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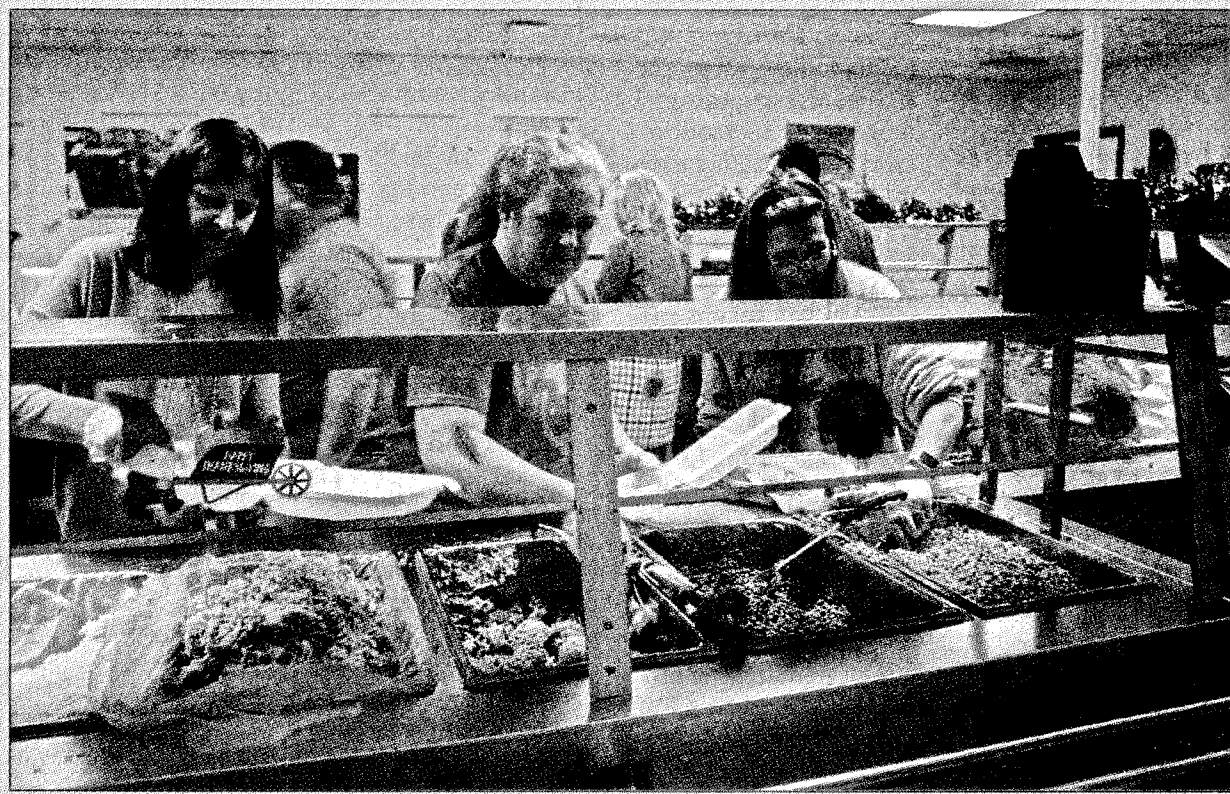
MOUNT VERNON, KY 40456-2148

Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 • (606) 256-2244 Volume 138 • Number 42 1.00 per copy Thursday, December 5, 2024

The spirit of giving



Staff, students and volunteers joined hands working hard at the local school district to provide 1,700 Thanksgiving meals to Rockcastle County residents last week. Led by district employee Regina Hull-Brown, food donations were gathered, meals were cooked and packaged and then delivered 1700 warm, festive holiday meals to local residents, some of whom may have gone without a Thanksgiving meal without this. The meal delivery program was part of the 24th annual Kenna's Kitchen event and Superintendent Dr. Carrie Ballinger said she is proud and thankful for those who played a part in making the event a reality during this time of giving.

Walking trail, bike path possible

Recreational complex ideas currently being discussed in county

By: Mike French
Editor

During a special called meeting last week, the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court approved the Rockcastle County Recreational Complex Project Scope and Budget as submitted by the Department of Local Government Office of State Grants.

Kentucky State Representative Josh Bray introduced legislation and announced HB 1 last year, which included a \$4.667 million grant to Rockcastle County to be used for a recreational facility. The court approved Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook Jr.'s signature and

submission of the scope and budget to the state which is expected to move the county closer to having the funds in hand. A Recreational complex account has been opened for the funds when the grant arrives.

The document included the amount of funds as well as a detailed scope of the work for which the funds may be used. The work that must be paid with the funds includes acquisition of land, site development, administration costs, architectural costs, engineering expenses, equipment, inspections, labor, material, supplies, tools, infrastructure, geotechnical services, environmental requirements and much more potential expenses, depending upon what type of facility is created.

According to the grant breakdown, \$2,367,000 will be provided in fiscal year 2024-25 and \$2,300,00 will be provided in fiscal year 2025-26.

Still, according to (See "Rec" on A5)

School board moves ahead with purchase of building

By: Mike French
Editor

The Rockcastle County School Board held a special called meeting last Tuesday evening.

The meeting was held at the middle school library and, though it lasted only five minutes and 20 seconds, some important business was handled in

that time.

The board approved a contract with Solid Ground Consulting as the quality control entity as special inspectors for the new middle school project. The middle school project broke ground last month and inspectors ensure that construction techniques meet the required standards of

the State of Kentucky's, the Department of Education's and the local school board's plans. The

\$58 million project is expected to take about 36 months to complete barring any unforeseen de-

lays.

In other action, the board presented a request (See "School" on A5)

Livingston water

City looking to sell water and sewer system

By: Mike French
Editor

If everything goes according to plan, the City of Livingston will be getting out of the water and sewer business.

After decades of water system troubles, countless water emergencies and racking up insur-

mountable debt, members of the Livingston City Commission voted to give Mayor Sandi Singleton the authority to sign a resolution expressing interest in selling the city's water and sewer system.

The vote came at a special called meeting Monday evening with

Rockcastle County Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr., Kentucky State Representative Josh Bray, County Attorney Jeremy Rowe and Magistrates Mike McGuire and Lee Earl Adams, joining the commissioners. Past Mayor Jason Medley, (See "Water" on A5)

Toy and Coat Drive

On Friday, December 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., anyone may help fill a rollback truck from Noble Automotive with toys and coats as part of the Cash Express Toy and Coat

(See "Toy" on A5)

City holds special meeting around holiday events

By: Mike French
Editor

Members of the Mount Vernon City Council held a special called meeting last week with a short agenda. The regular monthly meeting had been moved due to the city's tree lighting ceremonies.

After approval of the

minutes from the October 17 meeting, the council reviewed the October financial statement.

The statement shows revenues from all accounts at \$1,684,330 and appropriations from all accounts at \$1,671,515 for a net balance of \$12,815.

(See "City" on A5)

Fiscal Court handles business in special called meeting

By: Mike French
Editor

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court held a special called meeting last week to deal with several issues.

The court first dealt with the new proposed recreational complex (see related story.)

The court approved a reimbursement to the RCIDA (Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority) for \$190,415 as part of a PDI Grant. The RCIDA used the funds to purchase the Sparks property at the 200 acre Industrial Park (See "Court" on A5)

Christmas events Saturday

Don't forget, Saturday December 7, the Noel Night Market event will begin at 3 p.m. on Main Street in Mount Vernon. The Brodhead Christmas parade will begin at 2 p.m. on Main Street in Brodhead. The Mount Vernon Annual Christmas parade will begin at 4 p.m. Santa is expected at both parades and everyone is invited to attend.

Tis the season for the smell of smoke

By: Mike French
Editor

Have you ever smelled smoke in your home on the first cold day of the year? If you have, you are among thousands of others who have had the same experience. Every year as winter moves into the area, local fire departments get calls concerning the smell of

smoke soon after the heating system is turned on for the winter.

In fact, it happened again last week at the Rockcastle County Detention Center, as well as other locations in the county by other fire departments.

(See "Smoke" on A5)



A Mount Vernon Fire truck is shown with a ladder extended to the roof of the Rockcastle County Detention Center. The fire department was called after officials and inmates noticed the smell of smoke in the building Saturday in the early morning hours. The smoke was determined to be the normal burn-off from switching from air conditioning to heat. Officials say many such calls occur each year in businesses as well as residences due to normal dust and debris burn-off when a heating system is engaged.

Of Special Note Inside

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- Puzzle Page Pg. 6

Contact us at: mvsignal@windstream.net
Deadline submission is 4:00 p.m. Monday

- Sports Pg. 8
- Classifieds Pg. 9

Deadline is Monday at 4 p.m.

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ramblings...
by; perlina m. anderkin

The furor that has been raised over pResident Joe Biden's pardon for son, Hunter, has been amazing.

Ever since I first heard it late Sunday afternoon, I have been surprised at Republicans' reaction to the news. They are dumfounded, after all Biden had spent the last year and a half telling the world that he wouldn't pardon him" because no one is above the law."

I will never be on one of the talk shows I watch, and never want to be, but Sunday I wished that I could be for just two minutes. I would have looked at the talking heads that were agape that Biden had pardoned Hunter for any and all crimes he might have committed from 2014 thru December 1, 2024, and said, "Come on people, Duh! If I'm the President and that's my son, I'm going to pardon him." What I wouldn't have done was say that Hunter was a victim, unfairly persecuted and only prosecuted because his name was Biden. I also wouldn't tell you hundreds of times that I wouldn't pardon him, faking taking the high road because I'm so principled and "no one is above the law"-- as if anyone but the looney left still believes a word that comes out of his mouth.

I'm an old woman and I don't say the opposite of what I mean anymore. I also believe that before January 20th, he will issue pardons for himself and his brother James. I mean, what's it going to do, ruin his legacy? He took care of that nicely on his first day in office when he threw the borders wide open and named a Department of Homeland Security Chief that spent the next four years telling Congress that the "border is secure." Meanwhile 10 million or so UNVETTED illegals (mostly military

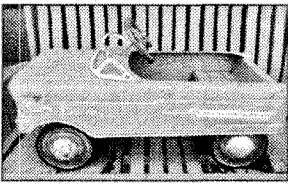
age men, 500,000 unaccompanied children of which they've lost 320,000 and, I almost forgot, the mules bringing Fentanyl over that has killed over 300,000 or so Americans the last count I had). But, it didn't stop there they have managed to spend billions on them, paying for their lodging, three squares a day, giving them free medical care and also lots of spending money. A Pakistani-owned hotel in New York City was paid \$220 million, by the city, for lodging illegals!!

We also have been completely supporting another country (Ukraine) with billions of dollars and our munitions to the point that we are seriously low on our stockpile of weapons should we have to defend ourselves. Biden has also made sure we are in danger of being pulled into WWII because he was stupid and vicious enough to give Ukraine long range missiles that Russia's Putin has said would warrant him using nuclear weapons against any NATO country supplying such weapons to Ukraine. And, after the election, Secretary of State Anthony Blinken vowed to send every "dollar we can find" to Ukraine before January 20th to strengthen their position against Russia. So noble!!

Biden doesn't care,
(Continued on A3)

Aces Over

By: Mike French



It was the very first Christmas that I remember.

On a late December day that seemed a typical day for 1964, mom was cooking and doing dishes and dad was at work.

I was a very little tyke and why I can remember this particular Christmas is a fascinating study but I haven't figured it out. But for whatever reason, this is the first one that I can recall.

Without thinking, mom asked me to get her a dish towel out of the kitchen closet. The old house had closets in every room. There was even a bathroom closet in those days.

I remember that it took both hands to twist the knob and get the door open. It felt like a man trying to open the pearly gates because I was so small. But I did get it open. However, what I saw was not dish towels.

I saw a new, blue pedal car. It had been under a sheet but the sheet had fallen off and I had a full view of a pedal car.

It wasn't like the electric, whiz-bang cars that kids get today.. The headlights were painted on. The seat was hard metal

and the whole car was steel. The doors didn't open and there were no buttons to push or bells to ring. You just sat in it and pedaled.

The wheels were big and bright red.

I knew in an instant that I was not supposed to see it. Christmas was a couple days away and if I said something, I would get in trouble. Heck, they may not even give it to me if I saw it early.

So, I never said a word.

I got mom the dish towel, handed it to her and went back to my business of playing with my toy soldiers.

Over the next two nights I laid in bed and envisioned myself zooming through the house and drifting the corners at each doorway.

On Christmas morning, I had opened a few gifts that included some candy and oranges and a board game of some kind. Mom and dad opened their gifts also and dad stood up and started gathering all the discarded paper, ribbons and bows and tossed them in the coal-burning stove in the living room.

Finally he said, "I think there is one more gift." He went in the kitchen and got my pedal car out of the closet and rolled it to me. I felt 16 and as if I had just been handed the keys to my new Corvette.

(Continued on A3)

T.J.'s Journal

By: Tonya J. Cook



Appalachian Christmas Memories.
Dear Journal,

As it turns out from my research online, there are so many stories of Appalachian Christmases that I thought I would share some of them here. A few days ago, I commented about Appalachian stories of hauntings and ghosts in the hollows and hills of our area.

Way back in the day when our parents were growing up here in the mountains, that most of us call home, there was a very poor way of life, at least for most. Back then, Christmas was really something to be celebrated. There were special foods to experience, family that would come to visit and the decorating of the house. Santa might even pay you a visit.

Special foods were saved in the smokehouse or salted down for the holiday meal. In the root cellar there were various vegetables stored such as sweet potatoes or regular potatoes. Fruits such as apples and pears were on hand as well. The foods weren't as lavish as one would expect today. You might see squirrels or rabbits served. Some foods came from the winter garden. Some of the more desired foods were the sweets...the desserts that weren't usually served. The most treasured was the fruitcake. It required candied fruits, nuts, molasses and raisins. It would be served with some boiled custard, a

simple but favorite drink at Christmas that was made from eggs, sugar, milk and vanilla, if they had any.

The family and a few guests would sit down together to enjoy their feast. Their home was usually small with a fireplace wood or coal burning stoves. A large log would be saved to be burned on Christmas eve night. It was called a Yule log, or maybe a large piece of coal in the case of a coal burning stove. At midnight, a rifle would be shot to denote the birth of Jesus Christ. There is an old legend that says that there was a cat in the manger the night Christ was born and the cat curled up with the newborn to help keep Him warm. The Virgin was so grateful she blessed the cat and ever since, cats in the lineage of that particular cat have an M on their foreheads.

Stockings were hung on the mantle and there was probably a freshly cut tree in the house. Some families had a special chair designated to put the gifts. Homemade decorations trimmed the tree and until electricity came along, there were no lights. In the stockings, there may have been an orange and possibly a piece or two of candy for the children. Most gifts were homemade. Nice gifts for ladies were aprons, bonnets or handkerchiefs. Gifts for men

(Continued on A3)



LETTERS

Raising funds...

Dear Editor,
The Mt. Vernon Lions Club is currently raising funds for the purchase of

eyeglasses and the upcoming "Shop with a Lion" Christmas program. The Lions Club purchases eyeglasses during the year for needy children and adults. At th Christmas season we shop for children from Rockcastle County elementary schools.

