Boy.
Love, Noah

Dear Mom and Dad,
I would like a Hannah Montana skaeboard bike, Hannah Montana lip gloss, dolls, and shirts. I would also like a Hannah Montana poster, guitar, notebook and a High School Musical umbrella. I will leave cookies and mittens for Santa.
Love, Ashley

Dear Santa,
I want a hunting game and a fishing game. I want an orange hat, camouflage jacket and pants. I want a blue truck. I have been good. I share my toys with my sister.
Love, Camden

Dear Santa,
I want a cat for Christmas. I also want a horse with a trail and a bridle so I can ride. I want

brown cowboy boots and another thing I would like to have is a puzzle and a saddle to go with my horse. I hope you could bring me this stuff. Merry Christmas!
Love, Logan

Dear Santa,
The number one thing I would want for Christmas is a Moped. I think I will leave milk and cookies for you. I have been good this year.
Love, Pate

Dear Santa,
Can you give me a new bike please and a Pokemon Diamond and Pearl video game. I have been good this year. I will leave milk and chocolate chip cookies when it is Christmas.
Love, William

Dear Santa,
Will you bring me a Christmas Bratz for Christmas? I have been good. I wish that my dad will be home for Christmas.
Your friend, Allie

Dear Santa,
How are you? I have been

good? I would like a Spiderman game for Christmas.
Your friend, Draven

Dear Santa,
Will you get me some toys? I have been good. I would like a X-Box 360 for Christmas.
Your friend, Austin

Dear Santa,
I have been good. How are you? I would like a skateboard for Christmas. I would also like Guitar Hero.
Your friend, Bailey

Dear Santa,
I have been naughty at school. I would like a skateboard for Christmas.
Your friend, Logan S.

Dear Santa,
How are the elves? I have been good. I would like a Nintendo DS and 2 baby kittens for Christmas.
Your friend, Johnna

Dear Santa,
How are you? I have been bad. I would like Heeley's, X-

(Cont. to C5)

**Your Friendship...
Makes It All Worthwhile!**



*Judge Katie Wood & Tyler
Merry Christmas & Heartfelt Wishes
for a wonderful New Year.*



and many thanks to our good friends, everywhere!
Happy Holidays from everyone at
Mt. Vernon Drug
Richmond St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-3447



From left: Amanda Mastin, Latasha Deborde, Melissa Slone, Andrew Nelson, owner/pharmacist Kendall Kilbourne, Charlotte Hansel, Amanda Wright and Lisa Thacker. Not present: Whitney Sizemore and Leslie Philbeck.

Open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. • Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Open 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Christmas Eve and closed Christmas Day.

Box 360, and Nintendo DS for Christmas. I would also like snow and a Spiderman game. I am good at being naughty to my brother.

Your friend, Bryce

Dear Santa,

I would like a X-Box 360.

Your friend, Logan B.

Dear Santa,

How are the reindeer? I have been good. I would like a Nintendo DS for Christmas.

Your friend, Ashlyn

Dear Santa,

How are you and the elves? I have been good. I would like a Puppy in the Pocket for Christmas. How are the reindeer?

Your friend, Arionna

Dear Santa,

How are you and the elves? I would like without training wheels for Christmas.

Your friend, William

Dear Santa,

How are you? I have been good. I would like Heeley's for Christmas.

Your friend, Beth

Dear Santa,

How are the reindeer? I have been good and would like 2 baby cats for Christmas.

Your friend, Hannah

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a regular, little puppy. I promise I will take care of it. I would also like Guitar Hero. I think it would be fun to play. My mom or Adam will let you in my house because I don't have a fire place. My mom is going to bake some cookies for you. I will leave them on the table. I hope you like them.

Love, Gabriel

Dear Santa,

I would like a toy castle for Christmas. I would also like some dolls that fit in the castle to play with. I will leave you a note and some food on the table

Love, Patience

Dear Santa,

I really like Barbie doll things. For Christmas I want a Barbie Doll, a Barbie Doll House, and a Barbie car. I love you a Santa and can't wait until you come to see me.

Love, Destiny

Dear Santa,

I hope you have had a good year. I have! For Christmas I would like a Bratz doll. I like all of them so any one would be fine. I also want a little Christmas tree of my own to decorate. I would love to put it in my room.

Love, Eva

Dear Santa,

I hope you have had a good year. I want three things for Christmas. The first I want is a D-Rex. The second thing I want is the new Ranger Pokemon game. The third thing I want is a bacugon toy. I also

hope that my family had the best Christmas ever.

Love, Morgan

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? I am fine. For Christmas want a toy dog that comes with a bone. The dog I want is brown and white. I also want a pink I-Pod. I love you!

Love, Katelyn

Dear Santa,

I want a red and blue dirt bike for Christmas. I will ride it in the parking lot by my house. I would also like a PlayStation 2 that I don't have to share with my brother and sister.

Love, Danny

Dear Santa,

I really like Wall-E. Christmas I would like a Wall-E video game for my PlayStation 2. I also would like Rock Band for my PlayStation also. I don't have a chimney, so you will have to use the front door,

Love, Caimen

Dear Santa,

I would like a stuffed animal reindeer for Christmas. I also like Barbie Dolls. I really would like one. I will make you some cookies and leave you some milk on the table.

Love, Jasmine

Dear Santa,

I would like a lot of wrestlers for Christmas. I don't have a Stone Cold wrestler or a Jeff Harding one. I would love to play with these with these with my little brother. I will leave you some gingerbread man cookies.

Love, Kaden

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I would like a Wall-E toy that I can control. I would also like a Barbie doll to play with. Be careful when you fly around. You are so delightful.

Love, Taylee

Dear Santa,

I hope you have a good day today. For Christmas I would like an X-Box 360. I really would love to play it with my dad. It would be so much fun!

Love, Acton

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I hope you bring me a bakugan. I would like the white one with a purple oval on its head. I also want a book about Wall-E. I'm getting at reading!

Love, Isaac

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want some men that are on Smack Down. These men fight with each other. It will be fun.

Love, Dalton

Dear Santa,

I want an airhawk toy for Christmas. It turns into a hawk that flies. It also come with a movie. I would also like a bulldozer to play with. I had to

through my other one away. Be careful when flying.

Love, Daniel

Dear Santa,

I want a bakugan arena and a new bike for Christmas. I would like a red bike that does not have training wheels. I want my bike to have a basket and horn on the front. I hope you and the reindeers are doing well!

Love, Paul

Dear Santa,

I hope all the reindeers are doing fine. For Christmas please bring me a bacugon starter kit. I love bakugan! I also love transformers. My favorite is all the autobots, which are the good guys. The last thing I want is a BenTen watch. I want one really bad!

Love, Travis

Dear Santa,

I would love to have a swing set at my house. My sister broke my old one. I also would like to have a new dog. I would name it cookie. I will leave you cookies and milk on the kitchen table.

Love, Emily

Dear Santa,

I love Hannah Montana. I would like a doll of her. I also want a swimming pool that I can swim in with brother and my sister. Tell Rudolph that I said hi!

Love, Kiara

Dear Santa,

I hope your reindeers are doing fine. I really want a new beagle hound for Christmas. My dad and I will hunt rabbits with it. I probably will it Shy. I will leave you some cookies to eat.

Love, Jeremiah

Dear Santa,

Hi! I want a Barbie doll for Christmas. I will be glad to see you and the reindeers. I will leave you some chocolate cookies.

Love, Makayla

The following Letters to Santa from first graders at Roundstone Elementary School. First grade teachers at Roundstone are: Lisa Noe, Michelle Atkin and Beverly Owens.

Dear Santa,

You know I am six years old Mrs. Noe is my teacher in first grade. My name is Riley. I live on Timber Lane Court. This Christmas I would like to get purple Moon Sahd. I think I should get this gift because I clean my room. I listen to my teacher at school too. I am a good friend. I really hope I get the moon sahd.

Love, Riley

Dear Santa,

I'm Olivia Erwin. I am six years old. I go to Roundstone School. I am in first grade. I would really like to have a

Hannah Montana Barbie doll for Christmas. I think I should get this gift because I have been good. I learn at school. I help my mom put the clothes in the washer. Tell all the reindeers and elves hi.

Thank you, Olivia Erwin

Dear Santa,

I am Hunter Coffey. I live in Mt. Vernon, Kentucky. I am 7 years old. I go to Roundstone School. I'm writing to let you know what I want for Christmas. I would like to have a Play Station. I think I should get this gift because I help my Dad mow the yard. I also listen to my Teacher. Be careful on the Sleigh.

Love, Hunter Coffey

Dear Santa,

I'm Lucas Peavie. I live in Wildie Kentucky. I am 6 years old. I go to Roundstone School. I am in Mrs. Noe's class. I would really like to have a Pokemon Ranger game on DS. I think I should get this gift because I feed the fish every 3 days. I also help my sis read. Thank for reading my letter.

Love, Lucas Peavie

Dear Santa Claus,

This is Jordan Eaton, I go to Roundstone School and I am six years old. I am in Mrs. Noe's Class, and I live on Lambert Road. I just wanted to tell you what I want for Christmas. I would like to have a Nintendo DS please send a pink one. I believe I should get this present because I pay attention to my teacher at school. I help my brother whenever he hurts himself. I am a good friend. Make sure you're careful on the sleigh.

Love, Jordan

Dear Santa Claus,

I am Carly Cromer. I am 6 year old. I live in Kentucky. I go to Roundstone School. I am in Mrs. Noe's classroom. I'm writing to let you know I want for this Christmas. I want a littlest pet shop Wii game. I believe I should get this present because I try my best in school. I clean my dog's cage too. Tell the reindeers I said thank you for pulling the sled.

Love, Carly

Dear Santa,

This is Me, Cody. I'm six years old. I am in Mrs. Noe's class. I live in Mt. Vernon. This Christmas I would like to get a whole football suit. I want a red one. I want the number to go on it. I think I should get this present because I help my mom with the laundry and I put my toys in the toy box. Tell Rudolph I said Hello.

Love, Cody

Dear Santa,

I am McKenzi Himes. I am 6 years old. I go to Roundstone

School. I would really like to have a brown and white puppy. I want a coon puppy. I have been good all year so, I think I should get this gift because I help take care of my niece. I help my Mom clean dishes. Tell Mrs. Clause I said to have a good Christmas.

Love, McKenzi

Dear Santa,

This is Ravyn Bullens. I live on Lambert Road. I'm in Mrs. Noe's class. I am six. I live in Kentucky. I'm writing to let you know what I want. I want a blue computer. I believe I should get this present because I have help my nannie do the dishes. I also help my sister when she gets hurt. Tell Rudolph I said Hello. Have a happy Christmas.

Love, Ravyn Bullens

Dear Santa,

I am Sarah Powell. I live on Flat Gap Road. I am 6 did you know that I go to Roundstone School? I would really like to have a sugar glider for Christmas. I want a black and white one. I have been good so please send this gift. I help my bubba clean his room. I listen to Mrs. Noe at school. Tell Rudolph I said hi.

Your friend, Sarah

Dear Santa Claus,

I am Coleson. I'm 6. I live in Fairview. My last name is Stevens. I go to Roundstone School. I want a black circle steel cage for toy wrestlers. I have been good all year. I help my Mom clean the house. I help my Papaw clean the farm. Tell all the reindeers I said hi to.

Thank you, Coleson

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Dylan Bullen. I am six years old. I am in Mrs. Noe's class. My school is Roundstone. I just wanted to tell you what I want, I want a black guitar. I think I should get this gift because I change my sister's diaper and baby sit. I always tell the truth to my Mom and Dad. Tell the elves Thank you for making all the toys. Merry Christmas.

Love, Dylan Bullen

Dear Santa,

This is Emily Grace Ponder. I am 6 years old. My teacher's name is Mrs. Noe! And I live in Brodhead on Big Sink Road. I would really like to have a little laptop like one of the 15 inch. I think I should get this gift because I clean my frog's cage. I also help clean the living room. And that's why I think I should get the black laptop. I can hardly wait until Christmas.

Love, Emily Grace Ponder

Dear Santa,

My name is McKinze Fryer. I am in first grade. I am six years old. But I am about to be seven. I want you to know what I want for Christmas. I want a Jungle in my Pocket. It is a new toy. I want to play with pandas. You should bring me this because I listen to my Mommy and Mana. I will leave cookies and milk for you.

Love,

McKinze Fryer

Dear Santa Claus,

This is my name Ira David Hager. I go to Roundstone School. I am in Mrs. Noe's class rooms. I am six and a half years old. I would really like to have an I-Pod I want it to be sparkly blue. I believe I should get this present because I do my chores. I sometimes help my Papaw put up the horses. I should get this gift. I can't wait until you come for Christmas.

Love, Ira Hager

Dear Santa Claus,

I'm Devyn Carl Seaberg. I am 6 years old. I live in Mt. Vernon. I also live on Hammonds Fork Road. I am in Mrs. Noe's class. This Christmas, I would like to get a remote control T-Rex. It is green and it has a black collar with silver spikes. I think I should get this gift because I help change my brother's diaper! I am a good friend at school, and I listen to Mrs. Noe. Tell Rudolph I said Hello, and tell him I said thank you for his bell.

Your friend, Devyn Seaberg

Dear Santa,

It is me. I am seven years old. My last name is Isaacs. I live in Kentucky. Im writing to let you know what I want. I want a little Peek-a- Boo. I think I should get this gift because I did something that my Mommy told me to do. I put my toys in my room when my Mom tells me to. Tell Rudolph I said Hello this year.

Love, Tatum

Dear Santa,

I am Jordan Davidson. I live on Burnt Ridge Road in Kentucky. I go to Roundstone School in Rockcastle County. I would like for you to bring me some u-gi-o cards. I collect them. I like to look at them. You should bring me these cards because I love them. I have been good. I help Mom clean the dishes. Say hi to Rudolph for me.

Love, Jordan Davidson

Dear Santa Claus,

I am Robert Austin Tillery. I live in Mt. Vernon. I am 6 years old. I live on Sweet Water Road. I am in first grade. I want a Nintendo DS for Christmas, I would like a blue one. I

(Cont. to C6)

CHRISTMAS

HOPE IT'S UPLIFTING



We know it gives us a lift to serve you.

Many thanks for your loyal support.

Town & Country Chevron

Marvin Mink, Owner

256-9634

L.C. Mink • David Mink
Garry Prewitt • Danny Mink
Glenn Parker • Jason Hansel
Garry Hansel



In the Spirit of the Season...

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

Coffey & Ford, PSC Attorneys At Law

Willis Coffey and John D. Ford



From left: Tracy Mink, Willis Coffey, John Ford and Leah Lucas.

Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day

think I should get this gift because I do help my Mamaw clean the living room. I don't back talk. Tell the elves I said Hello.

Your friend, Austin Tillery
Dear Santa Claus,
 I am Dylan Chandler. I live on Miller Lane Road. I am in Mrs. Noe's class. I go to Roundstone School. This Christmas I would like to get a Wii. I want one that is white. I have been good all year. I think I should get this present. I clean the house. I play with my little sister too. I am nice. Tell all the reindeers I said hi.

