

## 'Tis no longer the season



Mount Vernon Director of Facilities Maintenance Frank Baker was seen this week taking down holiday decorations throughout Mount Vernon. Many have noticed the well decorated Main Street for the 2023 Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons but Baker and other city employees spent last week removing the decorations throughout the city. Even the Christmas Tree in Triangle Park has now been removed.

## Man shot to death in Rockcastle after dispute

By: Mike French  
Editor

A domestic dispute in Rockcastle County ended in the shooting death of a Berea man Sunday.

According to a press release from the Kentucky State Police, at about 10 p.m. Sunday, police at Post 11 in London received a call for assistance from the Rockcastle 911 Center. The call informed Detective Ryan Loudermilk that there had been a shooting incident on Little Creek Road in Rockcastle County.

According to the release, an investigation by Loudermilk revealed that Joseph A. Dawson, 48, of Berea had been shot at his wife's home in Rockcastle.

The investigation revealed that Dawson had been involved in an ongoing verbal altercation with his wife Katherine Dawson and Phillip Fox, a family member of Katherine Dawson.

The press release says that Joseph Dawson had been inside his wife's home making threats to kill her and Fox. The re-

lease says Dawson then exited the residence armed with a kitchen knife and a machete.

The release goes on to say that Fox then retrieved a firearm and shot

Joseph Dawson. The injured man then fled back to the porch of the residence and collapsed, and that is where he was lo-

(See "Shot" on A5)

## Accident leads to arrest and drug charges of local man

By: Mike French  
Editor

A single vehicle accident led to an arrest and several charges recently in Rockcastle County.

According to an arrest citation, Kentucky State Police Trooper Ben Allen received a call to an accident in Brodhead on January 2 in which a vehicle had left the roadway and become stuck in a ditch. While enroute to the scene, Allen received another call stating the driver of the vehicle was attempting to leave the scene of the accident but could not since the vehicle was damaged. However, upon nearing the scene, the trooper witnessed Joshua Emerson,

42, of Mount Vernon walking along the road, the citation says. Apparently Allen recognized Emerson and had been informed he was the driver.

Upon taking Emerson back to the scene of the accident, Allen discovered Kristopher Fletcher sitting beside the road with a bloody nose apparently from the accident, but he refused treatment from EMS responders.

Allen was advised there was an active warrant for Emerson. Trooper Brian Maupin later arrived at the scene to assist Allen.

The citation says Emerson showed two of six examples of possible intoxication causing

(See "Drugs" on A5)

## Brodhead officials discuss fire departments, grants, water, trash, tiny homes and more

By: Mike French  
Editor

Members of the Brodhead City Commission held their regular monthly meeting Monday night with a short agenda but detailed discussions.

### Rep. Josh Bray files for re-election to office

State Representative and Mount Vernon native Josh Bray (R) has filed for re-election to that office from the 71st District, which includes his native Rockcastle County and parts of Laurel, Madison and Pulaski Counties.

Since first assuming office in 2020, Bray has worked hard for the betterment of the 71st Dis-

trict, advocating for policies that prioritize economic growth, healthcare accessibility, education funding, and protecting the rights of all its citizens.

During his tenure, several noteworthy pieces of legislation has passed to help his constituents, including recently secur-

(See "Bray" on A5)

intended to create an average of a 400 square-foot home with a kitchen, bathroom and bedroom typically all in the one room. Creative designs allows for most modern conveniences to be present but in a 20 by 20 space.

Commissioners said they were dealing with potential tiny homes in Brodhead and have adjusted their ordinances to deal with such homes. Anyone considering a tiny home, should contact the City of Brodhead to understand the rules and regulations involved with tiny home construction prior to starting construction.

During department reports, Assistant Fire Chief Brian Bullock

expressed concern for Brodhead's and all small town volunteer fire departments across the state. "Something has to give," he said. "We are truly struggling to keep interest and under the current systems, we can't blame anyone for losing interest or not volunteering."

Bullock went on to explain that his department is "blessed to have about 49 members but, like all departments, the truth is we see the same 10 to 12 faces everyday. We are going to have to do something to help citizens become interested in becoming a firefighter and keeping those who have joined interested in participating," he said. "I am not

bashing anyone of any department, but this is just life and every department is having similar troubles. You can't expect the same few people to do everything all the time. Sometimes there are just two of us on duty and I have had to ask the same person to go on a run, then to complete some required training, then help with a fish fry or other fundraising event and then help with traffic. It is killing us. You can only ask so much of someone for free."

Bullock discussed many hindrances to enrolling and keeping volunteers and talked

(See "Brodhead" on A5)

### Police chase U-Haul truck through county

A suspect is in custody after a police chase involving the Rockcastle County Sheriff's office and a U-Haul box truck ended in Berea last week. The chase began in Rockcastle and traveled towards Laurel County and then back north on I-75 to Berea.

Bradley Kimberl faces charges including reckless driving and wanton endangerment, according to reports.

The chase ended after spike strips were used to stop the box truck. Kimberl then ran to a wooded area but was caught by police after a foot chase.

No injuries were reported in the incident.

## Year in review

July through December

## 2023

The following is Part Two of the year in review and includes headline events from July through December.

### July

In July, officials cancelled the Blast in the Valley due to recent heavy rains. Though rain was in the forecast for the event, the cancellation came early due to the continued rain over the previous weeks causing the fields to be too muddy to hold the event, officials said.

Mount Vernon city employees received a

2.5% raise in July as the city finalized their annual budget.

It was in July that officials announced the termination of the local CSEPP since the nerve agent stored at the Army Depot in Richmond had been successfully destroyed.

The local school board announced they would place the new RCMS project on hold due to a lack of funds. The district had raised funds to pay the expected costs of the project but by the time the architectural firm

presented the final project, bids were higher than expected and the project was cancelled and would be revisited at a later date, officials said.

Also in July, Rockcastle Contains saw the beginning of the Friday after Five events which included three weekend events on Main Street in Mount Vernon.

### August

The city of Livingston began work on their water system and forming a codes enforcement board.

August saw more structure fires than usual,

as local fire departments battled blazes at many different homes throughout the county.

A revival was held at the Rockcastle County Detention Center as Jailer Nathan Carter brought in speakers from around the state for the event.

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court lowered the tax rate for local residents but gained revenue due to the rise in property valuations.

Dr. Carrie Ballinger received a new four-year contract as Superintendent of Rockcastle

County Schools. Along with the reappointment came a raise of nearly 10%.

The fiscal court established new district lines for the county since the 2020 Census results showed a drop in population of over 1,000 residents. Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr. said he feels the population didn't drop but that many residents failed to complete the census form.

In August, Arturo Perez pled guilty to the murder of local business

woman, Marlene Anderkin Hellard, as she was readying for the opening of her newly formed business "The Glitter Box." Perez was sentenced to life in prison.

The Mount Vernon City Council began procedures for a new ordinance dealing with dilapidated buildings within the city limits. The new ordinance passed months later giving the city authority to force the clean up of such structures or lots.

(See "Year" on A5)

### Of Special Note Inside

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# ramblings...

by; perlina m. anderkin

every New Year, I used to struggle with keeping New Year's Resolutions. I make them, religiously abide by them for at least a month -- sometimes longer, and then one by one they bite the dust and I feel horrible about myself for another month because it was, once again, an exercise in futility and I'm sure I, subconsciously at least, knew all along that it would be.

If ever asked to name whom I admire the most, it will undoubtedly be those I know who have will power! You know, the will power to stick to a diet, to exercise regularly, to not gossip, to just generally work every day to make themselves a better person.

I am very grateful that, as I have aged, I have tended to eat less, which has resulted in my not having to worry about that resolution. At one point, years ago, I was about to overtake my husband and that would have been a real self-esteem jolt.

Anyway, I said all that to say that I decided a few years back to just do away with the whole process of New Year's Resolutions, cut out the middle man so to speak, and go on enjoying whatever time I have left on this earth.

**What about those Wolverines?** I watched the Michigan-Washington game for the college football championship Monday night and, I'll have to admit, I was pleased with the outcome (Michigan won).

I think Michigan got a raw deal this season, mainly because other programs were trying very hard to keep them from

even being able to appear in the playoffs. It didn't work.

**But on to other matters more important than either of the above.** It's hard to enjoy the privilege I have been accorded, thus farm of reaching the ripe old age of 82 with all the adverse policies of this regime that are directly affecting our daily lives.

Millions of illegal immigrants have freely traipsed across our border since Biden's installation in January of 2021, yet Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas will sit in congressional hearings, look our senators and representatives right in the eye, and calmly declare that the border is "under control."

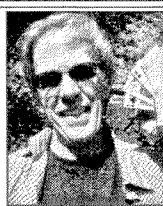
There has been a lot of talk of bringing impeachment charges against him, an action that would be the first in nearly 150 years, but, as usual our House leadership doesn't have the courage of a wet noodle. Nothing ever happens except for a lot of big talk until the actual event's negotiations where our Republican leadership always cave.

Recently, House Republicans said often that without action on closing our border to stop the thousands of daily crossings by illegal immigrants, there would be no Continuing Resolution bill approved to keep the government open. So, when push came to shove, what happened? Our Republican Speaker of the

(Continued on A-3)

## Aces Over

By: Mike French



Most Americans are unaware that we are currently in the middle of the greatest depression in our history.

There are left-wing bloggers and tic-tokers rushing to "fact check" and manipulate numbers, as they always do when the results of a democrat presidency is upcoming, but the plain truth is we are in a depression.

In the height of the Great Depression in the early 1930s, the average salary was \$4,887 annually. About 45 cents per hour.

If you adjust for inflation, in other words consider the cost of living increase since the mid 30s, and compare that to current salaries, you would now have to make \$95,000 each year to be in the same financial condition as those who made \$4,887 in those days. Do you make \$95,000 per year? If you don't, you are in worse financial condition than the average person during the Great Depression.

My guess is very few reading this can say they make \$95,000 per year. Personally, I know about three people who make more than that. All the rest make much less than that.

The catch is that I believe even the \$95,000 is a terrible under estimate. I believe it would take closer to \$125,000 to be in the same financial condition today as a man who made \$4,887 in 1930.

Those who calculate such things have determined the \$95,000 number but there is a lot they don't consider. Government takes a bigger bite out of everything now -- a LOT bigger bite. And each bite gives you less return. While the price of living increases and American wages have not kept up, the government takes more of each dollar spent and provides less service per dollar in my opinion. The hole inflation is creating is not only deep but it is wide. It is multidirectional.

If they keep taking more and more and more, and keep spending more than they take, and rais-

ing the debt ceiling as though it means nothing, eventually they will take so much and be so deeply in debt that you can't survive without them. And there is an entire side of the aisle in Congress that won't be happy until they do just that. Unfortunately, half of the country actually wants to be dictated to and needs government to make their choices for them.

If government continues to raise taxes and raise fees and find ways to take from the average working family more of what they earn, there will come a point when the people will not be left with enough to survive. Government waste

(Continued on A-3)

## T.J.'s Journal

By: Tonya J. Cook



About This Time of Year  
Dear Journal,

Finally, after several weeks going way back before Thanksgiving, the stress and mess leading up to Christmas and New Years has finally passed. Thanksgiving isn't any more than a bump in the road leading up to "The Holidays".

As I get older the stress and aggravation "The Holidays" bring really wears me down. The mail gets all clogged up; when you go to the post office, you have to wait in long lines. You can't turn on the radio without hearing Christmas music from mid-November until after New Years. Then, there are the extra drunks out on the road. Don't

even get me started on going to Walmart. I refuse to go in there even on a dare. I can't go in for weeks at a time no matter how badly I need something. I have to send Stanley. I've learned that you don't send men to get some things no matter how simple or you may get no telling what. Lord have mercy, the things I've sent after and the things I got weren't even in the same ball field. It's not just Stanley, it is all of them collectively. By the way, they are the ones that are causing all of the women to wreck their cars out on the roads.

About this time of year, I crave certain foods. One food is fruit cake so I decided to make one each for my brother, Don, and me. I'll just buy the egg nog. For me anyway, the fruitcakes are complicated to make. I've had to give up on making all of the holiday meals. Since my stroke, I don't even bother. I know it is just too much on me. We just went to the Golden Corral to eat. The Walmart bunch had come over there. Never have I seen people acting like that was the only chance for food for the next two weeks. There was a danger of being trampled. I believe I like restaurants where you just sit at the table and be waited on much better.

(Continued on A-3)



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need help...

Dear Editor,  
I hope you will print this for me. I am an elderly woman will be 73 years old on January 28th.

The reason for this letter is because my little Dodge avenger has been broke down for about 5 weeks now. It has finally been told to a garage and broadhead last week. The mechanic took a look at

it and called me and said that it needs a new engine because the one on it is bad. A new one would cost from \$900 plus which I don't have that much money. So he ordered another one, a used one, and it's going to cost me \$200 and then the cost for the towing and all those other little additions that might

(Continued on A-3)

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## ramblings

(Continued from A2)

house, Mike Johnson, caved. There was no rugged to the death floor fight. There was a simple “yes sir, yes sir, three bags full sir!” and we continue along to our inevitable fiscal destruction as a nation. We are drowning in over \$34 trillion in debt (to provide context, in fiscal year 2022 the US took in \$4.44 trillion in revenue) and still handing out money to keep Ukraine afloat-- even to funding their civil service pension fund for them and specific funds to strengthen their border!!

But New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has the solution to our border crisis -- we simply document everyone thereby “creating a path to citizenship.”

But, never fear folks. If, as expected from her recent remarks, Michelle Obama announces her candidacy for President in March, I'm sure that will take care of everything.