The "Shop with a Lion" program replaces the "Shop with a Cop" program previously sponsored by the sheriff's department. Funds are needed by December 10, 2024 for the "Shop with a Lion", other donations can be given at any time.

Please consider a donation of \$100 or more.

(Continued on A3)

DECK THE HALLS WITH BOUGHS OF SAFETY

Follow these tips for a safe holiday season.

Here are some easy ways to ensure that you deck your halls free from fires, falls and fears:

- Never plug more than three standard-size sets of lights into an extension cord.
- Extension cords can occasionally over-heat. Periodically touch-test the cord. If it's hot, unplug it.
- Elevate outdoor extension cords' plugs and connectors with a brick to keep snow, water and debris out of the connections.
- Make sure your smoke detectors are in working order.
- It's lights out at bedtime and when you leave your house. That includes lights on your tree and other decorations. Lights can short and start a fire.
- When it's time to pack the lights away until next year, put them in a tight-sealed container that will keep them dry.

Merry Christmas from all of us at JACKSON ENERGY

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jacksonenergy.com ♦ 1-800-262-7480

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ROADWAY

PURSUANT TO KRS 178.070, a Request has been filed by Rockcastle Fiscal Court, for the Fiscal Court to discontinue a portion of **Limestone Hollow Road (CR-1129)**.

A Committee of Viewers having filed a report that no inconvenience would result from the discontinuance of a portion of **Limestone Hollow Road (CR-1129)**. The proposed discontinuance being described as follows:
To End County Maintenance at 6,650 ft. on **Limestone Hollow Road (CR-1129)**.

A public hearing will be held on the proposed discontinuance for the purpose of receiving public comments and in addition, to address the following specific question:
Does the portion of **Limestone Hollow Road (CR-1129)**, proposed to be closed provide a necessary access for a private person; and what inconvenience will the discontinuance of this portion of the road cause?

DATE OF HEARING: December 10, 2024
TIME: 3:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Rockcastle County Courthouse 3rd Floor Conference Room

A copy of this Notice shall be posted at the Courthouse, in the vicinity of the roadway affected, and published two (2) times in the *Mount Vernon Signal*.
This the 18th day of November, 2024

/s/ Howell Holbrook
Rockcastle County Judge/Executive

ramblings...

(Continued from A2)
he's become the prime example of a ruler who will burn down his own country so he can rule over the ashes, anything to give President Trump more headaches when he takes office next year. I guess he will take office. House Dems have threatened numerous times to deny him taking office for the alleged "insurrection" on January 6, 2021, but someone will likely have to charge him with insurrection first since no one involved has been hit with that charge. Besides, Dems are the only ones stupid enough to think an insurrection is CARRIED OUT WITHOUT BEING ARMED!!

Just a fun fact. It took congress five months to agree to \$600 stimulus checks for Americans, but it only took eight hours for them to agree to send \$13.6 billion to Ukraine and give themselves a 21% pay raise.

A U.S. Appeals Court has just blocked the Biden Administration's Student Debt Forgiveness plan **AGAIN!!** Chances are the Biden regime won't pay any more attention to this ruling then he did when the United States Supreme Court declared the whole giveaway unconstitutional right off the bat. Biden immediately said he would ignore their ruling so I'm sure he'll ignore this one also.

Liberal states had a terrible time getting their votes counted this year. In fact, California was still counting this past Sunday. But, it paid off. Two incumbent Republican Representatives in heavily Red areas of the state, who had held commanding leads after the election,

were finally overtaken by their Dem challengers. And, in Maricopa County, Arizona, there were 74,000 more mail-in ballots RETURNED then WERE SENT OUT. It's amazing that these races never go Republicans' way but, I'm sure, everything's aboveboard and all that!!

Can the left get any more woke? California's attorney general wants holiday shoppers there to spy on businesses and report stores without a gender-neutral kids toy aisle. Fines of \$250 for the first offense and \$500 for repeat offenses.

And, there are reports afoot that insurance companies are refusing to pay out on policies if the cause of death was from being vaccinated (one denial happened in France and was upheld in court by the judge).

Here, the American Life Insurance Council has said that life insurance policy payouts, if the deaths are attributed to the Covid 19 vaccine because they are experimental drugs, could be denied.

I have an idea where Musk and Ramaswamey can start their DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency) activities. Maybe with the \$15 million the government has paid for security for the retired Anthony Faucistein since September of last year. This does not include the government picking up the tab for his private trips in and out of the country, along with his entourage, and his retirement is the highest paid by our government -- \$480,000 per year. He gets \$15 million spent on him but Trump's protection was below par because the government was "stretched so thin" and

they outright refused security for RFK, Jr. when he was a candidate for President.

In the 'Are you kidding me department?'

The Vermont Supreme Court has ruled that schools can force-vaccinate children for Covid against the wishes of their parents. They ruled on a case involving a 11lfive-year-old boy who was forced to take a Covid

Aces

(Continued from A2)
Unfortunately, I was a little short for it and my feet wouldn't reach the pedals and when I scooped up enough to reach them, I couldn't make it go. So for the next few days, mom pushed me all over the house and dad pushed me outside.

I got to where I would tie a rope onto the bed post and sit in the car and pull myself across the house but it was difficult to pull and steer at the same time. But I managed.

Our floors were made of individual wooden planks and were rather uneven so mom had to occasionally come around front and lift the front end to get me over what she called a speed bump.

NASCAR had only been created a few years earlier but I had heard of it and I would pretend to be in a NASCAR race.

It was quite the joyous time.

I think that childhood should be that way. Memories of one's childhood

HmRNA injection by his school after his parents had explicitly stated they didn't want their child to receive the vaccine.

I, personally, am feeling less anxious these days, scurrying around with hunched shoulders for the last four years, trying to brace myself for what new horror this regime would find to inflict on us. I honestly feel that January 20th will relieve most of that apprehension.

should be fabulous thoughts like that. It wasn't that big of a deal. I think the car cost about \$8 brand new but to me, it was the nicest car on the road. Not because of what it was but because mom and dad pushed me in it.

I was truly blessed. I tell this rather normal, semi-boring story just to point out that what a child may recall is completely unpredictable. I have had bigger, fancier Christmases. I have done a lot of things in my life. But that one day stands out among my most often thought of moments.

We have no way of knowing which day, or which hour will stand out in our children's memory.

I guess the best thing to do is to act as though every day is the day that our child will remember. We have to treat each moment as though some day, about 60 years from now, our child may write a story that thousands of people may read about this moment.

If that happens, let's pray our child's memory will be this fabulous.

around pictures, mirrors and such. This would mingle with the delicious foods being prepared.

Somewhere in the little community there was usually a little church where there would be a Christmas service. There would be carols sung and a good fellowship following.

T.J.'s

(Continued from A2)
were knitted socks or new shirts, all made by hand.

The house smelled so good with seasonal odors. There was the freshly cut tree and other greenery such as pine, cedar and holly. The greenery would be placed

Letters

(Continued from A2)
Make the check payable to Mt. Vernon Lions Club. The donation can be mailed to:

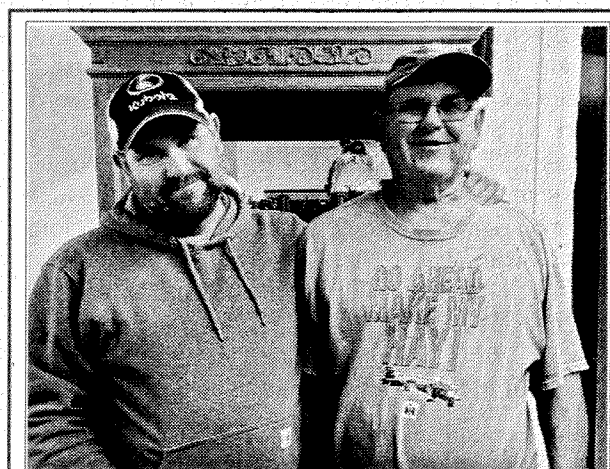
Judith Smith,
Treasurer
Mt. Vernon Lions Club
P.O. Box 652
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456
Or call one of the following Lions' members to

have your donation picked up:

•Edwina Anglin
606-308-5621
•Sandy Dowell
606-308-4276
•Bob Kendrick
606-308-9918
•Cletis Brown
606-308-1036

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,
Mt. Vernon Lions Club



Happy Birthday L.D and Donnie Parsons

Rockcastle Community Bulletin Board

Rockcastle County Bookmobile Schedule
Monday, December 9th: Child Development, Seek and Learn, Lisa's Little People. **Tuesday, December 10th:** Scaffold Cane, Clear Creek, Wildie.

Retired Teacher's Meeting
Rockcastle County Retired Teachers will meet December 11th at 11:30 a.m. at the Teaching and Learning Center (across from central office).

WRFD Community Potluck is Dec. 7th
The Western Rockcastle Fire Department's Annual Community Potluck Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, December 7th beginning at 6 p.m. at the firehouse. Everyone is invited to bring a covered dish and attend.

Rockcastle Historical Society & Museum
The Rockcastle County Historical Society & Museum meets the **3rd Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Limestone Grill.** However, there will not be a December meeting.

Christmas & New Year's Hours at Circuit Clerk's office

The Rockcastle Circuit Clerk's Office will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24th and 25th, in observance of Christmas. Regular business hours will resume Thursday, December 26th. **The office will also be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, December 31st and January 1st** in observance of the New Year's holiday. Regular business hours will resume on Thursday, January 2, 2025.

Remembrance Tree Ceremony
The annual Remembrance Tree Ceremony will be held Sunday, December 8th at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 425 Eastern Bypass in Richmond. Anyone who misses a loved one during the holidays is welcome to participate. To learn more, request an ornament or submit a photograph, visit hospicecareplus.org or the Hospice Care Plus Facebook event page. For questions, contact Hospice Care Plus at 1859-986-1500 or hospice@hospicecp.org

Military Mental Health & Depression Prevention Coalition

The Rockcastle County Military Mental Health & Depression Coalition meets on the 2nd floor of the courthouse every second Tuesday for a coffee muster. Coffee and donuts provided.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
TOPS, Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Brodhead Community Center.

Vietnam Veterans Meeting Date
Vietnam Era Veterans, that attended Livingston High School, are asked to meet the last Thursday of each month at 10 a.m., for breakfast and conversation, at Marcella's.

Weekly Grief Support Group
There is a Weekly Grief Support Group which meets each Thursday at 2 p.m. at Hospice Care Plus & Compassionate Care Center, 350 Isaacs Lane, Richmond. Please pre-register at hospicecareplus.org or by calling 859-986-1500. Open to anyone whose loved one was cared for by Hospice Care Plus. If travel is an obstacle, contact Abby at the number above to request alternative grief support options.

Kiwanis Club Meeting Location Update
The Rockcastle Kiwanis Club meets the first Thursday of each month at Marcella's Restaurant at noon and the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Thursdays at Limestone Grille. Kiwanis is a service organization working to improve the lives of children. The public is invited.

Chamber of Commerce Meetings
The Rockcastle County Chamber of Commerce meets once a month, on the third Tuesday, at noon at Limestone Grille. All members are encouraged to attend.

VFW Post 5908
Rockcastle Memorial VFW Post 5908 at Lake Linville welcomes all military service members and their families. The post is open by appointment only, currently. If you would like to rent our event hall for special occasions, please call the number below. Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of every month at 5 p.m. Those wishing to contact the VFW for help, information or any need, please contact Post Commander Michael Parsons 859-308-3568 and Chaplain William B.J. Thomason at 606-392-1207.

DAR Meetings
The Rockcastle Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution meets the first Monday of each month, September-May at 6 p.m. at First Christian Church in Mt. Vernon. All prospective members are welcome to attend.

Mt. Vernon Lions Club
The Mt. Vernon Lions Club meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Limestone Grille.

American Legion Post News
The David M. Smith American Legion meets at the Veterans Center the second Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. For more info, call Commander Kathy Bobo at 606-308-1208 or District Commander B.J. Thomason at 859-358-2882.

Rockcastle UNITE Coalition
The Rockcastle County UNITE Coalition meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at noon at Marcella's Farm to Fork Restaurant to plan activities. Please join us each month.

Celebrate Recovery/AA/NA
Monday-Celebrate Recovery-Brodhead: Community Outreach Center, Monday, 6 p.m. 36 Castle Village Dr., Brodhead, Ky. Contact: Nathan DeLeon 859-230-9590, Katheryn Pope 606-308-3099.
Tuesday-Celebrate Recovery-Mt. Vernon: Northside Baptist Church, 777 Faith Mountain Rd., Mt. Vernon, Ky. Tuesday, 6 p.m. Contact: J.R. Cornelius 859-314-7828.
Tuesday - MARA - Medicated Assisted Recovery Anonymous - Mt. Vernon: 2 p.m., 75 East Main St., Mt. Vernon. Contact: 606-308-8900 for info
Wednesday-Air-All In Recovery-Mt. Vernon: 12 p.m. 75 East Main St., Mt. Vernon, KY. Contact: 606-308-8900 for more info.
Thursday-Celebrate Recovery-Step Studies - Women Only: Community Outreach Center, 36 Castle Village Dr., Brodhead, Thursday, 6 p.m. Contact: Katheryn Pope, 606-308-3099 or Shell Bader 606-219-5653.
Thursday-Alcohol Anonymous-Brodhead: 7 p.m. 75 East Main St., Mt. Vernon, Ky. Contact: 606-308-8900. Please park in the Coffey & Ford parking lot
Sunday - Celebrate Recovery Step Studies-Men Only. 6 p.m. Northside Baptist Church, 777 Faith Mountain Rd., Mt. Vernon, Ky. Contact: Jason DeBord 606-386-0646 or J.R. Cornelius 859-314-7828.

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Alisha Burton
Realtor
606-383-3124



Melissa Lee
Realtor
606-383-3122

Notice from the Rockcastle County Tax Office

Pursuant to the 2008 enactment of Rockcastle County Ordinance #23, Occupational License Tax, *all individuals, employers and businesses conducting any line of work in Rockcastle County, must register with the Occupational Tax Office.*

Applications can be found at www.rockcastlecountyfiscalcourt.com under the Occupational Tax tab or can be requested at (606) 256-8374.

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John Lawson - Agency Mgr.
Christa Taylor, Agent
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606-256-2050

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU



BIG ON COMMITMENT.

Obituaries

Robert Howard Crawford

Robert (Robbee) Howard Crawford, 68, of Brodhead, died Friday, November 29, 2024. Robbee was born April 23, 1956, in Dallas, TX to the late Roy Raymond Crawford, Jr. and Nancy Nell (Whitaker) Crawford.

He attended Northside Baptist Church. His Christian faith was very important to him, and he tried to share his faith with others at every opportunity. Robbee was an Executive with Elkhorn-Hazard Coal Land, LLC. He enjoyed flying, farming, fishing, building and flying remote controlled airplanes, and building other things by hand. He also coached little league football for several years. Robbee had a stroke 17 years ago, and from that moment he was very health conscious. He was able to overcome the challenges and made it a point to celebrate that fact every year. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends, and most of all he loved being on his farm.