Love, Dylan Chandler
Dear Santa Claus,
 This is Matthew Hunter Sizemore. You know the one that is 6 years old. I go to Roundstone School. I live in Mt. Vernon, Kentucky. I'm in Mrs. Noe's class. the road I live on is Cemetery Road. I would really like to have a PSP for Christmas. I would like a blue one. I want it for Christmas. I should get this PSP because I clean my room everyday. I learn in school everyday too. I am a good listener. I hope you are ready for Christmas.

Love, Matt
Dear Santa,
 My name is Shelby Newland. I am in first grade at Roundstone. I am 7 years old. I'm writing to tell you what I want for Christmas. I would really like a necklace. I want a gold necklace with a heart. I should get his gift because when my Mana can't breathe, I get her breathing thing, I help my teacher at school. Have a good Christmas.

Love, Shelby Newland
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a Princess, talking kitchen for Christmas? I will help my Mom clean the house. I will be a good girl. Please bring me this for Christmas.

Your friend, Kaleigh
Dear Santa,
 I need a four-wheeler because my old four wheeler broke down. I need that four

wheeler go I can push things out that are stuck. I will clean my room if you will bring it to me. Thank you Santa.

Your friend, Billy Boggs
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a new pair of shoes? I want them to be brown and black tennis shoes. My old shoes are getting too tight. I will clean up my room if you will bring me a new pair of shoes. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Lydia Walker
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a Nintendo DS? I want one because my brother is getting one for his birthday. I want to play games on it. I will be nice to my brother and quit talking so much at school if you will bring me a DS. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend,
 Emily Alexander
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a blue video camera for Christmas? I want to be able to make my own videos because I now have to use my Mom's camera. I will help my Mama around the house if you will bring me a new camera. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Kiaya Hensley
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a Nintendo DS for Christmas? I have been wanting one for a long time. I will listen and do what the grown-ups say if you will bring me one. Thank you Santa.

Sincerely, Faith Johnson
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me remote control car for Christmas? I don't have any remote control cars and I would like to have one to play with. I will help Mom around the house if you will bring me one. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Luke Lear
Dear Santa,
 Would you get me a new Batman suit. I lost my mask to my old suit. That's why I need a new one the new suit has a card to open the wings so I would like that. Don't you think I should have a new Batman

suit? I will be responsible and not lose the card. Thank you, Santa for reading my letter.

Your friend, Hunter King
Dear Santa,
 I want an X Box 360 because my other one broke. I will keep my room clean because it was a mess. Please bring it to me. Thank you, Santa.

Sincerely, Blane Smith
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a diamond castle with a horse and carriage? It also comes with a Barbie and a little puppy inside the carriage. I want it because the castle makes music I won't lose any of the pieces to it. I will clean up my room if you will bring it to me. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Shelbie Baker
Dear Santa,
 Please bring me, an I-Pod because I lost my MP 3 Player. I want to be able to play games and watch movies on the I-Pod. I will make up my granny's bed for her and be good. Please bring me an I-Pod. Thank you, Santa.

Sincerely, Dakota Kirby
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a Ben 10 Creation Chamber? I will be able to create my own aliens with it. I will listen and do my work at school and I will clean up my room at home. Thank you, Santa.

Sincerely, Brandon Burke
Dear Santa,
 I want a new basket ball goal for Christmas. My old basket ball goal is broken. I will help my Mom and grandma if you will bring me a new one. Please? Thank you, Santa.

Sincerely, Trinity Duham
Dear Santa,
 What I want most is a Hannah Montana doll for my collection. I collect different kinds of dolls so I need a Hannah Montana one. I will behave in class, clean my room, and make my bed would you please bring me this doll? Thank you, Santa.

Love, Chelsey Schultz

Dear Santa,
 I wish I had an X-Box 360. Would you grant my wish please? My Mom and Dad won't buy it. There are a lot of games that I want to play on it. I will be good to my sister, cousins, and family. Thank you, Santa Claus.

Sincerely, Aaron Clark
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a toy horse for Christmas? I like hourse so since I can't have a real one I would like a toy one. I will keep my room clean if you will bring me a toy horse. Thank you, Santa.

Love, Brianca Harding
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a new dress for Christmas? I want a pink shiny one. I like pink and shiny things. I will clean my room and do my work if you will bring me a new dress. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Brianna Collins
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a four-wheeler for Christmas? I promise I will drive slow and be careful. I will be good at home and at school if you will bring me a four-wheeler. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Byron Abney
Dear Santa,
 Please bring me some army men for Christmas. I want to be in the army when I grow up. I will take care of them. I will clean up my room and be good. Thank you, Santa Clause.

Sincerely, Isaiiah Didelot
Dear Santa,
 I want an Easy Bake Oven. I want to bake my Mom a chocolate cake. I will help my sister clean her room if you will bring me an Easy Bake Oven. Thank you, Santa.

Your friend, Katelyn Evans
Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a motorized go cart for Christmas? I have been wanting one for a long time. I will be nice to my sister, clean my room and get my work done at school if you will bring me a go cart. Thank you, Santa. Please will you

grant my wish?
 Your friend, Daniel Phillips
Dear Santa,
 My name is Thomas Brock. I am six years old. I like to collect knives. The gift I want the most is a USA Chopper Knife. I have been good this year. I get good report cards every nine weeks. I listen to my teacher when she is talking. I help my Mom clean up the house, and I do not fight with my sister. This is why I think you should bring me a new Knife for Christmas. I am going to put a plate of cookies out for you under the Christmas tree. I hope you come soon.

Your friend, Thomas Brock
Dear Santa,
 My name is Katelyn Singleton. I am seven years old. I go to Roundstone Elementary School and my teacher's name is Mrs. Atkin. The one gift I want you to bring me is a MP 3 Player. I have been a good girl this year. I have been helping my Mom take out the trash. And sometimes I help my Mom do the dishes. I clean my room when I am suppose to. This is why I deserve this present. I will have cookies and milk for you. I can't wait for you to get here.

Love, Katelyn Singleton
Dear Santa,
 My name is Talor Long. I am six. I am in Mrs. Atkin's first grade class. The one thing I would like to have the most is a Baby Alive doll. I have been good this year. I teach my little brother how to do math. I listen to my teacher and practice reading. I also have been listening to my Mom. These are reason why I think I should get this present. Santa, I will have milk and cookies for you. I can't wait to see my gift.

Love, Taylor Long
Dear Santa,
 My name is Josh Thacker. I am in Mrs. Atkin's class at Roundstone Elementary, and I am six years old. The one thing I would like to hav the most is a pool table. I think you should bring me this gift because I

have been really good. I help my Dad feed the animals, and I clean my room also, I do my homework. This is why I deserve this present. Santa, I will have milk and cookies for you. I can't wait to see what you bring me.

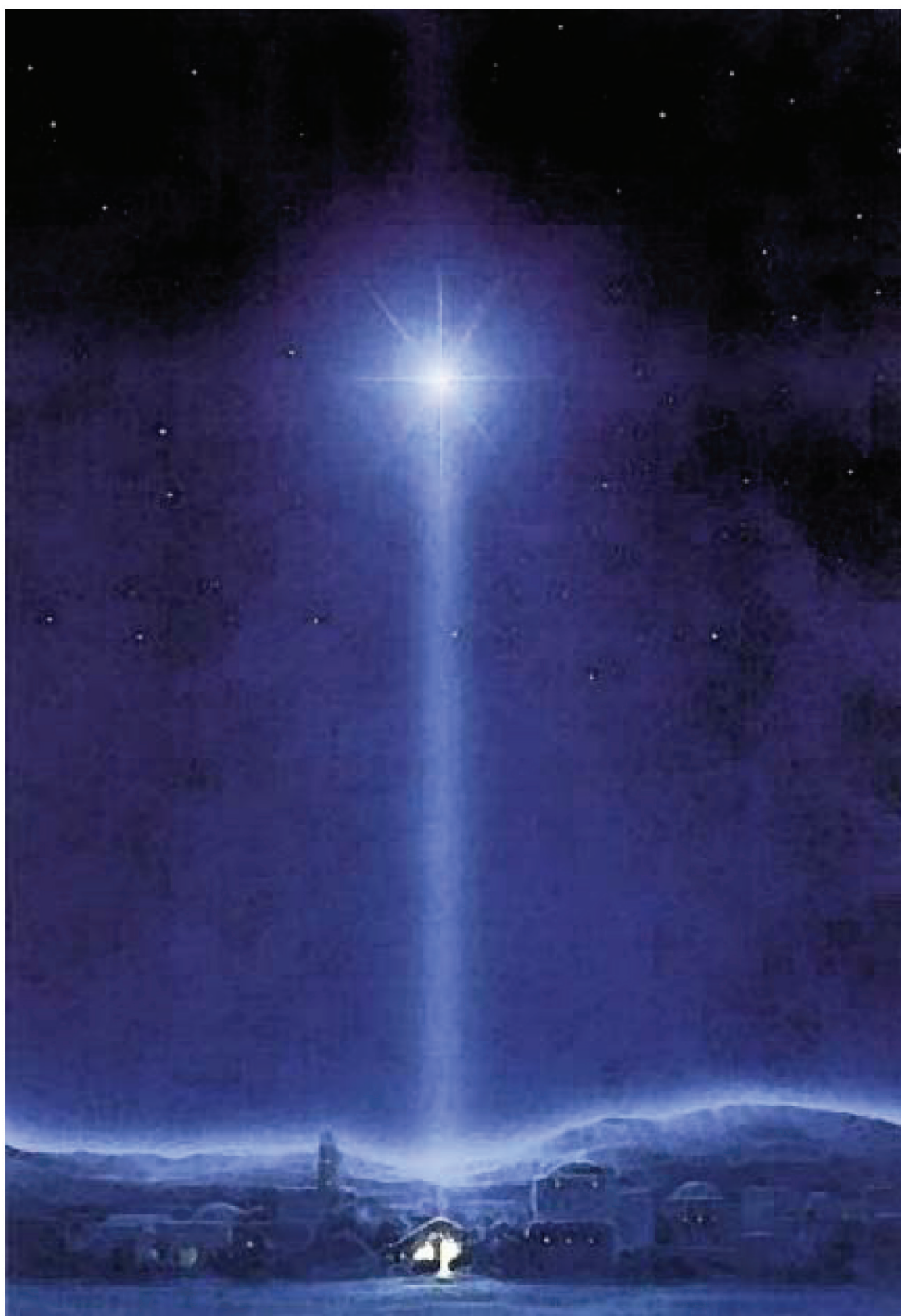
Sincerely, Josh Thacker
Dear Santa,
 My name is Elizabeth Barron. I am six years old. I go to Roundstone Elementary School. My teacher is Mrs. Atkin. The one present I want the most for Christmas is a bike. I have been good this year. I am good at my house and at school. I do dishes and I clean my room. I also do my chores. These are some reasons why I should get this gift. I can't wait for you to get here. Will you tell all the reindeer hello for me?

Sincerely, Elizabeth Barron
Dear Santa
 My name is Madison Jasper. I am a first grade in Mrs. Atkin's class at Roundstone Elementary. I am six years old. The one thing I would like to have the most is a real cat. I have been good this year. I listen to my Mom and Dad. I clean my room. I also help my Mom cook. These are some reasons why I should get this gift. Santa, there will be milk and cookies for you. Tell Rudolph I said hi.

Sincerely, Madison Jasper
Dear Santa,
 My name is Selicity Broadus. I am in Mrs. Atkin's first grade class. I go to Roundstone Elementary School. The one gift I want you to bring me is a Guitar Hero Game. I have been a good girl this year. I listen to my teacher. I help my Mom put up the Christmas tree. I have been good to my friends by playing with them. This is why I hope you bring me this present. I will have cookies and milk waiting for you. Tell the reindeer hi for me.

Your friend,
 Selicity Broadus

(Cont. to C7)



*The first
 Christmas
 light didn't
 need electricity...*

Merry Christmas from your cooperative



JACKSON ENERGY

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Dear Santa,

My name is Cody Vickers. I am six. I am in Mrs. Atkin's class. The one gift I want you to bring me is a Bionide. I have been a good boy this year. I help my friend Johas play the army game on the Nintendo Wii. I listen to my teacher. I help my Daddy vacuum the floor. I hope you bring me this present. I will get cookies for you Santa, tell all the reindeer I will have some cookies for them.

Love, Cody Vickers

Dear Santa,

My name is Angel Turner. I am in the first grade at Roundstone Elementary School and I am six years old. Mrs. Atkin is my teacher. The one thing I would like to have the most is a littlest pet shop Butterfly. I think you should bring me this gift because I have been really good. I listen to my teacher at school. I help my Dad wash the dishes and I help my Mom take care of my Baby brother. This is why I deserve this present. I will have milk and cookies for you Santa, and I might have some reindeer food.

Love, Angel Turner

Dear Santa,

My name is Katie Shook. I am six years old. I am in Mrs. Atkin's first grade class. The present I want the most is a Mommy doll. I have been good this year. I help my Mommy put away the laundry. I help her with the dishes. I like helping my Mommy clean the house. I hope you bring me this present. I will have cookies and milk for you. I can't wait for you to bring me my present.

Sincerely, Katie Shook

Dear Santa,

My name is Joseph Frith. I am six years old. I go to Roundstone Elementary School. Mrs. Atkin is my teacher. I am in the first grade. The one gift I want you to bring me is a toy truck. I think you should bring me this gift because I have been really good. I listen to my teacher. I follow direction. I do all my homework. These are some reasons why I deserve this gift. I will have milk and cookies waiting for you. Tell the reindeer hi for me.

Love, Joseph Frith

Dear Santa,

My name is Trevor Todd. I'm 7 years old and in Mrs. Atkin's class at Roundstone Elementary School. I live on Scaffold Cane Road. The one present I want the most is a Guitar Hero on tour game. I think you should bring me this gift because I have been really good. I do my chores. I make good grades and listen to my teacher. This is why I deserve this present. I'll have milk and cookies waiting for you. I'm looking forward to Christmas.

Sincerely, Trevor Todd

Dear Santa,

My name is Amy Clark. I go to Roundstone School. I am in first grade in Mrs. Atkin's class. I am six years old. The one present I want the most is roller skates. I have been good this year. You should bring me this gift because I help my Mom clean the table and I help my whole family feel better when they are sick. I have good grades in school. I hope you bring me this present. I will have cookies and milk waiting for you. I will also have reindeer food.

Your Pal, Amy Clark

Dear Santa,

My name is Jonah Eaton. I'm in Mrs. Atkin's first grade class at Roundstone Elementary School. I am six years old. The one present I want the most is an X-Box 360. I have been good this year. I do the dishes. I clean my room when my Mom and Dad tell me to and I act good at Wal-mart. These are some reasons why I deserve this gift. I will this gift. I will have cookies waiting for you. Tell your reindeer hello for me please.

Your Pal, Jonah Eaton

Dear Santa,

My name is Aaron Fleming. I live in Conway. I am six years old. I go to Roundstone Elementary School. The one gift I want is the new wrestler game for my Playstation 2. I have been good this year. I help my Mom with the dishes. I do my work for Mrs. Atkin my teacher. I am nice to my friends at recess. I sure hope you bring me this gift. I will have some special cookies for you this Christmas. I can't wait until Christmas.

Love, Aaron Fleming

Dear Santa,

My name is Tristan McFerron. I am seven years old and in first grade. My teacher is Mrs. Atkin. The one thing I would like to have the most is a D-Rex. I have been a good boy this year. I help my Dad paint the four wheeler. I help my sister clean her room. I help my Mom do laundry. This is why I deserve this present. I will have milk and cookies for you Santa. I hope you can get here soon.

