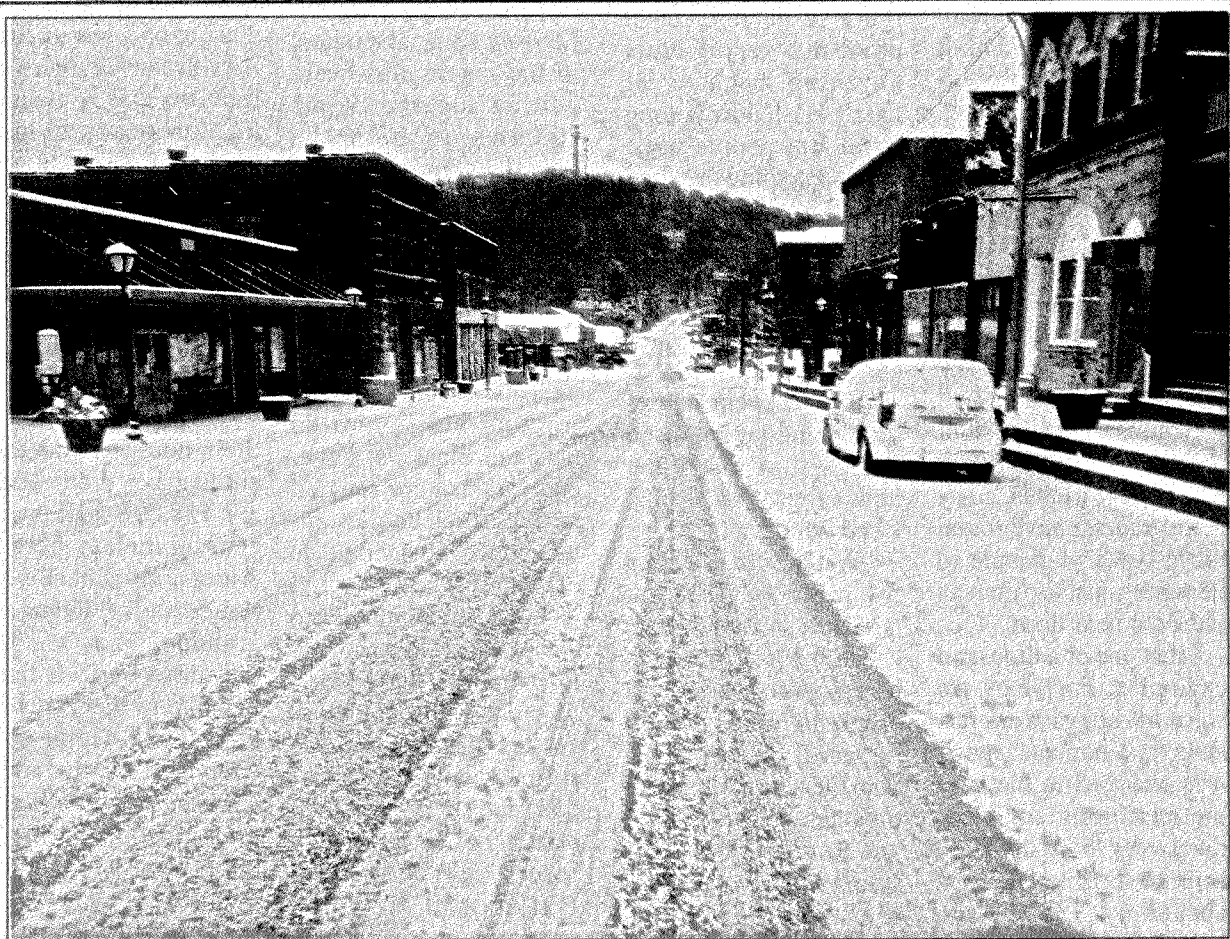


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Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 • (606) 256-2244 • Volume 137 • Number 48 • 1.00 per copy • Thursday, January 18, 2024

## Snow storm blankets Rockcastle County



Main Street in Mount Vernon, along with all other roads and streets in Rockcastle County was covered in ice and snow Sunday and Monday. Road crews battled the storm throughout the night but extremely cold temperatures left salt ineffective. More snow is expected this weekend. Road crews say the county has a good supply of salt and will continue to scrape snow from roadways throughout the week.

### More bad weather expected end of week

By: Mike French  
Editor

A snow storm, and excessively cold temperatures, moved into Rockcastle County Sunday evening causing hazardous traveling conditions and dangerous temperatures.

Sunday evening the expected snowfall began at about 9 p.m., a few hours earlier than predicted. According to news stories slightly over 3 inches of snow fell in some areas while others had slightly more than an inch.

Roads quickly became snow covered and hazardous driving conditions caused several accidents. Reports indicate cold temperatures have caused many broken water lines and caused other winter troubles for local residents.