And, I'm not being sarcastic. That will be the final straw and our country will be entirely gone by the end of her administration. In my opinion, her husband, former President Barack Obama has been calling the shots on every important issue that has faced our country since Biden's installation and anyone, that will, can see the mess we are presently in.

**Massachusetts Democrat Senator Elizabeth Warren** is demanding Israel negotiate 'Peace' with the terrorist organization Hamas who attacked Israel October 7, 2023 and killed an estimated 1200-1400 civilians. At one point in time, this would have been a certain death knell for her political career but now, meh! no problem for her.

How do you negotiate 'Peace' with an organization that repeatedly calls for the annihilation of Israel from the face of the earth?

How did we, in the United States, wind up with tens of thousands of anti-Israel protestors creating havoc across our nation in defense of Hamas. I would venture to say that a vast majority of those carrying the Palestinian flag (which I cannot find out where it came from since, from what I can gather there has never been a designated Palestine nation), and calling for Palestine to be free “from the river to the sea,” have come into this country illegally but are being given free rein to create havoc for everyone else. No one cares.

Law enforcement has evidently been told to stand down and not forcibly remove them from interstates and bridges where they are holding up people trying to go about their daily lives and, in some instances, ambulances trying to get patients to hospitals.

We have suffered nothing but fiscal degradation and constant crises since day one of Biden's installation and things are not going to get better, in my opinion.

We must pray for our country. Pray that we will elect someone to provide leadership that is not directly crafted to destroy our middle class and our nation in the process.

I am not a Trump advocate, although I find myself more and more horrified and disgusted with the present administration defiance of every law on our books to bring this man to his knees simply because he has the majority support of Republicans and Democrats are scared he may win. They are scared because, as things stand now, if Biden is the Democrat candidate, their election cheating will have to be on a monumental scale to the point that it may not be explained away at all.

We'll just have to wait and see and hope that there are enough patriots left to right these wrongs and that God has not forsaken us entirely.

## Aces

(Continued from A2) is phenomenal. Billions and billions and billions are thrown away on nothing that benefits anyone, except the elite few. Stupid choices, like shutting down American pipelines and giving billions to other countries, depleting our oil reserves, paying terrorists for hostages, all while printing more cash and raising the debt ceiling any day of the week, has created a practically worthless dollar. The greatest of all depressions is here.

While causing inflation and over taxation and punishing families, they stand and brag about their accomplishments, asking us to vote for them again, and so many weak and needy minds stand and applaud their cheap theatrics.

Some are so blinded by pure politics that they completely ignore the log in their own eye to judge the splinter in another man's eye.

We now live in America's Greatest Depression and Americans have become so gullible that they say "thank you" and follow along and then believe the elite power-hungry when they

attack the only President to ever keep his promises. It is a sad state of affairs when our top leaders ignore what is good for the people only to build their own fortune and then the people thank them for it and vote for them again.

The inevitable self-destruction that we have created is our own fault. Fortunately, our forefathers gave us the Second Amendment to stop such tyranny. But we are too weak, too whine and too scared to do anything about it.

I am certainly glad our forefathers weren't so timid and soft or we would all still be under British rule with 90% tax rates by now.

## Letters

(Continued from A2) come about with the little car. I take R- tech or get a ride usually and I'll take cross to go to Mount Vernon from my home and I would rather do that instead of asking anybody for a ride for nothing. I have gotten rides from other people who have been so good to me and didn't charge anything but then there's some who do and I understand that totally by the way gas is so high these days.

What I want to know is if there is anyone out there, any businesses who are hiring elderly people. I can flip burgers, I can cook also. I just don't want to jump ahead and try to get a ride to places and put in applications and no one hire me in those extra costs I'm getting to town and back would be hard. So it's kind of simple if I just put it in the newspaper and ask if anybody's hiring help. I am honest and a Christian, I attend a

good church here in Brodhead. So if anybody up there has anything that you think I might be interested in you can write to me at Kathleen Bretz PO Box 435, Brodhead, Kentucky. 40409,

Thank you so much and thank all of you who can help me.

Kathleen Bretz  
606-386-3762

### Beshear not so popular...

Dear Editor,

I only write this to get the true numbers right.

Most television stations (except FOX) try to make it appear that Andy Beshear won his race for Governor by a landslide. Especially KET. In fact, it was no landslide either time he ran.

In the last election, consider the down ticket. Shell 763,468, Ball 783,217, Metcalf 735,522 while Beshear received 694,482. As anyone can see, anyone on the down ticket would have beaten Beshear.

Louisville carried Beshear and he would have lost without them.

Beshear is not the hugely popular Kentucky Governor that most television stations make him out to be.

Just something to consider.

Sincerely,  
Bob Lunsford

## T.J.'s

(Continued from A2)

Then to add insult to injury, the Wildcats lost to Clemson down in Jacksonville in their bowl game. By next year, I sure hope things get better.

*This is the first in a series of articles planned by a cooperative effort between the Rockcastle County Animal Shelter and the Mount Vernon Signal. Look here each week for potential pets that are currently living at the shelter.*

## Pawfect Pets



Shown above is a male Redbone Coonhound (left) and an female Australian Shepherd currently living at the Rockcastle County Animal Shelter. However, these two and several others, are looking for a good home. Anyone interested in adopting either of these two pets, or looking over the others that are also available, should visit or contact the shelter at 606-256-1833 Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. A \$20 adoption fee will help get your new family member to their forever home.

## Kaleb Adams earns Dean's List honors

Midway University is pleased to announce Kaleb Adams has been named to its Dean's List for the 2023 Fall Semester.

To be named to the list, a student must be classified as full-time and obtain a 3.60 grade point average for the semester. There were 419 students who made the Dean's List.

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**Rockcastle County Bookmobile Schedule**  
**Monday, January 15th:** Calloway, Red Hill and Livingston. **Tuesday, January 16th:** Maple Grove and Climax.

### Health Department Hours

The Rockcastle County Health Department will be closed Monday, January 15, 2024 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. We will reopen on Tuesday at 8 a.m.

### Vietnam Veterans Meeting Date

Vietnam Era Veterans, that graduated from Livingston High School, are asked to meet the last Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. for breakfast and conversation at Limestone Grille.

### 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](http://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

The Rockcastle Kiwanis Club now meets at Limestone Grille each Thursday at noon. 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/or District Commander William B.J. Thomason at 606-392-1207.

### Rockcastle Historical Society & Museum

The Rockcastle County Historical Society & Museum meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at RTEC garage/training room.

### 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 Limestone Grille the second Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. If you wish to eat before the meeting, arrive at 5 p.m. For more info, call Commander Kathy Bobo at 606-308-1208 or Chaplain B.J. Thomason at 859-358-2882.

### 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.

### 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.

**Wednesday-Alcohol Anonymous-Mt. Vernon:** 12 p.m. 55 Crawford St., Mt. Vernon, KY. Call 606-308-4893 for info. or rides.

**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:** 8 p.m. Community Outreach Center, 36 Castle Village Dr., Brodhead, Ky. Call 606-308-8900.

**Friday-Celebrate Recovery-Livingston School Cafe** 9226 Main St., Livingston. 6 p.m. Contact: J.R. Cornelius, 859-314-7828.

**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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# Obituaries

## Mary Mink

Mary Lee Mink, of Mt. Vernon, departed this life for her heavenly home at Rockcastle Regional Hospital on Thursday, January 4, 2024 at the age of 73. She was born in Woodstock on April 7, 1950, the daughter of James A. and Mary Bell Whitis. She worked for over 30 years as a housekeeper for several residents of Rockcastle County prior to retirement. She was a member of Freedom Baptist Church, enjoyed watching WLJC, reading her Bible daily, and playing with her grand and great grandbabies.

She is survived by: her daughter, Angie (Gary) Bullock of Mt. Vernon; her son, Danny (Michelle) Mink, Jr. of Mt. Vernon; grandchildren, Dustin (Tabetha) Johnson of London, Brianna (Hector) Mendoza of Kilua, HI, and Jaydon Bullock and Camden Mink, both of Mt. Vernon; and two great granddaughters, Gabrielle and Paisley Johnson of London. Also surviving are: her brothers and sisters, James F. Whitis, Margaret Poindexter, Harold Whitis, and Paulette Murphy; as well as a host of step-grandchildren, step-great grandchildren, brothers and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by: her husband of 51 years, Danny Mink, Sr.; brothers, Carl, Herbert, Edwin, and Robert Whitis; and sisters, Maxine Johnson, Pearl Hall, Lena McQueen, Viola Pike, and Edna Floyd.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 8, 2024 at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home Chapel by Bro. Luther Allen, Chaplain of Rockcastle Regional Hospital. Burial followed in Mareburg Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Jaydon Bullock, Dustin Johnson, Jimmy McQueen, Wendell McQueen, Camden Mink, and Pete Murphy. Honorary pallbearers were: Bill Grider and Tyler Shaffer.

Please visit [www.DowellMartin.com](http://www.DowellMartin.com) or Dowell & Martin Funeral Home's Facebook page to view online obituary.

## Wilma "Jean" Hensley

Wilma "Jean" (Frith) Hensley, born December 20, 1936, went to be with the Lord Saturday, January 6, 2024. Wilma Jean grew up in Brodhead, then lived most of her life in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Preceded in death by: her husband, Arthur P. Hensley; parents, William G. Frith, and Mattie Jenkins (Kegley); siblings, William M. and Joyce Frith; daughter, Lisa Stone; grandson, Corbin Dean Weaver; and sons-in-law, Steve Mayes (Roxie), Larry Weaver (Deanna), and Donald Brinkley (Dixie).

Survived by: children, Deanna Weaver, Kenny (Terri) Noe, Roxie (Mike) Gibson, Dixie Brinkley, Teri (Bill) Ralf, Sharon (Rocky) Phelps, and Steve Hensley; brother, Jim Frith; and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The family will receive friends 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, January 13, 2024 at Weaver Funeral Home in Knoxville, Tennessee with the service to follow at 1 p.m. Family and friends will meet at 2:45 p.m. at the Edgewood Cemetery for a 3 p.m. interment beside her late husband, Arthur.

## Linda Stewart

Linda Stewart, 78, of Mt. Vernon, died Thursday, January 5, 2024, at Rockcastle Regional Hospital. She was born January 23, 1945, in Pine Hill, a daughter of the late Orbin and Pearl Chestnut Falin. She was a loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother who found great joy in cooking, music, shopping at Goodwill, gardening, canning, and spending time with her children and family. On July 13, 1964, she was united in marriage to Carl Benton Stewart and from that union came Teresa Jo, Alfreda, Clayton, Billy and Allan "Tubb."

Those left to celebrate her life are: her husband of 59 years, Carl Benton Stewart of Mt. Vernon; children, Teresa Jo Cromer (Jack) of Pongo, Alfreda Caldwell (Jeremy), Clayton Stewart (Donna), and Billy Stewart (Leslie), all of Mt. Vernon and a daughter-in-law, Diana Stewart; grandchildren, Jeffrey Cromer, Wendy Davidson, Kenny Cromer, Ashley Stewart, Alexis Stewart, Preston Stewart, Easton Stewart and Cadence Stone; great grandchildren, Gracie, Kenya, Jamie, Logan, Presley, Casen, Camden, and Bella Cromer, Carlee and Korie Davidson, Addy and Slayton Payne and Cadence Stone; sisters, Marty (Jody) Leger and Inas (Charles) Leger; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by: her son, Allan "Tubb" Stewart; grandson, Cody Leger; sisters, Irene Stewart, Alma Smith, and Evelyn Miller; and brothers, Dallas Falin, Ellis Falin and Tommy Falin.

Funeral services were held Monday, January 8, 2024 at Pine Hill Missionary Baptist Church with Bros. Tommy Miller and Jason Medley officiating. Burial was in Stewart Family Cemetery.

## Melvin Hensley

Melvin P. Hensley, 56, of Orlando, died Sunday, January 7, 2024. Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 2 p.m. at New Hope Baptist Church. Burial will follow in Briarfield Cemetery.

We ask that you please respect the family's private visitation time prior to the public visitation hours from 12 to 2 p.m. Thursday at the church.

Arrangements are by Dowell & Martin Funeral Home. A complete obituary will appear in next week's Signal. Please visit [www.DowellMartin.com](http://www.DowellMartin.com) or Dowell & Martin Funeral Home's Facebook page to view online obituary.

## Noah David Cope, Sr.

Noah David Cope, Sr., died October 11, 2023, in Lexington, KY. Born in Rockcastle County in 1937 to Robert Frank and Mossie Ann Cope, he was 86 years old. Noah served in the United States Air Force and was a proud Veteran. He became the first person in the Cope family to earn a college degree, graduating from Miami University in 1973. Noah worked as a plant manager at Rutgers-Nease Chemical Company for over 30 years. He loved tending cattle on his farms in Oxford, Ohio and Kentucky, and enjoyed history and politics.

Noah is survived by: his son, Noah Cope, Jr.; daughter-in-law, Robin Cope (Stevens); grandchild, Ella Jane; brothers, Larry and James; fiancé and life partner, Ella Maude Hasty; and family in loving spirit, Phillip, Nicole and Remy Johnson. Noah is preceded in death by: former wife, Modena Cope; brothers John, Jesse, Franklin and Arley; and sisters, Verla (Hall), Eva (Bullock), Angie (Price), and Doris (Meadows).

A celebration of life ceremony will be held at Lake's Funeral Home in Berea, Kentucky on January 14, 2024, with visitation at 1 p.m. and service at 2 p.m.

## Daniel "Danny" Lee Hines

Daniel "Danny" Lee Hines, 75, of Mt. Vernon, died Saturday, January 6, 2024 at his home. He was born October 4, 1948 in Mt. Vernon, the son of the late Ernest and Mary Kirby Hines. He was a retired truck driver.