Love, Tristan McFerron

Dear Santa,

My name is Nicholas. I am seven years old and in the first grade. My teacher's name is Mrs. Atkin. The one gift I want the most is a real puppy. I have been good all year long. I help my Mom do dishes. Sometimes I help my Dad work on the car. I follow directions from my teacher. This is why I hope you bring me a puppy. I will have a lot of cooking and milk waiting for you. I will also have some food for Roudolph. Tell the elves Hi.

Sincerely, Nicholas

Dear Santa,

My name is Kaleb Sparks. I am six years old. The one present I want the most is an X-Box 360. I have been good this year. I listen and do what my Mom tells me to do. I have been good at home family. I hope you bring me this present. I'll have cookies and milk for you.

Love, Kaleb Sparks

Dear Santa,

My name is Sadie. I am seven years old. I go to Roundstone School. The one thing I want you to bring me is a Hannah Montana shirt. I have been very good this year. You should get this for me because I am nice to my parents and help them do dishes. I hope you bring me a Hannah Montana shirt. I will leave some milk and cookies under the tree for you.

Your friend, Sadie

The following Letters were written to Santa by first graders at Brodhead Elementary School. First grade teachers at Brodhead are: Tammy Stevens, Gina Bussell, Kelli Asher, Jennifer Atkinson.

Dear Santa,

How are you this year. I want a toy truck and car. And my family to have best Christmas and tell Rulolph I said hi.

Love, Andrew

Dear Santa,

Would you mind getting two things for me they are a Wii and a bicycle. Because I have out grown mine. Merry Christmas Santa!

Love, Valerie Franklin

Dear Santa,

What I would like a Wii game and a BB gun and a I-Pod and a X-Box 360. Merry Christmas.

Love, Bentley

Dear Santa,

How are you doing today. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. I want a football and a Nintendo.

Love, Logan Noel

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good boy this year? This is what I want this year a Wii. I want a Wii because I broke the old one.

Merry Christmas, Colby

Dear Santa,

I would like a AC-DC game and a Spider-man game and a pair of socks and a toy Truck and a Rock Band 2 game. I want a AC-DC cd.

Love, Rylee

Dear Santa,

I am Hailee, I am happy you are coming to town. I'm so excited because Christmas is almost here. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want for Christmas is a psp I will play game on it. The second thing I want for Christmas is Ice Skates. I will Ice Skate with them. The third thing I want for Christmas is a baby doll. I will play with it.

Love, Hailee

Dear Santa,

My name is Kaylee. I can't wait for you to come to house. I have been very good this year. I will leave you cookies and milk. I want for Christmas is a babydoll. I will play house. The second thing that I want for Christmas is a Nintendo. The third thing that I want for Christmas is a Barbie Doll.

Love, Kaylee

Dear Santa,

I am Cassie. I can not wait for Christmas It is my favorite holiday. I have been good this year. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want for Christmas is a pair of Ice Skates. I will go Ice

Skating. The second thing I want is Roller Skates. I will go Roller Skating with them.

Love, Cassie Smith

Dear Santa,

I am Jonas. I can't wait for Christmas. I am so happy that you are coming to my house. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want for Christmas is a psp. I will play games with it. The second thing I want for Christmas is some Clothes for school. I will wear them.

Love, Jonas

Dear Santa,

My name is Jalyn. I am glad that you are coming to my house. I have been good. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want is a cell phone. I want to talk on it. The second thing is a I-Pod to listen to music.

Love, Jalyn

Dear Santa,

I am John. I will be good. I hope you will bring good presents. I will leave cookies and milk. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want for Christmas is a Flip Phone. The second thing I want is a psp. The third thing I want is a M3 Player.

Love, John

Dear Santa,

I am J.J. I am glad that you are coming to my house. I have been a good boy. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want is a Play Station 2. The second thing is a X-Box 360 so I can play games. The third thing I want for Christmas is a dog so I can make him do tricks.

Love, J.J.

Dear Santa,

My name is Autumn. I am so excited for you to come to my house. I have been a good girl this year. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want is Roller Skates so I can rollerskate. The second thing I want is a game called Enery cheerleading for

my Nintendo DS. Because I want it so badly.

Love, Autumn

Dear Santa,

I am Morgan. I hope you leave a lot of toys. The first thing I want for Christmas is a X-Box 360. The second thing I want for Christmas is a bulldog because they are cool. The third thing I want for Christmas is hunting boots. Because they are high.

Love, Morgan

Dear Santa,

I am Laney. I am happy that you are coming to my house. I have been a good girl. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want for Christmas is a Balloon. I play tag with it. The second thing I want for Christmas is a camp rock song. The third thing is a pair of dress up clothes. I will play dress up with them.

Love, Laney

Dear Santa,

I am Jonathan. I am excited to open my presents. I have been good. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want is a Tommy Hawk satchel. I will sit on the Tommy Hawk satchel. The second thing I want is a Wii. I will play games on the Wii. The third thing I want for Christmas is a Nintendo. I will play games on the Nintendo.

Love, Jonathan

Dear Santa,

I am Kristen. I am excited. I have been good this year. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want for Christmas is a DS. I will play littlest pet shop. The second thing I want for Christmas is a psp.

Love, Kristen

Dear Santa,

My name is Brandon. I am so excited. I been very good boy. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. I'm going to give cookies and feed Rudolph. The first thing I want

for Christmas is a Master Truck Game. I will play with my PlayStation. The second thing I want for Christmas I want a psp I will get a Mario game. The third thing I want for Christmas is a cool hot wheels set I will play with it.

Love, Brandon

Dear Santa,

I am Seth. I want you to come to my house. I am a good Boy. I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing I want for Christmas is a X-Box 360 my Dad wants to plug it into the TV. I want a Banjo too.

Love, Seth

Dear Santa,

I am Hayden, I am glad you are coming to my house. I have been a good boy. The first thing I want for Christmas is a psp. I will play games on it. The second thing I want for Christmas is board game. I will play with it so much. I want a Wii for Christmas.

Love, Hayden

Dear Santa,

I have been helping my mommy. I want some presents and I want a Hannah Montana and a Bratz game and a grinch movie.

Love, Rachel

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I think you will bring me presents. I like roller skates that is not all.

Love, Alexa Bussell

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I hope I get a bunch of presents like Hannah Montana and clothes of Hannah Montana saying rockin around the Christmas tree because I really good and everything of Hannah Montana.

Love, Christina Brown

Dear Santa,

I want for Christmas is a cupcake maker and a laptop I want it to be green and a play house and I want a glider love the colors I want is purple, pink, blue and a gumball machine.

Love, Grace

Dear Santa,

I hope you bring me a Hannah Montana watch. Please bring my baby sister a rattle. I have been good. My brother wants a cap. Hayden wants a spudog.

Love, Alexandra Blair

Dear Santa,

I hope that I get a Nintendo Wii for Christmas and I hope I get a lot of presents and I hope that I get a dirt bike and a rip stick.

Love, Matthew

Dear Santa,

I have tried to not fight. I want a Wii and the big pack of Star Wars galactic heros and a new Game Cube and things that you think I should have. Ho Ho. Hi Frosty and hi reindeers. I have some snacks.

Love, Dusty Singleton

Dear Santa,

I hope you bring me a baby doll and a baby cradle. I help my mom clean house.

Love, Erica Pigg

Dear Santa,

Hannah Montana for Christmas watch and bracelet. I can't wait to see you.

Love, Jasmine Woodall

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a Wii and a skateboard dirt bike and some clothes. I have been good to earn it.

Love, Donnie

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a new coyote fake puppy and if you get it I will be happy.

Love, Natalie Kirby

Dear Santa,

I hope you get me something good. I want a new blue bike and my sister wants dress up clothes her name is Allison.

Love, Destiny Hamm

Dear Santa,

I hope you bring me and my sister toys I want a truck my sister a basketball.

Love, Hunter

(Cont. to C8)

During the Holiday Season more than ever, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible.

And in this spirit we say, simply but sincerely

Thank You and Best Wishes for the Holiday Season and a Happy New Year



From the staff at

Collins Respiratory Care



From left: Doug Clements, owners Shelly Clements and David Collins, Becky Cox
Not present: Randy Cromer and Robby Lay

Main St. • Brodhead • 606-758-9333

Dear Santa,

I hope you and Mrs. Claus is doing good. I want a teddy bear. I Ps WII pink a pink Ipod and American Girl doll. Hannah Montana singing Rockin around the Christmas tree.

Love, Savannah Sweet

Dear Santa Claus,

I hope you bring me lots of presents because I been good very very good. I want big millenium falcon and helmet and blaster and a remote control whale.

Love, Jacob Hunt

Dear Santa,

I hope you bring me toys. I want some American Girl clothes. I want a Hannah Montana barbie that sings rockin around the Christmas tree.

Love, Emilee

Dear Santa,

What I hope for Christmas is long hair like Madison my cousin and we are b est friends forever yes we are cousins and I want a MP3 player with lots of songs.

Love, Mahayla

Dear Santa,

Can you bring me a hoola hoop for Christmas if you can that would be great Merry Christmas.

Love, Lindsey

Dear Santa,

What I want for Christmas is Nintendo DS and Spongebob game.

Love, Jeffrey

Dear Santa,

How are you today. Has it been really busy today. I been trying to be really good this year. What I want for Christmas is a horse and a dog named Biscuit. I think we got the stuff to make Christmas cookies and some milk.

Love, Billie Jo Allen

Dear Santa,

Please bring me a lot of toys because I like those and I want a makeup. Merry Christmas Santa.

Love, Autumn Higgins

Dear Santa,

I want a horse and a penguin. I want my family to have the best Christmas ever.

Love, Selena Burdine

Dear Santa,

I want a Santa house I would want to be a Cheerleader. Merry Christmas Santa.

Love, Erin Hindman

Dear Santa,

What I want for Christmas is a Heroes cause I will need it. I will leave you milk and cookies. Merry Christmas.

Love, Gracelynn Cromer

Dear Santa,

I want a little kitten. I have been tood this year and I hope that you bring everybody presents. Merry Christmas.

Love, Hale Graves

Dear Santa,

How are you doing today. I hope your doing fine. I want a game because it has batman. Merry Christmas.

Love, Reese

Dear Santa,

I want a new guitar.

Love, David

Dear Santa,

I want a Hannah Montana because I like Hannah Montana it is my favorite.

Love, Zoe Silva

Dear Santa,

I want Disney pig and pet suit.

Love, James Renner

Dear Santa,

Leah really wants a makeup kit cause I really like makeup and a Miley Cyrus suit and Merry Christmas.

Love, Leah

Dear Santa,

How are you today Santa Claus. I want a Barbie doll and a ball to roll with my sister.

Love, Kaitlyn Santo

Dear Santa,

I want for Christmas is a real bow and arrow and it is kamufloag and a rifle.

Love, Elijah Miller

Merry Christmas from all of us to all of you



Jennifer McCoart, Associate Director of Lexington's Hope Lodge, accepts several gift baskets made for cancer patients undergoing treatments from Gage Reynolds, Samantha Payne, and Avery Bradshaw, representing the RCMS Leadership Team. Also in the picture are Julie Sumner and Sherry Payne, American Cancer Society Community Representatives. Leadership Team members raised funds for the contents of these gift baskets in memory of Mrs. Ruth Coguer, who lost her hard-fought battle against cancer last December 15th.

Merry Christmas

Warm wishes to all of you for a joyous holiday season.

Many thanks for your continued patronage.



Front row from left: Roy D. Adams, Mike Blount and Chris Evans.
Back row from left: Julie Pigg, Sandy Durham, Ima Jean Taylor, Donna McClure and Karen Bullock.



Front row from left: Heather Richards, Betty Frederick and Alice Mae Faulkner.
Back row from left: Kim McClure, Kim Denney, Donna Stayton, Becky Mays and Cindy Griffith.
Not shown: Cathy Howard.

Notice

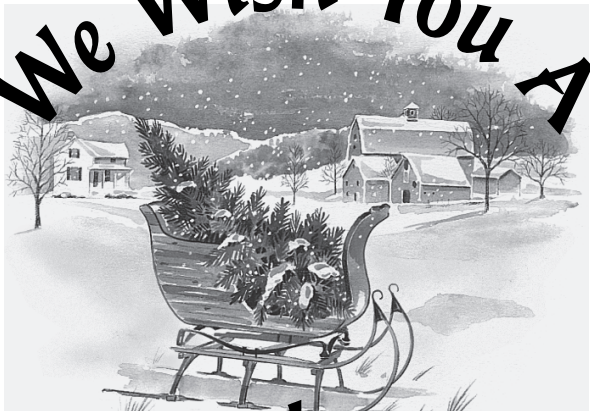
to all property owners bordering Lambert Road

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court recognizes the need to widen and improve Lambert Road due to increased traffic. **If you own property that borders Lambert Road please contact** Paralegal Kathy Robinson at the County Attorney's office at 606-256-2730 to draw up an easement so that the County can begin work. If you have any questions, feel free to contact secretary Amanda Owens at the County Judge Executive's office at 606-256-2856.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and desire to help us improve Lambert Road.

Sincerely,
Buzz Carloftis, County Judge Executive
Jan Stevens, Magistrate of the Fourth District

We Wish You A



Merry Christmas

'Tis the season for us to say,
"Hope you enjoy a grand holiday."
May it be filled with joy and contentment,
Along with laughter and old-fashioned sentiment!

Mt. Vernon Mayor
Clarice Kirby



Paul and Clarice Kirby

Community Trust[®] Bank

Highway 461 Bypass • Mt. Vernon
606-256-5141

120 East Main Street • Mt. Vernon
606-256-5142



Closing at noon Christmas Eve and closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.



Mount Vernon Signal

Fourth Section

Thursday, December 25, 2008

Scenes from Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade



Some members of the RCHS JROTC are shown on their float in this year's Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade. In the photo are, from left: Casey Bradley, Ian Kelly, Ronnie Denny, Rachelle Halcomb, Jonathan Alexander, Nathan Singleton, Jordan Moore, Chris Robinson and Luke Allen. (Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade photos by: Richard Anderkin)



Some members of the Rockcastle County High School FFA Chapter participated in the night time Christmas Parade in Mt. Vernon and the Brodhead Christmas parade. Shown above, at the Mt. Vernon parade were, front row, from left: Derek Adams, Nathan Bullock and Blake Moberly. Second row: Brittany Kirby and Kayla Hurt. Back row: Kayla Hurt, Brittany Adams, Kristen Bullock and Jeff Albright in back.



Some of the folks from the Renfro Valley Entertainment Center participated in the Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade. Shown above, from left: are Chase Cromer, Tanya Cromer, Sharon Stevens and CEO Connie Hunt.



The Thacker Family participated in both the Mt. Vernon and Brodhead Christmas Parades. Shown above, from left are: Hailey Thacker, Shawn Thacker, Wendell Thacker, Shane Thacker and Hayden Thacker.