Those left to mourn his passing are: his children, Christina Bolton (Stephen) of Richmond, Dustin Crawford (Jenna) of Indianapolis, IN, and Robert Crawford (Allyson) of Crab Orchard; grandchildren, Addilyn Bolton, Roslyn and Eva Crawford, Layla, and Bodhi Crawford, and Kylie and Jacob Cornett; the mother of his children, Regina Stivers; five sisters, Virginia Leigh Ballard, Susan Crawford, Caron McCracken, Evelyn Bacia, and Mary Crawford; and one brother, Roy R Crawford III.

He was preceded in death by: his parents, Roy Raymond Crawford, Jr. and Nancy Nell (Whitaker) Crawford; and one grandchild, Brooklyn Bolton.

A celebration of life service will be Saturday, December 14, 2024 on Robbee's farm, 95 KY Crawford airport runway hanger/1991 Mt. Zion Rd. at 2 p.m.

Arrangements entrusted to Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals.

Betty Jean Sowder

Betty Jean Sowder, 70, of Willailla, died Saturday, November 30, 2024 at the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington. She was born in Rockcastle County on April 19, 1954, the daughter of Robert and Hazel Marler Bullock. She was a retired caregiver and a member of Sand Springs Baptist Church. She enjoyed gardening and sewing.

She is survived by: her husband, Bentley Sowder; her children, Roy Bullock and wife Jennifer, and Troy Bullock, both of Mt. Vernon, stepdaughters Sonya VanHook and husband Jeff of Berea, Stephanie Abney and husband Richard of Waco, and Breanna Smith and husband Corey of Richmond; a brother, Johnnie Lee Bullock of Mt. Vernon; and two sisters, Molly Lou Neace of Mt. Vernon, and Bernice Vivian Sowder of Richmond. Also surviving are seven grandchildren, Courtlyn VanHook, Jackson VanHook, Adam Bullock, Matthew Bullock, Tifus Smith, Eliza Abney, and Rosalie Abney. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by: three brothers: Edward Bullock, James William Bullock, and George Kirby; and a sister, Frances Kirby.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 1 p.m. at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home Chapel by Bro. Steve McKinney. Burial will follow in Cresthaven Memorial Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be: Richard Abney, Matthew Bullock, Steve King, Corey Smith, Floyd Suffridge, and Jeff VanHook.

Please visit www.DowellMartin.com or Dowell & Martin Funeral Home's Facebook page to view online obituary.

Virginia Jane Griffin

Virginia Jane Griffin, 71, of Brodhead, died Tuesday, November 26, 2024, at Rockcastle Regional Hospital. She was born May 28, 1953, in Mt. Vernon, a daughter of the late William Bostic and Ruby Bussell Bostic. She enjoyed reading, fishing and crossword puzzles. On July 6, 1987, she was united in marriage to Carl (Gene) Griffin and from that union came two sons, Joseph and Billy.

Those left to celebrate her life are: her children, Joseph Bostic of Mt. Vernon and Billy Bostic of Mt. Vernon; her grandchild, Abigail Bostic; her sister, Diane Lamb of Mt. Vernon; as well as nieces/nephews, friends and neighbors.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by: her husband, Carl Griffin; brothers, Tinie, Jack, Jim, Donald Ray Bostic; and sisters, Donna Faye Bostic and Joyce Bullen.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at Marvin E Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Phillip Doan officiating. Burial was in Bostic/Buckeye Cemetery.

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

Brady Durham

Brady Ray Durham aka Mr. Dr. Durham (to those in the know) passed away quietly (who knew he could be silent) in his sleep on Monday, November 25, 2024, at the age of 42 with his wife by his side. His departure was just in time for him to miss the ending of the 2024 Auburn Football season.

He is survived by: his wife, Ashley Durham; his four dogs, Maddie, Motley, Lemon, and Ella; and one cat, Misery (aka Fluffy Butt). He and his wife met in typing class in high school. It was love at first sight across the keyboards (for Brady anyway). In true Brady fashion, and much to her annoyance, he persisted until he wore her down and joked his way into her heart and out her bedroom window (Sorry Mom.). Brady and Ashley were total opposites, but they balanced each other out well for 15 years of marriage.

Brady loved his wife, his pets (yes even Motley), traveling, cars, Auburn football, Kentucky basketball, watches, music, playing guitar, and any one of the numerous hobbies he would pick up from time to time. Most importantly he had a big, soft heart and loved his friends and family fiercely. He loved to hang out with his friends and family whenever the opportunity arose and was never afraid of taking a joke too far (as many of us can attest to).

When asked what he thought about his untimely demise, he said, "It's been a good run," and I can agree with the sentiment. Much too short but good. Brady, you filled my life with love, humor, adventure, and friendship. I have always loved you and I miss you already. We miss you already (yes even Motley).

He is survived by: his wife, Ashley Durham of Ada, OK; his father, Brady Durham and wife Donna Durham of Livingston, and his mother, Patricia Hensley Jones of London; his brother, Steven Denny, Jr. and wife Kayla Denny of San Antonio, TX; and his sister, Alisha Beaudin of Corbin. He is preceded by: his maternal grandparents, Ernest and Marie Hensley; his paternal grandparents, Conley and Naomi Durham; and step-brother Walter Sniff.

Services for Brady Ray Durham, were held Saturday, November 30, 2024 at Criswell Funeral Home Chapel.

The family request those who wish may make memorials to PAWS in Ada, 1200 Sandy Creek Drive, Ada, OK 74820 in his honor or to the Ada Sunrise Rotary.

This is a courtesy obituary by Dowell & Martin Funeral Home for Criswell Funeral Home of Ada, OK. Please visit www.criswellfh.com or www.dowellmartin.com for more information.

Russell Edwin Durham

Russell Edwin Durham, 76, of Medway, Ohio, died Thursday, November 28, 2024, at Veterans Hospital-Dayton. He was born October 29, 1948 in Indianapolis, IN. He was the son of the late Charles Calvin Durham and Evelyn Sargent Durham. He was of the Baptist faith and enjoyed golfing and he was an ASE certified mechanic as well as a Medical Transportation License. Was a member of the American Legion and the American Veterans Association, he had served his country in the US Air Force for 11 years.

Those left to celebrate his life are: his companion of 37 years, Dorothy Pence; his children, Dennis Durham of Medway, OH, Stephanie Durham of Covington, April (Ed) Worado of Middletown, DE, Jennifer Morris of Kettering, OH, and Jessica (John) of Willington, DE; grandchildren, Katherine (Mike) Doyle, Adam and Sarah Durham, Austin Martin, Edman and Raymod Bustamante, and Samantha Bell; six great grandchildren; sister, Alice Janette Butler of Brodhead; three nephews, Samuel, Jonathan, and Justin Butler; niece, Roxanna Butler; as well as a host of friends and neighbors.

Funeral services were held Sunday, December 1, 2024 at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Toby Mullins officiating. Burial was in Saylor Cemetery with full Military Rites.

Services provided by Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals.

God wants us to be full!

In Matthew 5:6 It tells us that, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." God wants us to be full and we are told in several scriptures what we need to be filled with.

We must be thankful that God fulfills our physical and most important, our spiritual nourishment. We must be made full of the goodness of God.

Colossians 2:6-10 says, As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power, again in Ephesians 3:19 it reads

and to know Christ's love which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. How grateful should we be knowing that we have the fullness of God at our fingertips.

We can become full of the blessings of Christ, we read this in Romans 15:29

I know that, when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of the Good News of Christ. Also, in Colossians 1:19-20. For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him.

We must put for our Faith in God, His Grace and His Truth to become full.

Hebrews 10:22 says, let's draw near with a true heart in fullness of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and having our body washed with pure water;

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. What better thing in life can we put our faith and trust in to be satisfied and filled?

With Christ as our Savior, we will be made full of Joy and Peace forever. We have this promised to us in, Romans 15:13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We must live each day full of Hope for that home in eternity as it gives us that hope in, Hebrews 6:11, We desire that each one of you may show the same diligence to the fullness of hope even to the end.

Everyone Welcome


Robby Cable - 606-305-8452

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Providence
CHURCH of CHRIST

Come Worship With Us! Sunday Morning Bible Study: 9:30
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:20- Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00
Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00

The Friday Night
Gospel Singing
Proudly Presents!



"The Praise Singers"

Free Admission

December 6th at 6pm
9174 Main Street Livingston

Join us this December as we....

Journey To Bethlehem

First Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon KY
Saturday, December 14 ~ 6:00 PM
Sunday, December 15 ~ 11:00 AM

Make plans to attend and invite a friend!

Rec

(Continued from front)

more than one local official, the actual completed facility may not be all that some are expecting. "This isn't going to be some big indoor facility," said Holbrook. "The fact is, the land and the site development alone can use as much as half of the funds. Just over \$4 million will not provide what some are asking for."

In fact, according to parks and recreation estimates, a simple four-field outdoor facility typically costs a municipality about \$12 million with no buildings. Some officials suggest Rockcastle County's new recreational complex will have to start with a walking trail and bicycle path and see what the budget allows after those estimates are received.

"I am contacting the existing parks and recreation board that was formed long ago to see what they had in mind back when the board was formed," said Holbrook. "We will get their input as well as the magistrates and the community in general and try to provide all we can for as many people as possible with the funds available."

Holbrook said the county is currently looking for the property that would suit the requirements.

"Another thought is maintenance," Holbrook said. "Our general fund is already stretched and there is no provision for maintenance in the grant. So whatever we build, we have to maintain every year out of the general fund." Replacing mulch and other landscaping work as well as mowing and trimming along with patching damaged paths or blacktop as well as potential insurance will be an additional annual expense to the general fund."

"We have a lot to think about before we decide what kind of complex to create," he added.

Smoke

(Continued from front)

The prior year, a similar event happened at the courthouse. And, according to Mount Vernon Fire Chief Adam Bales, it happens at businesses, companies and homes every year.

Apparently during warmer months the air flow of air conditioners helps pull dust and other debris into the system which rests on the heat exchang. Then on the first cool day, when the heat is turned on, that dust or debris is burned off, typically causing a few moments of smoke or the odor of burning material.

However, as regular as it happen, Bales says no one should ever ignore a burning smell or visible smoke. "I would never advise anyone to ignore the smell of something burning or the presence of smoke," Bales said. "Sometimes it may just be this seasonal burn-off but I would much prefer our department make the run and check it out than for a structure to be damaged or destroyed or someone get hurt or worse."

However, there may be some options to causing a fire department to suit up and perform a fire run that does not involve a fire, according to Bales.

First, upon the smell of burning material, all residents or businesses may

ment and explain the situation to confirm that it is okay to wait before reporting a fire.

The second option may cost a little but is inexpensive compared to losing a home or a loved-one. "The alternative may be a preseason inspection or cleaning and preventative maintenance of the HVAC system," said Bales. "A service from a reputable HVAC company would remove the dust and material and avoid the issue as well as improve the safety and efficiency of the system."

As a reminder, Bales said he does not recommend anyone ignore the smell of smoke or wave it off as seasonal burn-off. Though it may well be just that, there is no guarantee that it is harmless. "It is always better safe than sorry," Bales said. Still, officials say most residents can expect a faint smell of smoke the first time the heat is turned on in any home or business.

School

(Continued from front)

giving Superintendent Dr. Carrie Ballinger authority to sign the purchase agreement for the property owned by the Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority (RCIDA). The property, located at 618 Progress Drive in the Mount Vernon Industrial Park, will be purchased for \$1.6 million. The board had previously approved the purchase but representatives of the RCIDA board asked the school board for the purchase agreement Monday necessitating the special meeting to approve the request.

The building, which was vacated by another lessor earlier this year, will serve many purposes, according to school board chairman Angela Stallsworth-Mink. "The building is huge," Mink said. "We will likely relocate our central office in the building but there is so much room there that we will be able to utilize the extra space for several uses."

Mink said the board was in need of a new central office space and more room. "The current central office is in terrible condition" she said. "We were in serious need to relocate. With the space left over, this new location can also serve additional areas for other purposes while placing the central office in a much better building."

Also, Mink said the purchase didn't cause any additional debt to the board. "When the first middle school bid came in over budget, we began coming up with extra money and then the legislature added \$20 million to what we had access to," Mink said. "We actually had \$1.6 million left over to purchase this building. It worked out perfectly for our district."

The board approved the request and Ballinger signed the agreement last week.

The board also approved a kindergarten audit concerning policy. Mink said the board has to occasionally review and update the district's kindergarten policy and the current policy audit passed unanimously.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10 at 6 p.m. in the

Teaching and Learning Center on Richmond Street in Mount Vernon. The public is invited to attend.

City

(Continued from front)

Council member Shelley Raines Lewis, who lost her bid for re-election last month, asked several questions concerning the budget and asked City Administrator Andrew Pensol and City Clerk Crystal Rush to provide an update on the Microfoodery details. Pensol said he would make a note of it and provide a report on the subject.

Lewis also asked about the purchase of a golfcart. Pensol said the vehicle would be used by the tourist department but belongs to the city. Lewis also mentioned a John Deer Gator purchase but Pensol said that purchase was made years before he joined the city staff and he would look into its use.

The financial statement was approved unanimously.

Raines also asked about the agreement concerning the School Resource Officers (SRO) with the school district that she had requested last month. Pensol had the agreement in hand He presented the detailed agreement between the City of Mount Vernon and the school district. Part of Lewis's questions centered around the three new vehicles the city would have to purchase in order to provide the additional SROs. Pensol said the city was able to locate all three vehicles for a total of \$50,585. However, Pensol also said all those funds will be reimbursed over a five year period as part of a grant.

The agreement will provide a total of five SROs (one for each school) who will be employees of the Mount Vernon Police Department. The city will be responsible for all taxes, uniforms and equipment needed in the fulfillment of the duties of an SRO. The highly-trained officers will answer directly to the city and, as per the agreement, the school will pay the city \$224 per day for eight months for the services of each SRO assigned to the board.

The council approved the agreement unanimously.

The council also unanimously approved a resolution giving Mayor Tim Roberts the authority to sign all documents required in seeking a grant from Kentucky Office of Homeland Security (KOHS) to upgrade the city's cyber networks and create a better firewall to protect city hall as well as the citizens of Mount Vernon.

City council members have mentioned adding security cameras as well as security for the city hall computer system.

The council then heard department reports. The All American Club report shows 28 bags of trash picked up.

The Mount Vernon Fire Department October report shows 57 runs made with 1,200 gallons of water used. Of those runs, 12 involved vehicle fires or accidents, 13 were coroner assists, six were woods and brush fires while there were four illegal burns. The department also assisted other departments six times in October.

The Mount Vernon Police Department reported 393 calls for service in

October. Of those, 28 involved vehicle accidents and 10 traffic violations. The department served nine warrants and made 18 arrests.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 19 at 6 p.m. at City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Court

(Continued from front)

on the corner of US-150 and KY-461. Jeff VanHook, RCIDA Executive Director, said there will be one more purchase at the site to complete the Industrial Park before the property is available for development.

Property purchases for the new 1,400 acre RGL megasite industrial park have also begun, according to VanHook, but that project is not related to the smaller industrial park.

In other action, the court approved a bill from Windstream for Emergency Operations Center phone and internet access. The bill for \$632 provided similar services to another company who had been charging about \$1,500, according to Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr.