Governor Andy Beshear declared a State of Emergency Sunday night as the state Emergency Operations Center prepared to activate level four preparedness. State offices were closed Tuesday and Rockcastle County Schools held an NTI day in which students performed their work virtually. City Hall in Livingston was closed Tuesday due to weather conditions.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet issued several travel warnings and asked motorists to stay home if at all possible.

More snow fell again Monday evening and into Tuesday morning causing even more salting and scraping, according to officials.

Cabinet officials suggests anyone traveling in such dangerous conditions should always travel with a full tank of gas, and an emergency kit that contains ice scrapers, jumper cables, blankets, a flashlight, cell phone and non-perishable snacks.

Locally, the Rockcastle County Road Department began pretreating the roads even before the snow began to fall. However,

(See "Snow" on A5)

## Warming center open in Mount Vernon

By: Mike French  
Editor

For those who are homeless or hungry and have no where to go on these cold, winter days, there are those in the Mount Vernon area who are willing to warm you and feed you. Who are those involved in the group? Most will never know.

Matthew 6:2 is clear on the matter, according to one of the group members. "The Bible says do not sound your trumpet as the hypocrites do that they may have glory of men." The volunteer says members of the group do not want their reward on this Earth. "Please don't

use our full names. We are not doing it to be recognized or thanked," he said. "Only Jesus should be glorified by anything we do."

The group, which involves several churches in the area and several volunteers, has created a Warming Center at 40 Fair Street in Mount Vernon for anyone and everyone who is cold or hungry.

When asked where the money came from to provide cots and blankets and food for homeless or hungry citizens in the area, no details were given. "The Lord provided it all," he said.

This is the first time

this particular group of local churches and citizens have gathered their resources together to provide a safe and warm environment for homeless or hungry people who may find themselves without during the cold winter months. "Anyone, anywhere can come," said one volunteer.

The warming center will provide hot food each day and each day the volunteers will make a decision concerning whether to open the center's door. But typically, the doors will be open at 6:30 p.m. and remain open until 10 a.m. the following day. Anyone needing a ride to the center, or information

concerning the center, may call one of the volunteers at anytime.

Numbers to call for assistance or help are as follows:

Phil 392-8596  
Dusty 510-4331  
Matthew 682-9147  
Angela 308-3892  
Jessie 392-9461  
Dana 308-2925.

### School day may lengthen

## School board hears draft budget

By: Mike French  
Editor

After a presentation from Roundstone Elementary School, members of the Rockcastle County School Board addressed the remainder of the agenda for their regular monthly meeting last Tuesday night.

Superintendent Carrie Ballinger once again presented awards of special recognition to several staff members who had gone above and beyond the call of duty.

Finance Director Jenny Sweet then presented a very detailed analysis of the draft budget showing slides, graphs, charts leading to discussion among board members. The draft budget shows a general budget of slightly over \$33 million in revenues and expenditures with staffing and fringe including on-behalf payments totaling 79% of the budget, according to Sweet.

The director discusses state funding, including SEEK funds and grants, as well as potential legislative decisions that may impact the final budget. Sweet explained that the draft budget includes several assumptions that must be made, including SEEK funding remaining

the same and the same level of staffing. Both which may change by final budget time.

Sweet said the draft budget includes 5.5% in contingency funds and 7.5% in restricted contingency funds. "This is our 'what-if cushion,'" she said. "There are a lot of 'what-ifs' in a year. What if this happens or that happens and this money will be there in case some unexpected event takes place. We are, after all, living on borrowed time with the middle school HVAC system and other equipment could fail as well."

## Fiscal Court accepts bid on 43-acre Livingston property

### Changes 911 salary schedule

By: Mike French  
Editor

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court held their regular monthly meeting last week with a full agenda.

After approving the minutes of two meetings and a work session, magistrates approved another three-month extension for the \$1,000 per month in

Sweet said local tax revenue generates \$2,796,899 and small rural school systems have trouble providing competitive salaries. "We can't tax our way into fixing this situation," she said. "There isn't enough tax dollars available. We have to hope SEEK and other funds through legislation will help with that issue. We just can't get there without state funding."

Sweet continued to detail budget consideration saying that about 2.8% of the budget deals with mental health services and virtual learning issues.

The court also considered three offers for the property, owned by the county in the City of Livingston. At last month's meeting, the court authorized placing the 43.6 acres for sale with Ford Brothers Realty

program support to the City of Livingston. The court also considered three offers for the property, owned by the county in the City of Livingston. At last month's meeting, the court authorized placing the 43.6 acres for sale with Ford Brothers Realty

(See "Court" on A5)

The draft budget includes many aspects of education from instruction, student support, instructional staffing, administrative, business support, plant operations, maintenance, transportation and contingency. The tentative budget is expected to be presented at the May meeting and the

(See "School" on A5)

## Livingston holds monthly meeting in mayor's absence

By: Mike French  
Editor

Members of the Livingston City Commission held their regular monthly meeting last week with mayor pro-tempore Sandi Singleton conducting the meeting in Mayor Larry Davidson's absence.