Roy and Pamela Martin



Roy Martin Pam Martin
Steve Martin
Billy Dowell Garry Hansel
Leigha Cameron

Thank you for
your trust and
confidence in us
over the years



Pam Martin Melanie Gray
Evelyn Ponder Leigha Cameron
Sherry Hansel Linda Martin



Denise Parsons brought her Kentucky Fried Chicken gang to the Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade. In the cab with Parsons is Andrea Reynolds, who is holding Maggie Reynolds. In the back of the truck, from left are: Amanda Smith, Lucy Cole, Gerald Polk and Tracey Shelton.



Paul Kirby waved to the camera as he drove Mt. Vernon Mayor and wife, Clarice, in this year's annual Christmas parade.

even the person with everything gets hungry.

this holiday season, give an Arch Card®. the perfect gift for everyone on your list.

Arch Card®

McDonald's Restaurant
Mt. Vernon, KY
256-3753

i'm lovin' it®

©2005 McDonald's

MERRY Christmas

May you and the ones you care for enjoy a happy and healthy holiday season.

We thank you for your patronage throughout the year.



Front row: Perry and Cindy Lou Noe. Back row from left: Robert Miller, James Noe, Johnathan Rader and Kelley Hoskins. Not present: Cristi Bradley.

Merry CHRISTMAS

During the holiday season we take time to reflect on the past year and appreciate our customers and friends. God has blessed us with the resources to continue to serve our customers during these struggling times. We thank you for the business you have given us and look forward to our relationship in the coming year.

David's Tire Center & 24 Hr. Towing & Recovery



From left: Josh Thompson, James Bowles, Junior Stewart, Buster Denney, David Thompson, Wilbur Harrison and Trish Bullock.

Days (606) 256-4606
Mobile (606) 308-4593 or 4592

Mt. Vernon Automotive



Main St. - Mt. Vernon • 606-256-2147

We will be open Christmas Eve at 7:30 a.m. to ? Closed Christmas and New Year's Day.



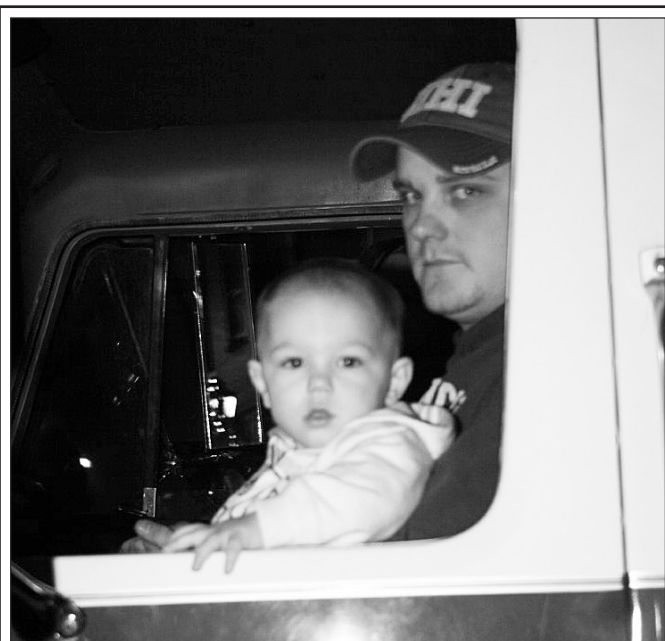
Some members of the Bittersweet Cloggers, performed before the Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade. Shown above, front row, from left: Olivia Hupp, Shari Proctor, Delani Reynolds, Alyssa Bustle, Carissa Looney, Sarah Pigg, Kelly Anderkin, Callie Northern and Miranda Clark. Back row, from left: Janine Norman, Paula Mink, Lisa Hopkins, Carolyn Collins and Casey Hardin.



Rockcastle EMS Paramedic Steve Griffin helped pass out stuffed animals at Mt. Vernon's Annual Christmas Parade.



MC Country Charlie Napier, left, got some help this year from son-in-law Danny Miller at Mt. Vernon's annual Christmas parade.



Mt. Vernon firefighter Jackie Wayne Weaver had help from his 17-month-old son, Ethan, driving the tanker truck at Mt. Vernon's Christmas parade.



Josh Thompson drove David's Tire Center's 1956 Mac Wrecker in Mt. Vernon's annual Christmas Parade.



Carolyn Napier and grandson Caden, were among the many who attended Mt. Vernon's Christmas parade.



Linda Robinson rode shotgun as Cody Robinson pulled the Wynn Family float at Mt. Vernon's annual Christmas parade.

No Paper Next Week!

There will be no Mount Vernon Signal the week of January 1st. Our next issue will be January 8th. The *Signal* office will be closed December 24th through January 4th.



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



Bottom row: Conner and Brianna. Back row: August, Hunter, Roy Scott and Tristan.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
from
Appliance Service Center

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

We share the same JOYS OF THE SEASON.

May this Christmas season bring you the joy of family and friends.



From left: Melissa Wilson, Teresa Jackson and Tiffany Kincaid.

Teresa Jackson Insurance Agency

Teresa Jackson, Agent

912 W. Main St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-2119

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P065075 08/06

Best Holiday Wishes

from our families to yours



Vickie Petrey



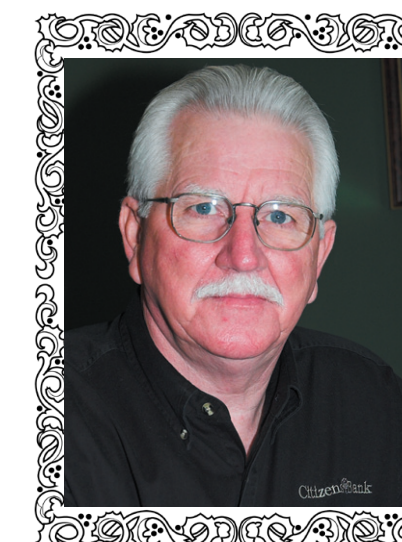
Genieve Reppert



Sheila Lovell



Cheryl McCraey



Garrett Shackelford



Corey Craig, President



John Hopkins



Cindy Wesley



Dennis Sargent



Barry Todd



Crystal Cotton



Tammy Hopkins



Kathy Burgin



Debbie Brock



Tanya Simpson



Jenny Bray



Tarina Helton



Jeremy Reynolds



Freda Renner



Jon Adams



Robert Minichan



Kathy Stewart



Tanya Branscum



Tamey Howard



Gina Harding



Virginia Hansel



Judy Dillingham



Pamela Taylor



Joannie Edgington



Cathy Smith



Cheryl Rose



Dana McKinney



Donna Lynch



Chasity Allen



Tara Smith

**Citizens Bank
will be closing
at noon on
Christmas Eve
and will be
closed
Christmas Day**



Anita Shackelford



Elaine Vann



Sue Johnson



Dennis Welskircher



Sharon Baldwin



Hilda Judd



Jody Collins



Shannon Spurlock



Carol Bryant

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

Citizens Bank

Brodhead
606-758-8212

Mount Vernon
606-256-2500

McKee
606-287-8390

Somerset
606-451-2274

Real People. Real Progress.





Kathy Burgin and her daughter Katelyn, left and Sheila Lovell, right, attended Mt. Vernon's annual Christmas Parade. (Mt. Vernon Christmas Parade photos by: Richard Anderkin).



Renfro Valley entertainer and local business owner, Glenn Thompson drove his 1996 Jeep Wrangler in Mt. Vernon's night Christmas parade. His wife, Retha was along for the ride.



Tara Baldwin performed with the RCHS band in the Mt. Vernon and Brodhead Christmas Parades.

Rockcastle Hospital Rocks at HOT EXPO

Rockcastle Hospital rocked as this year's gold sponsor for HOT EXPO, Health Occupations Today career fair. Hospital employees represented several departments in an effort to educate area high school students on careers in the healthcare industry. Rockcastle County High School was one of over 15 county schools who attended this year's event.

HOT EXPO 2008 students and exhibitors braved the cold on November 21st attracting the largest turnout in its eight-year history. 1,028 high school students attended Health Occupations Today career fair in spite of school being cancelled in three of our 15-county service area counties due to snow. Over 1,500 students had pre-registered to attend this year's event. A total of 165 representatives warmed up the exhibit halls with their 78 exhibits at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset in an effort to inform students about the numerous health career opportunities.

The Southern KY AHEC, located at Rockcastle Hospi-

Shingles vaccine now available

The Rockcastle County Health Department is now offering the Shingles Vaccine. A single dose if the vaccine is indicated for adults 60 years of age and older.

Shingles is caused by the varicella zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox. It is a painful rash often with blisters (Herpes Zoster). The rash appears on the face or body and can last 2-4 weeks and be very painful. Very rarely, a shingles infection may cause pneumonia, hearing problems, blindness, brain inflammation or even death. Only someone who has had chickenpox or gotten the chickenpox vaccine can get shingles. You cannot get shingles from another person. However, a person who has never had chickenpox or chickenpox vaccine could get chickenpox from someone with shingles. Shingles is more common in people over the age of fifty.

Please call the Rockcastle County Health Department at 256-2242 to schedule your vaccine appointment.

tal, organizes the event each year inviting area colleges, universities, hospitals, health care providers, and health care professionals to participate as exhibitors. Many exhibitors feature interactive or hands-on features at their booths to assist students in learning about health careers. Since our region is medically underserved, HOT Expo is a significant way to expose a large number of students to the many health care opportunities available. Students learned about financial aid for education, received scholarship resource guides, met college admission representatives and health care professionals, and participated in some hands-on activities.

The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) conducted college financial aid presentations to all students and educators upon

arrival. After the 30 minute presentations, students visited exhibits for an hour.

The Southern KY AHEC thanks all the sponsors for their generous contributions this

year, especially our gold sponsor, Rockcastle Hospital. We should all feel good about our combined efforts to combat the health care shortage in our medically underserved area.

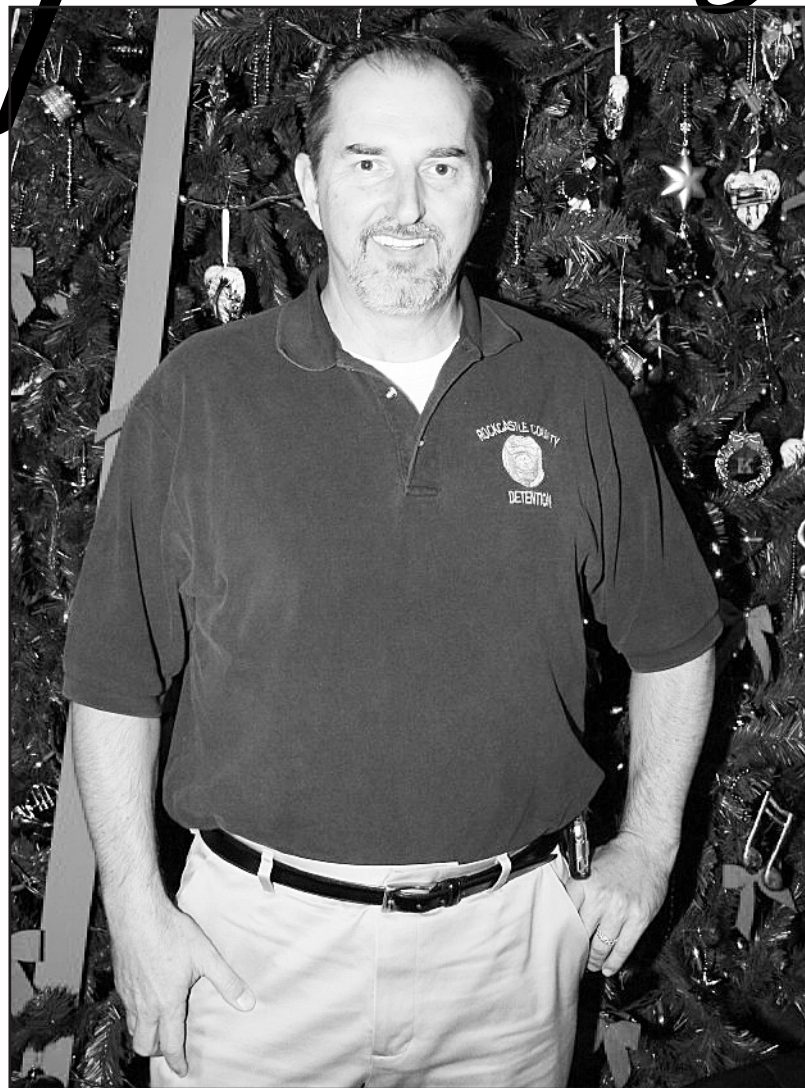


Emmett Masten, left, Rockcastle Hospital Physical Therapy, demonstrates to students at HOT EXPO the use of a NMES device which is used to re-educate muscles.



Rockcastle Hospital rocked as this year's gold sponsor for HOT EXPO, Health Occupations Today career fair. Hospital employees represented several departments in an effort to educate area high school students on careers in the healthcare industry. Rockcastle County High School was one of over 15 county schools who attended this year's event. Pictured above are the many RCHS students who attended the event.

SEASONS Greetings



from
**Rockcastle Jailer
 James Miller**
 & Rockcastle Detention Center staff
 and staff

Assistant Jailer Howard Haddix
 Supervisors: Wilmer Robinson, Ernie Graves,
 Ronnie Barnett and Brian Cromer.
 Class D Coordinator Jennifer Mason
 Transport Officer Bill Lawrence

Deputies:
 Nicholas Thomas, Nathan Carter, Patty Barron,
 Barbara Allen, Rissie Ballinger, Mammie Vickers,
 Anna Bustle, Jason Hansel, Heather Bussell, Jason Adams,
 Josie Adams.

WARMEST WIDINGS

To our valued friends, go our best wishes for a joyous and happy holiday season.

*Merry Christmas and
 Happy New Year!*

**State Senator and
 Mrs. Ed Worley**



Ed and Jamie Worley

148 volunteers take part in 2008 Roadside Pride campaign

*By James Renner,
Rockcastle County Solid
Waste Coordinator and Pride
Coordinator*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the

folks that volunteered during the 2008 Roadside Pride Campaign. I had a total of 14 groups with 148 volunteers that worked a total of 313 hours to pick up 22.1 miles of roadway

from which they removed 317 bags of trash, 22 tires, and 2 gas tanks. This does not include the totals from Mt. Vernon and

(Cont. to D8)



Conway Baptist Church



Ottawa Baptist Church



Brindle Ridge Baptist Church



Northside Baptist Church



Pine Hill Baptist Church



Little Country Church



Fairview Baptist Church



Grace Baptist Church



Pongo Volunteer Fire Department



from

*Rockcastle Circuit Court Clerk
Teresa Vanzant*



Front row from left: Chief Deputy Clerk Brenda McKnight, Teresa Vanzant and Doris Cromer.

Back row from left: Marsha Olinger, Crystal Griffin, Pat Brown, Liza York, Teresa Amix, Joyce Allen and Renita Blanton.

Not present: Austin Miller

Closed December 24th - December 27th and January 1st - January 3rd

Rockcastle County Courthouse • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-2581

“PRIDE”

(Cont. from D7)

Livingston’s Roadside Pride Cleanups. This was another outstanding effort put forth by many outstanding individuals. You are truly making a difference in Rockcastle County!