The court also accepted an updated sheriff's budget amendment. The amended budget increased the total receipts and disbursements by \$25,000. Sheriff's Department Finance Director Dale McNew said the increased receipts came from commission on taxes, serving papers, and court security. The additional disbursements were budgeted in the sheriff, clerk, baliff and deputy salaries, and in overtime pay.

The court also approved \$208,000 in bills currently due before the December meeting.

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10 at 4 p.m. in the third floor conference room of the courthouse. The public is invited to attend.

Toy

(Continued from front)

Drive.

All donations will stay in Rockcastle County.

Call 256-0886 for more information.

Water

(Continued from front)

also joined the conversation along with City Clerk Samantha Smoker involved via Facetime with the mayor and all commissioners present.

Several present said they expected representatives of Woods Creek Water Association to be present but all agreed it was not necessary to move forward. "All they need is to know is that you are willing to negotiate the sale of the Livingston water system and if you vote to do that, then everything can move forward," said Bray. "All that needs to happen tonight is for the City of Livingston to give the mayor the authority to negotiate. Then before anything else is done, that negotiation will be brought before the commission to approve or disapprove."

A recent emergency, in which the Woods Creek Water Association turned off the water to the city's 162 customers due to an

overdue bill of over \$100,000, prompted emergency measures by officials with the city, county and state. Holbrook rushed to a KIA (Kentucky Infrastructure Authority) meeting in Frankfort when the water was turned off in a fight to raise the funds to have the water turned on again.

Medley had explained the problem with keeping the system under the ownership of the city in a recent story in the *Mount Vernon Signal* and Monday night, the current mayor, commissioners and all those present agreed with Medley's description. "We are in a situation where it takes all of our income from our water system to pay for the water system. There is no profit and no room for trouble" said Mayor Singleton. "By the time we pay Woods Creek, pay maintenance and water personnel, then every leak just pushes us further in debt. And with this old water system, there are leaks every day. We are one big waterline break from being shut down."

Rowe agreed. "You simply do not have the customer base or tax base to afford the repairs or upkeep of the system," he said.

After some searching for emails that Holbrook informed the commission they should have received, the resolution was located and Bray read the resolution aloud to those present. Commissioners approved the resolution expressing the city's interest in selling the water system unanimously.

The resolution did

mention that the City of Livingston would have to continue making proper water payments until the sale of the water/sewer system is complete. However, Singleton reminded those present of the current problem. "About that, This month is no different than any other. We already had a leak we have had to repair this month," she said. Singleton said everyone present has already agreed the city can't repair a leak and make the payment as well. "That's why we are here. All we can do is our best," she said.

Singleton said she hopes customers do not stress over the situation. "I hope our 162 customers aren't afraid that someone will buy our water system and then jump the prices up some crazy amount," she said. However, Rowe said the Public Service Commission forbids such increases. "They are not allowed by law to raise the price without raising the price on every customer they have," said Rowe. There are very strict rules pertaining to such utility pricing."

According to those present, Singleton will now hand deliver the resolution to American Water and to Woods Creek to let them each know the city is willing to negotiate the sale of the water and sewer system. Singleton will then enter into negotiations with interested parties. If an agreement can be reached, Singleton will then bring that agreement to the commissioners who will vote on the agreement.



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Rockcastle County Recycling Center

open for recycling drop-offs

The Rockcastle County Recycling Center is located at 2528 South Wilderness Rd (US 25 South) beside the Rockcastle County Road Department Garage and is open Monday thru Friday from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. (closed on major holidays).

The following items may be recycled:

Newspapers w/inserts, magazines, catalogs, office paper, junk mail, shredded paper (needs to be bagged), books, phone books (paper products cannot be plastic lined or coated), cardboard (both corrugated and slick), plastics #1 Pet or Pete, plastics #2 HDPE, (no sheet plastics or plastic bags of any kind; no buckets or totes, no matter what number is on it), metal cans, aerosol cans, aluminum cans, aluminum foil, aluminum pie plates, glass bottles and glass jars (lids must be removed and discarded), old cell phones, car batteries, empty printer and toner cartridges, old computers (no monitors of any kind) and computer accessories, telephones, radios, digital clocks, (no televisions of any kind), rechargeable batteries (if the battery says rechargeable on it, then it is recyclable), and large bulky metal items.

Clean used motor oil may also be dropped off at the Rockcastle County Road Department Garage.

Recycling Drop-Off Trailers are available for use at:

Brodhead (behind City Hall)

Conway (by Brindle Ridge Volunteer Fire Dept.)

Livingston (between Liv. Fire Dept. & City Hall)


Pongo (by Pongo Volunteer Fire Dept.)

Climax (by Climax Volunteer Fire Dept.)

Violations may be issued for putting trash in the recycling trailers!!!

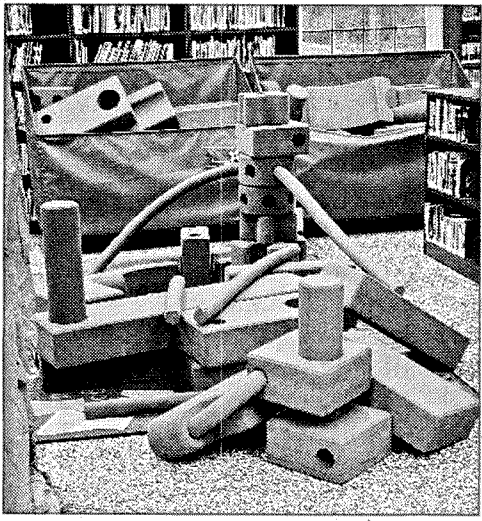
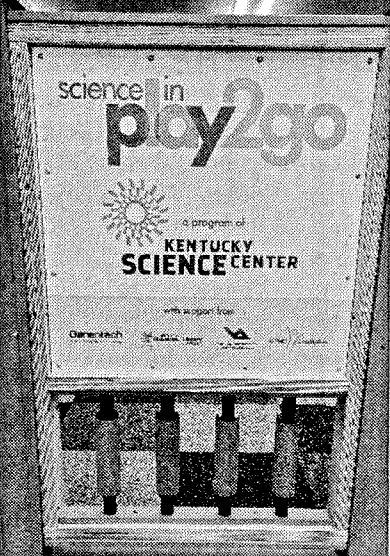
If you have any questions, you may call the Rockcastle Solid Waste Office at 606-256-1902.

Funded in part through a grant from the Kentucky Pride Fund, Division of Waste Management.



The Kentucky Science Center is here at the Rockcaslte Co. Public Library! Opening day is Monday, December 2, 2024 and will be here through Monday, March 3, 2025! Come and play and check out all the exciting things we have to offer!

Library Hours : Mon.- Fri. -8:30-5 Sat. - 9:00-1:00 Closed Sundays



MAMAW’S KITCHEN

Regina Poynter Hoskins

BLACKBERRY JAM CAKE

This was my mother’s favorite cake. All ingredients should be at room temperature. 1/2 cup shortening 2 cups sugar 5 eggs 1 cup buttermilk 3 and 1/2 cups all-purpose flour 1 teaspoon cloves 1 teaspoon cinnamon 1 teaspoon soda 1 teaspoon allspice 1/2 teaspoon salt 2 teaspoons vanilla 2 cups blackberry jam 1 cup walnuts

Preheat oven to 300°. Grease and flour 10-inch tube pan. Cream together shortening and sugar until light. Add unbeaten eggs. Mix well. Stir in 1 cup buttermilk. Sift together flour and spices; add to egg mixture. Mix until well blended. Then add vanilla, jam, and walnuts. Mix well. Pour into a greased and

floured tube pan. Bake about 1 and 1/2 hours in 300° oven or until toothpick inserted comes out clean.

CARAMEL FROSTING:

1 stick butter 1 cup light brown sugar, packed 1 cup milk 1 pound powdered sugar

Mix butter, brown sugar, and milk together. Put on stove and cook until butter is melted. Take from heat and add powdered sugar. Beat until blended. Let cool. Spread on cooled cake.

BUTTERMILK POUND CAKE

This was Will’s mother’s favorite cake. 3 cups all-purpose flour 1/2 teaspoon salt 1/2 teaspoon baking soda 1/2 t. baking powder 1 cup shortening 2 cups sugar 4 eggs 1 cup buttermilk 1 teaspoon vanilla

Do not preheat oven.

Grease and flour a 10-inch tube pan. Set aside. Sift flour, salt, soda, and baking powder into a large bowl. In a separate bowl, cream shortening and sugar with mixer set on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. In another bowl, combine buttermilk and vanilla. Add flour mixture to shortening mixture, alternating with buttermilk mixture. (Begin and end with flour mixture.) Pour batter into prepared pan, spreading evenly. Gently tap pan on counter to release any trapped air. Place in cold oven. Turn oven to 350° and bake for 1 hour and 15 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Let cool for 25 minutes and remove to wire rack to cool completely. Store at room temperature in an airtight container.

Don’t forget to inispect your chimney this winter

By: Mike French Editor

Local fire departments would like to remind everyone with a fireplace that it is that time of year to keep a close eye on the chimney.

Every year fire departments are called after someone starts a fire in a fireplace and has not remembered to

Case dismissed

The harrassment charge against Betty Gilbert, in the Court News recently, was dismissed.

open the chimney damper or has not had the chimney cleaned of creosote from the chimney walls.

Brindle Ridge Fire Department, as well as other local departments, have already received calls this year related to chimney fires.

According to Chimney Savers Inc., most chimney fires are never discovered. In fact, officials say a majority of fires occur inside the chimney each year but burn themselves out

before they are noticed. However, sometimes the build up of creosote and falling leaves, or even bird nests in the chimney, can cause a larger fire that escapes the brick in the attic area and can cause major damage or destroy a home.

According to the United States Fire Administration, the number of homes that heat by burning wood have dropped steadily since the 1970s and today only about 2% of homes depend upon

burning wood for their main source of heat. But, that is still a lot of homes. In 2022, according to the administration, 32,200 home heating fires were reported across the country causing 190 deaths and \$442 million in damages.

Cleaning a chimney can be expensive but not as expensive as replacing a roof, trusses and ceiling, officials say. Not to mention water damage caused by putting a fire out. Officials recommend

several preventive steps to avoid such problems. Officials say everyone should keep anything that can burn or melt at least three feet away from any heat source and never use an oven to provide heat. Officials also suggest turning off space heaters when a room is not in

use and having chimneys cleaned and well maintained and inspected each year. Officials say everyone who may use wood to heat should use common sense and take extra precautions to avoid any potential dangers that could be avoided.

The Signal office is closed on Wednesdays

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Thanksgiving II

R	G	N	I	V	I	G	E	O	H	Y	O	M	B
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LOVE
GIVING
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THANKFUL

SUGAR’S PUZZLE PAGE

BATTER UP

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5	4					8	3

ACROSS

- 1) Viewed anew
- 6) Poppa's significant other
- 11) Go up and down, as an apple
- 14) Furious
- 15) Par ____ (French airmail)
- 16) You-here separator
- 17) Corrosive in cells
- 19) Even the score
- 20) Make possible
- 21) Prefix with "state"
- 23) Net work?
- 26) Fairy-tale bridge minders
- 27) Is a keynote speaker
- 28) Moe, famously
- 30) Bits of food
- 31) Lord of literature
- 32) Automobile
- 35) "Stupid me!"
- 36) Charlotte team
- 38) H.S. biology topic
- 39) ____ Lanka (Ceylon)
- 40) Virtually guaranteed, as a victory
- 41) Catcher's offering
- 42) Present occasions
- 44) "Dallas" role

- 46) John Hancock, famously
- 48) Confuses and entertains
- 49) English exam finale, often
- 50) Gazed steadily and impolitely
- 52) 19th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 53) Some cheap hooch
- 58) Mai ____ (rum cocktail)
- 59) WWII sub
- 60) Treetop dwelling
- 61) 10 of calendars, briefly
- 62) Semiaquatic salamanders
- 63) Botanical swelling

DOWN

- 1) Barbecue offering
- 2) Historic time
- 3) Warned the bench
- 4) Certifies
- 5) It gets roasted
- 6) Noncommittal answer
- 7) Race track shape
- 8) Cheese fanciers
- 9) "You don't mean me?"
- 10) Fireplace stands
- 11) Wartime motivators
- 12) Large bay window

- 13) Chasers, at times
- 18) Detested rodents
- 22) Christmas drink
- 23) Cabin location, often
- 24) Overthrow, e.g.
- 25) Skimpy beach attire
- 26) Barfly's binge
- 28) Lip- ____ (mouths the words)
- 29) Arboretum item
- 31) Camembert's kin
- 33) Protractor's measure
- 34) ____ fast (caught in a race)
- 36) Baker's sweet
- 37) A single time
- 41) Blurred, as a signature
- 43) Put ____ show
- 44) Onecean land
- 45) One-celled creatures (var.)
- 46) Brief quarrel
- 47) Bartender on TV's Pacific Princess
- 48) Sheets of cotton
- 50) Stash away
- 51) " ____ does it!"
- 54) Presidential nickname
- 55) Anger
- 56) Game with matchsticks
- 57) Caribbean, e.g.

Church Directory

Believers House of Prayer

156 Scenic View Lane
U.S. 25 N, left at 18 mile marker
Renfro Valley, Ky.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 7 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Pastor: Bill Davis

bhopky.com

Berea Gospel Tabernacle

231 US 25 South
Berea, KY
Sunday 1:00 p.m.

Pastor: Bro. Gregory Isaacs

Bible Baptist Church

100 Higher Ground (off US 25)
Mount Vernon, Ky.
Church Phone 606-256-5913
e-mail: www.biblebaptist.org

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship/Children's

Church 11 a.m.

Sunday Night Worship 6 p.m.

Wednesday Evening 7 p.m.

Live services on

www.biblebaptist.org

and Facebook®

Pastor: Bro. Alan Dodson

Blue Springs Church of Christ

7 miles south of Mt. Vernon on

Hwy. 1249 (Sand Springs Rd)

Services:

Sundays 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Preaching Brethren

Marcus Reppert

Phillip Permenter

Eric Bullock

Contact Info:

Marcus Reppert 606-308-2794

223 E. Fork Skaggs Rd.

Mt. Vernon, Ky.

marcusreppert24@hotmail.com

Brodhead Baptist Church

Corner of Silver & Maple St.

Brodhead, Ky. 40409

606-758-8316

Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.

(Nursery Provided)

Sunday Youth Bible Study

5 p.m.

Wednesday Adult & Youth

Worship/Bible Study 7 p.m.

Children's Programs:

RA's & GA's

Mission Friends and

Creative Ministry

Ralph Baker, Pastor

Brodhead Christian

237 W. Main St. Brodhead

606-758-8721

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Tracy Valentine, Preacher

606-758-8662

Cell 606-305-8980

Brodhead Church of God

Hwy. 3245 • Brodhead

758-8216

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Wednesday evening 7 p.m.

Terry Orcutt, Pastor

Brush Creek

Holiness Church

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Tuesday Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Lonnie R. McGuire, Pastor

Buffalo Baptist Church

Located 15 miles south of

Mt. Vernon on Hwy. 1249

(Sand Springs Rd.)

606-256-4988

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11:15 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.

Bill Mink, Pastor

Calloway Baptist Church

76 Calloway Branch Rd.

(Off US 25) • Calloway

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.