With a few citizens in the audience, the agenda included one item in new

business which was the swearing in of two new members of the Livingston Codes Enforcement Board. The two new members, Ralph Reinando and Theresa McFadden, will serve as alternates should the board require a meeting and other board members are not available.

(See "Mayor" on A6)

## Rachelle Riddle files for Representative office

Mount Vernon's Rachelle Riddle has announced her candidacy for State Representative from the 71st district, which includes her home Rockcastle County and parts of Laurel, Madison and Pulaski counties.

Riddle, who is a Democrat, has a BA in Political

Science and has been a small business owner in Rockcastle County for over 10 years. Riddle is committed to serving her community and has volunteered the past three years livestreaming the City of Mount Vernon's

(See "Riddle" on A5)

### Of Special Note Inside

- Viewpoints ..... Pg. 2
- Obituaries ..... Pg. 4
- Puzzle Page ..... Pg. 5

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

- Sports ..... Pg. 7
- Classifieds ..... Pgs. 8&9

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ramblings...  
by: perlina m. anderkin

Trump won 98 of the 99 counties in Iowa (and, according to the *Des Moines Register*, lost that county by only one vote) during Monday's Caucus and liberal heads are exploding.

I don't listen to NPR (because I don't want to stroke out at my age (from hearing a TAX-PAYER FUNDED left wing radio network constantly shill for the Democrats), but editor Mike French said he did for a while. Tuesday morning and their take on the 50% win of Caucus votes for Trump showed that 50% of Republicans wanted someone else as the nominee.

Of course, they conveniently didn't mention that this was the biggest win margin (30 points) in the history of the caucuses. The closest one was a nearly 13 point win for Bob Dole in 1988. DeSantis came in second, barely edging out Nikki Haley.

Even though Trump is also ahead in New Hampshire (43.5% to Haley's 30.6%) reports indicate that it may be a different outcome in their primary on January 23rd. New Hampshire has an open primary in which independents may vote. Also, it is expected that many Democrats will change party registration in order to be able to vote for Haley/DeSantis in the primary in an effort to block a win by Trump.

I voted for Ted Cruz in 2016 in our Kentucky primary, but had no qualms about voting for Trump in the general election over Hillary Clinton. I bemoaned that Cruz lost the nomination at first but

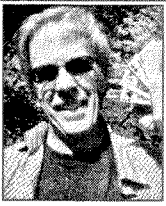
later came to realize that the flamboyant patriotic Trump was probably the only Republican who could have defeated Hillary the-Russians-stole-the-election Clinton. I realize she won the popular vote, even though Trump won 2,626 counties in the country to Clinton's 487 and Trump won the electoral college (where it counts) 304 votes to 227 for Clinton (seven electors cast their vote for someone else). Our founding fathers knew what they were doing when they devised a system (the electoral college) that kept our presidency from being decided solely by the heavily settled liberal East and West coasts.

But, everyone wonders how Trump, who doesn't have the social niceties usually associated with politicians -- you know those who can speak for half an hour and say absolutely nothing of substance--has managed to amass the support he enjoys.

And, then too, maybe voters are just tired of the foolishness on display in our country now by Democrats. For example, Maine is constructing five apartment buildings, which will be turned over to only illegal immigrants to live in for two years rent free (to help them get settled in the country which they criminally entered don'tcha know). Meanwhile, our veterans and our citizens who are slaves to alcohol/drugs and, very often, in need of treatment for mental illness are left to fend for

(Continued on A-3)

Aces Over  
By: Mike French



I think one of the biggest things I have learned in my many years of life's experiences, is that people should not believe everything they are told. I have discovered that "experts" and "professionals" and "scholars" and "rich people" and "masters" can be just as wrong as the poor redneck.

We are told throughout our lives to listen to the professionals. We are told they know what they are talking about and all their education has taught them all about their subject. But the truth is, in my many years, I have found those types of people to be wrong just as often as old Fred next door.

Just one of a thousand examples. For years we were told eggs were terrible for a human. Then it was changed to they are the best thing since the discovery of fire. Then back to terrible and now apparently "experts" are indifferent about it.

We were told by experts to take an aspirin per day and it was a miracle drug. Now we are told NEVER do that!

Of course there were those "experts" that caused thousands of deaths by proclaiming the vaccine was harmless and would keep you from catching COVID. Both were wrong. There were those who told you that masks were good for you. Wrong again. All it took was a little common sense to know better, but we fell for it because we were raised to trust the "experts."