The following groups and individuals participated: Pongo Volunteer Fire Department (David Hawkes, Tony Bullock, Roger Bullock, Randy McClure, Ethan McClure, Jerry Bullock, Danny Mize); Conway Baptist Church (Jeff Isaacs, Joe McIntosh, Jim Ritchey, Brenda Powell, Anna C. Brandenburg, Joshua Miller, Eugene Brandenburg, Noel Staggs, Peyton Martin, Emily Clark, Sara Clark Christi Clark, Aaron Clark, Brenda Hackworth, Jennifer Hackworth, Charlie King); Little Country Church (Jack Weaver, Jackie Weaver, Mary Lovell, Bobby Phelps, Kathy Weaver, Carleigh McClure, Keaton McClure, Martina Alcorn, Melissa Withem, Holly Bryant, Grant Bryant, Garrett Bryant, Susan Smith, Brooklyn Smith, Ashley Smith); Concerned Citizens of Pongo (Edna Renner); The Raychel Carpenter Family (Jennifer Carpenter, Raychel Carpenter); Flames of Brodhead (Heather Bussell, Charles Kelly, Shay Barnett, Bobbi Mullins, Bryanna Mullins, Virginia Newland, Bryan Bussell, Megan Caudill, Johnny Newland, Amanda Kerns, Jacob Hunt); Fairview Baptist Church (Shandi Johnson, Virginia Case, Luther Isaacs, Cheryl Mullins, Luke J. Mullins, Megan Cromer, Doris

Cromer, James Cromer, Carly Cromer, Spencer Mullins, Angela Mullins, Zoe Burdette, Thomas Burdette, Twila Burdette, Derrick Hughes, Roy Lee Croucher, Brother Vaughn Raser, Jesse E. Mullins); Otawa Baptist Church (Rhonda Bray, Ashley Miller, Loretta Bray, Shanlee Burton, Samantha Smoker, Kevin Craig, Breana Bryant, Melinda Rae, Camille Jones, Starla Bond, Mickel McDaniel, Allie Johnson, Abe Kirby, Megan Taylor, Beth Potter, Danette Craig, Chelsea Whiteley, Cheyenne Hensley); Northside Baptist Church (Justin Poynter, Dakota Molina, Sarah Snow, Marie Poynter, Felicia Cameron, Russell Poynter, Jon Burdette); Brindle Ridge Baptist Church (Mike Sowder, David Sowder, Jennifer Miller, Dezarae Miller, Stevie Miller, Tamara S. Clontz, Chris Saylor, Heather Clontz, Casey Miller, Ron Roberts, Jan Roberts, Beth Clontz, Marilyn Coffey, Kaye Cameron, Billy Cameron, Marcia Coffey, Kyle Childress, Melanie Childress, Lewis Coffey); Grace Baptist Church (Dwayne McKinney, Anthony McKinney, Reva McKinney, Sara McKinney, Melvin Harrison, Matt Lunsford, Harold Lunsford, Ray Offutt, Shanlee Burton, Lauren Burton, Shannon Burton, Ashley Powell, Ben Powell, Tammy Powell, Tony Mahaffey, Trevor Richardson, Kathy Dean, Carolyn Brandenburg); Pine Hill Baptist Church (Willie Martin, Jennie Martin); Concerned Citizens of Cleft Rock (Robin Botkin, Becky Botkin, Eddie Fields); Poplar Grove Baptist Church Youth Group (Lindsey Perkins, Kaden Perkins, Kristina Hayes, Zachary Hayes, Teresa

Vanzant, Lonnie Vanzant, Holly Kirby, Jamie Linder, Jayna Albright, Jaydon Albright, Joanna Albright, Stephanie Hurst). I would also like to give a special thank you to my Pride committee members (Carolyn Brandenburg and Deb Bledsoe). Their countless volunteer hours are priceless. I also want to thank Livingston Mayor J.C. Griffen and Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby and the Mt. Vernon Pride Coordinators (Wayne Bullock and Jill Medley) and everyone that volunteered from these two cities.

I apologize in advance for any omissions or misspellings. Thank you for your continued help and support!



Poplar Grove Baptist Church

Seasons Greetings



Concerned Citizens of Pongo



Concerned Citizens of Cleft Rock



David Woodall



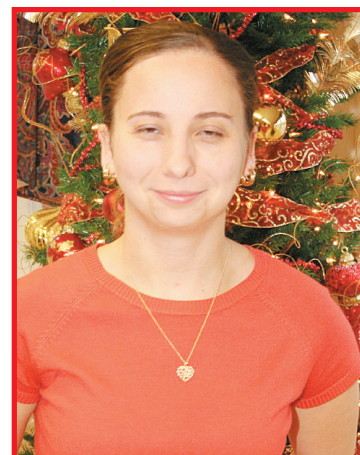
Anthony Asher



Kim Daugherty



Maria Hensley



Mary Rowe



Doug Ponder

With sincere best wishes to all during this season of peace and joy. We're so glad to have friends and neighbors like you.



With Our Gratitude



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

Thank you for your kind patronage.

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



Closing at noon Christmas Eve and closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day



Hustonsville
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Stanford
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365-3505

Junction City
854-3100

Danville
238-2265

Mt. Vernon
256-2265

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Member FDIC

Mount Vernon Signal

Fifth Section

Thursday, December 25, 2008

Scenes from the Brodhead Christmas Parade 2008



Members of the Skaggs Creek Baptist Church participated in the annual Brodhead Christmas Parade. Church members also had a live Nativity Scene at the church on December 12th and 13th.



As they do each year, the Wynn Family participated in both the Brodhead and Mt. Vernon Christmas Parades. (Brodhead Christmas Parade photos by: Richard Anderkin)

See more photos from parade on following pages

Beige • Brown • Wood Grain Windows Also Available

White Vinyl Welded Double Hung Replacement WINDOWS

Any Size! **\$189** INSTALLED

DOUBLE PANE INSULATED GLASS

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606-878-7994

ENTRY DOORS & STORM DOORS NOW AVAILABLE

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM

Simply the Best for Less!

TOLL FREE 1-800-353-4313



Brodhead Hometown Market owner Scott Hail, gave employee Pauline Coleman a ride in this year's Christmas Parade in Brodhead.



Debbie Philbeck waves to the crowd at the Brodhead Christmas Parade. She got a ride from husband, Thomas.



Dr. Karen Saylor gave daughter Mahala a ride in Brodhead's annual Christmas parade.



Earl Blanton drove the late Jerry Cash's 1968 Chevy Impala in the Brodhead Christmas Parade. Cash was Blanton's nephew.



May you and your loved ones be inspired by the true meaning of **CHRISTMAS** and its enduring message of peace, faith and love during this holy season.

Peoples Bank
"UNIQUELY KENTUCKY"

Bank Locations

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- 460 Eastern Bypass, Richmond • Wal-Mart Super Center, Richmond
- 1000 Brandy Ln., Richmond • 3750 Irvine Rd., Waco
- 350 Richmond St., Mount Vernon

ATM Locations

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Waco
3750 Irvine Rd. | Berea
711 Chestnut St.
Berea College
(Inside Alumni Bldg.)
US 25 North
305 Estill St.
(Berea Hospital Lobby) | Mount Vernon
350 Richmond Street |
|--------------------------------|---|--|

Hours
8:30-4:00 Mon.-Fri.
10:00-8:00 Mon.-Sat.
8:00-5:00 Mon.-Thurs.
8:00-6:00 Fri.
8:00-12:00 Sat.

www.whitakerbank.com





RCCHS band member Jordan Hemsley carried the banner at the Brodhead Christmas Parade. At left is Johnna Ballard and at right is Sam Bullen.



Several RCCHS band parents also participated in the Brodhead Christmas Parade. Shown above, from left are: Ann Craig, Lisa Hemsley, Betty McFerron, Trevor Hemsley and Pennie Berry.



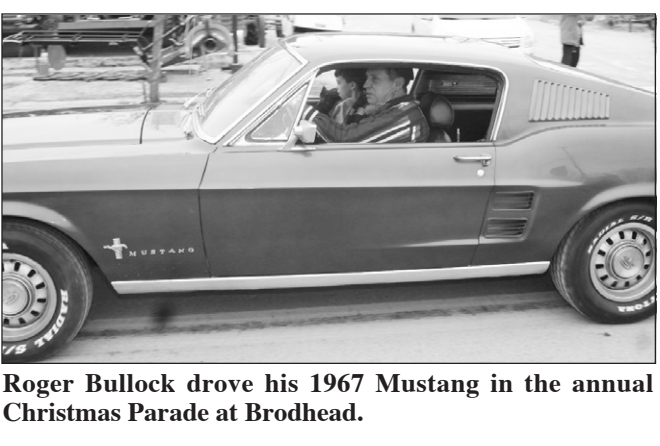
RCCHS band parent, Pat Craig, led the RCCHS band in the annual Christmas parade at Brodhead.



Some of the members of RCCHS Band who participated in the Brodhead Christmas parade are shown above, from left: Nicole McFerron, Meghan Nation, Josh Stallworth, Sarah Morgan, Tara Baldwin, Andrea Gonzalez and Caleb Coffey. The band also participated in the Mt. Vernon Christmas parade.



Doris Blanton and Molly Belcher attended Brodhead's annual Christmas parade.



Roger Bullock drove his 1967 Mustang in the annual Christmas Parade at Brodhead.

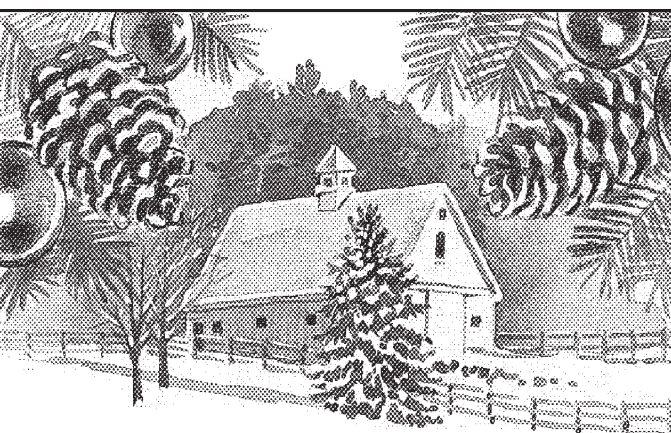


Tony Bullock followed his dad Roger in his 1967 Mustang at the Brodhead Christmas Parade.



Firefighter Bryan Mullins rode on the back of a Brindle Ridge Fire Truck driven by his dad, Tiny.

Happy Holidays!
from your friends in the
Rockcastle County P.V.A. Office



With You In Mind At Christmastime

May you and your family enjoy the many blessings that give true meaning to the holiday season. We feel privileged and blessed to have you as our neighbors.

Tobacco Barn

575 Richmond St. • Mt. Vernon
256-0079

Closed
Christmas Day



*Ruth Thompson, Cyndie Offutt, Janet Vaughn
Margaret Offutt*

Third Floor Courthouse • Telephone 256-4194



Richard and Donna Dean had their 1931 Model A Ford at the Christmas Parades in both Brodhead and Mt. Vernon.



The Thacker family participated in both the Brodhead and Mt. Vernon Christmas parades. In the wagon above are: Hayden Thacker, Gari Sue Thacker, Hailey Thacker, Lois Hemshaw, Wendell Thacker and George Hemshaw.



Michael Creech, right, a employee of Brodhead Hometown Market, rode with family members Nathan Creech, Shelby Creech, Christy Creech and Tyler Creech in the Brodhead Christmas Parade.



Harris Burton participated in the annual Brodhead Christmas Parade.

the Spirit of Christmas

Let us not forget the true meaning of Christmas - the birth of our Savior and His message of love and goodwill toward all mankind.

Wishing you and yours the best this Holiday Season!

State Representative Danny Ford



Seated from left: Sue Ford holding Bailee Allen, Danny Ford, Rebecca Ford holding Bryan Ross Ford. Back row from left: Ben Allen, Danetta Ford Adams, Darren Allen, Angie Ford Adams, Eric Adams and Matt Ford.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Our best wishes to all our customers.

We appreciate your patronage in 2008 and look forward to serving you in 2009.



From left: Nathaniel Mullins, Mark Smith, Steve Robbins, David and Millie Eaton, Eric Wallin, David Eaton, Jr. and Rodney Mullins. Seated: Pauline Eaton.

Central Body Service

Mt. Vernon • 606-256-4210

Closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

The True Spirit of Christmas



The Birth of Christ

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David;) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:1-7

The Flight

And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

Matthew 2:13-15

Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center

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 Stephen A. Estes, CEO
 Melissa Brock, Adm. Asst.
 Charles D. Black, CFO
Director of Nursing
 Cynthia D. Burton
 Gwendolyn B. Lay, Asst.
Nursing - Acute Care (East, West, South)
 Natasha L. Abner
 Zella M. Abney
 Katerina E. Alcorn
 Angela R. Allen
 Karla P. Ashley
 Renee N. Barnes
 Rose O. Barnett
 Anita E. Barron
 Leshia Bell
 Charlotte Benson
 Edward V. Berry
 Melissa Brock
 Kimberly L. Blair
 Johnnie Ann Bond
 Virginia G. Bond
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 Donna S. Burdine
 Susan E. Burdine
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 Nancy Caldwell
 Jennifer D. Cameron
 Sandra Campbell
 Staci K. Campbell
 Tony Campbell
 Kelly S. Cappa
 Deanna Carpenter
 Stephanie Carr
 Regina J. Cash
 Cynthia Chasteen
 Summer Chasteen
 Lisa Kay Cornett
 Kimberly Couch
 Latasha N. Creech
 Adrienne B. Cromer
 Emily E. Cromer
 Virginia Cromer-Hall
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 Rita Y. Griffin
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 Dee A. Harper
 Brenda S. Hayes
 Stephanie Hensley
 Barbara Heseltine
 Cindy L. Hibbard
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 Cheryl L. Holmes
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 Sharon F. Hughes
 Peggy Ann Hurd
 Brandon Ingram
 Angela Marie Inman
 Carol Johnson
 Jeanette L. Jones
 Stephanie A. Jones
 Paula H. Kane
 Stacey Kerns
 T.J. Kidwell
 Pattie L. King
 Teresa R. King
 Heather D. Kirby
 Sarah Danielle Lamb

Easter E. Layoff
 Peggy Ann Hubbard
 Janice B. Ingram
 Tabitha D. Jones
 Tammie M. Manning
 Rita K. Marcum
 Jodi Lynn Mays
 Jessica McClanahan
 Cheryl L. McClure
 Julie A. McClure
 Candace D. McGuire
 Mac McKee
 Erica R. McKinney
 Connie L. Meckley
 Pamela K. Meece
 Brenda W. Miller
 Jessica B. Miller
 Kathleen Miller
 Leanna S. Mink
 Pamyela Delane Mink
 Tracy L. Mink
 Wesley E. Mobley
 Brenda L. Morris
 Devonda C. Morris
 Betty Lou Mullins
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 Katherine Robinson
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 Sherry L. Saylor
 Elizabeth Scarborough
 Lacy R. Sexton
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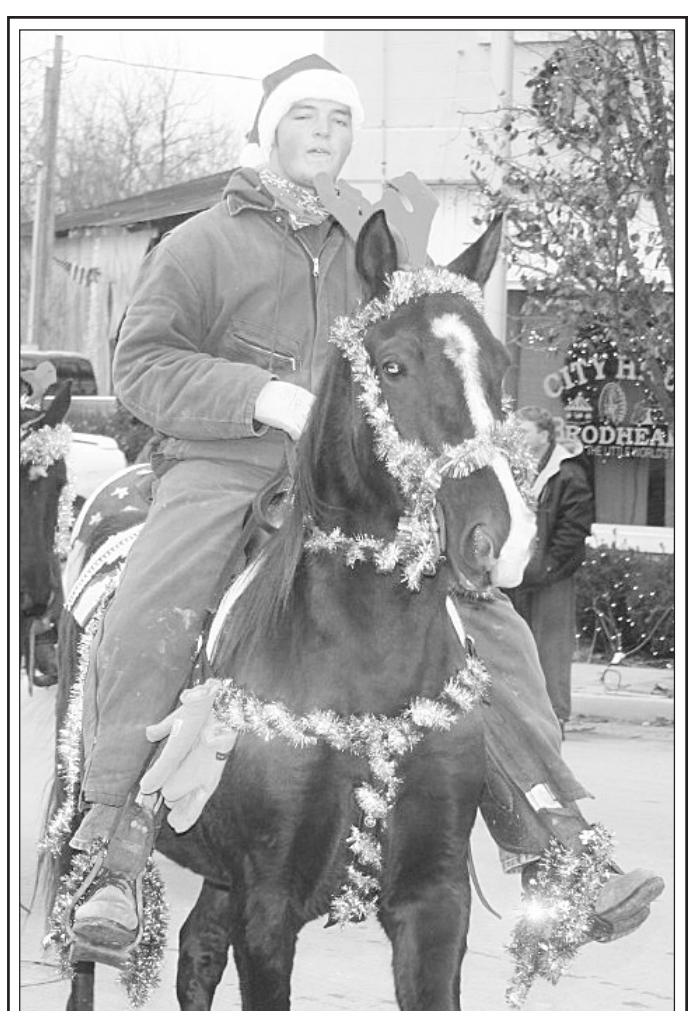
May the holidays be a joyful time for you and your family



Jason Leger and Kenzi Tucker gave their son, Jacob, a ride in Jason's horse drawn wagon in Brodhead's annual Christmas parade.