Jason Medley, Pastor

606-308-4543

Central Baptist Church

86 Maintenance Rd.

Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

606-256-2988

centralbaptistky.org

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Morning 11 a.m.

Bus Sunday School 5 p.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

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Broadcast

WRVK: M-F 11:15 a.m.

WOPW: M-F 9:15 a.m.

Transportation and Nursery

provided for all services

Home of Well of Pure Water

Radio - 93.3 FM

Mark Eaton, Pastor

Church of Christ at Chestnut Ridge

2 miles south of Mt. Vernon

Turn left off US Hwy 25

Sundays 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Bro. Ova Baker

Bro. Dale McNew

Bro. Philip Scott

Church of Christ on Fairground Hill

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

Different speaker each

Sunday

Clear Creek Baptist

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Climax Christian Church

Hwy. 1912

308-2806 - 256-4138 - 256-5977

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Climax Holiness Church

Sunday Night Worship 6 p.m.

Thursday Nights 7 p.m.

3rd Sat. of every month at 7

Community Worship

Church of God

758 Hwy. 3245 • Crab Orchard

Bro. Jeff Warren, Pastor

Worship Service

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship

11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

www.cwchurchofgod.com

Conway Missionary Baptist

116 Meadow Lark Lane

Berea, KY 40403

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship

11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service and

Bible Study 7 p.m.

Youth Meetings:

Sunday 5 p.m.

Wednesday 7 p.m.

Bobby Turner, Pastor

606-758-4007

Cove Branch United Baptist Church

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

1st Saturday of month singing

6 p.m.

John Vanwinkle, Pastor

Crab Orchard Pentecostal

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Tuesday Evening 7 p.m.

606-355-7595

Creekside Baptist Church

2261 Copper Creek Rd.

Sunday morning breakfast: 9:30

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Wednesday Night 7 p.m.

Pastor Bro. Jack Stallsworth

CrossPoint Church of God

211 Industrial Park Rd.

Mt. Vernon, KY

Sunday 2 p.m.

Thursday Evening 7 p.m.

Pastor: Matt Griggs

859-582-2553

Crossroads Assembly of God

Hwy. 150 • Brodhead

Bro. Ralph Reynolds, Pastor

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship

6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night 7 p.m.

Cupps Chapel Holiness

Copper Creek Rd.,

Brodhead

Sunday 10 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Wednesday Evening 7 p.m.

Pastor: Dewayne Carpenter

Fairground Hill Community Holiness

Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

Thursday Service 7 p.m.

Robert Miller, Pastor

Fairview Baptist Church

520 Fairview Loop Road

Mount Vernon, Ky.

Sunday Services

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Children's Choir 6 p.m.

Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m.

Sunday Adult Choir 8 p.m.

Wednesday Services

Creative Ministry 6 p.m.

Bible Study 7 p.m.

Youth Ministry QUEST 7 p.m.

RA's and GA's 7 p.m.

Mission Friends 6 p.m.

606-256-3722

email: fellowship@fvmc.com

Faith Chapel Pentecostal

S. Wilderness Road

Mount Vernon, Ky.

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.

Wednesday Service 7 p.m.

Jack Carpenter, Pastor

First Baptist Church

340 West Main Street

Mt. Vernon, Ky. 606-256-2922

Dennis Wilder, Pastor

Mikey Howard, Assoc. Pastor

website: www.fbcmtv.org

email: fbcmtvmon@kynfbwc.com

Every Sunday:

Sunday School/Growth

Groups 10 am

Morning Worship: 11 am

WRVK 1460AM at 11 am

LiveStream at fbcmtv.org

Wednesdays: AWANA 6-8pm

Student Worship at 6 pm

First Christian Church

West Main St. Mt. Vernon

606-256-2876

Bro. Richie Smith, Pastor

Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship

11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Flat Rock Missionary Baptist

504 Maple Grove Rd. Hwy. 1004

Orlando, Ky.

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Fellowship Hour 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Fountain of Life United Pentecostal Church

80 Sally J Rd., Mt. Vernon

Sunday 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

Everyone Welcome

Pastor: James Blanton

Freedom Baptist Church

Freedom School Rd.

Mt. Vernon

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Night Worship 6 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Prayer

Meeting 6 p.m.

Pastor: Bro. Barry Hurst

859-200-6331

Hickory Grove Pentecostal Church

Hwy. 1505 (6 miles from Brodhead)

Brodhead, Ky.

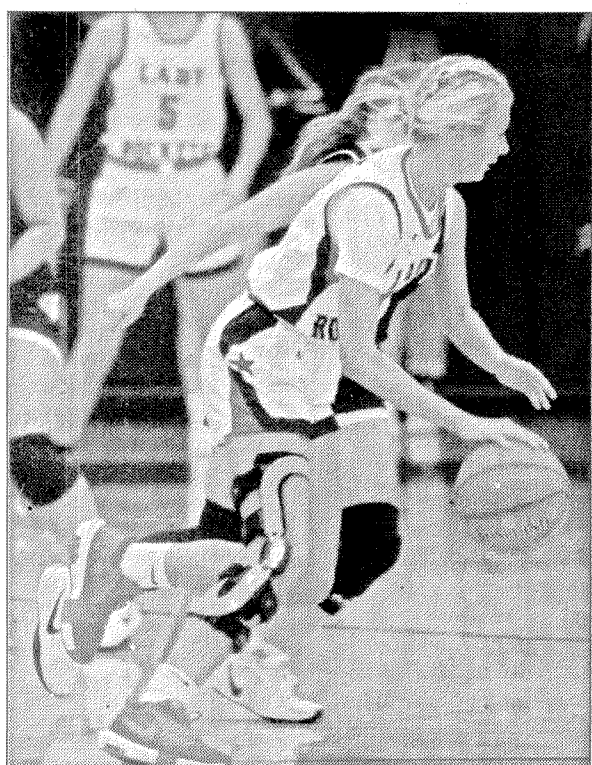
Randal Adams, Pastor

Youth Pastor, Scott Adams

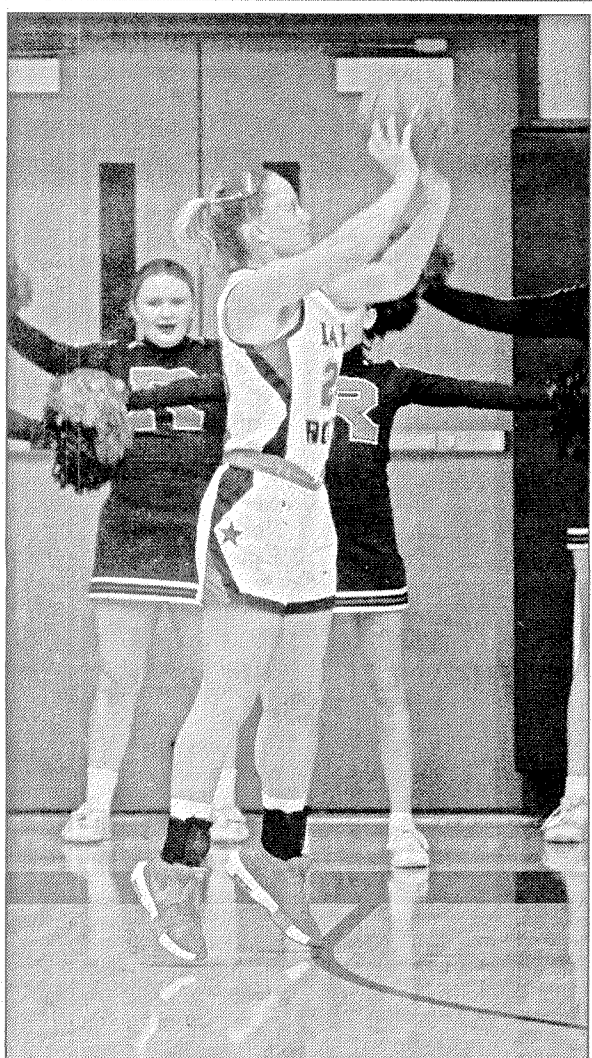
Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11 a.m

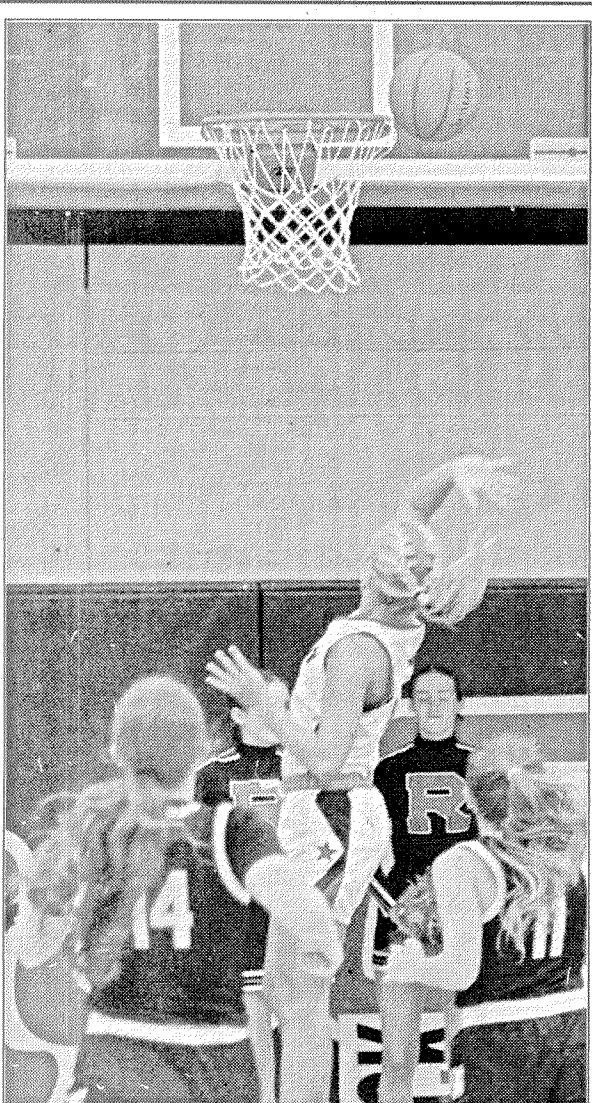
SPORTS



Junior Macy Spivey drives around the defense during the Lady Rockets' season opening win over South Laurel Monday night. Spivey led the Lady Rockets in scoring with 19 points.



Ella McKinney puts up a jump shot during the Lady Rockets' season opening win over South Laurel Monday night.



Junior Taylor King goes for two of her 18 points during the Lady Rockets' 66-60 win over South Laurel Monday night.

Lady Rockets beat South Laurel 66-60 in home opener

The Lady Rockets hosted the Lady Cardinals from South Laurel Monday night in their season opener and came away with a hard-fought 66-60 win.

The Rockets led the game from the opening tipoff until two thirds of the way through the second quarter when the Lady Cardinals took a 31-29 lead and then the score was tied at 33 all. From there, the Rockets scored the last four points of the half to take a 37-33 lead into the locker room.

The Rockets kept the pressure on in the third period, outscoring the Cardinals 19-13. At one point, South Laurel rallied to cut a 10-point Rocket lead to five but the Lady Rockets came back and were ahead 56-46 at the end of the third period.

In the fourth, the Cardinals scored a three basket to begin the period and then hit two free throws to cut the lead to 56-51. They had a chance to cut the lead to two on two free throws and a third awarded for a lane violation but missed all three and the Lady Rockets finally got on track, hitting three out of four free throws and adding a basket by sophomore Tessa Begley to regain their ten point lead 61-51.

The Rockets finished their scoring in the fourth by hitting four out of five free throws for the final 66-60.

South Laurel took three point shooting honors in the game, hitting 10 to the Rockets three - two of them by Ella McKinney. At the free throw line, the Rockets hit 15 of 18 to the Cardinals 16 of 25.

Macy Spivey took scoring honors for the Rockets with 19 while Taylor King and Tessa Begley, tied with 18 each. King had the other three basket. McKinney added eight and Kaylee Smith got three.

Thursday night, the Lady Rockets will travel to North Laurel to play the Lady Jaguars (varsity only) and next Tuesday night will be at Madison Central for a JV/Varsity game.

JV loses to South Laurel 39-38

The Lady Rockets JV team lost the first half, 22-14 to the South Laurel Lady Cardinals Monday night but came back in the second half to make it a close one, losing 39-38.

Tatum Bishop was the leading scorer in the

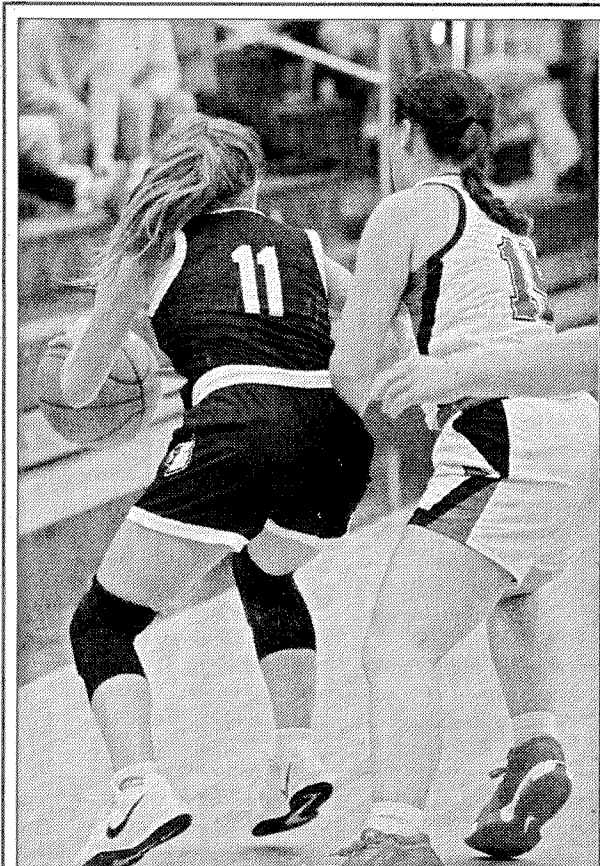
game for the Lady Rockets with 10; Kinsley Smith had seven points; Sadie Osborne six; Kaylee Smith five; Tessa Begley and Jayden McPhetridge four each and Kelsey Maupin scored two.

The JV team will next be in action at Madison Central next Tuesday night.

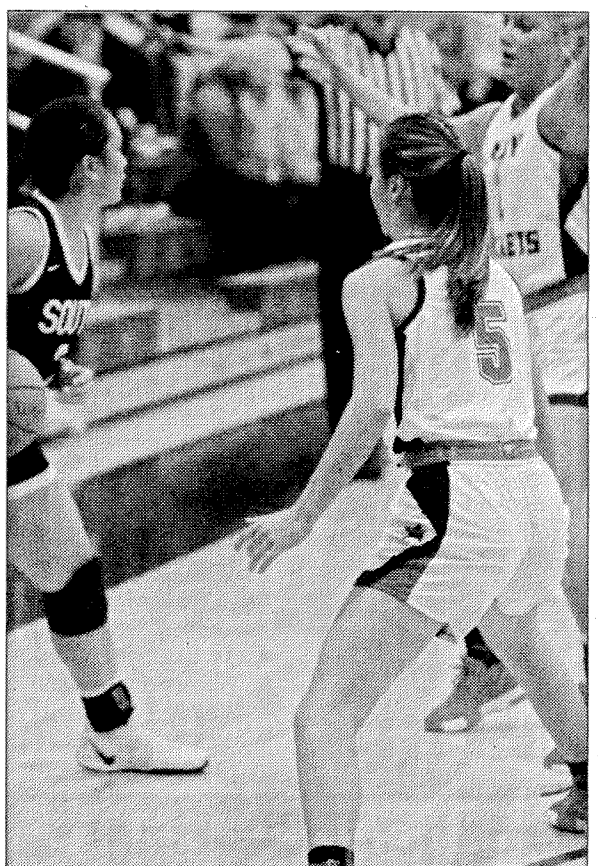
Rockets open season hosting McCreary Friday

The Rockcastle Rockets will unveil their 2024-25 team this Friday night, at home, against the McCreary Central Raiders with JV and varsity games, beginning at 6 p.m.