Over the years I have seen the same wishy-washy change in fads concerning jogging (which now, they say, destroys the knees), pork (which now is supposed to be healthy), milk (which now causes kidney stones, etc), lard (which some now are saying is healthy for the whole body), smoking (which thousands of doctors used to tell me to do until I was addicted and now cigarettes are apparently death waiting to happen), sugar (which is now supposed to kill everything it touches) and so much more. There is now a huge faction

against vaping and how it will kill everything it touches. But that's just the new thing that people like to judge. Obviously there is no long-term proof that vaping hurts anything because it hasn't existed for a long term. But people must have something that they look down upon, that it is evil. Now that smoking is so reduced, vaping is the next natural way to hand down one's superior opinion.

I have spent a lifetime being taught to do things that everyone now agrees was wrong. Dead wrong.

Water is a dilemma for me now. I hadn't tasted water for 30 years because I hate, hate the taste of water. It is sickening to me. I would rather drink castor oil than the nauseating taste of water. But suddenly I am told by countless sources that water is absolutely needed for survival. Well, I did pretty good for 30 years without it so I can tell you they are wrong.

I guess all we can do is trust what our body tells us and our own common sense to make life choices anymore because it is clear you can't depend on "experts" at

(Continued on A-3)

T.J.'s Journal  
By: Tonya J. Cook



Our Brother's Keeper  
Dear Journal,

Yesterday, I was on Facebook and noticed one of my friends, Lindsey King, and others in the community were getting together some supplies to help the homeless and the stray animals survive the upcoming frigid days ahead with the devastating wind chills and snow. They were asking for various kinds of outerwear such as coats, sweaters, gloves, jogging suits, knitted hats, and blankets. Other essentials were needed such as food, bottled water and whatever could be used to survive.

Items for the dogs and cats were needed as well. Dog houses, hay, wood chips, dog and cat food, coolers (they can be made into warm houses for cats) and anything animal related. They were also requesting Bibles, as well.

I knew that I didn't have very many or none of the items needed. I will go tomorrow and get some food, warm sweaters, coats, etc. There are some low income families in the area who are out of firewood. If anyone would have any on hand extra or share what you have would be great. If anyone would buy them

some would be even better.

I did a little research. There were 582,000 homeless in America in 2022 to 653,104 in 2023. As you can see, there is a problem that is staggering. America as the number keeps on rising with no limit in sight. One in thirty children do not have a permanent home. There are 67,500 homeless veterans in America and they are twice more likely to become homeless. This is after serving their country and they could have died. There are 138,098 senior citizens homeless here in America. These are somebody's grandma and grandpa. They are just unwanted by their families. I know there are hundreds more people scattered here and there who are no more than one to three or four paychecks away from being homeless. It goes deeper than those who are not going to work due to drugs and just refuse to work. Some can't find a job, or have health issues or lack education.

I posted an appeal for the community to come together and help our neighbors who now find themselves in a life threatening situation as well as untold numbers of helpless animals. If you find it in your heart to help in this dire situation, please contact me or Lindsey King. We both are on Facebook and we will see that those in need will be helped. This would be a wonderful time for the area churches to open their doors to help with warming and food. The time has come that we were our brother's keeper. It could be us out there.



Dear Editor,

The Mt Vernon Lions club would like to thank and recognize the community businesses and individuals who contributed to the shop with a Lion for Christmas 2023. Those businesses were Citizens Insurance, EST Tool

And Machine, Tricia Taylor, Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care center, Farm Bureau insurance, PBK bank, Citizen bank, Community Trust bank, Dowell Martin funeral home and

Marvin Owens Home for funerals.

The donations from these businesses provided Christmas gifts for children from each of our county elementary schools. Thanks to Family and youth service from each school for selecting the students.

The Lions club is a service organization and we thank our community for their help in providing services.

Mt Vernon Lions club  
Edwinna Anglin  
President

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  - Anger or hostility that seems out of character or out of context.
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# Rockcastle Historical Haven

By: Markita Proctor

1935 was one of the most distressing years of the Great Depression. It was the year that President Franklin Roosevelt created The Works Progress Administration, also known as the WPA. The program's purpose was to provide useful work for victims of the

Great Depression. The WPA was part of the New Deal in an attempt to put Americans to work and help the American economy recover from the Great Depression. According to History.com, The WPA also sponsored projects that allowed artists to get