Emily Dyehouse, right, was the MC at Brodhead's Christmas parade. She is shown with Monica Childress and nephew, Weston Falin.



Donovan Pigg, a member of the Just Horsin' Around Crew, rode his horse in the Brodhead Christmas parade.



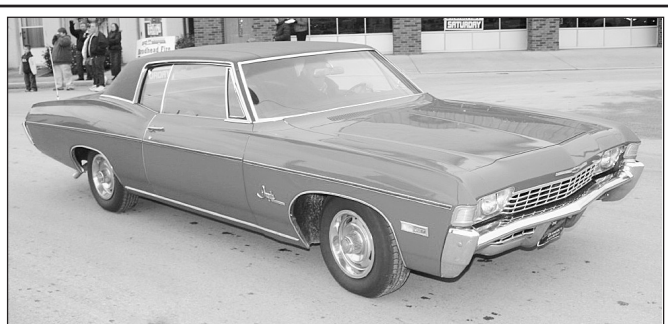
Delina Bowles and little Katie West got a ride from James Bowles in a David's Tire Center wrecker at the Brodhead Christmas parade. (Brodhead Parade photos by: Richard Anderkin).



Mt. Vernon firefighter Brian Bullock drove one of the department's fire trucks in the annual Brodhead Christmas parade.



Cecil King gave County Attorney Billy Reynolds a ride in the Brodhead and Mt. Vernon Christmas parades.



Earl Blanton drove the late Jerry Cash's 1968 Chevy Impala in the Brodhead Christmas Parade. Cash was Blanton's nephew.

Seasons Greetings

Front row from left: Sonya McGuire, Norma Houk and Anita Moore.
Back row from left: Brianna McFerron, Amy Price, Janet Burdine, Thelma Adams

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

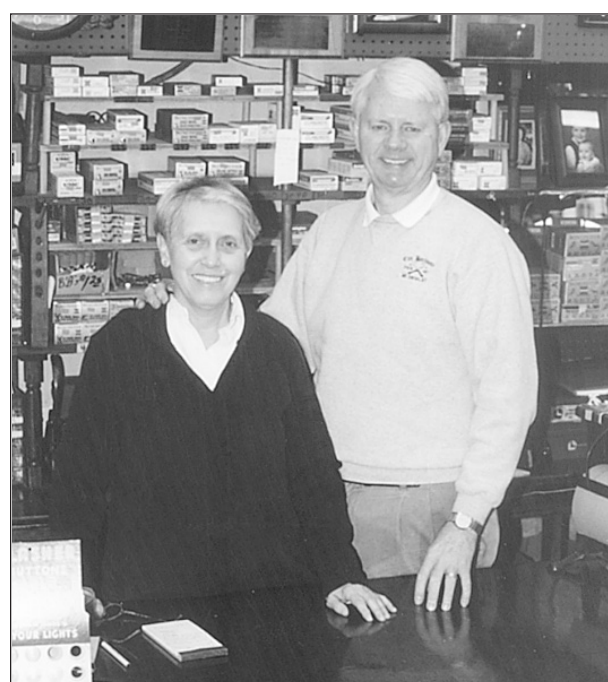
County Clerk Norma Houk

Closed December 24th - 27th • January 1st - 3rd

BLESSINGS OF CHRISTMAS

When we think of all the faces we've come to know in the past few years, it gladdens our hearts and gives us much to celebrate this Christmas.

So to all of you, who have given us so much joy, we offer our gratitude and best wishes for a very merry season.



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Tim Albright gave longtime Brodhead Parade Coordinator, Victoria Dunn, a ride in this year's parade.



Ashlee West got a lift from boyfriend Josh Thompson in the annual Brodhead Christmas parade.



Donna Bishop, who is the President of the Just Horsin' Around Crew, rode her horse in the Brodhead Christmas Parade.



Bryanna Mullins gave Amanda and Austin Kerns a ride in a Kubota, in the annual Christmas Parade in Brodhead.



Roger Carpenter pulled the Skaggs Creek Baptist Church float in the annual Brodhead Christmas Parade.



Heather Bussell, left and Megan Caudill, dressed up as Brodhead firefighters and rode a 4-wheeler in the annual Christmas parade at Brodhead.



Livingston Fire Chief Sam Stallworth drove one of Livingston's fire trucks in the Christmas parades at Brodhead and Mt. Vernon.



Jerry Brown gave wife Linda, a ride in the Brodhead Christmas Parade.

No Paper Next Week!

There will be no Mount Vernon Signal the week of January 1st. Our next issue will be January 8th. The *Signal* office will be closed December 24th through January 4th.

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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.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

from the families & staff of

William D. Reynolds County Attorney



Front row from left: Patty Kirby, Kathy Robinson, assistant County Attorney Jerome Fish, Amanda Clark and Jessi Lay.
Back row from left: Julie Adams, Josh McKibben, County Attorney Billy Reynolds and Heather Bussell.

City of Mt. Vernon awarded \$15,000 ARC mini-grant

By Sharon Dodson,
The Center for
Rural Development

The Center for Rural Development has awarded the City of Mt. Vernon a \$15,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) mini-grant for a feasibility study on the development of a tourist center in Rockcastle County.

Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby, commissioners, and representatives of the Mt. Vernon-Rockcastle Tourist Commission accepted the grant from officials with The Center, ARC, and Kentucky Department for Local Government at the "Developing and Implementing Community Strategies" Summit, held Dec. 10 at the Rural Law Enforcement Technology Center (RULETC) in Hazard, Ky.

The need for a tourist center—which could double as a conference and civic facility—was reinforced in a community strategic plan completed by the local tourist commission. The project was identified as a priority item in that plan, and considered "an immediate need" in the tourism portion of a 2002 community strategic plan.

Funding support provided by the ARC will allow the city to begin implementation of these strategic plan priorities through the development of a feasibility study for the tourist center. A consultant who specializes in economic/tourism development will be hired to

complete the study.

The study will be made available to potential funding entities to demonstrate the viability of the construction of a tourist center in Rockcastle County. A tourist center is expected to increase tourism in the area and create opportunities for growth and the development of new businesses.

Mt. Vernon will provide a match of \$3,750 for a total project cost of \$18,750.

In addition to the City of Mt. Vernon, eight other Southern and Eastern Kentucky communities received shares of a total of \$104,000 in ARC funding awarded by the Developing and Implementing Community Strategies program administered by The Center.

Those communities included the cities of Beattyville, Corbin, Liberty, and Paintsville, and Bell, Lee, Letcher, and Morgan counties.

Awards are based on the realistic completion of a local economic and community development project within a six-month period, expected or anticipated outcomes, and the importance of the project to the community. Grant amounts range between \$5,000 and \$20,000.

Lonnie Lawson, President and CEO of The Center, said The Center is pleased to award the City of Mt. Vernon and the other communities the critical grant funding.

"This funding will assist these communities in developing or furthering plans and strategies that will help fuel positive and tangible economic and community development activity in our region for years to come," Lawson said.

Bob Mitchell, district administrator for U.S. Congressman Harold "Hal" Rogers (KY-05), spoke during the event of the importance of the ARC grant funding.

"ARC has been vital in transforming this region," Mitchell said. "So many times ARC has come to the rescue of Southern and Eastern Kentucky."

Mitchell attended the event on behalf of Congressman Rogers, who was participating in a special congressional session in Washington, D.C. Mitchell said the ARC has been instrumental in helping fund community projects that improve the quality of life throughout Appalachia.

"Without ARC, we would not be able to have the infrastructure that we enjoy in Eastern Kentucky," Mitchell said.

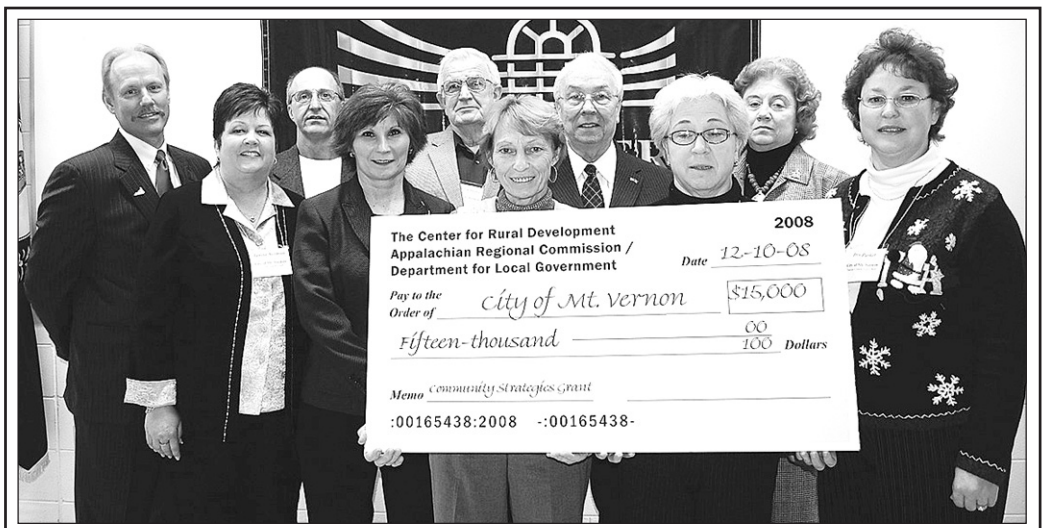
Funds awarded through The Center's Developing and

Implementing Community Strategies Program assist local governments in 32 federally designated distressed counties in Southern and Eastern Ken-

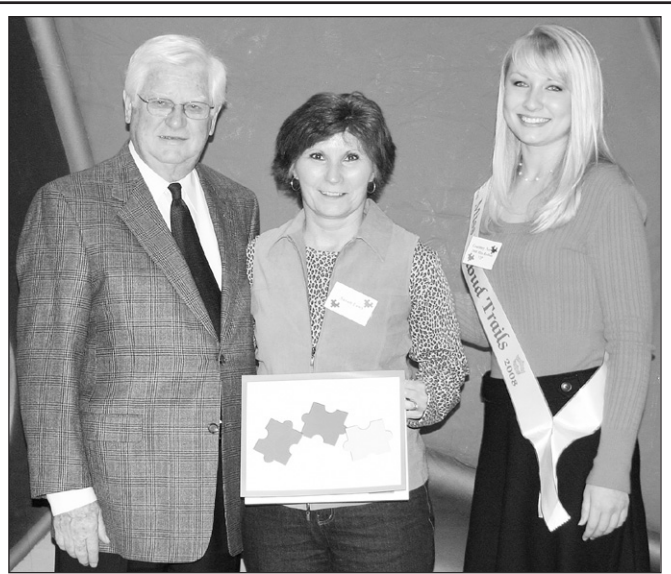
tucky in the creation of a strategic plan or implementation of priority community development projects identified in existing community-based strate-

gic plans.

This year marked the first time communities have been able to apply for funding to develop a strategic plan.



The Center for Rural Development presents the City of Mt. Vernon with a \$15,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) mini-grant for a feasibility study for Rockcastle County Tourist Center. Pictured from left are: Lonnie Lawson, President and CEO of The Center for Rural Development; Mt. Vernon-Rockcastle County Tourist Commission representatives Janine Norman, Miachel Robbins, director Susan Laws and Charles Saylor; Mayor Clarice Kirby; Bob Mitchell, district administrator for U.S. Congressman Harold "Hal" Rogers (KY-05); Sue Moreland, ARC senior program manager; Peggy Satterly, staff assistant, Office of Federal Grants, Department for Local Government; and Iris Parker, representative of Mt. Vernon-Rockcastle Tourism Commission. The presentation was made at a "Developing and Implementing Community Strategies Summit" held Wednesday, Dec. 10, at Rural Law Enforcement Technology Center (RULETC), a national training center for small and rural law enforcement agencies in Hazard, Ky.



Congressman Hal Rogers presented Susan Laws, Executive Director of the Mt. Vernon/Rockcastle County CVB, with the VIP (very impressive project) award at the eight annual TOUR Southern and Eastern Kentucky Caucus at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset, Kentucky. Pictured from left: Congressman Rogers, Susan Laws and Courtney Norvell - 2008 Ms. Redbud.

Laws receives VIP award

On November 24, 2008 Congressman Hal Rogers presented Susan Laws, Executive Director of the Mt. Vernon/Rockcastle County CVB, with the VIP (very impressive project) award at the eight annual TOUR Southern and Eastern Kentucky Caucus at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset, Kentucky.

When you think pink you think REDBUD in our region of Kentucky. Each year TOUR SEKY has worked tirelessly to make April Redbud Month in Southern and Eastern Kentucky. Thus far TOUR has distributed and planted over 300,000 new Redbud Trees, funded several new festivals, purchased Redbud Banners for communities along with many other events. But TOUR SEKY needed some event that would educate, invite, excite and kick off the month of April annually. In 2007 TOUR held a walking event that started out with about

25 participants, but grew to an overwhelming number of over 500 participants for 2008. This VIP Award was awarded to a group that worked diligently to get the word out, to invite local businesses, hospitals, health departments and students from across the region to come learn about the importance of our own health and how "walking and exercise" impact us. Congratulations to Mt. Vernon-Rockcastle County Tourism Commission and Ms. Susan Laws for their Redbud Health Walk.

