

# Mount Vernon Signal

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## Redistricting plan officially puts Rockcastle in 71st district

**By: Doug Ponder**  
Governor Steve Beshear signed a redistricting bill last Friday that officially changed the legislative districts in both the Kentucky Senate and House of Representatives.

The new redistricting map for the senate still has Rockcastle County, along with Madison County and a southern portion of Fayette County, represented by Senator Jared Carpenter in District 34.

But the new redistricting map for the State House of Representatives has Rockcastle County moving from House District 80 to House District 71. Rockcastle County will now be with Garrard County and a western portion of Madison County.

However, a twist was added in the emergency clause of the redistricting bill that was signed by the governor last Friday. The former house district map had the 71st district in Menifee, Morgan, part of Rowan and part of Wolfe counties under Democrat Representative John Will Stacey. Until the 2014 general election, Rockcastle

County will be under Representative Stacey, who was elected to the district in 2012 and currently resides in Morgan County.

The clause was justified by the Kentucky Attorney General Jack Conway's Office that stated all senators and representatives represent the entire state once they are sworn in even though they do have an interest in serving their geographic districts.

In the 2014 fall general election, current Representative Jonathan Shell, who was elected in 2012 to the 36th District in Garrard and part of Madison county, plans on running to represent the newly-formed 71st district, which includes Rockcastle Garrard and part of Madison counties. Until the fall general election in 2014, Shell will be serving in his old 36th district which has now been moved to Louisville.

Amidst all the confusion, former Rockcastle Representative David Meade and future hopeful Representative Johnathan Shell were present for the monthly

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## Livingston man arrested for child abuse and bribery

**By: Doug Ponder**  
A Livingston man was arrested for child abuse and bribery after police responded to some bizarre complaints last Thursday in Livingston.

Arrested was Earl Poynter, 41, of Livingston. According to the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Sheriff Matt Bryant and Casey McClure initially responded to Poynter's residence because they had an active warrant for Poynter's arrest for first degree disorderly conduct.

Once officers arrived at

the residence, they advised Poynter that they had an active warrant for his arrest. However, Poynter refused to be arrested and told officers he was "not going to jail until they showed him some paperwork."

Poynter then told the officers that he was going back inside his house and that they "didn't need to come back until they had paperwork for his warrant." Bryant then threatened to use his Taser on Poynter if he went back inside his house. Poynter then com-

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A large crowd attended Monday night's meeting of the Rockcastle County Republicans. Former State Representative David Meade (from Lincoln County), left in bottom photo and State Representative Jonathan Shell (from Garrard Co.) were present. Both men spoke at the meeting, along with State Senator Jared Carpenter and newly-appointed Family Court Judge Marcus Vanover of Somerset. County Republican Chairman Travis Burton chaired the meeting.



## Livingston Homecoming this weekend

The annual Livingston Homecoming is this weekend.

Activities kick-off Friday night with a gospel singing

## Lake Linville Master Plan Presentation is today

Architectural firm, CDP Engineers, has completed the master plan for the city-owned Lake Linville property. The presentation to the City of Mt. Vernon Mayor Bryant and the current operators Teresa and Lester Radcliff will be made Thursday, August 29th at 11 a.m. at the boat dock restaur-

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from 6 to 9 p.m.

Saturday's festivities will begin with a pancake breakfast at the homecoming committee room at 8 a.m. The 5K Livingston Leap - a five mile run/walk will also begin at 8 a.m.

The parade line up will be at White Star at 10 a.m. with the parade at 11 a.m., led by Bobby Wilson as this year's Grand Marshall.

At noon, the Bittersweet Cloggers will perform followed by an Awards Ceremony at 1 p.m.

The Bittersweet Cloggers return at 2 p.m. and a kids' karaoke contest will be held at 3 p.m.

A Shaolin Do Karate Demonstration will begin at 4 p.m., followed by a lawn mower tractor pull and the Kentucky Romp N' Stomp

Cloggers will perform at 5 p.m.

Live music will be provided from 6 to 10 p.m., featuring the Wilderness Road Bluegrass band at 6 p.m., New Generation Bluegrass at 7 p.m., and the renowned Moron Brothers at 9 p.m.

Sunday's events will kick-off at noon with a devotional service led by Brother Chris Davidson from Pine Hill Holiness Church. There will be a Lions Club pet show at 1 p.m.

followed by kids' games at 2 p.m.

At 3 p.m., there will be a watermelon eating contest and an auction will be held at 4 p.m.

The Ugly Woman Contest will be held at 7 p.m. and the Medley Boys will perform beginning at 8 p.m. The fireworks display is at 10 p.m.

The event will also feature a mechanical bull at the

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## Vanover appointed Family Court Judge

**By: Doug Ponder**  
Governor Steve Beshear has appointed Somerset attorney Marcus L. Vanover as the next Family Court Judge for Rockcastle, Lincoln and Pulaski counties.

Vanover was appointed by the governor last Friday. He was chosen over two other attorneys, including

local Mt. Vernon lawyer William D. "Bill" Gregory. The vacancy occurred after the retirement of former Family Court Judge Walter Maguire in June.

Vanover received his Juris Doctor from the University Of Kentucky College

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## RCHS graduate studies at sea and visits 27 countries

A 2010 Rockcastle County High School graduate recently returned home after seeing 27 countries during a five and a half month trip around the world on board a ship with the Semester at Sea program.

Raj Patel, 21, of Mt. Vernon said he learned about the program during a family vacation to San Francisco in 2011. Patel said he spoke to some of the businessmen in the area who got him interested in the program.

"My interest in the program grew and before I knew it I was applying," Patel said. "I was accepted and quickly became excited to sail around the world."

The Semester at Sea program is open to students at any university or college in the United States. During the fall and spring semesters, the one hundred day program travels around the globe with approximately 720 undergraduate students as they study abroad on the program's ship the MV Explorer.

Patel, who is a Computer Information Technology major at Somerset Community College, took four classes while at sea that will count toward his degree. He also said the semester was very different for him as there was limited contact with the outside world.

"Ship life was absolutely amazing," Patel said. "There was no cell phone service and we were only allowed two hours of internet time for the entire semester. With the limited technology we would all talk to each other for hours during meals."

During his trip, Patel got to walk across the Great Wall of China, attend the World Sumo Championship in Japan, see the Vietnam War museum in Vietnam, stay at the tallest hotel in the world at the Ritz-Carlton in Hong Kong, learn about the Pol Pot Regime in Cambodia, tour a nunnery in Myanmar, dive and swim with great white sharks in south Africa and ride a mountain bike 150 miles across Ghana.

Patel plans to graduate from SCC in May 2014. He is currently planning his next overseas trip in January as he plans on traveling to Austria, New Zealand and

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The 2013 Rockcastle County High School's Jamboree Bowl Queen candidates are shown above, front row from left: Brianna Burdette, Gabby Miller, Lyndsey Abel, Jourdan Blanton and Kellan Coffey. Second row from left: Lacey Gastineau, Brianna Hansel and Makenna Roberts. Back row from left: Amethyst Chiantaretto, April Mason, Bobbie Hopkins and Noline Joenborg. The winner will be crowned at halftime of this Friday's football game between Rockcastle and West Jessamine. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

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Contact us at: [mvsignal@windstream.net](mailto:mvsignal@windstream.net)  
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