Survivors are one sister, Patricia Kirby and brother, Denver Wayne Hines. In addition, Danny also leaves behind two children, James Michael Hines and Edna Leanne Herzog. Five grandchildren also survive. Besides his parents he was preceded in death by: his sisters, Edna Turner, Ada Payne, Tessie Turner, Vivian Bussell, Gertrude Turner, and Wathleen Adams; and his brothers, Roscoe "Ben" Hines, Bentley Hines, Charles Hines, Russell Hines, and Ellis Hines.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Thursday, January 11, 2024 at Cox Funeral Home with Bro. Phillip Doan officiating. Burial will follow in Wynn Cemetery.

Arrangements are by the Cox Funeral Home where friends may visit from 1 p.m. until time of service on Thursday.

Send condolences to the family online at [www.coxfuneralhomeky.com](http://www.coxfuneralhomeky.com)

## Teresa Ann Milburn

Teresa Ann Milburn, 58, of Mt. Vernon, died unexpectedly at her home on January 6, 2024. She dearly loved her children and grandchildren. She enjoyed spending time with her friends and family and attending church. She was of the Holiness faith, and she loved the Lord.

She was the daughter of Peggy Mason (Bobby) and the late Larry Newcomb Sr. She had two daughters, Emma Philhower (Glen Lee) and Megan Thompson Milburn (Milo). Five grandchildren, Chloe, Kayden, Roxy, Noah, and Ivan. She is survived by a host of uncles, aunts, nieces, and nephews.

Teresa was preceded in death by: her maternal grandparents, Preston and Pearl Anderkin; paternal grandparents, Burt and Anna Mae Newcomb; her father, Larry Newcomb, Sr.; and brother, Larry Newcomb, Jr. (Bubby).

Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Tommy Hogue officiating. Burial was in Elmwood Cemetery.

Donation/contribution in Teresa's memory may be made toward funeral expenses at P.O. Box 658, Brodhead, KY 40409.

## Jim Cromer

Jim Cromer, 85, husband of Shirley, died Sunday January 7, 2024 at his home.

Arrangements are incomplete at this time at Cox Funeral Home. A full obituary will be in next week's Signal.

## Julia Rowe

Julia Rowe, 78, of Mt. Vernon, died Saturday, December 30, 2023, at her residence. She was born March 27, 1945, in Clay County, a daughter of the late Acie and Minnie Hicks. She was a homemaker who found great joy in fishing, gardening, flowers, attending church, and spending time with her children and grandchildren. She was a member of Lighthouse Assembly of God. On April 3, 1988, she married Lee "Jack" Rowe, and they enjoyed 25 years prior to his passing on December 12, 2013.

Those left to celebrate her life are: her children, Jr. Hicks of Mt. Vernon, Lillie Mae Benges Sungy of London, Sherman Mills of London, Milda Jane Mills, Minnie Kirby (Chriss), Crystal Gilbert (Robert), Penny Cecil (Mike) of Greenfield, IN, David Rowe of Greenfield, IN, and Jennifer Adams of Crab Orchard; grandchildren, Danielle and Jerry Savage, Robert and Juliann Kirby, Isabelle, Hope and Joey Mills, Darren Lee Hacker, Trinity Messenger, Jackson Dean Gilbert, Josie and Anna Marie, Michael Cecil, Jessica and Jacqueline Rowe and Amber Adams; brother, Daniel Hicks of Manchester; as well as a host of great grandkids, nieces/nephews, friends and neighbors.

Besides her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by: children, Gearld Rowe, Debbie, Pamela and Belinda Mills; 11 brothers; and two sisters.

Funeral services were held Sunday, January 7, 2023 at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Tim Hampton officiating. Burial was in McKinney Cemetery.

## Emma Lee Tudor

Emma Lee (Morris) Tudor, 82, formerly of New Paris, OH and of Mount Vernon, died peacefully on Sunday, January 7, 2024 at Vancrest of Eaton. Born on August 19, 1941 in Mount Vernon, daughter of the late Leroy and Gladys Mildred (Scott) Morris. Emma had retired after many years working both at Belden and Elder-Beerman in Richmond, IN.

Preceded by her husband of 42 years, Robert W. Tudor in 2016 and sister, Anna Mae Mullins in 2023.

Survived by: her children and spouses; Jeffery R. and Verlinda Allen, Dewey D. and Beth Allen, Laurie E. and Mark Crist, Tim W. and Brenda Tudor, and Robbie J. and Dee Johnson; sister and brother-in-law, Tarina and Donnie Helton; 16 grandchildren; and 31 great grandchildren.

Visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, January 12, at Barnes Funeral Home, 109 West Main Street, New Paris, Ohio.

Funeral Services will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, January 13, 2024 with Pastor Rodney Dunn officiating. Interment will be held at Spring Lawn Cemetery in New Paris, Ohio.

Condolences at [www.barnesfuneralhome.com](http://www.barnesfuneralhome.com)

## Willie Griffin, Jr.

Willie Griffin, Jr., 79, of Mt. Vernon, died Monday, January 1, 2024 at the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington. He was born in Livingston on January 5, 1944, the son of Willie, Sr. and Viola Halcomb Griffin. He had been a construction worker and general laborer and was of the Baptist Faith.

He is survived by: his daughter, Balinda (Lloyd, Jr.) Mink of Mt. Vernon; two grandchildren, Michael (Shay) Florence, and Jeffrey Mink; two great grandchildren, Maverick Florence and Memphis Florence; and a sister, Novella Houndschell of Lexington.

Graveside services were conducted Friday, January 5, 2023 in Red Hill Cemetery by Bro. Jason Medley, pastor of Calloway Baptist Church.

Pallbearers were: Billy Alcorn, Maverick Florence, Michael Florence, Jeffrey Mink, Lloyd Mink, Jr., and Ronnie Mink.

Arrangements were by Dowell & Martin Funeral Home. Please visit [www.DowellMartin.com](http://www.DowellMartin.com) or Dowell & Martin Funeral Home's Facebook page to view online obituary.

## Jo Ann Hilton

Jo Ann Hilton, 64, of Berea, died Thursday, January 4, 2023, at the Terrace in Berea. She was born January 6, 1959, in Mt. Vernon, a daughter of the late Claude and Lena Sowder McHargue. She was of the Christian faith.

Jo Ann is survived by: her son, Brandon Hilton; sisters, Claudette Madison and Cathy Osborne; and seven nieces and nephews.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by: three brothers, Charlie McHargue, Johnny McHargue, and Jackie McHargue; and sister, Jeanne Hayes.

Cremation was chosen, and a memorial service will be scheduled later.

Contributions in memory of Jo Ann can be made to one's favorite charity.

## Glen Odes Burke

Glen Odes Burke, 92, died Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at The Terrace Nursing Facility in Berea. Glen was born January 11, 1931 in Brodhead, a son of the late Pete Burke and Elizabeth Brummett Burke.

He was a member of Mt. Vernon Church of God. On December 23, 1957, Glen married Opal Burke and they enjoyed 61 years together until her passing in 2018. From that marriage came one daughter, Sharon Burchett, she passed away in 2021.

Those left to celebrate his life are: his two grandchildren, Yancee Paul Burchett and Liz of Wichita, Kansas and Shawnee Christian Burchett and Heather of Bandy; two sisters, Jewell Maxine Murphy and Shirley Ann Burke-Smith of Crab Orchard; as well as a host of friends and neighbors.

Besides his parents, wife, and daughter, he was preceded in death by: six brothers, Bud, Ed, Paris, Jay, Pete, Jr. and Bobby; an three sisters, Rosa Lee Nickell, Ella May Lanham, and Dorothy Bartley.

Funeral services were held Monday, January 8, 2024 at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Kelly Burchett officiating. Burial was in Piney Grove Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family ask that donations be made to Disabled American Veterans or Saint Jude's.

## Colton Heath Ray Barnes

Colton Heath Ray Barnes, 31, of Brodhead, died Friday, January 5, 2023. Colton was born September 2, 1992, in Lexington, a son of Danny Ray Barnes and Christine Couch Barnes. Colton was a loving person with a genuine heart. He found great joy in hunting, fishing, dirt bikes, and hanging out with family and friends. Colton was an employee of Enersys battery in Richmond.

Those left to celebrate Colton's life are: his very proud mother, Christine Barnes (Terry Olinger) of Orlando; brother, Danny Aaran Barnes (Hsin-Ta Andre Tsai) of Atlanta, Georgia; sister, Tiffany Rae Barnes Cooper (Brandon Overbay) of Orlando; nieces and nephews, Camden, Rowan, Lauren and Kaelynn Overbay; and a host of other family members and friends.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 9, 2023 at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Rick Reynolds officiating. Cremation followed.



Year

(Continued from front)

Mount Vernon Mayor Tim Roberts gained attention from the Kentucky League of Cities who focused on many of Roberts's ideas in their monthly magazine.

An uptick of COVID-19 cases began showing up in the county in August but no safety mandates were reinstated. Cases leveled off at a minimal level and remained about the same the rest of 2023, according to health officials.

Woodrow Lamb, who spent eight months on the 'lam' from police before being captured in the Calloway area, was indicted in August. Lamb was accused of several burglaries and robberies as well as shooting a local man during a robbery.

September

The Kentucky State Food Truck Championship was held in Rockcastle in September.

The Blast in the Valley event was changed to the "Rocktember Blast" and held at the local industrial park. Officials say a disagreement between city and county officials and the management of Renfro Valley, where the event is typically held, may force local officials to hold the event at the park each year in the future.

The new Veterans Memorial Park by Lake Linville had a Bradley Tank placed amid the many displays.

By mid-September, the city of Mount Vernon received bids for the new water basin project that is expected to eliminate the bad taste and smell from the local water system. However, the bids were more than double the expected amount and nearly three times above the funds the city had available for the project. Officials are still trying to raise the funds for the project and keep the low bid active. If too much time passes between the bid opening and the start of the project, a new bid may be required which is expected to be even higher.

Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers including Nancy Mullins and Charles Ray Noe, the Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Center received a new, upgraded flower garden.

The Hunger Walk was called a huge success as hundreds of local residents took part in the annual event.

October

A tractor Trailer hit a Brodhead fire truck at the scene of an accident, placing a focus on the dangers involved with first responders locally.

The Bittersweet Festival, held in October in Mt. Vernon, was called a great success. Also boaters were rescued at a local river after their boat batteries died. Local swift water rescue teams reported several rescues throughout the year. There was also a police officer shortage in some agencies across the state and in Rockcastle County as local departments fought to keep enough officers to cover the community.

Gary Cromer of Mt. Vernon boarded an Honor Flight in October to Washington, DC where he was honored for his service.

It was in October that school officials began pursuing a paving project for the local high school and Mount Vernon Elementary School. The

project was later bid and accepted and is expected to begin the summer of 2024.

Some controversy erupted as some officials suggested the Livingston School basement was not safe to hold the annual Halloween Haunted House event. The event was later cancelled.

A motorist on I-75 was shot in the leg by a passing motorist. The shooter has not yet been located. A lengthy and intricate search began for a missing man using all the modern technology available over a two-day search. The missing man was later found walking along a road.

The RCHS Rockets celebrated their football district championship in October defeating Knox County 52-14.

November

In the first week of November, two separate accidents closed two roads at the same time in the county. A Pit Bull attacked a Brodhead man, who suffered several injuries from the attack.

Savannah Sweet gained recognition for her efforts to install Free Book Libraries throughout the county.

A local well-known man was hit by a car while walking to his church in November. Johnny Rodrigus was seriously injured from the accident.

The Rockcastle County school system announced a new high-tech teaching system, now available in all classrooms at the high school, middle school and Area Technology Center.

Also in November, the annual Veterans Day celebration at RCMS brought tears to the eyes of hundreds who attended the event. The entire school stood and cheered as veterans entered the gymnasium.

Republicans dominated the November elections in Rockcastle County and won most races in the state. However Democrat Andy Beshear was re-elected as Governor.

Several grass and woods fires dominated the news in November as local firefighters battled blazes throughout the dry month.

Woodrow Lamb took an Alford plea in November. Lamb stood accused of burglary and robbery after an eight-month man hunt.

Also in November, officials held a ribbon cutting ceremony bringing the natural gas line to Rockcastle County after a 40-year fight for the service.

It was also announced in November that a new fiber optic broadband project would be coming to the county. The \$60 million project will bring high speed internet access to 16 counties, including Rockcastle.

For the third time, the Rockcastle Fiscal Court did not agree to provide the city of Livingston with \$1,000 per month in extra support above the \$1,000 in tourism support already guaranteed.

What many consider the biggest news of the year came on Thanksgiving Eve when a train derailment near Livingston caused the evacuation of the city and the Piney Branch area. The issue is still being discussed at most official meetings and some citizens of Livingston are still complaining of after effects from the chemical fire that resulted in the derailment.

December

In the first week of December, a class action lawsuit was filed against CSX Railroad Company after the derailment and chemical spill by residents of the area.

Also in December, the Noel Night Market, and city parades throughout the county were all called great successes.

Cold and flu cases picked up slightly in Rockcastle County in the last month of the year.

A disagreement about funding to the City of Livingston caused charges to be brought against the Mayor of Livingston, after an apparent altercation at the courthouse.

Snow made its first visit to the county in December and the RCHS FFA team took several regional awards home during the winter contest in Laurel County.

The school board tabled a project to install ADA compliant structures at the school and perform some paving work. But the project is expected to pick up again after the first of the year.

Livingston Police Chief Travis Davis handed out awards to some of those who went above and beyond the call of duty during the train derailment.

Brodhead

(Continued from front)

about serving the entire community, including other cities and providing mutual aid to all other departments. There was some discussion of methods to raise funds to be able to pay firefighters and Bullock said he is "bouncing around some ideas" but he informed the commission that "Something is going to have to change."