TOUR SEKY is an initiative of Congressman Hal Rogers. The organization's mission is to promote, develop and expand the existing and potential tourism industry throughout southern and eastern Kentucky in an effort to contribute to the economic and cultural growth of the region. For additional information about TOUR SEKY contact 606-677-6142.



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

We appreciate your patronage throughout the year



Front row from left: Chrissy Cash, Clarissa Hodge, Crystal Frith, Teresa Stevens and Danetta Ford Allen.

Back row from left: Johnny Bullock, Matthew Silcox, Sam Ford, David Henderson and Jeff Cromer.

Not shown: Danny Ford, Roy Adams, Judy Ford, Sandy Bullen, Debbie Smith, Jeff Burdette, Harold Bustle, Steve Bullock, Linda Durham, Shelby Reed and Becky McNabb

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Mount Vernon

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until further notice for the following areas:

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This Boil Water Advisory will not be lifted until the water line and tank are completed.

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Holiday Edition

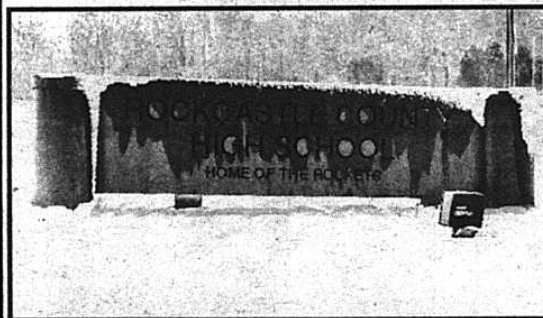
The Voice of Rockcastle
County High School

December

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2008

LET IT SNOW!



Rockcastle saw the first real snowfall of the season on Friday, December 12th. School was cancelled for the day.

The Rock Goes Green

By Natalie Haarman

On December 4th, as R.C.H.S. students walked into their classrooms, they noticed three blue bins in their classrooms with the words "We Recycle" written in white on each. Most of us wondered what was going on before each teacher gave a small "speech" on what goes in which can. Rockcastle County High School was "going green" in an effort to recycle our paper, plastic, and aluminum garbage.

R.C.H.S. junior Joanie Alexander is the reason for our school's new recycling

program. Needing a project for the community service part of

her Rogers' Scholar Application, Alexander decided to start a recycling program for R.C.H.S. After talking with Larry Hammonds, the Rockcastle superintendent, and R.C.H.S.

principal Jennifer Mattingly, the

little blue bins were added to the classrooms.



Mattingly thinks that recycling at school is very worthwhile. "It's a wonderful opportunity for students to have a positive impact on our community," she said.

(Cont. on page 5.)

Gear-Up Set to Sponsor After School Program

Students with low test scores in reading and math will be targeted.

By Alivia Bullock
& Devon Mason

Starting January 5th, 2009, a new type of after school program will be starting at R.C.H.S. The program will be designed to provide for students who need one-on-one time with teachers in order to bring their test scores up in reading and math. No other subject areas will be featured.

The reason this new program will only deal with reading and math is that these two areas are the most crucial for students, and reading and math skills effect how well students do in other subjects at school. "We struggle more with our math and reading than anything else," said Mrs. Bustle, who is going to be helping with students during the program.

The program is not a part of the E.S.S. after school tutoring that was cut due to

budget problems this year. "E.S.S. works with students on their homework and make-up work," Mrs. Bustle said. "This program is specifically meant to help students with their test scores."

"We wish that we could have everyone who needs help stay with us, but since this program is funded by a specific grant from Gear Up we can only handle a smaller number of students," Bustle said.

The program will be in session every Monday during January and February.

Students will be invited by the school if they need to consider the program for extra help. However, if you feel like you need the one-on-one time in a subject you're struggling in, you can see Mrs. Bustle and ask her about attending.



Christmas Vacation

Dec. 22nd

through

Jan. 3rd

What's Inside?

- Holiday Fun! - The Winter Ball - Christmas Around the World
- All Around the Rock - The 12 Days of R.C.H.S. - Blood Drive
- R.C.H.S. Book Fair - Editorial and Opinions - Much More!

The Red Glare Staff



Tony Bullock



Megan Campbell

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Sarah

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Michelle Bullock



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Devon Mason

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Cynthia LANGFORD

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS

And a Happy & Peaceful New Year!

From

The Red Glare Staff



Editorials & Opinions

The Dress Code Squelches Students' Right to Personal Expression

By Taylor Anderkin

It took me twenty minutes this morning to find something to wear to school. "Why?" you ask. It couldn't be because all my "school" clothes were dirty and I had to find an outfit that was "school appropriate," could it?

It frustrates me that I have to settle on an outfit for school when I have a perfectly good one I adore hanging up in my closet, collecting dust because it's not "acceptable." It frustrates me that I can't wear cat-eye contacts or even dye my hair purple (or another interesting color) if I choose to. By forcing us to limit our choices in clothing and attire, the school system is also limiting our valuable freedom of expression.

"Any item of clothing or attire (including, but not limited to contact lenses, colored hair, cosmetics, etc) which distracts the attention of other students from learning will not be permitted." So says the R.C.H.S. Dress Code.

The problem is that too many different types of apparel have been identified as "distracting." A few examples of this include tank tops, short shorts, and any type of hat. We're also not allowed to put unnatural highlights in our hair, wear contacts that can color our eyes red, purple, or some other "unnatural" color, or wear face-paint (even on days like Halloween!). All of these things are considered "distracting" and could possibly disrupt students' learning environments.

My question is this: If I'm not allowed to dye my hair an "unnatural" color, then why can I dye my hair black? Several people have dyed their hair black, and it does cause some disturbance for a short while, but then it dies down fairly quickly and people don't even notice it. It is forgotten. Well, why can't I dye my hair blue or give myself purple highlights if I choose to? Sure, it'll cause a distraction at first, but it'll die down quickly.

The student body would find something else to gab about and the new sensation would fade to old news. Same thing with colored contacts. Soon people would be so used to it that it would become a part of my image and it wouldn't look out of the norm. It would look weird if I *wasn't* wearing them.

You see, expressing yourself is a *good* thing! It's *healthy* to express yourself. When people—especially young people—have a chance to express who they are, they become more positive and happy. You could argue that it's just as easy to express yourself by drawing or singing, but not all of us like to draw or sing. Not all of us are in classes that allow us to express ourselves in these ways, but humans have a need to express themselves—whether it be through singing, writing, drawing, sculpting, painting, or even smiling. So, some of us choose to express ourselves through our clothing, hair, makeup, or jewelry. Why try to restrain us when we're just doing what is natural and healthy?

Think about it. If we're not allowed to express ourselves through our clothing choices, then why not just switch to uniforms? Then we can be totally devoid of clothing freedom and things will be totally bland and unable to express ourselves. We'll be good and we'll be undistracted... Except for the protests. Hmm, seems that whatever happens will cause "distractions." Is there any way around it?

Even a small concession on the part of the administration would be a nice thing to see. I would even settle for being able to wear torn jeans that don't violate the dress code in any other way. At least such a change would be a step in the right direction and allow students to have some small amount of personality. However, that would be a *distraction*. Again, the school administration is forcing me to limit my choices in clothing and apparel whilst squelching my freedom of expression.

Editorial Replies

The Red Glare accepts logical, well-structured responses to editorials. Written submissions may be contributed by visiting room 25 or can be placed in Mr. Cope's mailbox in the office at R.C.H.S. All submissions will be considered based on the logical argument posed and supporting information.

On Campus

Snowy Night Soiree

Winter Ball Set for Jan. 10th

By Tiffany Mason

Tickets will be going on sale for the Winter Ball on Monday, December 15th.

Mrs. Baker and The Key Club are organizing the semi-formal dance for grade levels 9-12, and this year's theme has been chosen as "The Snowy Night Soiree." Soiree is French for "party," and that's just what the Key Club wants people to do at this year's event.

Winter Ball 2K9 will be held on January 10th from 8 PM-midnight; however, if weather prohibits the event, the dance will be postponed to January 24th from 8-midnight.

(Does anybody else think it strange that we may have to call off the "Snowy Night Soiree" due to, well, snow? Go figure!)

"There will be free food and photographs will be sold," said Mrs. Baker, an event sponsor. Also, notice that, although your date doesn't have to attend R.C.H.S. in order to attend Winter Ball, they will have to meet certain guidelines. "Anyone accompanying a R.C.H.S. student to Winter Ball does have to be approved by Mr. Nobel or myself," said Mrs. Jennifer Mattingly. (We don't think you have to worry about J.M. and B.N. asking your potential companion what he or she does for a living or what his or her intentions are!)

There are a few guidelines about who can and cannot attend. You can't attend Winter Ball if you're over 21 years of age or if you have been banned or suspended from extra curricular activities.

You can pick up your tickets in the lunchroom during your lunch period beginning December 15th or at the door the night of the event. "The tickets are \$25 for a couple and \$15 for a single," Ms. Baker said.

All the money made from Winter Ball goes to school improvement projects like adding a better sound system to our gym. "Just recently, a PA was put in the gym," Ms. Baker said.

"Snowy Night Soiree" is a semi-formal dance, so dress presentably, as if you were attending church. (Only, we hope the vibe at the Ball is a little different!) "Of course, the R.C.H.S. Dress Code applies," stated Ms. Baker.

Orderly conduct is expected while at the winter ball. All school rules apply, so in the words of Mr. Nobel, "If you have the urge to back that thing up, you can back that thing out!"

So, if you want to bust a move in a stylish setting while breaking out of the winter bla's, buy your tickets, dress to impress, and show up ready to get your groove on (um, within limits!).



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Vocational School Holds Blood Drive

By Cynthia Langford

The Rockcastle County Vocational School held its annual blood drive December 4th, allowing volunteers another chance to donate the valuable, life-saving liquid.

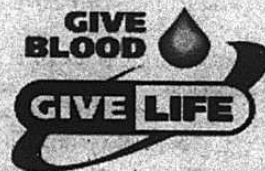
During the drive, 49 students actually gave and even more tried to donate. Four teachers also gave blood.

The chance to donate was offered only to students enrolled in vocational classes.

The vocational Health Science teacher, Mrs. Childress, helped with the drive and gave blood herself.

She noted that the blood contributed was to be given to the same organization that R.C.H.S. supplies during its own blood drive.

Students at the high school will have one final chance to contribute when R.C.H.S. has its second drive during the final semester of the school year.



Chorus Performs Patriotic Fall Concert

By Sarah Morgan

On November 6th, the Veteran's Day Program was topped with a patriotic performance from the Rockcastle County High School Choir. It was held in the auditorium of the High School.

The chorus completed two performances as a part of the fall concert: one during school hours for students and

veterans and one in the evening for anyone who wanted to come.

The day performance included the choir and J.R.O.T.C. The choir, sticking to the patriotic theme, sang "America the Beautiful," "The Armed Forces Salute," and "God Bless the USA." They also sang "What a Wonderful World." All of this was followed by a solo performance by A.J. Buster.

The performance that evening was just the choir, and it included additional songs to complete the full show. The entire show consisted of song such as "Thunder", "Armed Forces Salute", "What a Wonderful World", "For Good", "America the Beautiful", "God Bless the USA", "Breakaway", and "Life is a Highway". The last of which was choreographed.

"It ties together the patriotic theme and popular songs that everyone listens to," Ms. Thacker, the chorus supervisor said of the theme, "to make us realize that we should be thankful for being in America."

About the preparation for the concert, Ms. Thacker noted, "The choir practices everyday with songs and

choreography." She told us a little about blocking, transitioning places and positions through the performance, and that that was what she was most nervous about.

Overall, the crowd that attended the evening concert seemed very impressed with the performance.

Rock Book Fair a Success

By Reanna Hasty

This year, on December 4th-9th, RCHS had its second book fair. The book fair was for all students and faculty and was something of a fundraiser for the library, also offering a chance for our school to gain new books for our reading pleasure.

"We were pretty successful considering the economy," Mrs. Wells, our librarian stated. "Last year we did better," Mrs. Wells said, but with the current economy no one expected sales to be on the rise, she said.

This year, the book fair switched locations which allotted for more space and a place for zero block to take place within the library.

Also, this year there were several things that students and faculty seemed to gravitate toward while at the book fair. Among the best

sellers were: the Twilight Series, and the Twilight movie posters which sold out. Most of the students, as well, liked the school supplies and small random items like erasers and small note pads.

If you happened to go to the book fair you might have noticed a change jug on the check out table, and all of the change that the book fair collected in that went to underprivileged children for books in Owsley County. Mrs. Wells said, "People were unsure about it, but we got a lot of change." So it appears that collecting change went well.

"As long as the students enjoy it we will have one book fair a year, every year around Christmas," Mrs. Wells said. Therefore, you could save you money for the next book fair, there is enough for everyone to enjoy.

Recycling at The Rock (Cont. from page 1)

Citizens' Bank donated all of the blue containers that are in the classrooms, and James Renner, the county coordinator, brought in the larger green bins that our recyclable material will be emptied into at the end of every day.

The paper, plastic, and aluminum cans will be taken to the new Rockcastle



Miscellaneous Merriment!

The 12 Days of R.C.H.S.

By Reanna Hasty

- 12 Loud Announcements
11 Teachers Teaching
10 Computers Crashing
9 Posters Falling
8 Essay Questions
7 Overdue Books
6 Fussing Freshmen
5 Golden Chicken Nuggets!
4 Portfolio Pieces
3 Broken Desks
2 Minutes to Eat
and 1 Big Berry Looking Plenty Angry!



Top 5 Christmas Tunes

- Nick Shelton

5. All I Want For Christmas Is You
4. Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree
3. Santa Clause Is Coming to Town
2. Grandma's Killer Fruitcake
1. Grandma Got Ran Over By a Reindeer

Christmas Around the World

By Michelle Bullock

Christmas is a holiday celebrated all around the world, with many traditions and original festivities. Many countries celebrate much as we do in America, with the unity of a family gathering on Christmas Day with a bountiful amount of foods and presents, and the tradition of decorating the Christmas tree.

However, other countries around the world celebrate Christmas a little differently. Like in Australia who has never celebrated a white Christmas. And due to the warm climate, Australians celebrate Christmas outside or in their backyard with their family or friends opening presents and eating food. Customary foods are seafood, glazed ham, cold chicken duck or turkey, cold deli meats, pasta, salads and ice cream.

Also Australia has its own manifestation of Santa Clause. He is called the "Swag Man" and he's the representation of Santa down under in shorts. He spends all winter with his merry dingoes then at Christmas time he gets on his huge 4 wheel drive and sets off through the dust to deliver presents.

Christmas in England is very traditional, and the British were the first people to exchange Christmas gifts in the way we know today. Hanging stockings and singing carols also probably originated in England, where the people celebrate in much the same way we do here. However, after Christmas, the British celebrate "Boxing Day," a time when the wealthy are expected to share whatever they have with everyone and welcome crowds into their homes.

Some countries celebrate Christmas more diversely such as Brazil. Brazilians create the nativity scene which was introduced in the 17th century and they enjoy the fold play Los Pastores or "the Shepherds", but instead of the shepherds being men they are played by women and there is a gypsy who attempts to kidnap Jesus. Papai Noel is the equivalent of Santa and according to legend he lives in Greenland. When he arrives he usually wears silk clothing due to the summer heat. Also this day is of great importance to Catholics attend midnight mass.