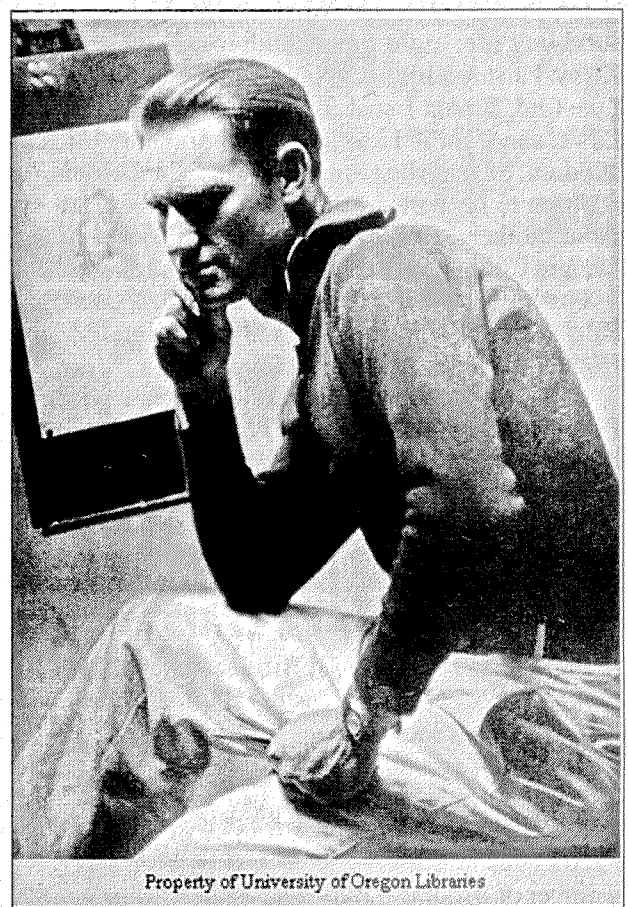
paid for their work. You may be wondering what this has to do with our little Rockcastle County, Kentucky. Well, one of the artists commissioned by the WPA was none other than Bert Ruben Mullins of Disputanta in Rockcastle County Kentucky. Bert Ruben Mullins was born on April 29, 1901, in Hammond, Rockcastle County Kentucky. According to his obituary which ran in The Mt. Vernon Signal on February 28, 1963, Mullins spent most of his life painting murals of Kentucky Life. He started drawing and painting as a child and became known as an outstanding artist early on.

Mr. Mullins is featured in an article published on the Berea College Library Guides webpage. The article by Leander A. Keim provides a detailed description of Mullins' life.

The article details Mullins' early grade school years attending a one-room schoolhouse in Hammond, Kentucky. "Records at Berea show Mullins entering Berea Foundation School in the autumn of 1916 in the fifth grade," Keim states that Mullins attended the school for several trimesters and completed the seventh grade in the spring of 1918. "He was a skilled craftsman known for his excellent lathe turnings and held a labor position at Berea as a Sloyd assistant. Sloyd refers to a handicraft philosophy that promoted social justice causes of that era." This influence is evident in future works.

As an adult, Bert Mullins pursued the traditional work world and married Eva Roark of Jackson County. The young couple moved to

(Continued on A7)



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## Aces

(Continued from A2)

all. In my opinion, if your body tells you something is awful and makes you sick, stop doing it. If something doesn't add up in your mind, trust your own common sense. I would. "Experts" are guessing just as much as anyone else.

You have heard the "experts" who preached that the world was flat, that Saturn definitely had seven rings, that lead paint was good, that asbestos was excellent material, that Round Up is safe, that it's okay to include Heroin in bottles of elixir, that cocaine should be in soft drinks, that playing with mercury is harmless, that this dude named Jesus needs to be killed, that fossil fuels come from dead things, that your SUV is causing the earth to get hotter, that the world is a kazillion years old and so much

more that was taught as Gospel, and turned out to be dead wrong. "Experts" are not to be trusted. Especially when they have convinced themselves that they know all there is to know (as in Dr. Faucci, Adolph Hitler, Carl Sagan and the left wingers.)

We have to use life experiences, lessons we have learned, common sense and make our own choices. I know that is the opposite of what the democrat party wants but it is the definition of freedom and liberty and humanity. We should listen to "experts" and give proper weight to their advice. But your choices in life should be up to you. Not government. Not democrats. Not dictators.

We are free and it is time we start making our own choices whether someone sitting in an office in Washington agrees with YOUR life choices or not.



## Rockcastle Community Bulletin Board Sponsored By Cox Funeral Home

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**Rockcastle County Bookmobile Schedule**

Unable to get information due to library closed because of weather.

### KPR Meeting January 23

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of the Kentucky Public Retirees (KPR) will meet Tuesday, January 23rd at David's Steak House in Corbin. Mealtime will begin at 11:30 a.m. with the meeting to follow. Retirees (and spouses) receiving retirement benefits from KERS, CERS or SPRS are welcome to attend. Membership information will be available at the meeting or on the website ([kentuckypublicretirees.org](http://kentuckypublicretirees.org)). For more information, call 606-260-0490.