According to Becky Bussell, City Clerk, the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court provides \$900 every six months to help with fuel costs. "We appreciate that but we burn through that immediately. There is not an event in the county that one, two or three fire departments are not involved with in some way. We are asking too much of people who are volunteering," she said.

Chief John Dyehouse said the department is still waiting on promised funds from the CSX company for the fire department's work during the train derailment.

In other action, The commissioners noted that Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr. has made a big difference in the potential future of city projects. "Hal absolutely went to bat for us," said Emergency Management Director Brian Bussell.

"He heard our problem and went to Frankfort and spent several days meeting with the finance cabinet and presenting our case to other officials, finding a way to get us the money we have coming," Bussell is referring to several projects that total slightly over \$850,000 in grant and litigation funds that have been held up partly due to the lack of a city audit. "We have several big projects that are very important to our city and we already got the grant approvals," said Bullock. "But we couldn't get the funds released because we could not get our audits caught up. We have all the information needed for an audit but couldn't get anyone to do it. We were stuck until Hal came to our meeting and heard our problem.

He really fought for us in Frankfort and, between him and Josh Bray working for us and all fire departments, we are much closer to getting those funds in the bank."

Mayor Jerry Adams agreed. "Hal spent three days battling for us and thanks to him and Josh, we are finally getting somewhere," he said. "The money is restricted and can only be used for its intended purpose but Hal has moved the ball forward for us and now we can begin to move ahead on some very big projects for our city."

In other action, Commissioner Teddy Rose spoke up concerning trash at several residences in the city. Demonstrating his passion for the subject as he banged the table, Rose said "I am going to complain about this until you all kick me out of here or something is done about it," he said. "I will never stop talking about it. Whoever owns a house where such trash is located should be held accountable. I will bring it up every time until something is done." Rose suggested the city provide a letter to the resident. "I'll take it to them myself," he said.

City Clerk Becky Bussell said she will get copies of the ordinances involved and the process for forcing cleanup of such sites to Rose this week.

Bussell also said the city's last electric bill was \$1,100 more than usual. "Everyone I have talked to had a big increase this month in their electric bill," she said. "Residents and businesses have both reported greatly higher bills this month." Going around the room, commissioners reported their home utility bill also increased in the December bill. Commissioner Harold Taylor said part of the increase may be due to extra holiday lights and extra holiday cooking.

The commission also heard the police report as presented by chief Gary Alcorn. The report showed 13 complaints in the city and two in the county as well as four assists with other departments.

Commissioners also discussed the upcoming increase in water bills. The City of Brodhead gets its water from the City of Mount Vernon. In an effort to remove a bad taste and odor from the water system, the City of Mount Vernon is planning to build a new high-tech water basin. However, a large part of the cost of that basin will be made up through increased water bills to their customers.

One of the biggest water rate increases will be placed on the City of Brodhead who is expected to pay an average of about \$2,000 more per month.

The city clerk said the water rate to Brodhead customers will have to be increased to make up the increase in the city's cost, but officials will wait until they know exact numbers before looking into making any changes.

Bullock and other commissioners agreed that there may be other changes to Brodhead's water service once the rate hike is in place, but could not elaborate about those changes. "We have some ideas that we will discuss at a later date," said Bullock. "That is a pretty big increase and we may have to make some changes. There are

things that we may be able to do that would negate such an increase. Nothing is off the table."

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 12 at 6 p.m. at City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

After the meeting, commissioners remained at city hall and discussed several other issues related to potential improvements in the city and possible plans to expand services and territory.

Shot

(Continued from front)

cated when Loudermilk arrived on the scene.

Dawson was fatally wounded and was pronounced dead by the Rockcastle County Coroner.

An autopsy has been scheduled at the State Medical Examiner's Office and the case will be presented to a Rockcastle County Grand Jury.

Detective Loudermilk is continuing the investigation and was assisted by Post 11 personnel, Rockcastle County EMS and the Rockcastle County Coroner's office.

The incident is currently under investigation.

Bray

(Continued from front)

ing \$40 million in funding for a natural gas line from Lincoln County to Rockcastle County.

Bray was also the primary sponsor of HB29, which passed and was signed into law in the 2023 session, ensuring the federal government could never force state and local law enforcement to confiscate personal firearms.

In the most recent road plan for Rockcastle County, \$13.8 million was secured in funding for the widening project of KY-461 at the US-150 intersection.

Bray also helped secure over \$70 million in total funding in the last biennium budget for various projects for Rockcastle County

"It has been an honor to represent the incredible people of the 71st District," said Bray. "I am proud of the progress we've made together, but

there is still much work to be done. I am committed to continuing our efforts to create positive change, advocate for our community's needs, and ensure a bright future for all residents of this district."

"I pledge to remain consistently engaged with my constituents, actively listening to your concerns, and incorporating your feedback into legislative initiatives," Bray continued. "I have always attempted to be a vocal and proactive advocate for conservative policies that benefit and support the people of the district, such as those that protect 2nd Amendment freedoms and the rights of the unborn."

"As I launch my reelection campaign, I remain steadfast in my commitment to serving those in these communities with integrity, passion, and a tireless dedication to making a meaningful difference in the lives of its residents."

Drugs

(Continued from front)

Allen to perform field sobriety testing. Emerson then gave Allen permission to search his vehicle but no illegal substances were found.

Upon arriving at the Rockcastle Regional for a blood test, the citation says Emerson refused a blood test stating that he knew his blood would test "dirty."

While Allen was at the hospital with Emerson, Maupin, who had been waiting at the scene for a wrecker service, discovered a bag of suspected methamphetamine that had been tossed under the vehicle and not been found until the vehicle was moved. Emerson denied any knowledge of the meth.

Emerson was transported to the Rockcastle County Detention Center where he was charged with no registration, no registration receipt, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, failure to maintain insurance, failure to register the vehicle, failure to notify authorities of a change of address, operating on a suspended license, trafficking in a controlled substance and tampering with evidence.

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# SPORTS



Camryn Cash looks for a teammate during the Lady Rockets' 69-23 win over Somerset Friday night. The Lady Rockets are 12-3 on the season.

## Lady Rockets beat Somerset, Pulaski Co. and Dunbar

The Rockcastle Lady Rockets improved their record to 12-3 on the season last week, beating Somerset, Pulaski County and Dunbar.

The Pulaski County game was the only one ever in doubt with the Rockets winning on a last second shot by sophomore Taylor King giving them the 73-71 win.

During this stretch, the Lady Rockets established their first place position in the district standings (5-

0) and are ranked third in the region behind Danville (7-0) and Pulaski County 3-1. The regions are ranked by strength of schedule and Pulaski has a slight edge on Rockcastle in that category.

**Against Somerset,** the Lady Rockets took control of the game early and never looked back. Coach Chrysti Noble got to clear her bench early in the lopsided 69 to 23 win.

The Lady Maroons came into town undefeated and it looked the entire game as if they would stay that way.

However, with a little bit of luck and perseverance, the Lady Rockets managed to pull out a thriller 73-71.

Rockcastle started the game shaky, committing five straight turnovers before Macy Spivey managed to finally put in a two point basket with just under five minutes to go in the first quarter. Pulaski immediately sank their second three of the quarter and it was 10-2. Pulaski went on to win the quarter 22-13, sinking five threes in the period.

The Rockets rallied in the second quarter and tied the game early in the quarter at 33 all on a basket by Taylor King. The Rockets took their first lead of the game 30-29 on a basket by Spivey, at the 1:35 mark. Spivey added a three point basket in the quarter to give the Lady Rockets a 33-31 halftime lead.

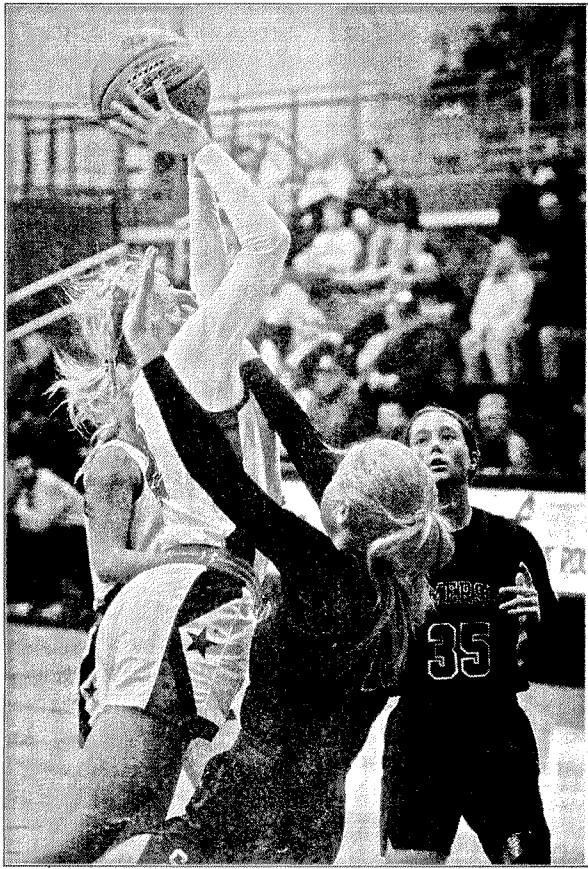
The Lady Rockets pulled away in the third quarter, leading 52-44 with 2:30 to go in the period but Pulaski rallied, with two three point baskets a two and one, and led 56-53 at the third quarter.

The Rockets jumped out to an early 8-2 lead and took the first quarter 26-9 and were ahead 43-15 at the half, before going on to win 69-23.

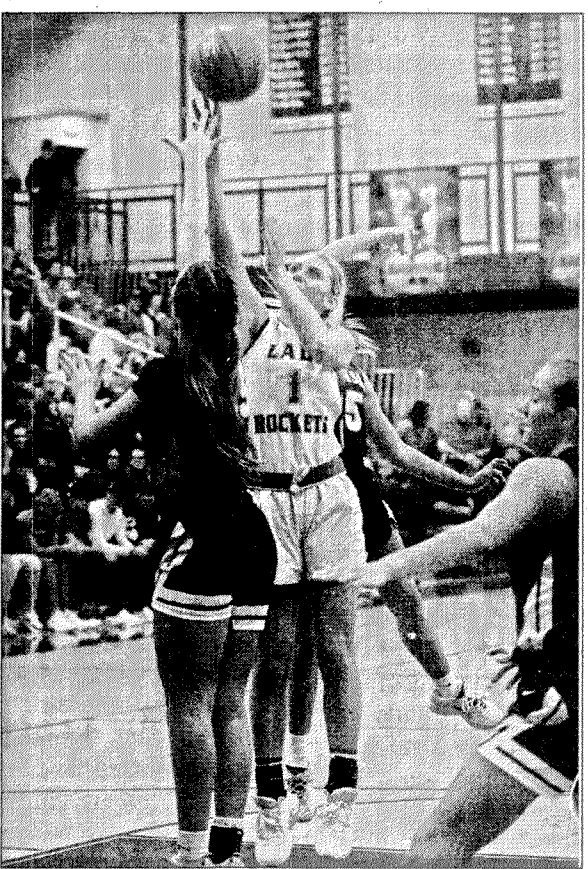
Macy Spivey took scoring honors for her team with 15 points; Taylor King and Haven King scored 12 points each; Markley Richards got 8; Camryn Cash 7; Tallyne Shearer scored 6; Abby DeLeon 4; Ella McKinney 3 and Kelsey Rowe 2.

Shearer won the rebounding war with six; H. King and McKinney got four each; Tessa Begley got 3; Richards two and T. King, Spivey, Rowe and Brylee Mullins were credited with one each.

**It was a completely different story against the Pulaski County Lady Maroons Friday night.**



Macy Spivey gets fouled going to the basket in the Lady Rockets' win over Somerset. Spivey led her team with 15 points and followed up with a 25 point performance against Pulaski and 22 against Dunbar.



After a steal, Taylor King put in the winning basket against Pulaski County as time ran out Friday night. The Lady Rockets took the district win 73-71. King had 22 points in the victory. Photo by Jamie Cornelius.

## Rockets lose to Somerset, Pulaski and Fairdale HS

The Rockets' win column took a hefty blow in their last three outings when they lost to district foes, Somerset and Pulaski Co. and to Fairdale High School in the Joe B Ball Classic at Montgomery County for a current season record of 8-7.

The Rockets lost to the Briar Jumpers at Somerset by two points, earlier in the season, and they hoped for redemption when the Briar Jumpers came to town

last Tuesday night by they wound up completely dominated, losing 81-61.

After being down 14-11 at the end of the first quarter, senior Skylar Durham tied the score at 14 all to begin the second quarter and Jace Rogers put the Rockets up 16-15. However, Somerset made two free throws and hit five threes out of six baskets to take a 34-28 halftime lead.

In the third quarter, the Briar Jumpers went up

38-30 and then went on another three point basket spree to lead 53-44 at the third quarter stop. Three more three baskets and 13/14 free throws in the fourth quarter and they sealed the 20 point win 81-61.

Walker Craig, with three three point baskets, led the scoring for his team with 17 points. Connor Hunt, who got into very early foul trouble and had to ride the bench until almost midway through the second quarter, and Skylar Durham each had 12 points; Trent Wilson scored 11; Rogers got 7 and Colton Cash two.

Durham led in rebounding with five, Rogers and Hunt got four each; Craig three; Caleb Moore and Wilson two each and one was unassigned.

**Against Pulaski County Friday night,** the Rockets led at the end of the first quarter 17-16, behind 12 first quarter points by Craig, and they were ahead 31-28 at the half.