The next night, they will travel to Hazard to play in the DJ Begley Classic against Breathitt County.



Senior Markley Richards applies defensive pressure during the Lady Rockets' 66-60 win over South Laurel Monday night.



Tessa Begley and Taylor King double team a South Laurel player. Begley and King each had 18 points in the win Monday night.



Give Hope

A MINISTRY OF COMPASSION
TO THE PEOPLE OF ROCKCASTLE COUNTY

Give Hope will be held on Saturday,
December 14 at the Rockcastle County
Middle School from 11AM to 1PM.

~~~~~

Providing children with Christmas-filled  
backpacks, and a toy and blanket  
while supplies last.

~~~~~

Children must be present to receive gifts.

~~~~~

For more information, call Kathryn Pope  
at 606-308-3099 or  
the Associational Office at 256-4571.



*Rocket season opener  
Friday night at home  
JV begins at 6:00*



# Classifieds

## CLASSIFIED RATES

- Local Rates - \$5 for 25 words or less - .10 each additional word
  - Display Classifieds \$5.00/Inch
- Deadline for Classifieds is 4 p.m. Monday**

## For Rent

**Mt. Vernon Housing Authority** open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Applications accepted Monday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Rent based on income. 256-4185.

## Accepting Applications

For 2 and 3 bedroom units at Valley View Apartments. Rent based on income. Call 256-5912. TDD for hearing impaired only. 1-800-247-2510.

## For Rent

**Maple Street Storage of Brodhead**  
606-308-3032  
606-392-8654

## Property For Sale

**Home For Sale:** House and four acres out Sand Springs Road. \$279,900. Call Jennifer 606-308-606-2481.

**30 Acre Stand of Timber.** Sawmill nearby. Call 606-594-8990. 33xntf

## Posted

**Posted:** No trespassing of any kind on property located at 692 Houston Farm Road by owner Frank Bradley. 40x3

**Posted:** No hunting or trespassing on property belonging to Wayne and Marie Bullock on

Kincade Ridge Road and 1250 Spiro Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 37(24)51

**Posted:** No hunting or trespassing on the former Berl Hopkins' land (now belonging to Judy Hopkins Marsh) on KY 461 near US 150 and 461 intersection. 27x20p

**Posted:** Absolutely no trespassing on land belonging to LJI Honeycomb LLC for any reason. Formerly known as Christ Outreach for the Blind. Violators will be prosecuted. 23(24)x51

**Posted:** No hunting or trespassing on property belonging to Brian and Angela Burdine and located at 428 Black Bear Lick Lane, Livingston. Violators will be prosecuted. 47xntf

**Posted:** No hunting or trespassing on farms, belonging to Gary and Peggy Roberts, on KY 3245. Violators will be prosecuted. 36/24x52

**Posted:** No hunting or trespassing on land belonging to Glen Roberts at 560 Dix River Branch Road, Brodhead. Violators will be prosecuted. 35xntf

**Posted:** Property belonging to Kitty Reese on Smallwood Road at Roundstone. All trespassers will be prosecuted. 49xntf

**Posted:** No hunting, trespassing or ATVs on land belonging to Jason and Sara Coguer at Roundstone. Not responsible for accidents.

**Posted:** No trespassing, hunting or fishing on land belonging to Rachel Denney on Hwy. 3245 (former Reggie Benge property).

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

## Notices

**Notice is hereby given that** Judith Ann Baker, 1299 Fort Harrod Way, Crab Orchard, KY 40419 has been appointed Executrix w/ will attached of the estate of Proctor Brock (deceased) on the 29th day of October, 2024. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Judith Ann Baker or to John D. Ford, P.O. Box 247, Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 on or before April 29, 2025. 40x3

**Notice is hereby given that** James Elmer Ballinger, 6049 Three Links Road, McKee, KY 40447 and Harold D. Ballinger, Jr., 5550 Canebrake Court, Lexington, KY 40509 have been appointed Co-Executors of the Estate of Edith Martin Ballinger, deceased, on the 26th day of November, 2024. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said James Elmer Ballinger and Harold D. Ballinger, Jr. or Hon. John D. Ford, P.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 on or before May 26, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

## Motor Vehicles For Sale

**For Sale:** 1957 Chevrolet Pickup. V8, automatic transmission. Show truck. \$15,900. 606-386-1470 or 859-893-6825 39x5

## Cresthaven Cemetery Plots

Call Will Bishop @ 606-308-2490 or Shannon Bishop @ 606-308-9988

## Professional Services

**Owens Monument:** Located behind Owens Funeral Home in Brodhead. Open Mon-Fri. 8 to 5 and Sat. 9 a.m. to noon. 606-758-9600. 14xntf

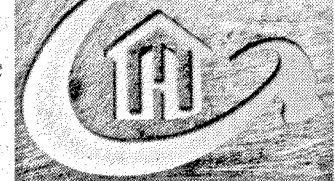


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Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

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Joanie Woodall  
606-308-3190

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\$25<sup>00</sup> per month with Curb Cart

## Clifford Collins SEPTIC TANKS LLC

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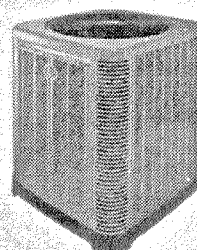
606-256-2535

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Owner  
whac@yahoo.com

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Bobby Kirby  
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859-314-0609

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Also do muffler & exhaust work

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David & Josh Thompson, Owners  
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Save On All Major Brand Tires For Cars & Trucks  
Farm Tractors • Lawn & More



**DAR recognizes those who properly display flag**  
Rockcastle Chapter DAR presented U.S. Flag certificates to churches and organizations in the community that properly displays the U.S. Flag. If you know of an individual or organization that displays the flag properly, please contact Rockcastle Chapter DAR at rockcastledar@gmail.com.



Freedom Baptist Church- Pastor Barry Hurst with Edwina Anglin.



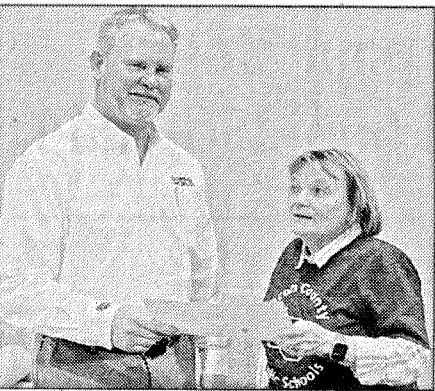
Central Baptist Church Pastor Mark Eaton with Edwina Anglin.



Elmwood Cemetery Board- Danetta Allen with Edwina Anglin.



Lumber King- Jeff Couch with Edwina Anglin.



Camping World- Martin Kvasnicka with Edwina Anglin.



Board of Education- Carrie Ballinger with Edwina Anglin.



Veterans Park- Kathy Bobo with Edwina Anglin.



Flat Rock Baptist Church- Larry and Glenna Settles with Sharon Lovell.

Local Grand Jury hands down two indictments

By: Mike French Editor  
A Rockcastle Grand Jury handed down two indictments on two individuals on Friday, November 22. Those indicted and their offense

Pawfect Pets



This week's installment of Pawfect Pets includes Stitch (left) the 9 month-old male Jack Russell/Chihuahua mix who is shy and Bluey, the male Blue Heeler that is 2 years-old and friendly. Anyone interested in adopting one of these pets or any other animal at the Rockcastle County Animal Shelter, should visit the shelter or call 256-1833. There will be a \$20 adoption fee.

were as follows.  
John Matthew Harding, 40, of Mount Vernon was indicted on the charges of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and the offense of terroristic threatening in the third degree by threatening to commit a crime likely to result in the death or serious injury of Kentucky State Police Detective Ryan Loudermilk.  
Harding is being held on a \$15,000 cash or property bond.  
Labrina J. Mitchell, 21, of Newport, Kentucky, was indicted on the charge of rape in the third degree by engaging in sexual intercourse with a person under the age of 16 and knowing him to be that age.  
Mitchell is being held on a \$7,500 cash or property bond.

Local KSP highway Checkpoints announced

The Kentucky State Police, London Post which provides coverage for Clay, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Wayne and Whitley counties, will be conducting periodic traffic safety checkpoints at approved by the Kentucky State Police Policy and Procedures Manual. These checkpoints will be conducted in an effort to enforce the traffic laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Special attention will be paid to occupant protection (seatbelt adherence). Sobriety, insurance and registration violations.  
The Kentucky State Police utilizes traffic safety checkpoints to promote safety for motorists using the public roadways and to provide a deterrent for those who violate laws contained in the Kentucky Revised Statutes.  