### 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.

**Tuesday - MARRA - Medicated Assisted Recovery Anonymous - Mt. Vernon:** 2 p.m., 75 East Main St., Mt. Vernon. Contact: 606-308-8900 for info

**Wednesday-Air-All In Recovery-Mt. Vernon:** 12 p.m. 75 East Main St., Mt. Vernon, KY. Contact: 606-308-8900 for more info.

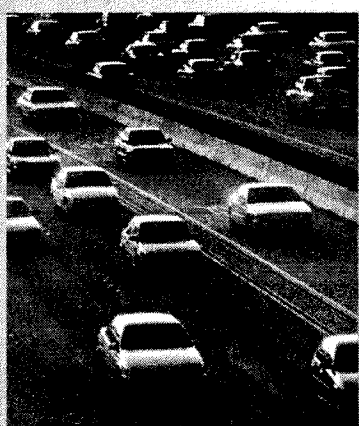
**Thursday-Celebrate Recovery-Step Studies - Women Only:** Community Outreach Center, 36 Castle Village Dr., Brodhead, Thursday, 6 p.m. Contact: Katheryn Pope, 606-308-3099 or Shell Bader 606-219-5653.

**Thursday-Alcohol Anonymous-Mt. Vernon:** 7 p.m. 75 East Main St., Mt. Vernon, Ky. Contact: 606-308-8900. Please park in the Coffey & Ford parking lot

**Sunday - Celebrate Recovery Step Studies-Men Only.** 6 p.m. Northside Baptist Church, 777 Faith Mountain Rd., Mt. Vernon, Ky. Contact: Jason DeBord 606-386-0646 or J.R. Cornelius 859-314-7828.

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# Obituaries



## Jimmy Cromer

Jimmy Cromer, 85, of Crab Orchard, died Sunday, January 7, 2024 at his home after a long illness. He was born December 31, 1938 in Rockcastle County, the son of the late Bertie and Mattie Winstead Cromer. He was a former owner and operator of Mt. Vernon Plumbing & Electrical Supply for nearly 30 years, was a shiner and mason, enjoyed spending time with his family, and was a member of the Christian faith.



Survivors are: his wife of 63 years, of whom he married on April 16, 1960, Shirley Hasty Cromer; one son, Jeff Cromer and Anissa; two daughters, Vanessa Adams and Wendell, and Jamie Hensley and Jerry; two sisters, Bethada Mullins, and Anna Mildred; and six grandchildren, Micheala Faye Jennings, Andrew Blake Hurt, John William Cromer, Jeffrey Wayne Cromer II, Bethany Grace Cromer, and Charles Christopher Adams. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by: one grandson, James Derek Kirby; and four brothers, Charles, Earl Benton, Kenneth, and Glenn Edward Cromer.

Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 12, 2024 at Cox Funeral Home with Bro. Jason Medley officiating. Burial was in Cresthaven Memorial Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Andrew Hurt, Jeff Cromer, Jeffrey Cromer, John Cromer, Troy Cromer, Jerry Hensley, Austin Jennings and Wendell Adams. Honorary pallbearers were: Joe Bullen, CC Ponder, David Abney, Danny Ford and Sam Ford.

View the complete obituary, sign the guest registry, or send condolences to the family online at [www.coxfuneralhomeky.com](http://www.coxfuneralhomeky.com)

## Alice Darlene York-Coffey

Alice Darlene York-Coffey, 55, of Brodhead, died at Rockcastle Regional Hospital on Tuesday, January 9, 2024. She was born July 7, 1968, to the late John Holly and Nanny Elizabeth Day York.



Along with her parents, she was preceded in death by: her husband of nine years, John Andrew Coffey; and brothers, Billy, Timmy, Richard, Johnny "Fuzz" Dwaine and infant Elmer York.

She leaves behind her son, William Shannon Burdine and Jessica Burdine of Hustonville; her daughter, Elizabeth Sue Burdine and Tyler Byrd of Berea; grandchildren, Kaitlyn, Erica, Sierra, and Zackery Burdine, and Benjamin and Austin Byrd; brothers, Terry York and David York; and a host several cousins and loved ones.

Funeral services were held Friday, January 12, 2024 at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals. Burial was in Piney Grove Cemetery.

## Michael Bruce Houk

Michael Bruce Houk, 49, of Somerset, died January 8, 2024, leaving behind a legacy of love, kindness, and lasting memories. Michael Bruce was born to Bruce (Joyce) Houk and Jenny (Gary Vickers). He worked as a truck driver for Capacity Trucking, where he navigated the roads with skill and dedication, providing for his family with unwavering commitment.