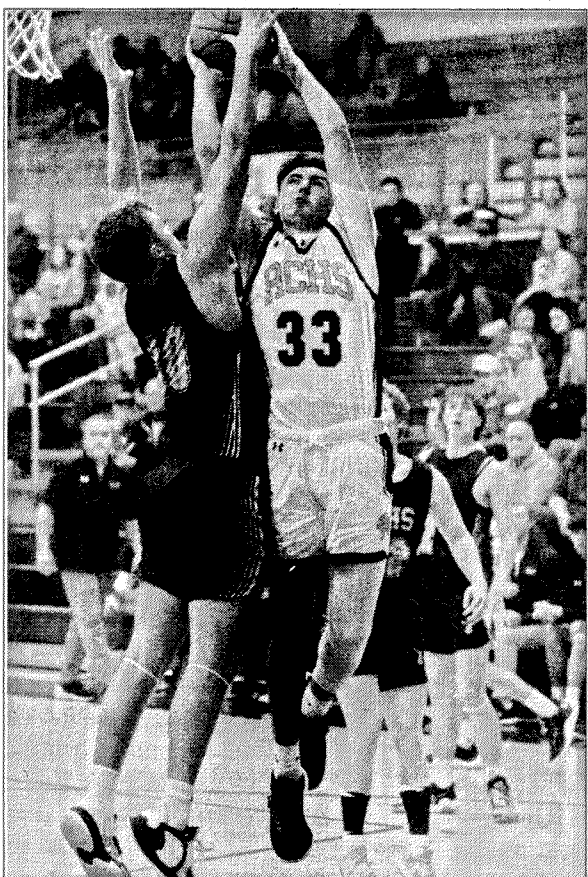
However, after being up 36-31, the Rockets went cold and PC went on a 8-1 run to take a 39-37 lead and were ahead 51-44 at the third quarter stop.

The Rockets regained the lead midway through the fourth quarter 52-51 and the score was tied at 53 all with 3:58 left in the game before a basket by Connor Hunt put the

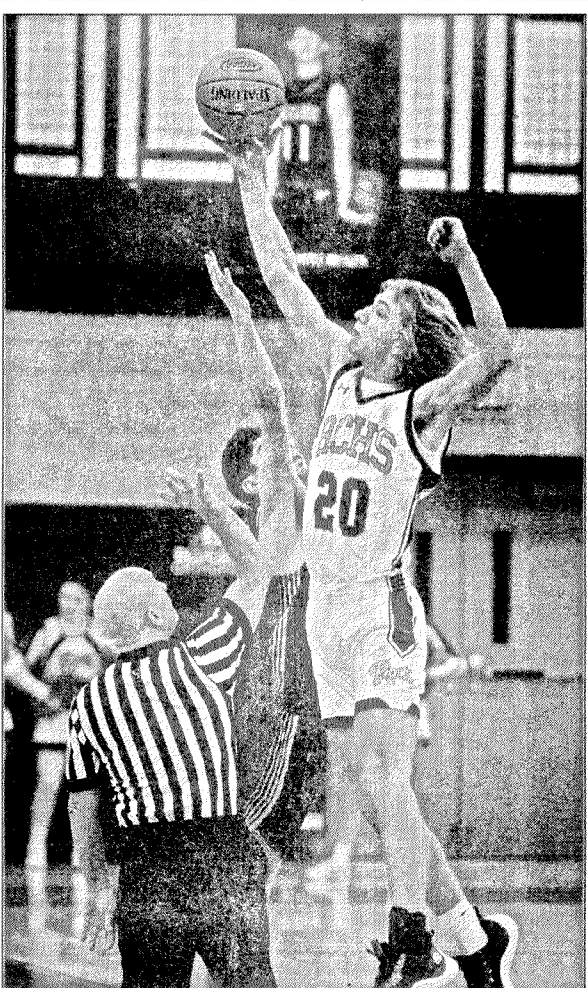
Rockets up 55-53. The Maroons then went ahead 61-55. Baskets by Craig and Wilson got the Rockets to within three with 16.2 seconds left in the game but, after a basket by Durham made it 65-64 Pulaski, the Rockets had to start fouling and the Maroons hit four straight for the 69-64 win.

Craig led the scoring with 24 points, including four threes and going 10/12 from the free throw line; Wilson got 11 points; Durham and Cash 10 each; Hunt scored six and Rogers three.

(Cont. to pg. A7)



Skylar Durham goes to the basket during the Rockets' loss to Somerset last week. Durham had 12 points and five rebounds in the loss.



Connor Hunt gets the tip at the start of the Rockets matchup with Somerset last week.



Walker Craig looks for a teammate in the Rockets' loss to Somerset last week. Craig led his team with 17 points.



# Historical Society has been given a new building

The Rockcastle County Historical Society has a new home which was donated to the society recently.

This gift was received by brothers Joseph Lambert, James Lambert and wife Brenda Lambert. Historical Society officials say they are very thankful to now have a place to store a large collection of Rockcastle County history and to share with its members.

The Society, President Debbie Brown, and executive board, met with Joseph Lambert on December 19, 2023 to discuss the gift and necessary transactions.

The Society is a 501c3 non profit and will be asking and applying for grants to renovate the building. Officials are in the process of seeking grants and private donations to get the building in working order to be able to accept collections and open it to the public

## Lady Rockets

(Continued from A6)

quarter stop. The fourth quarter began with two turnovers each by the two teams and then Rockcastle tied the score at 56 all on a three by T. King. The teams were tied again at 62 all but PC was ahead 69 to 64 with 58 ticks of the clock left in the game. King then put in two free throws and Tallyne Shearer scored a basket and tied the game, with a free throw, at 69 all with 19 seconds left. The Rockets went up 71-69 on a basket by Taylor King but Pulaski managed to tie the game again at 71 all. Spivey's shot missed but Taylor King wrestled the rebound away and put the basket in for the 73-71 win as time expired.

Spivey led her team in scoring with 25 points, including two three point baskets; Taylor King had 22 points and also got two three baskets; Shearer contributed 10 points Haven King scored nine and Camryn King got seven.

The Rockets had 25 turnovers to PC's 18 and six three point baskets to Pulaski's 12.

Shearer pulled down the most rebounds for her team with seven; H. King got four and Taylor King, Spivey and Cash were credited with three each.

The Lady Rockets also hit 13/15 free throws to 11/18 by the Lady Maroons.

**Rockcastle picked up another win Saturday** at Franklin County in the Simpson Tree Service Classic, defeating Paul Laurence Dunbar 78-56.

Shearer led in that game with 27 points, hitting 13/15 free throws, and Spivey contributed 22. Cash got 12 points, including two threes; Haven King scored six; Taylor King five and McKinney, Richards and Begley each scored two points.

The Lady Rockets pulled down a total of 36 rebounds in the game with Shearer getting 11; H. King and McKinney six each; Richards four; Cash three; T. King and Spivey two each and Mullins and DeLeon one each.

Rockcastle will next travel to Casey County for a doubleheader district matchup this Friday with the Rockets. Both teams will then host Wayne County on Tuesday, January 16th.

for research and for school children to have a source of learning about local history.

The Historical Society is currently working on several projects including digitizing current collections. Member, Markita Proctor is doing a regular article in the paper and the society also

has a Rockcastle Cemetery Book that is currently being published and will be available for sale very soon. If you would like to secure a copy of the book, send \$80 if you want to pick your book up in Mount Vernon and an additional \$20 for shipping, to the Rockcastle Historical So-

ciet. You can send your check to Rockcastle County Historical Society, 85 Spring Street, Mount Vernon 40456. The Rockcastle Historical Society would love to have your help. You may become a member, give a donation, or donate your time. All would be greatly appreciated.

## Legislative Update

By Brandon Storm  
State Senator

As we convene the 2024 regular session, I would like first to wish you a happy new year. I hope your holidays were filled with joy and laughter while spending quality time with family and friends.

The Senate convened for day one of the 2024 Legislative Session on Tuesday, January 2, with incredible renditions of our national anthem and "My Old Kentucky Home" by the 100th Army Band, Fort Knox. It was great to be joined in Frankfort by Casey County and Adair County law enforcement officials on the first day of the session. Twenty-ninth Judicial

Circuit Commonwealth's Attorney, the honorable Brian Wright, Casey County Sheriff Chad Weddle, and Adair County Sheriff Josh Brockman joined Senator Jimmy Higdon and me in the Senate chamber, where the body recognized them. We are grateful for their service and efforts to protect the public.

Legislative sessions in even-numbered years are budget sessions, consisting of 60 legislative days, unlike the shorter 30-day session in odd-numbered years. Short session years are intended to evaluate previously enacted policies and address any necessary legislative clean-up. As the Constitution of Kentucky outlines, the General Assembly must gavel into session on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in January and requires lawmakers to conclude legislative business on April 15.

The primary focus in the Senate on Week 1 was to officially confirm committee assignments and introduce initial legislation. The only two items constitutionally required by the General Assembly in this year's legislative session are to enact a new two-year state budget and road plan.

The Kentucky Constitution vests the exclusive

## Rockets

(Continued from A6)

Craig and Hunt were credited with four rebounds each, Rogers and Wilson each got three; Cash two and Moore, Kaleb Alexander and Durham one each with six unassigned.

**At the Joe B Ball Classic Saturday**, it was a tale of two halves, with the Rockets taking the first half 45-34 but Fairdale coming back to take the most important one 40-24.

Craig hit 7/13 three point shots to lead his team in scoring with 27 points; Hunt was close behind with 21 points; Rogers and Durham got seven each; Wilson scored five and Cash two.

The Rockets will journey to Casey this Friday night for a district doubleheader with the Lady Rockets and will then host Wayne County, with the girls' team, on Tuesday, January 16th.

power and duty to tax and spend public money on the General Assembly. Our state constitution requires balanced spending with available financial resources, which is good. While the federal government can borrow and incur trillions of dollars in debt, this is not an option for our state government. The precious tax dollars you entrust to your government must be spent with care and discipline, which is my intent as your state senator.

The total amount of taxpayer funding for the next two-year budget and road plan will be based on what was recently set by the Consensus Forecasting Group. According to this group of economic experts' best estimates, total general fund revenues—which result from sales, income and other taxes—are approximately \$31.6 billion over the 2025-2026 biennium, with road fund revenues resulting from gas and motor vehicle taxes are roughly \$3.7 billion. The state budget provides for state government operations and essential government services, and the road plans provide for investments in our roads, bridges, and highways.

I have the honor of serving as vice-chair of the Senate Transportation Committee. I will advocate for Casey, Laurel, Lincoln, and Rockcastle Counties throughout the process. It is a privilege to serve in my role alongside Chair Jimmy Higdon, who formerly represented Casey County before re-districting. He's been a fantastic source of information, and I appreciate his wisdom.

The state Senate will have the final crack at proposing a state budget and road plan. Our fingerprint will not be applied to the document until a proposal is passed out of the state House of Representatives. I will keep you updated throughout this critical process and will remain an advocate for our district.

On January 1, the second automatic reduction of our state income tax went into effect. House Bill (HB) 8 from the 2022 Legislative Session established the framework by which working Kentuckians' income tax could be decreased responsibly. During the 2023 Legislative Session, the General Assembly passed HB 1 and codified the first two tax reductions after HB 8's criteria were met. The January 1 income tax reduction lowers your income tax rate from 4.5 percent to 4 percent. By the end of 2024, HB 8 and the resulting individual income tax reductions will have resulted in approximately \$1.8 billion left in the pockets of taxpayers and consumers, providing you more of your own money to spend as you wish.

While the state budget and road plan will be our primary responsibility this session, there are many vital policy items to take care of. Each proposed measure, whether mundane or headline-worthy, will receive the debate and

deliberation required by the legislative process.

Beyond the biennial road plan, my legislative priority will be strengthening Kentucky's aerospace and aviation industry. I serve as co-chair of the Aerospace/Aviation Legislative Caucus and work with fellow co-chair Rep. Ken Fleming on measures to address workforce needs within the industry. We successfully authorized bond funding for regional airports to support capital projects in the previous state budget. I will look at additional budget measures that may boost the industry and improve airports like the London/Laurel regional airport.

Kentucky's aviation system is built for success, mainly due to our state's natural blessings, such as our central location, geographic diversity, rich history, and many industries. It's a good problem, but we need to address workforce shortages impacting this industry if we want it to soar to new heights. Rep. Fleming will soon introduce a legislative proposal in the state House of Representatives to establish a scholarship fund to support students entering the aviation field. The Constitution of Kentucky requires bills that appropriate money to originate in the state House, but I will carry the bill should it reach the Senate in hopes of giving it final passage and delivering it to the Governor's desk for his consideration.

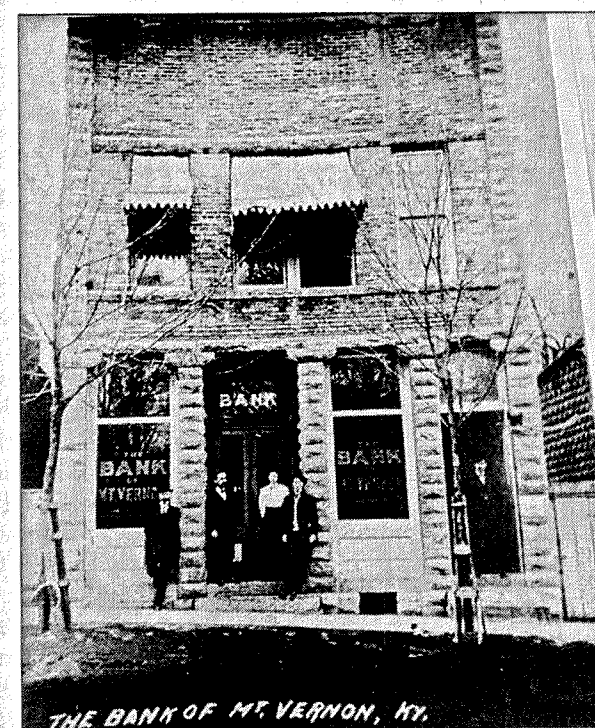
Feel free to share your thoughts throughout the session. Find the status of legislation by calling 866-840-2835, legislative meeting information at 800-633-9650, or leaving a message for lawmakers at 800-372-7181. You can watch and follow legislative activity at KET/org/legislature and Legislature.ky.gov.