A complete list of traffic safety checkpoint's location can be found at [www.kentuckystatepolice.ky.gov/post11checkpoints](http://www.kentuckystatepolice.ky.gov/post11checkpoints)

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SUGAR'S PUZZLE ANSWERS

|           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BATTER UP |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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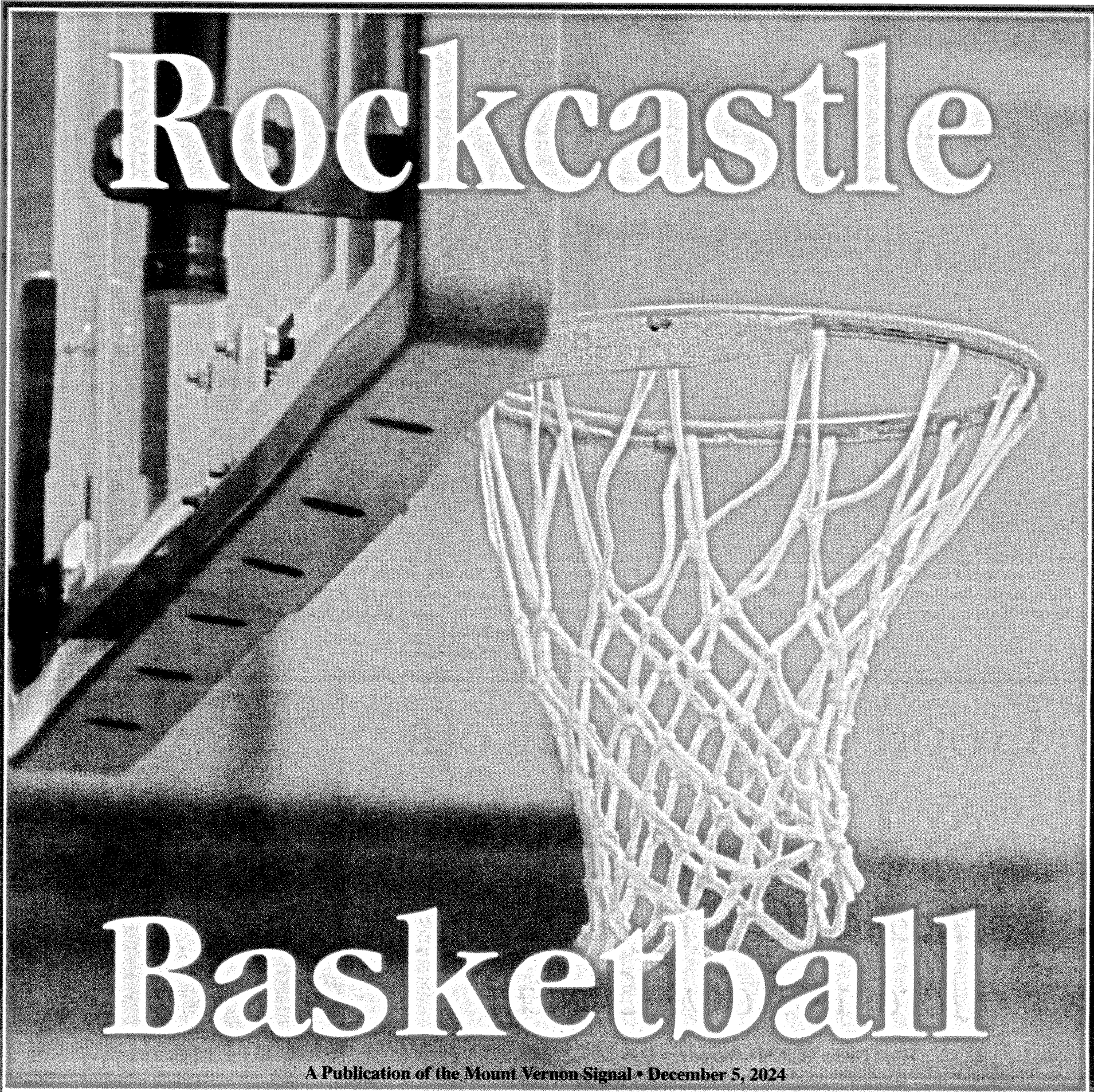
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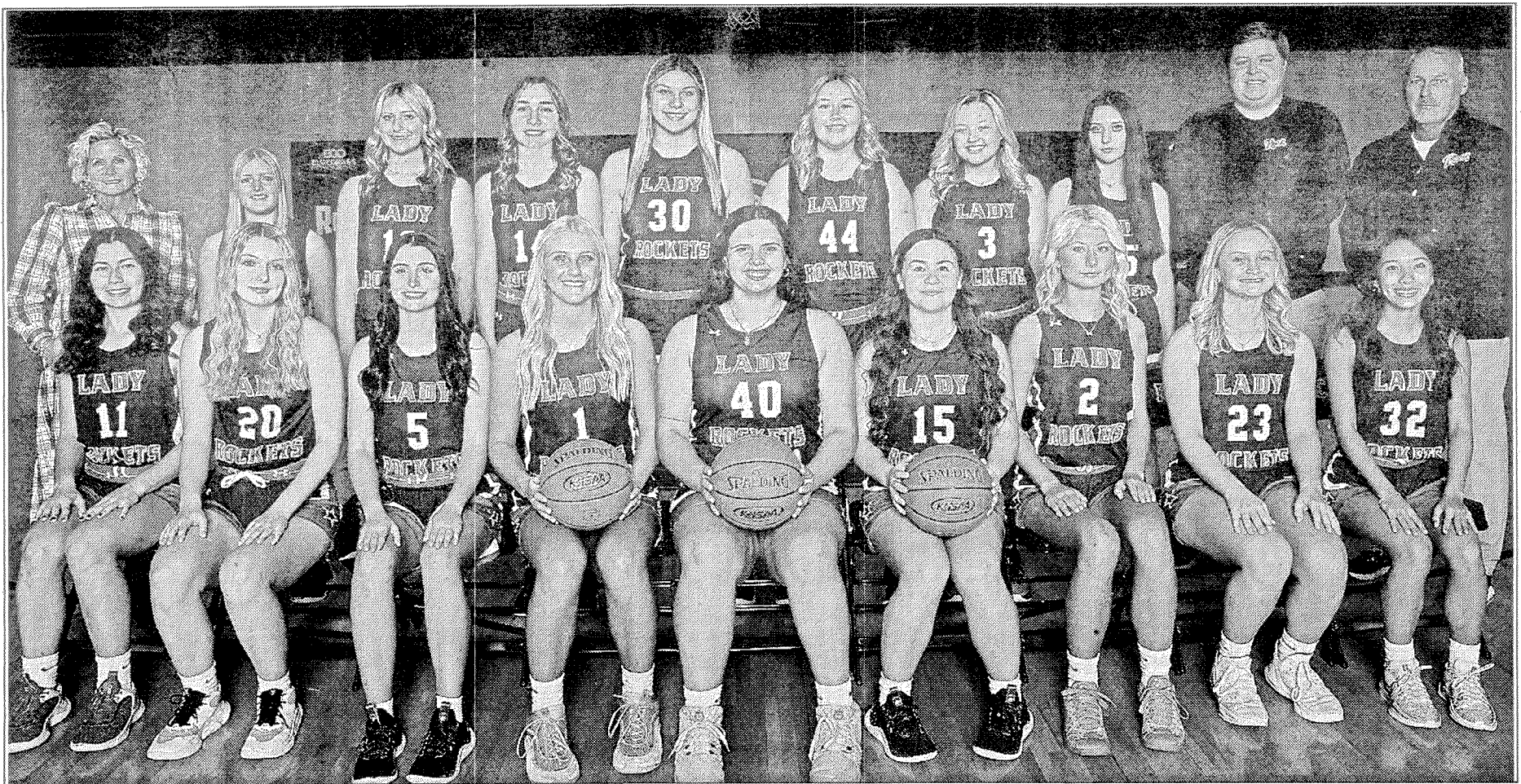


# Rockcastle

# Basketball

A Publication of the Mount Vernon Signal • December 5, 2024





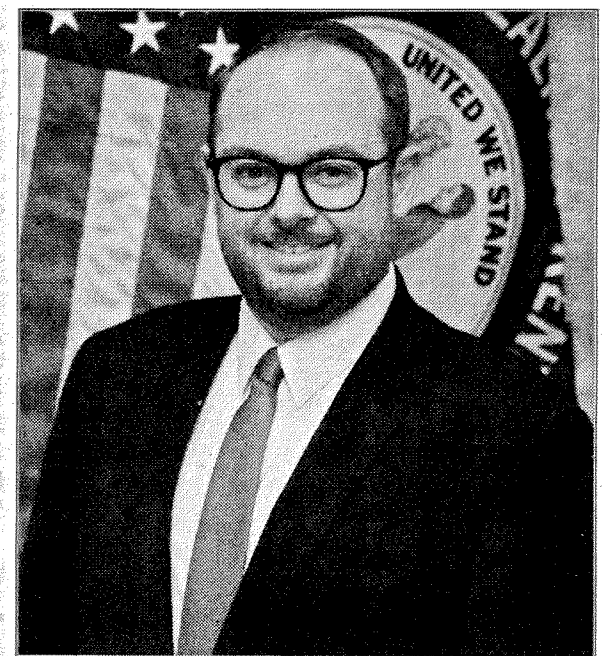
Members of the Lady Rockets squad are pictured above, front row, from left: Kinsley Smith, Jaden McPhetridge, Trinity Childress, Taylor King, Brylee Mullins, Markley Richards, Macy Spivey, Ella McKinney and Sadie Osborne. Back row from left: head coach Chrysti Noble, Kelsey Maupin, Jaycee McIntosh, Tessa Begley, Kaylee Smith, Carleigh Philbeck, Tatum Bishop, Kylee Ashcraft, asst. coach Brett Gaynor and asst. coach Bert King.

*Photo by Jamie Cornelius Photography*

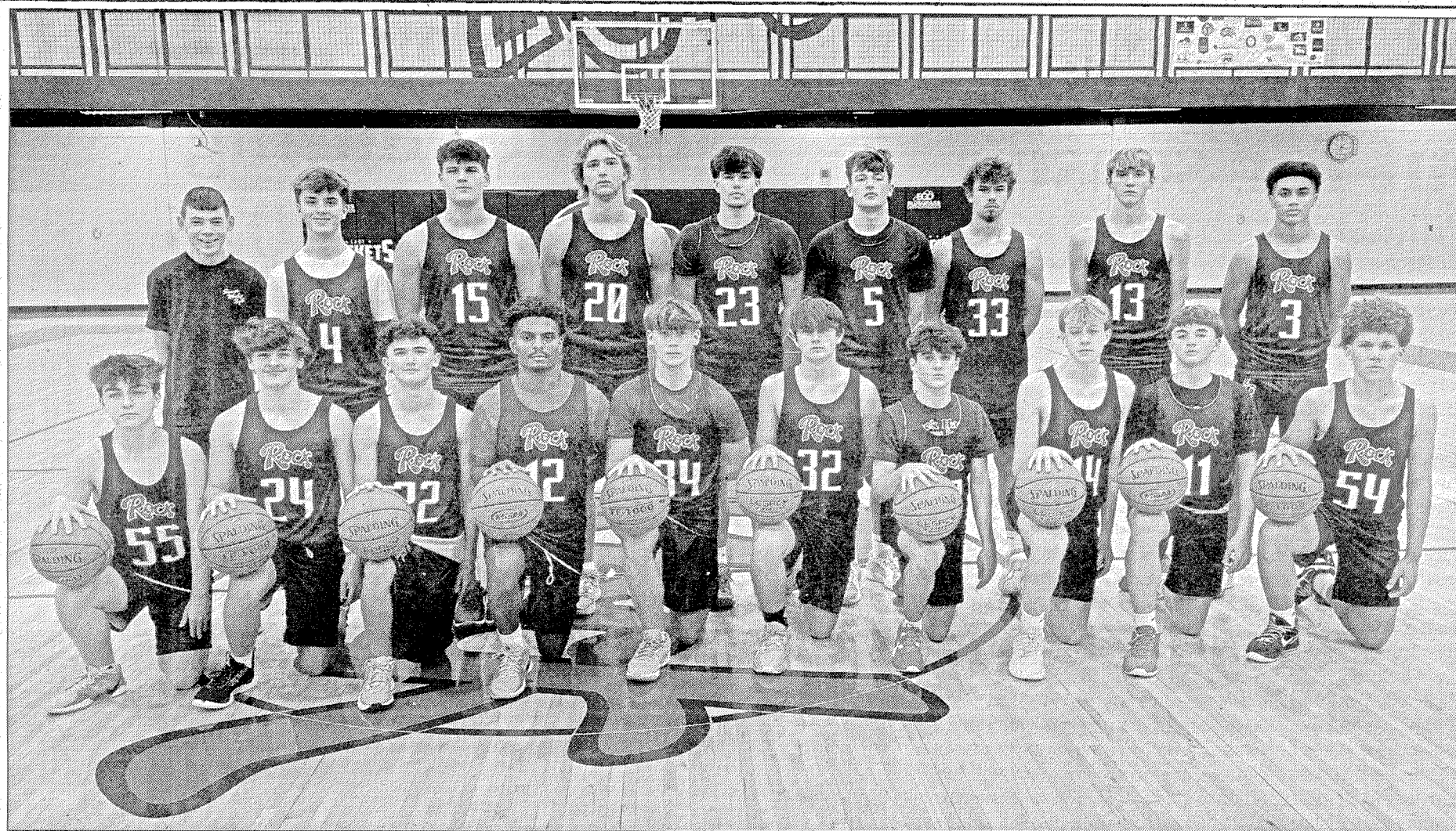
# Good Luck Rockets & Lady Rockets

## Rockcastle County Attorney Jeremy Rowe & staff

West Main St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-2728







Members of the Rockets basketball squad are pictured above, front row, from left: Jaken Masters, Myles Watson, Gavin Isaacs, Isaiah Jackson, Sam Elam, Preston Chasteen, Dalton Bullen, Wyatt Craig, Parker Cash, and Zayden Riddle. Back row from left: Manager Jesse Ramsey, Zeke Fain, Colton Cash, Conner Hunt, Maddox Parsons, Jace Rogers, Blake Mullins, Jackson Reams and Xavier Leger. Not pictured: Kaleb Alexander and Walker Craig.

## Good Luck Rockets & Lady Rockets!

from your friend

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Leading scorer for past two seasons

# Walker Craig out for season

By: Chad Hensley

The number seven is typically a good luck number for a lot of people, but the seventh season in which Andrew Cash has led the Rockcastle County High School boys basketball team could prove to be the biggest "what-if" season of his career.

Cash, who is 75-85 in his first six seasons as a varsity head coach, thought the 2024-25 season could be one that reinvigorated the program enough to see success obtained in not only making it out of the 47th District, but a possible run at a region championship.

One would be rightfully inclined to ask what the issue at hand would be and the straightforward answer would be losing one of the best players in program history to a season-ending knee injury months before the season started.

That player in question is junior wing Walker Craig, who led the Rockets in scoring each of the last two years.

Craig averaged 20.9 ppg last season and 15.7 ppg in the previous season and had already been named to various pre-season All-Region teams through numerous media outlets.

Despite the loss of Craig, the Rockets were already going to have to replace not only the points per game from Trenton Wilson (9.8) and Skyler Durham (7.9), but more importantly vocal spiritual presence on the court.

Looking ahead at who Rock Nation should be excited to see for his senior season will be forward Connor Hunt, who averaged 9.5 ppg and another 5.1

ppg.

Hunt led the Rockets with 106 2pt-field goals and will be called upon along with fellow senior Kaleb Alexander for leadership on the court and in practice.

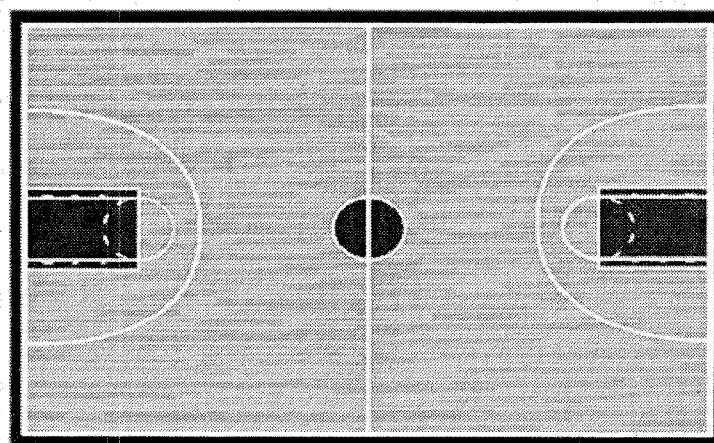
The rest of the roster in the KHSAA scoreboard site includes numerous players that will stand the chance of getting a chance at a lot of playing time, but we will have to wait and see out of sophomores Colton Cash and Zeke Fain, juniors Maddox Parsons and Jace Rogers and football players Isaiah Jackson (senior), Xavier Leger (sophomore) and Blake Mullins (sophomore).

Regardless of which five that Cash will have on the floor at any given time, they will face a stiff test with one of the strongest schedules the Rockets have faced in years.

Non-region contests against the likes of Breathitt County, Scott County, Glasgow, Warren East, Madison Southern and Franklin County will have the Rockets just as battle tested as the matchups against 47th District foes Casey County, Pulaski County and Somerset as well as games against 12th Region teams such as Wayne County, Boyle County, Lincoln County, Danville, Southwestern and Mercer County.

It may not be the season that many expected, but those that are still healthy enough to play have been working themselves to exhaustion getting ready for their first contest on Friday, Dec. 6, when McCreary Central attempted to invade Rock Arena. Tipoff for the varsity contest is roughly slated for 7:30 p.m.

## Wishing you the best of luck during your 2024-2025 season!



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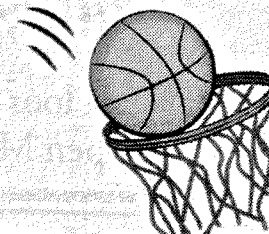
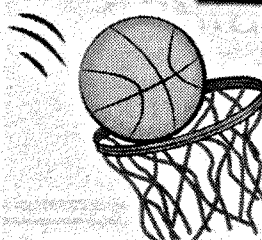
# Lady Rockets

## Basketball Schedule

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Opponent</u>    | <u>Place</u> | <u>Team</u> |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 12-2        | South Laurel       | Home         | JV/V        |
| 12-7        | North Laurel       | Away         | V           |
| 12-10       | Madison Central    | Away         | JV/V        |
| 12-13       | Somerset*          | Away         | V           |
| 12-17       | Boyle County*      | Away         | V           |
| 12/19-21    |                    | Lex. Cath    | V           |
| 12/26-28    | Smoky Mtn. Classic | @Gatlinburg  | V           |
| 1-3         | Somerset*          | Home         | V           |
| 1-6         | Lincoln County     | Away         | JV/V        |
| 1-10        | Pulaski County*    | Away         | V           |
| 1-11        | Ryle               | @Franklin    | V           |
| 1-13        | Danville           | Home         | JV/V        |
| 1-14        | Knox Central       | Away         | JV/V        |
| 1-17        | Casey County*      | Away         | V           |
| 1-20        | Lexington Catholic | Away         | JV/V        |
| 1/24-25     | Rocket Classic     | Home         | TBA         |
| 1-28        | Casey County*      | Home         | V           |
| 1-31        | Pulaski County*    | Home         | V           |
| 2-3         | Southwestern       | Away         | JV/V        |
| 2-4         | Clinton County     | Home         | JV/V        |
| 2-7         | Mercer County*     | Home         | V           |
| 2-10        | Whitley County     | Home         | JV/V        |
| 2-13        | Wayne County*      | Home         | V           |
| 2-14        | Madison Southern*  | Home         | V           |
| 2-17        | Garrard County     | Home         | JV/V        |
| 2-20        | Estill County      | Away         | JV/V        |

\*Denotes Lady Rockets/Rockets Doubleheader

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# **Good Luck Rockets & Lady Rockets**



**from your friend  
and supporter**

# **District Judge Katie Slone**



# Lady Rockets look to challenge teams in new season

By: Chad Hensley

There are not too many things in life that a person can say is a constant in their life, but young girls here in Rockcastle County for the last 34 years have been treated to the coaching abilities of Chrysti Noble as the 2024-25 high school girls' basketball season gets underway in a few short days.

Noble, who is the third active overall and second active female head coach, has amassed a career record of 631-373 with numerous district and regional titles as well as the KHSAA Girls' Sweet 16 championship in 2011.

Noble will look to a dandy of a returning duo in junior guards Macy Spivey and Taylor King as the team's leading scorers from last season with 15.5 and 13.6 points per game, respectively.

The law firm of Spivey & King will need to pick up their game going into the season to replace a group of outgoing seniors that included Talyne Shearer, Camryn Cash and Haven King.

Shearer, who is currently playing basketball at Campbellsville University, averaged 14.1 ppg and a team-best 7.4 rebounds per game.

Cash and Haven King averaged 6.2 and 5.9 points per game, respectively, but Haven King's time on the court was cut short due to a season-ending knee injury.