In Greece, where they have a more traditional "St. Nick" as Santa, ships never leave port on Christmas without a statue of the saint onboard.

They don't decorate or have any use for Christmas trees, but a bowl is suspended with spring of basil around a wooden cross. And each day the mother dips the cross and basil in holy water and sprinkles it in every room.

Finally the birthplace of Christmas Bethlehem puts flags and decoration on the site of the Church of Nativity on every Christmas day. On Christmas Eve natives and visitors crowd the churches doorways and stand on the roof to watch a parade, then lead into the church and find a silver star marking what is believed to be the site of Jesus' birth.

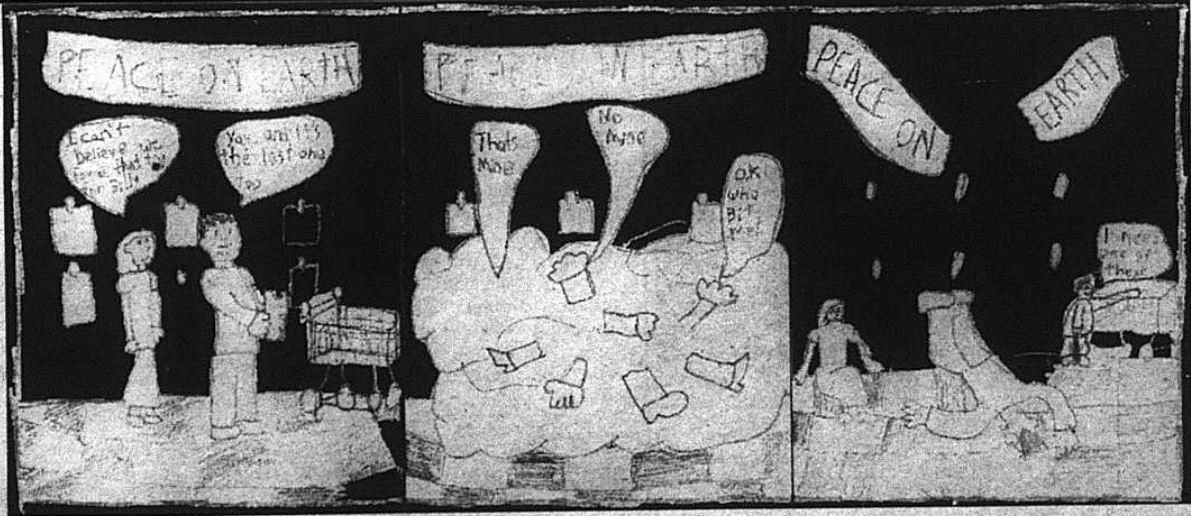
So every country has its own special tradition and custom depicted to their circumstances but yet must have a special underlying theme that makes them the same in representing Christmas their individual way.



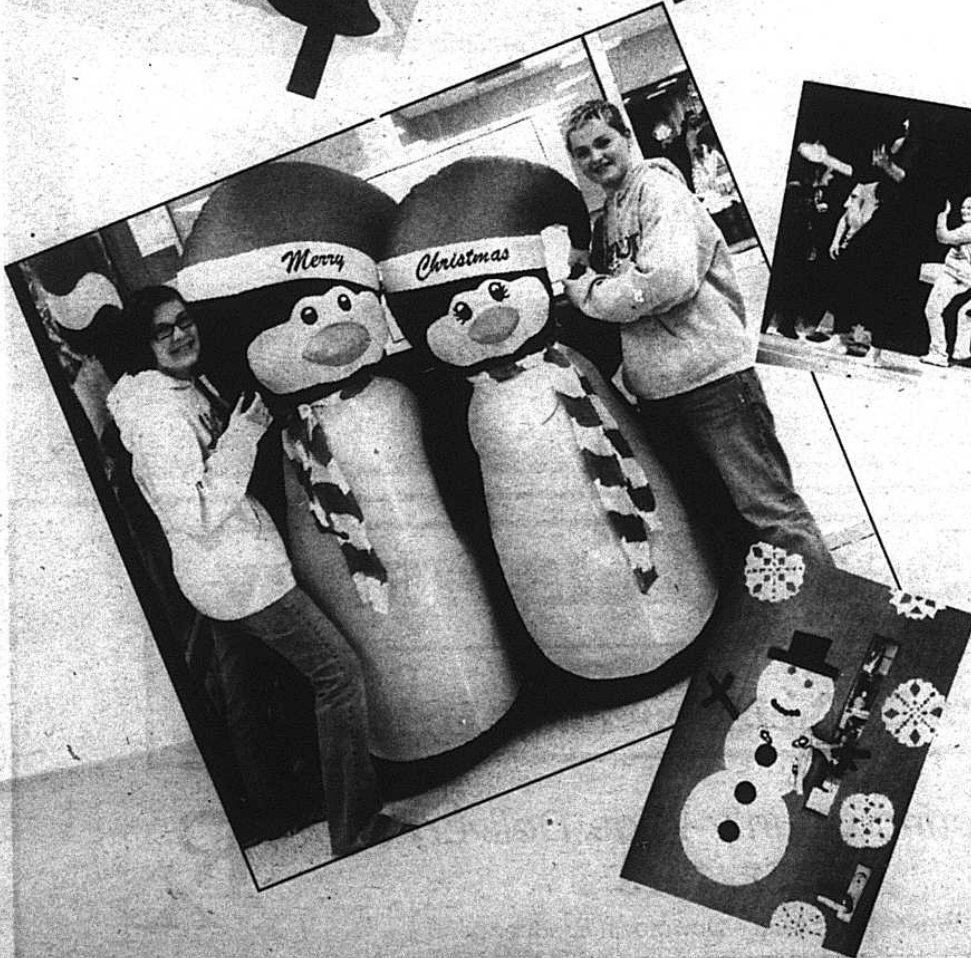


Family Crisis

By R.J. Hopkins



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MADISON MONTHLY

Volume 2, Issue 12 380 Big Hill Avenue Richmond, Ky, 40475 December 2008

Welcome home to Morning Pointe

By Frank Kourt
Advertiser Feature Writer

If you're looking for the finest in assisted care living, complete with a warm, friendly and helpful staff, look no further than Morning Pointe of Richmond Assisted Living Residence.

As soon as you walk into the spacious, well-lit and spotlessly clean lobby, you will be welcomed by a member of the caring, dedicated staff. They will greet you with a smile and answer any questions you may have.

"We pride ourselves on providing a very home-like atmosphere and working to maintain our residents' independence as much as possible, while being there to meet their day-to-day needs," said Executive Director Katie K. Meyer, who recently moved to Kentucky from Florida. Katie has spent 16 years managing retirement/assisted living communities.

While Morning Pointe of Richmond, located at 1400 Gibson Bay Drive, is a private pay community, it also accepts long-term care insurance and veteran's benefits. "What a lot of people do not realize is that veterans and widowed spouses of veterans have benefits that they can access. We're happy to work with families and individuals to apply for those benefits to offset the cost of assisted living," says Katie.

Those who are considering assisted living for themselves or their family members are welcomed and encouraged to come by for a tour, or if they call in advance, they can arrange to have a complimentary lunch with other residents and staff members at Morning Pointe of Richmond in the beautiful dining room as part of their tour.

In addition to assisted living and personal care services, we also offer The Lantern at Morning Pointe, designed especially for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. The Lantern provides residents with compassionate quality care that focuses on maintaining the dignity, integrity and independence of each resident. The Lantern residents are assisted with basic activities of daily living along with an activities program geared toward memory loss. Residents are nurtured in mind, body and spirit through visual, emotional, long-term memory and family involvement.

In addition, after January 2009, there will be a monthly support group for families and friends that have been touched by Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

Because Morning Pointe of Richmond is licensed to provide personal care services, the staff can assist residents with routine tasks such as supervising their medication administration as well as providing assistance with bathing, grooming and dressing.

There's plenty to do at Morning Pointe. According to Danielle Higgs, Life Enrichment director, Activities range from exercise classes, crafts, bingo and other games. There is also a baking club where residents are very involved. We have church services and a beauty shop on the premises. Frequent shopping trips to area stores and shopping centers are also available.

Family nights are conducted monthly, and encourage families to mix and mingle with residents, staff and management.

Other services provided by Morning Pointe of Richmond



Meet the staff of Morning Pointe in Richmond: back row, from left, Steve Brown, maintenance director; Wendy Metcalf, administrative assistant; Brenda Wallen, Lantern program director; Katie K. Meyer, executive director; and Lindsey Greys, resident services director. In the front row, from left, are Ann Wiers, food services director; and Danielle Higgs, Life Enrichment director.

are respite services, where people needing assisted living or Alzheimer's care can stay for a week or more while family care givers, take a much needed rest, vacation or attend to other business.

We would like to open an invitation to local groups that would like to schedule their monthly meetings at our beautiful community.

To experience the home-like, caring and neighborly atmosphere of Morning Pointe for yourself, call 1-859-626-5000 for more information or to arrange a tour. Openings for new residents are available today!

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By Ronica Shannon
Register News Writer

Grant helps Pattie A. Clay buy new radiology equipment

The renovations made to Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center are expanding beyond physical structures and into the actual equipment used to detect illnesses or other problems with patients.

Congressman Ben Chandler (D-6th District) presented Pattie A. Clay CEO Bob Hudson with \$236,000 recently to help upgrade the hospital's digital radiology equipment.

The funding was secured in October and was provided through the Kentucky Department of Education.

"This is about making a contribution to something that will help people live longer and have a higher quality of life," Chandler said. "That's what you all are doing at this facility on a daily basis and I'm just happy to be able to swoop in and lend a hand every now and then. I am very proud of what Pattie A. Clay does for this area."

The funding given to Pattie A. Clay has helped purchase a picture archive and communication system, better known as PACS.

Two Konica-Minolta Computed Radiology Systems for digital X-rays also have been purchased.

The federal funding has helped hospital personnel do more than just upgrade technology.

"In addition to this (technology upgrades), Pattie A. Clay has seen progress on the renovation of our third and fourth floor of the hospital and are in the process of developing a primary care center in Lancaster Aetl, and we just recently opened up a wound-care center on Big Hill Avenue," Hudson said.

"Thanks to Ben Chandler and the funds that he acquired for us, we have already seen a significant improvement in patient care, the integrity of our medical records, work flow, environmental impact and allows us to provide the highest possible care for our patients," Hudson added.

Improving the quality of equipment inside the hospital and helping restore and expand the facility is something that can benefit the community's economy in the long run, Chandler said.

"One thing we want to try to do any way we can is

to try to provide employment," he said. "Of course, if we have this medical center providing the very best service that can be provided, it's ultimately going to be used more and it's ultimately going to employ more people and that's what we want to see."

Renovations to the hospital also have been made possible by the Pattie A. Clay Foundation's "Care, Compassion and Confidence" \$2.7 million capital campaign.

The projected renovation cost is \$4.2 million, with the remaining \$1.5 million being financed internally.

New additions will include 47 single-patient rooms; a five-room transitional care unit; larger, redesigned nurse's stations; space to accommodate the "hospitalist," which provides an in-house physician 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and wall-mounted computer stations.

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NANCY TAGGART/THE REGISTER

Dr. Alberto Gonzalez, a radiologist at Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center, looks at pictures taken using the hospital's new Picture Archive and Communication System purchased with federal funds secured by Congressman Ben Chandler. The system allows better and more efficient patient care.



NANCY TAGGART/THE REGISTER

Congressman Ben Chandler greets Zaina Baker, an employee of Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center, after presenting the hospital with \$236,000 to upgrade their digital radiology equipment.

FORMER GOVERNOR SPEAKS IN MORNING

Eastern graduates total of 1,066

By Brian Smith
Register News Writer

Former Kentucky Gov. Breerton Jones had some strong advice for the 635 Eastern Kentucky University graduates he spoke to as the keynote speaker for the first of two graduation ceremonies: Be careful who you work with.

"Bad company corrupts good character," Jones, who was cited as governor from 1991 to 1995, told the graduates seated on the Alumni

Coliseum playing floor.

Jones stressed the importance of keeping a positive attitude in what he called a "dog-eat-dog world," saying that a positive attitude is the key to success.

"People with a positive attitude will find a way to make things work," Jones told the graduates before recounting the life and career of Abraham Lincoln, who he cited as an example of how positive attitudes and honesty can lead to success.

Jones also spoke about his experiences in running for governor, including a meeting with Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, author of "The Power of Positive Thinking," in which Peale advised him to run a completely positive campaign.

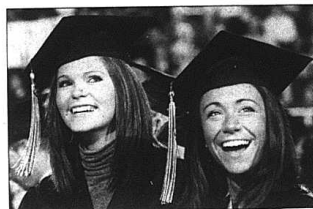
"We didn't run a single negative ad, and we won by the biggest margin in history," Jones said.

Graduates in the colleges of education, health sciences, justice and safety and the school of graduate education and research

were honored at the morning ceremony, while graduates from the colleges of arts and sciences and business and technology were honored in an afternoon ceremony.

The keynote speaker for the afternoon was journalist and Kentucky native Nick Clooney.

A total of 1,066 students had degrees conferred.



NANCY TAGGART/THE REGISTER

Michelle George, left, of Pittsburgh, and Kayla Frazier of Turkey Creek spot family and friends in the audience before the start of the afternoon fall commencement ceremony at EKU.

Nerve agent successfully neutralized

Special to the Register

The Operation Swift Solution team working at the Blue Grass Army Depot has successfully completed the first phase of eliminating three deteriorating steel containers holding a mixture of the nerve agent GB and its breakdown products that have accumulated over time.

After one of the containers leaked in August 2007, and two others showed signs of corrosion, the Army's Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) program brought a proposed solution, nicknamed Operation Swift Solution, to the Blue Grass community nearly a year ago last January.

The plan involved utilizing a team from the Army's Edgewood Chemical Biological Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., and a transportable chemical neutralization system known as the Chemical Agent Transfer System, or CHATS.

All of the liquid nerve agent

mixture previously stored in the containers has been drained and neutralized. The wastewater product of the neutralization process, known as hydrolysate, is currently being stored in industrial transportation containers. It will sent along with other secondary wastes associated with the containers to a permitted, commercial facility in Texas.

"This is an important mile-

stone for our team," said Lt. Col. David L. Musgrave, commander of Blue Grass Chemical Activity, the depot organization responsible for the chemical weapons stockpile. "There is still more work to do in cleaning the containers and processing the secondary wastes for shipment, but I'm pleased that we've safely achieved the objective to this point."

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Drive-Thru	Monday-Thursday 8:00am - 5:00pm Friday 8:00am - 6:00pm Saturday 9:00am - 12:00pm
• Richmond Rd - Irvine •	
Lobby	Monday-Thursday 9:00am - 5:00pm Friday 9:00am - 6:00pm Saturday CLOSED
Drive-Thru	Monday-Thursday 9:00am - 5:00pm Friday 9:00am - 6:00pm Saturday 9:00am - 12:00pm
• East Main - Richmond •	
Lobby	Monday-Thursday 8:30am - 4:00pm Friday 8:30am - 5:00pm Saturday CLOSED
Drive-Thru	Monday-Thursday 8:00am - 5:00pm Friday 8:00am - 6:00pm Saturday CLOSED
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