## Mount Vernon student receives SCC Health Science Division Student of the Month

A recent graduate of the Somerset Community College Practical Nursing Program has been named the recipient of the SCC Health Sciences Division's Student of the Month for January. Stephanie Lamb of Mount Vernon received the award and is now a candidate for the Division's Student of the Year Award, to be announced in May.

Highly respected by her peers, Lamb was unanimously chosen to serve as class representative. She received an award for academic achievement and was selected the recipient of the "Outstanding Student Nurse Award" by her peers. She has worked at Baptist Health - Richmond as a patient care aide while enrolled in the program and continues to work there after graduation.

SCC's Practical Nursing Program prepares students to practice within the legal scope of practical nursing under the su-



## Mamaw's Kitchen

By Regina Poynter Hoskins

### CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP

2 chicken breast halves, boneless and skinless  
1 medium carrot, sliced  
1 stalk celery, sliced  
1 onion, chopped  
2 tablespoons butter  
1 cup water  
4 cups rich chicken broth  
1 cup uncooked egg noodles

Cut chicken into bite-sized pieces. In a 2-quart saucepan over medium-high heat sauté carrot slices, celery, onion, and chicken in butter for 5 minutes or until onions are tender. Add water and broth to the chicken mixture. Heat to a boil. Stir in the noodles. Reduce the heat to medium. Cook for 10 minutes or until the chicken is cooked through and the noodles are tender.

### TACO SOUP

1 pound chicken (shredded), ground beef or any meat  
1 onion, chopped  
1 can (16 ounce) pinto beans  
1 can (16 ounce) cannellini (white kidney) beans  
1 can (11 ounce) Rotel canned tomatoes w/chilies  
2 cans (14 ounces each) diced tomatoes  
1 can (4 ounce) green chilies (diced)  
2 cups water  
2 tablespoons taco seasoning mix  
1 ounce Hidden Valley Ranch dressing mix  
Cook meat and drain. Shred, if needed. DO

NOT DRAIN CANS! Add all ingredients to crock pot.

Stir. Cook on high for 2 hours or low for 4 hours. Keep on low until serving to keep hot.

Garnish with sour cream, shredded cheese, chopped green onions, or tortilla chips.

### VEGETABLE SOUP

This soup is perfect for those cool nights when you want something hot and nutritious that you can fix quickly. There is no fat in this soup, but it has plenty of flavors from the herbs and spices. I started making this soup after eating at a popular restaurant in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. They serve a small cup of this with every meal. This has become my brother-in-law's favorite soup.

1 can (14 ounce) petite diced tomatoes  
1/2 teaspoon dried celery  
1 can (29 ounce) Veg-all®, drained  
1 dash hot sauce  
1 cup water  
1/2 teaspoon sugar  
1/2 teaspoon dried oregano  
1/2 teaspoon dried chopped onion  
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder  
Pepper and Salt to taste

Add all ingredients to large soup pot. Bring to boil. Reduce heat and gently boil for 30 minutes. Or put in crock pot and let cook for 4-6 hours on low. No need to bring to boil first.

pervision of a registered nurse or physician. SCC offers a bridge program for practical nursing diploma graduates to obtain the associate degree in nursing. SCC's nursing program has been recognized at state and regional levels for its excellence and many graduates have gone on to obtain advanced degrees in the discipline. Nursing is a high-wage, high-demand profession.

Lamb was recommended for the award by program faculty member Carol Price. Price reports that Lamb is a "top student in the lecture, lab and clinical" portions of the program and was academically amongst the top in her class.

Lamb graduated with a diploma from the SCC Practical Nursing Program in December, 2023, and plans to work in the field of medical-surgical nursing. Her mother, Barbara Graves, has worked at Rockcastle Regional Hospital for 37 years, with the last 27 years being in a nursing role. She is married to Brandon Lamb and the couple is presently in the process of building a new home with their children Branson, Landon and Oaklee, with a fourth child due in August.

For more information about the SCC Licensed Practical Nursing Program, contact the Director of Nursing at ruth.martin@kctcs.edu.

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# Rockcastle Historical Haven

Presented by  
Rockcastle Historical Society

By: Markita Proctor

**The News**

Most people today get their news automatically with updates on their phones. We can search Google for updates, headlines, and news stories. X (formerly known as Twitter), Facebook, and even TIKTOK, give some account of national and world news. Now, the validity of that information is questionable, but the information is available nevertheless. One can turn on the radio and television for subscriptions to all news all the time channels. We can choose stations that cater to whichever way one may lean politically. But there was a time when people got their news from the newspaper. In an article titled "The Early Nineteenth-Century Newspaper Boom" from the americanantiquarian.org, says that the demand for news and newspapers grew dramatically in the early nineteenth century. In fact, "by the 1830s the United States had some 900 newspapers...the 1840 U.S. census counted 1,631 newspapers; by 1850 the number was 2,526, with a total annual circulation of half a billion copies."

The *Mountain Signal*, the first newspaper for the communities in Rockcastle County, was first published on November 3, 1887, as stated on the Library of Congress website. [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov). The paper was, according to the Library of Congress, "a four-page Democratic weekly..." The website goes on to say that the paper's first editor and co-owner was "Colonel" James Maret out of Garrard County. According to Mount Vernon Tourism, Meret wrote for the newspaper a column titled "Notes and Clips" Maret might have been considered progressive at the time. He pushed for opening up the mountains to civilization. The website, [chroniclingamerica.loc.gov](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov), a site dedicated to America's historic newspapers describes Maret as a man fascinated with innovation. It was this fascination that led him to "press for civic, regional, and state development throughout his life." Maret came to Rockcastle County

in 1877. He was known for being the force behind the creation of the Boone Way Highway, the 96-mile stretch from Crab Orchard to Cumberland Gap. Maret ran the paper for nearly three years before he sold his holdings to Edward Smith. Edward Smith, according to the Library of Congress publication, is said to have kept a caged Eagle in his office and changed the name of the paper to the *Mountain Eagle*. John Lair, in his book, *Rockcastle Recollections*, states this, "I seem to recollect that there was a paper published under the name of Mountain Eagle, published first at Livingston by a man named Smith who later date purchased and edited the *Mt. Vernon Signal*..." Smith did not keep the paper long, in 1896 James Maret bought it back from Smith and renamed it the *Mount Vernon Signal*, but sold it again in 1898 to Edward S. Albright, but Maret continued to write his column "Notes and Clips" covering the history of Rockcastle County. He maintained the column until his death in 1936.

One of Maret's last columns was republished in the November 28, 1968 edition of the *Signal*. In the article titled, "Rockcastle Fifty Years Ago", Meret discusses the Newcomb Hotel, conducted by M.P. Newcomb in 1883, and the Joplin Hotel which was located at the corner of Main and Church streets where the Cox building is located. He discusses the drug store operated by William M. Weber and the steam grist mill and wool carding factory that was operated by Willis Griffin "and a colored man named Hopper". The factory and mill were located at the bottom of the incline on East Main Street. He discusses several other establishments in old Mt. Vernon of the late 1800s. He states, "The town had three brick houses: the court house, Joplin Hotel, and Harrison Carpenter's store room." He goes on to discuss the fact that there were only 150 feet of brick pavement or sidewalks with some plank sidewalks, and some flat stones, but the rest he says was dirt. In the late 1800s,

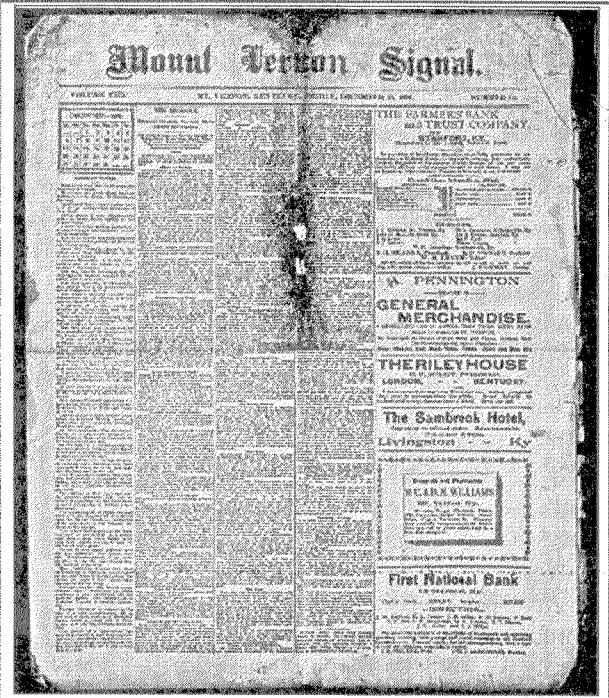
according to Maret, the prohibition law didn't forbid the sale of beer. Eventually, Representative Milton J. Cook had a bill passed that made the county completely dry. Maret does add the side note, the county was dry as far as the laws were concerned. Insinuating that there was still alcohol sold by the bootleggers. Maret addressed the "colored population" in the column as well as prominent farmers, historical houses, and The change of name for the area we now call Maretburg, which had previously been known as Mt. Guthrie. It had been named in honor of James Guthrie, president of the L & N Railroad at the time the railroad reached Mount Vernon in 1868. He discussed the Gresham Inn in Livingston, and James Albright who was running a store and a hotel in Brodhead. The column itself provides quite a history of Rockcastle County.

Like many other publications, the *Mount Vernon Signal* historically published national and world news right along side local

news.

Rockcastle Countians of the past could read about both world wars, the war in Vietnam, governmental decisions and bridge club meetings in Brodhead, the Bible Study Group from the Christian Church, and the comings and goings of locals. On any given week one could read columns about Brodhead, Livingston, and other small communities around Rockcastle. The *Mount Vernon Signal* was a way to let others know that your aunt had celebrated a birthday, mamaw had been sick, or cousins from Cincinnati had visited. One thing was usually certain, a fun time was usually had by all.

The paper changed hands and changed hands again over the years until eventually landing in the able hands of Mr. Jim Anderkin and family. Even in these times of fast news, fake news, and right and left-leaning slanted news, we can still depend on the *Mount Vernon Signal* for Rockcastle County news.



**Foster - Daugherty**

William Andrew Daugherty and Emily Rebecca Foster were united in marriage on September 16, 2023 at 3R Barn in Williamsburg, Kentucky.

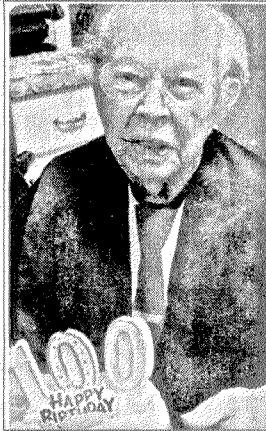
William is a 2017 graduate of Rockcastle County High School, and Emily is a 2019 graduate of Corbin High School.

They met at University of the Cumberlands where they worked together on the Baptist Campus Ministries team for two summers. William and Emily graduated from University of the Cumberlands in 2021 and 2023 respectively.

They reside in Williamsburg where William works for the university as a resident hall director, and Emily is an English teacher at Whitley County Middle School.

William is the son of John and Lonetta Daugherty of Mount Vernon, Kentucky; grandson of Burgess Daugherty and the late Barbara Daugherty of Livingston, Kentucky; and Lonnie Dillingham and the late Loretta Dillingham of Mount Vernon, Kentucky. Emily is the daughter of Derrick and Lisa Foster of Corbin, Kentucky; granddaughter of Tom Foster and the late Helen Foster of Corbin, Kentucky; and Richard and Mary Clark of Corbin, Kentucky.

## 100th Birthday Celebration



**Russ Harper recently turned 100 years old in December. He was born on December 12, 1923 in Bloss, Kentucky. He entered the military in 1943 and served in WWII returning home to Rockcastle County on Christmas Day, 1945. He was married to Geneva Bullock in 1946 and they lived in Rockcastle until the mid 1950s. Russ is doing well and resides with his daughter, Brenda and her husband, Charlie Hilton in West Chester, Ohio. He enjoys talking, loves his dogs and watching for deer. He is bravely battling Alzheimers but is dealing with it like a trooper. He knows he has made it to his 100th birthday and is very happy about that. He is very proud to be from Mount Vernon and longs to visit regularly. So, hats off to you Sergeant Russell Harper. Your family loves you and is proud of you. Thank you for your service.**

## Sticks and Stones May Break Ones Bones But Words Can Destroy Ones Soul

James 3:6-10 warns us of how dangerous our tongues can be. James says, the tongue is as fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body and sets on fire the course of nature; and it sets on fire by Hell. (7) For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. (8) But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. (9) with it we bless our God and father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. (10) Out of the same mouth proceed blessings and cursing. My brethren these things ought not to be so.

Words that hurt can change the course of one's life. Matt 15:11 says, it is not what goes into the mouth but what comes out of it that defiles the man. Every word we speak have direction, either that of life or that of death. Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue; and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

If we were to go to a foreign country and we spoke, our identity would be given away by our accent. The same goes for when we speak, our identity will be given away by the way that speaks from our heart rather we are a Christian or not.

Luke 6:45 says, a good man out of the treasurers of his heart bringeth that which is good; and an evil man out of his evil treasure of his heart bringeth that which is evil; for the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

When we pray, we need to ask God to help us with out tongue as we read in {Psalms 141:3, set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth keep watch over the door of my lips.