He is survived by: his beloved wife, Crystal Lea Houk; their children, Slade and Brooklyn Houk, Brody Brown, Brycedon Brown (special friend Kylie Hobdy), and Christopher Shea Brown (special friend Karlie Blanton) who he loved dearly; his mother, Jenny (Gary) Vickers; father, Bruce (Joyce) Houk; and siblings, Kim (Darryl) Chasteen, Tina (Shawn) Clift, Tessa Vickers, Anita Moore, and Rhonda (Jeff) McClure, all of whom he held dear.

In addition to his immediate family, Michael is remembered by his nieces and nephews, Madelyn Freeman, Winry Chasteen, Emily Dooley, Blakely Harold, Cassandra Dooley, Jaidyn Chasteen, Cash Chasteen, Zachary Chasteen, Charlie Freeman and Amber Freeman. His extended family includes his beloved father and mother-in-law, William (Roxanna) Debord, who welcomed him with open arms.

Michael was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Vernon (Lucille) Houk, and maternal grandparents, Cecil (Bessie) Kirby. He leaves behind a circle of special friends and colleagues who were an integral part of his life's journey.

Michael loved fishing and hunting with his son and dear friends. In celebrating the life of Michael Bruce Houk, we must also pay tribute to one of his great passions- his unwavering love for the Alabama Crimson Tide.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 13, 2024, at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Pastor Bobby Smith officiating. Cremation followed.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com](http://www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com)

## Raymond Collins

Clyde Raymond Collins, 74, of Pine Hill, died Thursday, January 11, 2024 at his home. He was born on Piney Branch in Livingston on July 4, 1949, the son of George and Irene Sowder Collins. He retired after 33 years of service as a truck driver for the Bluegrass Army Depot. He was a farmer, a member of Pine Hill Holiness Church, and was a US Army Veteran of the Vietnam War.



He is survived by: his loving wife, Magdalene Wynn Collins; a son, Raymond Darell (Cloia) Collins of Brodhead; three daughters, Janet (Johnny) Kirby, Regina (David) Laws, and Rhonda Lunsford, all of Mt. Vernon; a brother, Clifford (Trish) Collins of Mt. Vernon; and a sister, Pauline (Ronnie) Warf of Mt. Vernon. Also surviving are: eight grandchildren, Caleb (Kristen) Kirby, Paisley Kirby, Alyssa (Jacob) Gregory, Deanna Lunsford, Emma Lunsford, Charity Lunsford, Lacie Laws, and Charlie Laws; and two "honorary" grandchildren, Shane Allen Smith and Addison Daniels. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by: three brothers, Robert Eugene, Jessie Sherman, and Donnie Collins; and a sister, Joyce Ann Jones.

Funeral services were held January 15, 2024 at Pine Hill Holiness Church by Bros. Ashley Noe and Tommy Hogue. Burial was in Wynn Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Adam Collins, Jacob Gregory, Bryan Jones, Caleb Kirby, Alex Martin, and Shane Smith.

Arrangements 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.

## Preda Inez Harris

Preda Inez Harris, 88, of Brodhead, died Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation in Brodhead. She was born February 2, 1935, in Brodhead, a daughter of the late John R. Bishop and Eula Dell Frisbee Bishop. Preda was a long-time member of Brodhead Baptist Church. She found great joy in spending time with family, shopping, reading her Bible and sewing. She was a loving and devoted mother and grandmother. On August 15, 1953, she was united in marriage to Arthur Harris, Jr. and from that union came Donna, Troy, Johnny, Rick and Terry.



Those left to celebrate her life are: her children, Donna Howard (Steve) of Livingston, Troy Harris (Sheryl) of Brodhead, and Johnny Harris (Worth Anne) of Brodhead; 10 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; daughter-in-law, Iola Harris; brothers, Ralph Bishop (Betty) and Donnie Bishop of Hendersonville, NC; sister, Lois Ann Jones (Buck) of Hendersonville, NC; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors.

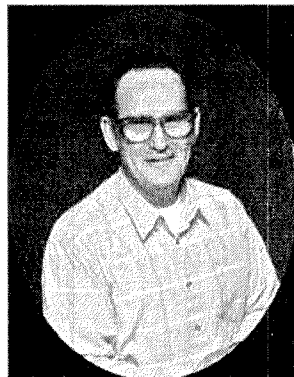
Besides her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by: sons, Rick and Terry Harris; brothers, Johnny, Harold Dean, Joe and several Bishop infants.

Funeral services were held Thursday, January 11, 2024, at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Ralph Baker officiating. Burial was in Ottawa Cemetery.

Condolences to the family may be made to [marvineowensfuneralhome.com](http://marvineowensfuneralhome.com)

## Jearl Edwin Hasty

Jearl Edwin Hasty, 91, of Mt. Vernon, died Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at Compassionate Care Center in Richmond. He was born October 4, 1932, in Rockcastle County, a son of the late William and Rose Cope Hasty. Jearl was a member of the Holiness faith and found great joy in hunting and fishing. He was a 28-year employee of Trane manufacturing and a farmer. On Dec. 31, 1949, he was united in marriage to the late Marcella Creech who preceded him in death on Dec. 7, 2019.