"We lost a big part of our team from last year, but I feel like we return the best back court we have had in a few years," commented Noble in regard to Spivey and Taylor King. "Talyne Shearer is doing great things at Campbellsville. Taylor has committed to the Uni-

versity of the Cumberlands. She doesn't get the credit she deserves. She has put the team on her back many times and carried us.

"She played through a broken nose and a terrible ankle injury. Macy has worked her tail off to get back. I think people will be surprised about her mobility and her speed. She has worked hard on her shot during her time off. She is ready to get back on the court. These two will be fun to watch play with their other teammates."

The Lady Rockets, however, would eventually battle their way to the 13th Region semifinals where they would be without Spivey, who suffered a season-ending injury in the first round of the regional tournament. A formidable foe in Danville Christian Academy would end the RCHS season.

"Unfortunately, every team has to deal with adversity," Noble reflected back on the season. "Our team had a double dose this past season. We lost a big piece of our team at the end of January with senior Haven King, then with Macy going down in the first game of the region. It was hard to persevere in the short amount of time to prepare mentally and physically for DCA. Grace Mbugua is an exceptional player and proved herself in the state tournament. We can always talk about the 'ifs.' We will never know. Hopefully, this group will work even harder to get back to the region."

Working alongside Spivey and Taylor King will be a bevy of role players that can step up at any point and be the game's leading scorer if they just believed in their ability to do so. Players such as seniors Markley

Richards and Brylee Mullins will be looked at by Noble to provide leadership as they are the team's only seniors.

Also challenging for either a starting role or valuable minutes off the bench will be Kelsey Maupin, Sadie Osborne, Tessa Begley, Kaylee Smith and Kinsley Smith.

One thing that fans can expect to see will be a fast-paced attack on both sides of the ball due to the team's overall lack of height so it will be even more vital for the Lady Rockets to convert baskets on offense in order to quickly transition into a pressure defense to get the opposition out of rhythm.

"Yes, we want to play a faster pace game," Noble confirmed when asked about her team's size or lack thereof. "We have a few more players we will be able to sub in and out to keep players fresh."

One thing that fans have become accustomed to is the fact that Noble does not like to shy down from a challenging schedule year in and year out and the 2024-25 season remains the same.

The 47th District will always be a challenge to get out of with how hard teams like Casey County, Pulaski County and Somerset play on a nightly basis.

The 12th Region will once again feature Danville Christian Academy as the Lady Warriors are the defending region champions but are also battling the injury bug with University of Louisville commit Mbugua's season is in limbo due to a knee injury.

Also, on the schedule and will provide the Lady Rockets with a tough challenge will be the likes of Madison Central, Ryle, Dixie Heights, South-

western, Clinton County, Wayne County and a pair of Christmas tournaments at Lexington Catholic prior to Christmas and in Gatlinburg, Tenn., after Christmas. Last season's post-Christmas tournament appearance in Gatlinburg saw the Lady Rockets face off against a pair of teams from South Carolina that would make deep runs in their state tournament with one even winning their respective class.

"We are fortunate to live in an area that has some great basketball teams," boasted Noble about the talent in the area. "You have to play better competition, so you know where your team stands and what we need to work on to be ready for the region."

Fans will unfortunately not

get to see much of the Lady Rockets in action at Rock Arena for the better part of the season with that challenging schedule as the team will see action at home just three times in the first 18 contests.

The one good thing about the schedule, however, is that it is backloaded with home games. Eight of the team's final 10 regular season contests will be played at Rock Arena.

"Rock Nation, we love and appreciate all your support," exclaimed Noble. "Our program wouldn't be where it is without your support over the years. Thank you."

Rockcastle will see its season tipoff on Monday, Dec. 2, at home when the South Laurel Lady Cardinals come to town for a 7:30 p.m. contest.

## Good Luck Rockets and Lady Rockets in 2024-2025

\*\*\*\*\*

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pages of the*

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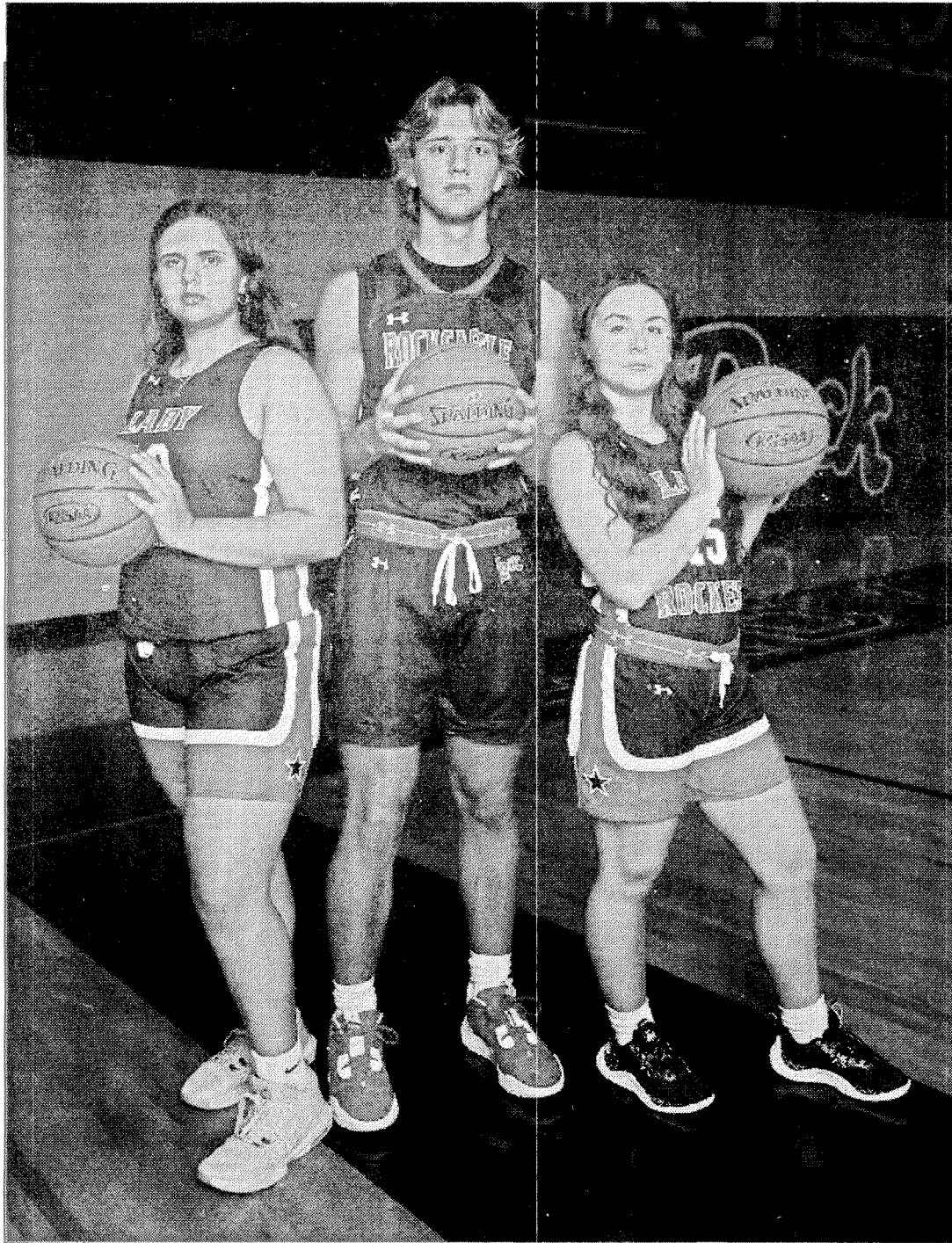
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## ***Rocket and Lady Rocket Seniors***



Senior members of the Rockets and Lady Rockets  
are shown above, from left:  
Brylee Mullins, Connor Hunt and Markley Richards.

*Photo by Jamie Cornelius Photography*

# **Good Luck ROCK**



May you have success  
on the courts and in the  
classroom!

from

**County Clerk**

# **Danetta Ford-Allen**



# Rockets

## Basketball

### Schedule

| Date                                | Opponent           | Place      | Team |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|------|
| 12-6                                | McCreary Central   | Home       | JV/V |
| 12-7                                | Breathitt          | Away       | V    |
| <i>(DJ Begley Classic @ Hazard)</i> |                    |            |      |
| 12-13                               | Somerset*          | Away       | V    |
| 12-17                               | Boyle County*      | Away       | V    |
| 12/20-22                            |                    | @S. Warren | TBA  |
| <i>(BCBC Holiday Classic)</i>       |                    |            |      |
| 12-23                               | Danville           | Away       | V/JV |
| 12/27-29                            |                    | @LCA       | TBA  |
| <i>(Central Bank Classic)</i>       |                    |            |      |
| 1-3                                 | Somerset*          | Home       | V    |
| 1-4                                 | Scott County       | @GRC       | V    |
| 1-7                                 | Lincoln County     | Away       | JV/V |
| 1-10                                | Pulaski County*    | Away       | V    |
| 1-11                                | Warren East        | @Greenwood | V    |
| 1-14                                | Wayne County       | Away       | JV/V |
| 1-17                                | Casey County*      | Away       | V    |
| 1/24-25                             |                    | Home       | TBA  |
| <i>(Rocket Classic)</i>             |                    |            |      |
| 1-27                                | Madison Central    | Home       | JV/V |
| 1-28                                | Casey County*      | Home       | V    |
| 1-31                                | Pulaski County*    | Home       | V    |
| 2-3                                 | Southwestern*      | Away       | V    |
| 2-7                                 | Mercer County*     | Home       | V    |
| 2-11                                | Somerset Christian | Away       | JV/V |
| 2-14                                | Madison Southern*  | Home       | V    |
| 2-18                                | Franklin County    | Home       | JV/V |

\* Rockets/Lady Rockets Doubleheader



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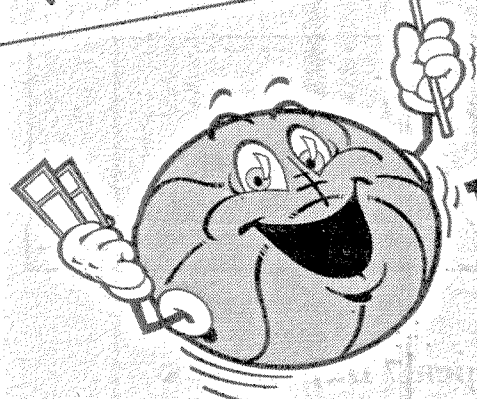


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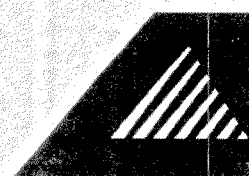
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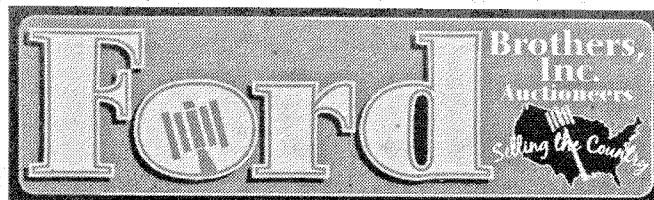
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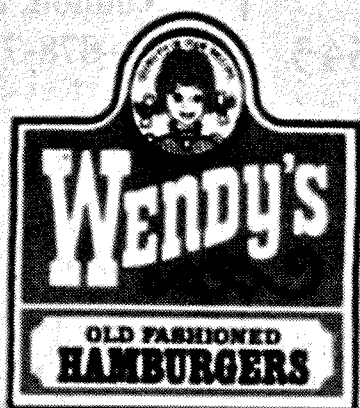
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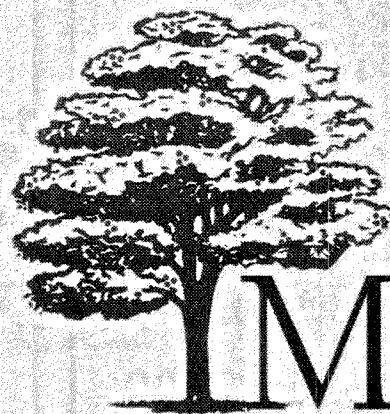
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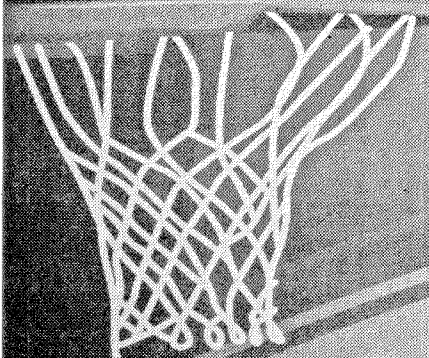
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**Willis Coffey and John D. Ford**

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**JOSH  
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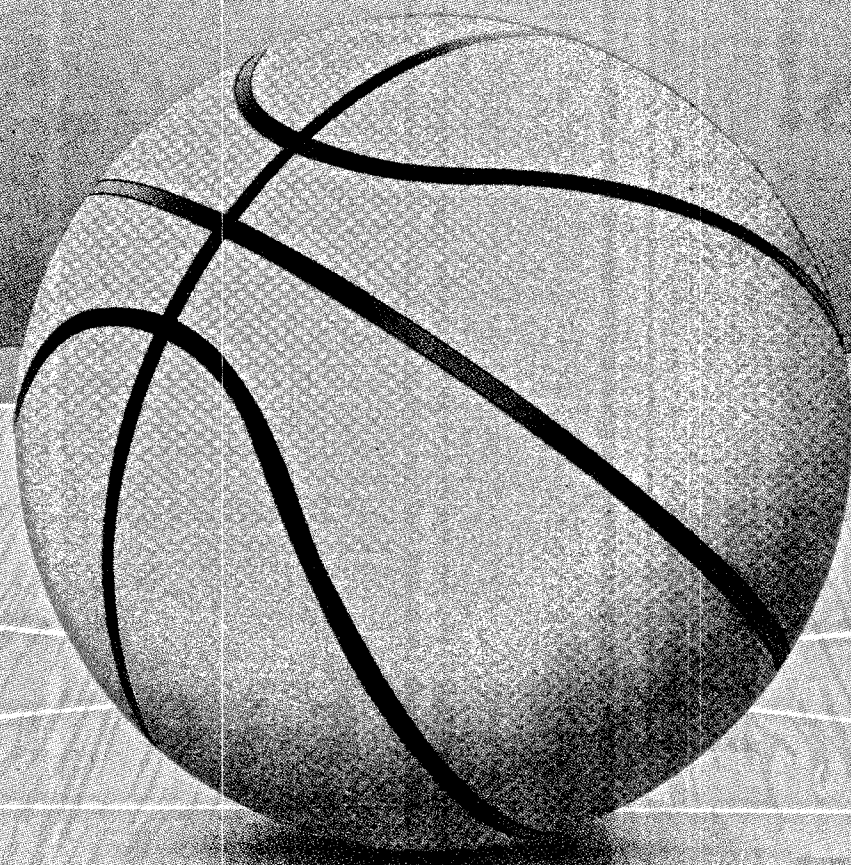
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