In conclusion, let our tongue speak as the example that is acceptable in the site of the Lord.

Proverbs 16:24 Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones.

Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void; but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Psalms 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be accepted in thy sight O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Romans 10:10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation

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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

**NOTES AND CLIPS** By COL. JIM MARET Lexington, Kentucky

**ROCKCASTLE FIFTY YEARS AGO**

Mount Vernon in 1887. The old wood mill, located in the rear of the court house, was a A. B. Davis, was a noted teacher and was in the rear of the court house. The old wood mill was located in the rear of the court house. The old wood mill was located in the rear of the court house.

James E. Allen, was the author, in attending a law school in Louisville. The old wood mill, located in the rear of the court house, was a A. B. Davis, was a noted teacher and was in the rear of the court house. The old wood mill was located in the rear of the court house.

William M. Weber had a drug store on north side of Main street and J. L. Winstead was in a general store on south side of Main street, having succeeded James H. Adams. William M. Weber had a drug store on north side of Main street and J. L. Winstead was in a general store on south side of Main street, having succeeded James H. Adams.

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## Appreciating quality

### Brodhead Fire Department annual awards dinner

By: Mike French  
Editor

Members of the Brodhead Fire Department (BFD) held their annual Christmas/Awards Dinner Saturday evening presenting awards to firefighters who have made a difference in the department, the city and the lives of those needing assistance, according to assistant Chief Brian Bullock.

Following a meal from Chelo's Mexican Restaurant of Brodhead, Chief John Dyehouse and Bullock presented numerous awards, highlighting a portion of the hard work and dedication that firefighters have shown throughout the year.

The 2023 Firefighter of the Year Award was presented to Dallas Bussell. The award was selected by a vote of members of the department.

The Officer of the Year Award was presented to Captain Brad Todd and the Rookie of the Year Award was presented to firefighter Logan Brown. Both awards were chosen through votes from the members of the department.

The Larry Taylor Scholastic Excellence Award was presented to firefighter James Brown. This award is presented to the member who has shown great strides in furthering their education as related to the fire service and was selected by BFD officers.

The 2023 Chris Kerns 110% Award was presented to firefighter Samantha Reynolds. This award is presented to the member of the department who "goes above and beyond" in their day to day duties as a firefighter.

The 2023 Everett

Albright Gear-Em-Up Award was presented to Lane Perry. This award signifies the member who invests the most dedicated time to ensure the success of all new members of the department.

The prestigious Life-Saving commendations were handed out toward the end of the event. These commendation are awarded to those members, who during the course of their duties directly contribute to an incident in which a life was saved. There were ten Life Saving Commendations handed out and all the awards together involved four calls for service responded to by BFD.

Those receiving life saving commendations were firefighters Holly Brown, James Brown, Trace Boone, Lane Perry, Logan Brown and Chris-

tian Sagraves. Also receiving the commendations were Lieutenant Larkin Prewitt and Captain Brad Todd, who each received two such commendations since they were directly involved in two calls where a life was saved. Also receiving the life saving commendations were Captain Bryanna Mullins and assistant Chief Brian Bullock.

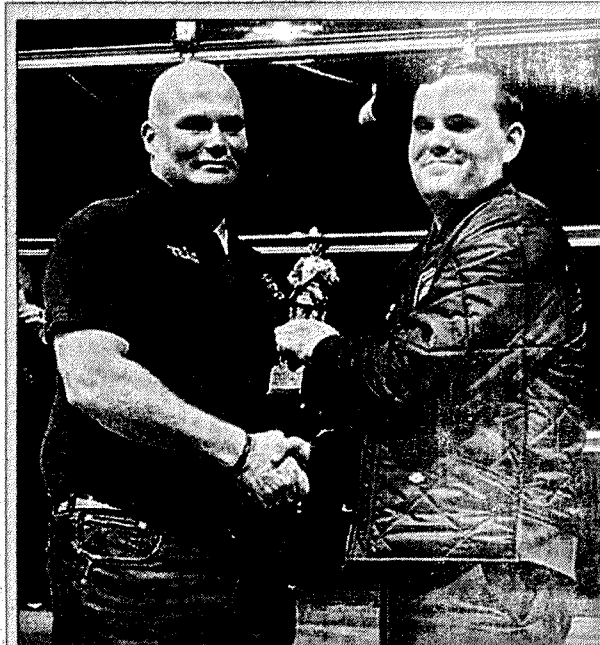
To end the evening, department officials recognized those who have stuck with their desire to help others in need and have been with the department for 10 years or more.

Those receiving 10-years of service plaques were firefighter Ray Hensley, firefighter Dylan Hensley, firefighter Tyler Sowder and Lieutenant Larkin Prewitt. Receiving recognition for 20 years of ser-

vice was Captain Curtis Burton.

Officials with the department say they are proud of every member of the department and are currently involved in a

recruitment drive. Anyone interested in becoming a firefighter, should contact their local department. Training and equipment are provided free for all volunteers.



The Brodhead Fire Department Firefighter of the Year award was presented to Dallas Bussell (right) and was given by Assistant Chief Brian Bullock.

## Recognizing excellence

### Mount Vernon Fire Department annual awards Dinner

By: Mike French  
Editor

Members of the Mount Vernon Fire Department (MVFD) held their annual Awards Dinner Saturday night at the Farmers Market building recognizing firefighters who have gone above and beyond the call of duty over the past year, according to Chief Adam Bales.

Those recognized for years of service were David Fish, Nichole Griffin, Keaton McClure, Camden Mink, Michael Parsons and Jason Lockard with five years of service each. Jeremy Neal was recognized for 15 years of service to the department.

A special recognition was also given to those who performed tireless duties following the CSX train derailment near Livingston in November. Those who received recognition for their service during the derailment and evacuation were Chief David Bales, Captain Steve Griffin, Lieutenant Wesley Durham, as well as firefighters Nichole Griffin, Keaton McClure, James Hursey, Camden Mink, Filo Ramirez and Brian Wynn.

The Rookie of the Year Award, which was voted by his peers, went to James Hursey.

In the peer vote for Firefighter of the year,

there was a tie and both firefighters received awards. They were Camden Mink and Filo Ramirez.

The Officer of the Year award was presented to Lieutenant Brandon Evans.

Special recognition was given to one non-firefighter. Becky Griffin, mother of firefighter Nichole Griffin, for her many years of service and support to the department.

Recognition for the most responses throughout the year was presented to firefighter Keaton McClure and a recognition for most training hours in 2023

went to Filo Ramirez.

In a special recognition, the department offered an Appreciation and Service award to David Bales, father of Chief Adam Bales, for his 60 years of service to the community. David Bales could not be present for the event due to health issues but he recently informed the Mount Vernon City Council of his retirement as Chief of the MVFD. The council accepted his recommendation of Adam Bales as the new chief.

Members of the department discussed the countless accomplishments of David Bales

over the 60 years of service and his immeasurable contributions to helping the department grow and better serve the

community.

Anyone interested in becoming a firefighter will receive training and equipment free of charge.



Mount Vernon Fire Department Firefighters of the Year awards presented by Chief Adam Bales (far right) went to Filo Ramirez (left) and Camden Mink (center).

### Thirteen indictments handed down for nineteen individuals

By: Mike French  
Editor

A Rockcastle County Grand Jury handed down 13 indictments for 19 individuals on Friday, December 22. Those individuals who were indicted and their offenses are listed below.

Jamie C. Medley, 47, of Orlando was named on two separate indictments. In the first indictment, the grand jury charged that Medley committed the offense of assault in the second degree by intentionally causing physical injury to James Mink by means of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument.

His bond was set at \$10,000 cash/property (c/p). The second indictment charges Medley with possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and tampering with physical evidence. Medley's bond was set on the second indictment at \$5,000 c/p.

Ricky L. Fletcher, 30, of Hagerhill, Kentucky, was indicted for the offense of arson in the first degree by intentionally starting a fire in a building that was occupied, criminal mischief for damaging or destroying property and two counts of wanton endangerment, by creating a substantial danger to others.

Fletcher's bond was

set at \$50,000 c/p.

Benjamin F. Jones, 53, of Livingston, was indicted on a charge of promoting contraband into the Rockcastle County Detention Center.

His bond was set at \$2,500 c/p.

Brandy M. Snowden, 47, of Mount Vernon, and Hubert D. Stewart, 43, of Winchester were each named in two separate indictments.

In the first indictment, Snowden was indicted on a charge of trafficking in a controlled substance (more than 2 grams of methamphetamine) and operating a vehicle under the influence. In the same indictment, Stewart was indicted on a charge of trafficking in a controlled substance (more than 2 grams of methamphetamine). Snowden's and Stewart's bond was set at \$20,000 c/p.

April M. Harrison, 35, and Johnathan J. Payne, 28, both of Mount Vernon, were both named in a joint indictments. Each was indicted on the charge of possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Both defendants were placed under a \$5,000 c/p bond.

Rebecca Lynn Green, 43, of Mount Vernon was indicted on a charge of possession of a controlled substance (methamphet-

amine).

Green's bond was set at \$5,000 unsecured.

Jesse Owen Mason, Jr., 18, of Livingston, was indicted on a charge of receiving stolen property (greater than \$1,000).

His bond was set at \$5,000 unsecured.

Dwane A. Nave, 59, of Nicholasville and Timothy Allen Payne, 51, of Hustonville, were named in a joint indictment. Nave was indicted on a charge of possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and operating a vehicle under

the influence. Payton was indicted on a charge of possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine). Each defendant placed under a \$5,000 bond

Robert Michael Langston, 45 and Brandi Michelle Langston, 37,

both of Frankfort, were named in a joint indictment. Both defendants were indicted on a charge of fraudulent use of a credit card and receipt of a credit card belonging to another individual. Each defendant received a bond of \$10,000 c/p.

### Rockcastle Regional Named Among Best by U.S. News & World Report

Rockcastle Regional Hospital and Respiratory Care Center has been recognized as a 2024 Best Nursing Home for both Long-Term Care and Short-Term Rehabilitation by U.S. News and World Report.

Only 19 percent of the U.S. skilled-nursing facilities earned the "Best Nursing Home" designation. Rockcastle Regional earned its place on the list by achieving the highest possible rating, "High Performing," for its long-term care services and its short-term rehabilitation program.

"Receiving this recognition is a testament of our dedication to delivering compassionate and comprehensive care to our patients," said chief nursing officer, Tammy Brock, RN, MSN. "It is an affirmation of the hard work and dedication of our skilled healthcare professionals who strive each day to

make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve."

For the 2024 designation, U.S. News rated more than 15,000 nursing homes on residents' outcomes — such as infection rates, staffing levels, appropriate use of antipsychotic drugs, and health inspection results, among other quality indicators.

This is the fifth year the organization has received this designation for Long-Term Care. "Nursing homes that have earned the recognition of U.S. News have a track record of achieving better outcomes for patients and residents, and maximizing the amount of care they receive from nurses and other staff," said Ben Harder, chief of health analysis and managing editor at U.S. News.

"Our unique facility has been recognized nationally for our work with residents who require mechanical

ventilation," said Rockcastle Regional president and CEO, Stephen A. Estes. "Our mission is to be the best care facility for our patients, in all aspects of their care and quality of life. The fact we are receiving this designation for the fifth year shows the consistent quality of the dedicated team we have and the caring work they do each day."

Rockcastle Regional Hospital and Respiratory Care Center is a not-for-profit community healthcare system that operates an emergency department, outpatient services, a 26-bed acute care hospital, a 4-bed intensive care unit, a 143-bed long-term care program for residents who are dependent upon mechanical ventilation, a quick care clinic, and three rural health clinics. Rockcastle Regional Hospital was established in 1956 and is accredited by the Joint Commission. The organization is a thirteen-

time Kentucky Hospital Association Quality Award Winner, was named a "Best Places to Work in Kentucky" 2016-2019 and 2021, a U.S. News & World Report Best Nursing Home for 2013, 2014, 2019-20, 2022-23, and 2024; a winner of the Women's Choice Award for America's 100 Best Hospitals for Patient Experience 2013-2021 and 2022; was recognized with the Women's Choice Award as an America's Best Emergency Care Hospital in 2015, 2016, 2018; and was honored by the Women's Choice Award as an America's Best Hospital for Outpatient Experience 2019-2023. The organization has a rich history of community service and was recognized for that commitment in 2013 with the Jackson Healthcare Charitable Services Award. For more information, please visit [www.rockcastleregional.org](http://www.rockcastleregional.org).



# Classifieds

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- Local Rates - \$5 for 25 words or less - .10 each additional word
- Display Classifieds \$5.00/Inch

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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. 14xntf

**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 606-308-2491

**Property For Sale**

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

**Posted**

**Posted:** No trespassing on property owned by Shannon Hellard on Cove Branch Road in Rockcastle County. All violators will be prosecuted. 8/17/23

**Posted:** No trespassing or hunting on land belonging to Wayne and Marie Bullock on Kincade Ridge Road. 39x24

**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:** Absolutely no trespassing on land belonging to L.J.L. Honeycomb LLC for any reason. Formerly known as Christ Outreach for the Blind. Violators will be prosecuted. 33(23)x25

**Posted:** No hunting or trespassing on farms, belonging to Gary and Peggy Roberts, on KY 3245. Violators will be prosecuted. 46(24)x52

**Posted:** No hunting or trespassing on land belonging to Orville and Bernice Burkhardt on Cove Branch, Livingston, Mt. Vernon. **Anyone entering the property must be with Orville Burkhardt.** Violators will be prosecuted. 35/23x51p

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

**Posted:** No hunting or trespassing on the former Berl Hopkins' land (now belonging to Judy Hopkins-Marsh) on KY 461 near US 150 and KY 461 intersection. 40(23)x25

**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. 25tf

**Notices**

Notice is hereby given that Bobby Halcomb, P.O. Box 49, Brodhead, KY 40409 has been appointed Executor of the Estate of Carolyn M. Halcomb, deceased, on the 3rd day of January, 2024. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Bobby Halcomb or to Hon. John D. Ford, P.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before July 3, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. 47x3

**Miscellaneous For Sale**

Cresthaven Cemetery Plots. Contact Billy Dowell, 606-308-1058. 39xntf

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**Bid Notice: The Housing Authority of Berea is taking bids on two mowers.** This will be sealed bid process and bids will be accepted until Friday January 19th at 4pm. The bids will be opened publicly at the Housing Authority of Berea Board of Commissioners Meeting on Monday January 22nd, 2024. The meeting begins at 11:30. The winning bidder will be contacted January 22nd, 2024. To place a bid please mail in your bid amount name, address, and phone number to The Housing Authority of Berea 110 Orchard Street Berea, Ky 40403. If you would like to see the equipment, please contact the Housing Authority of Berea office 859-986-4436 or email [berhousing@windstream.net](mailto:berhousing@windstream.net).  
2012-Grasshopper 61 inch cut with Collection System  
204 Hours, Minimum bid is \$3,200.00.  
2017 Grasshopper 52 inch cut with Collection System  
881 Hours, Minimum bid is \$5,000.00.

**Suicide Warning Signs for Youth**

**It's time to take action if you notice these signs in family or friends:**

1. Talking about or making plans for suicide.
2. Expressing hopelessness about the future.
3. Displaying severe/overwhelming emotional pain or distress.
4. Showing worrisome changes in behavior, particularly in combination with the warning signs above, including significant:
  - Withdrawal from or changing social connections/situations.
  - Changes in sleep (increased or decreased).
  - Anger or hostility that seems out of character or out of context.
  - Recent increased agitation or irritability.

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available.  
**Call or text 988 or chat [988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org), or reach out to a mental health professional.**

**Suicide Warning Signs for Adults**

Risk is greater if a behavior is new or has increased, and if it seems related to a painful event, loss, or change.

- Talking about or making plans for suicide.
- Acting anxious or agitated; behaving recklessly.
- Talking about being a burden to others.
- Talking about feeling trapped or in unbearable pain.
- Increasing the use of alcohol or drugs.
- Talking about feeling hopeless or having no reason to live.
- Sleeping too little or too much.
- Withdrawing or feeling isolated.
- Showing rage or talking about seeking revenge.
- Displaying extreme mood swings.

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available.  
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# News from the Rockcastle Courthouse



## Deeds Recorded

Judy Scalf, property on Foggy Hollow Road, to April Regina Scalf. No tax

Karen Lynn and Bryan Curtis Leach, Sr., property in Hunters Ridge Subdv., to James Miller II and Skylar Miller. Tax \$326

Claretta Hodges, property in Rolling Hill Subdv., to Tommy E. and Claretta Hodges. No tax

Tommy E. Hodges, property in Rolling Hills Subdv., to The Hodges Family Irrevocable Trust. No tax

Anthony Eugene Cromer, property on the waters of Calloway Branch, to Jaleigh Hayes. No tax

Tommy Cope, property in Rockcastle County, to Brandi Sue Alexander. No tax

James Earl Miller II and Dawn Miller, property in Mountain View Estates, to Jamie and Brooklyn Price. Tax \$186

Travis Ray and Morgan Nicole Frith, property on Brindle Ridge Road, to Andrew M. Stone. Tax \$501

Gary and Annaleen Holman, property in Copper Creek Community, to Ronald and Sandy Holman. No tax

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, property in Sunnysdale Estates, to James A. Campbell. No tax

Nelson McFerron, George R. McFerron, Cassandra Johnson and Steven Johnson, property

in Livingston, to Nelson McFerron. No tax

Curtis and amber Miller, property in Rockcastle County, to Charles and Melissa Miller. Tax \$33

Harold Ray and Sandy Whitaker, property in Rockcastle County, to L&C Holdings, LLC. Tax \$150

John and Jessica Lawson and Darrin and Ceryl Chasteen, property in Renfro Valley, to L&C Holdings, Inc. No tax

M.S.P.C. Development, Inc., property in Sunny Side Estates, to Sunny and Sunny J. Hollin. Tax \$16

K&S Land Co. of Southeastern Ky., LLC, property on US 25, to Faith Day and Tateton Scott Asher. Tax \$143

Marvin and Darlene Mink, property in Mt. Vernon, to Nob le Automotive and Fuel, LLC. Tax \$330

Ricky Lee and Elizabeth Ann Pittman, property on Laws Road, to Angie Payne and Derrick Pittman. No tax

Cox Real Estate, LLC, property on Laws Road, to Cartco, Inc. No tax

Vadd Co., property on Old US 25, to Cox Real Estate, LLC. No tax

Cox Real Estate, LLC, property in Mt. Vernon, to Sigco, LLC. No tax

Ricky Wayne and Virginia A. Miller, property in Level Green section, to David Perkins. Tax \$225

Phillip and Felicia Hampton, property on Hysinger Road, to Larry Mink. Tax \$140

Larry Dale Mink and Tabitha Gray, property in Cedar Heights Subdv., to

Tabitha Gray. No tax

Kenneth D. and Patricia E. Hisel, property in Rockcastle County, to Hisel Investments, LLC. No tax

Kenneth D. and Patricia E. Hisel, property in Sunny Side Estates, to Hisel Investments, LLC. No tax

Rita Bishop, property in Rockcastle County, to Rodney Cameron. Tax \$6

Bertha Faye Holbrook, property on Lake Linville Road, to John Anthony Holbrook and Cynthia C. Holbrook. No tax

Philip R. Mann, lots in Fugate Subdv., to Melissa Severance. No tax

M.S.P.C. Development, Inc., property in Sunny Side Estates, to Tallina Rayburn. Tax \$14.50

Rhonda Jarvis, Lisa Wallin and William Ray and Gretta Faye Barnett, property in Copper Creek Community, to Lisa Wallin. Tax \$5

Dallas H. and Ruby Brock and seven others, property in Virgil Lee Brock plat, to Robert Phillips and Julie Phillips. Tax \$66

Dallas H. and Ruby Brock, and seven others, property in Virgil Lee Brock plat, to Slaty Branch Farms, LLC Tax \$150

not illuminated, bench warrant (bw) issued for failure to appear (fta)/license suspended.

Garrett Dean Tompkins: no/expired registration plates - receipt, bw issued for fta.

William J. Miller: speeding, operating on suspended/revoked operators license, bw issued for fta/license suspended.

Jermie Moore: operating on suspended/revoked operators license, bw issued for fta.

Brooke Shay Nicely: no/expired registration plates - receipt, failure of nonowner operator to maintain req. insurance and three other charges, bw issued for fta/license suspended.

Speeding: William Anthony Baggett, \$50 plus costs; Jamie Pearl Neal, \$36 fine plus costs; Jeremiah Lee Peyton, \$20 fine plus costs; Taylor N. Strunk, \$30 fine plus costs.

Robin Wayne Whitt: P 393, Federal Safety Regs, Parts Needed for Safe Operation and two counts Pt 396, Fed. Safety Regs inspect/Repair/Maintenance, bw issued for fta.

David Chad Philpot: criminal mischief, two counts of theft by unlawful taking, bw issued for fta.

Colin Wayne Powers: operating vehicle w/expired operators license, no/expired registration plates - receipt, failure to produce insurance card, bw issued for fta.

Art Bernard: improper gross weight registration, \$25 fine plus costs.

Ellis Jacob Rohnner: no operators/moped license, 30 days in jail/credit time served.

Joshua H. Brewer: dis-

orderly conduct, 10 days in jail/credit time served/costs waived.

Logan McGuire: probation violation, 365 days in jail/credit time served.

Jessica Nunnally: probation violation, 365 days in jail/credit time served.

Ethan Dayna Jin-Seong Chang: speeding and five other charges, bw issued for fta.

Earl W. Daniels: failure to wear seat belts, failure to produce insurance card, bw license suspended for fta.

David K. English: failure to give right of way to emergency stopped vehicle, \$50 fine plus costs.

Delonie Graham: traffic in marijuana and three other charges, bw issued for fta.

Bennett Hayes: theft by unlawful taking, 90 days/probated 24 months on condition, \$100 fine/costs waived/\$665 restitution

Daniel Robert Spence:

failure of owner to maintain req. insurance/security, \$500 fine/costs waived.

Amarjit Singh: failure to wear seat belts, license suspended for fta.

## Marriage Licenses

Angel Marie Dawn Fultz, 20, Crab Orchard, unemployed and Branson Wayne Pruett, 20, Crab Orchard, blacktop. 12/16/23

Judena Annmarie Craig, 30, Mt. Vernon, self-employed and Matt Ryan Peace, 44, Mt. Vernon, unemployed. 12/20/23

Makenzie Ann McCaffery, 23, Jacksonville, NC, transportation specialist and John Gilbert Eaton IV, 24, Mt. Vernon, US Marines. 12/29/23

## District Court

12/13/23 - 1/1/24

Hon. Kathryn G. Slone

Hon. Benjamin R. Hardy

Megan Kelly Rose Gambrell: failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, rear license

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*Gospel Singing*  
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	3		9				1	4
5	8		4					
4							3	
	6	8			1		7	
				3		1		
	9			5	4	2		
						5	6	1
	1						8	
	7		6					

**Remember!**

OUR ALL NATURAL SOAPS  
are great for Eczema, Psoriasis,  
Dry Itchy Skin and Acne!



## SUGAR'S PUZZLE PAGE

### SWEET DREAMS

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13		
14						15					16					
17					18						19					
20									21							
				22		23	24		25							
26	27	28			29			30		31			32	33	34	
35					36				37			38				
39				40						41	42					
43								44					45			
46					47	48		49				50				
					51			52		53			54			
				55	56					57			58	59	60	61
62										63	64					
65							66						67			
68							69						70			

- ACROSS
- 1) Some former tadpoles
  - 5) Borders
  - 10) Small unit of measure
  - 14) Con (vigorously)
  - 15) Fill the tank
  - 16) Small grimace or pout
  - 17) Extremely casual footwear
  - 20) Beefy bovine
  - 21) Ceremonies
  - 22) Makes a drink last
  - 25) Brown alternative
  - 26) Turkish honorific
  - 29) What "no news" is
  - 31) Stink
  - 35) Some fraternity letters
  - 36) Bury in a vase, e.g.
  - 38) Local knowledge
  - 39) Preparing to be laid up
  - 43) Neither under nor over par
  - 44) Bo-o-ring
  - 45) Chicken part
  - 46) Closer to black
  - 49) Tree-climber's helper
  - 50) out a living
  - 51) Stave
  - 53) Slope apparatus
  - 55) Concerning flora
  - 58) Try a different knot
  - 62) Quaint accommodations
  - 65) Creator of many quotations, apparently
  - 66) Units of Iranian currency
  - 67) "The Ten Commandments," for one
  - 68) Cowpoke's charge
  - 69) They wear pinstripes at home
  - 70) Poorly thought-out

### Winter

W	E	B	E	C	A	L	P	E	R	I	F	Y	L
L	E	L	N	M	R	W	I	W	O	S	D	O	T
E	F	A	O	W	F	D	R	N	I	O	S	A	I
W	A	N	E	I	I	L	G	O	I	N	G	K	W
N	I	K	E	O	D	O	L	S	R	E	D	E	W
L	C	E	I	N	A	K	O	F	N	T	I	Y	F
N	O	T	S	H	R	Y	V	O	O	E	I	B	R
A	A	S	F	D	K	E	E	S	S	I	N	O	O
M	T	W	S	E	C	I	S	A	O	T	N	S	S
W	S	W	O	O	L	L	Y	H	A	T	R	A	T
O	R	N	S	L	W	F	R	E	E	Z	I	N	G
N	B	I	E	M	T	O	S	D	L	O	C	L	K
S	O	T	G	N	I	W	O	N	S	F	I	I	S
P	I	S	S	N	E	T	T	I	M	S	O	Y	N

- WOOLLY HAT  
FREEZING  
COLD  
ICE  
SNOWMAN  
WINDY  
MITTENS  
COATS  
GLOVES  
FIREPLACE  
FROST  
BLANKETS  
DARK  
SNOWING
- DOWN
- 1) Draws away from shore
  - 2) Worrisome guitar part?
  - 3) Threat to a sand castle
  - 4) Saddle (cowboy's woc)
  - 5) "Long, Long"
  - 6) Loud thud
  - 7) "Miracle on Ice" losing team
  - 8) Dutch flower
  - 9) Treats maliciously
  - 10) Forms a jury
  - 11) December doorstep number
  - 12) Canine crossbreeds
  - 13) "just one of the guys"
  - 18) Beginning
  - 19) Kick without a tee
  - 23) First commercial video game
  - 24) Went (turned bad)
  - 26) Pitched in, and got a hand
  - 27) Pear-shaped fruit
  - 28) One who inquires
  - 30) What hungry wolves do
  - 32) Barnes' partner
  - 33) Up the without a paddle
  - 34) Stretch of shrubbery
  - 37) Hold to a .000 batting average
  - 40) Old-fashioned pen holder
  - 41) Emotionally unresponsive
  - 42) Board, as for a voyage
  - 47) Great flair
  - 48) Became waterless
  - 52) Knee-to-ankle bone
  - 54) Send somewhere else
  - 55) "Stand by Me" singer King
  - 56) Strong smell
  - 57) -apple juice
  - 59) Spanish snack
  - 60) Tut's fertility goddess
  - 61) Make an impression?
  - 62) Word from a real Scrooge
  - 63) Tundra wanderer
  - 64) Braying beast