Those left to celebrate his life are: his children, Carol Shepherd of Crab Orchard, Eddie Hasty (Janet) of Lancaster, Michael Hasty (Brenda) of Lancaster, Gordon Hasty of Lancaster, Shannon Hasty (Carol) of Livingston, and Connie Kincer of Mt. Vernon; numerous grandchildren; great grandchildren; great great grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, friends, and neighbors; and special friends and neighbors, Arlos, and Bonnie McFerron.

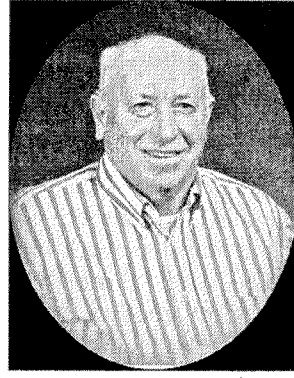
Besides his parents, and wife, he was preceded in death by a brother, Eugene Hasty and sister, Wanda Hasty Berry.

Funeral services were held Monday, January 15, 2024 at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bros. Nathan Bennett and Chris Reynolds officiating. Burial was in Maretburg Cemetery.

Casketbearers were: Derrick Yates, Barbara Yates, Billy Hasty, Kenneth Collins, Bradley League, and Dennis Hasty. Honorary casketbearer was Kyle Yates.

## Garner John Brown

Garner John Brown, 87, of Brodhead, died Saturday, January 13, 2024 at Danville Health and Rehab Care Center in Danville. He was born October 17, 1936, in Willailla, a son of the late Marcus and Edith Albright Brown. Garner was a member of the Brodhead Baptist Church and found great joy in farming, raising tobacco, mowing his and other yards, gardening, hulling walnuts, and spending time with his grand and great grandchildren.



He spent 37 years driving a school bus and working at the bus garage as well as farming. On Nov. 5, 1950, he was united in marriage to Mary Ann Owens, and from that marriage came one daughter Connie Marie McClure.

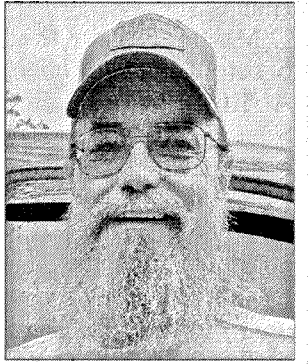
Those left to celebrate his life are: his daughter, Connie Marie McClure; four grandchildren, Jessica Cromer and Jason, Chris Childress and Jennifer, Lorrie Santo, and Katie McClure; nine great grandchildren, Jordan, Faith, Trinity, Fynnley, Elizabeth, Jamison, Braxton, Benjamin and Kaleigh; one sister, Lorene Lawence and Bobby; and one brother, Raymond Brown and Brenda. He is also survived by a host of special friends and neighbors too numerous to mention. He never met a stranger to say the least.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bros. Zandell Hasty and Shannon Franklin officiating. Burial was in Piney Grove Cemetery.

Condolences to the family may be made at [www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com](http://www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com)

## Melvin Hensley

Melvin P. Hensley, 56, of Orlando, died Sunday, January 7, 2024 at Rockcastle Regional Hospital. He was born in Mt. Vernon on September 18, 1967, the son of Wainwright and Barbara Sue Stewart Hensley. He was a retired assemblyman for the Trane Company. An avid outdoorsman, he loved fishing and hunting, as well as ginseng hunting and trapping.



He is survived by: two sisters, Trinnia Nicely, and Penny (Jimmy) Wynn, both of Orlando; and two very special nephews, Jeff Nicely of Orlando, and Tim Nicely of Brodhead. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by: a sister, Lisa Vanwinkle; and his step-father, James L. Croucher.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 11, 2024 at New Hope Baptist Church by Bro. Phillip Johnson. Burial followed in Briarfield Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Jeff Nicely, Tim Nicely, Tim McKinney, Jimmy Wynn, Steve Anglin, and Ronnie Hensley.

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.

## William Franklin Singleton, Sr.

William Franklin Singleton, Sr., 72, of Mt. Vernon, died Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at Lake Cumberland Regional Medical Center in Somerset. He was the husband of the late Willmalene Bryant Singleton whom he married June 9, 1971, and they enjoyed fifty and a half years of marriage. Born January 19, 1951 in Liberty, the son of Lizzie Wheeler Singleton and the late Clinton Singleton. He retired from Dana Brake Parts in Stanford. William loved his family. He enjoyed spoiling his grandchildren, fishing, watching old western movies and listening to Hank Williams, Sr.



Survivors include: his mother, Lizzie Wheeler Singleton; three children, William, Jr. and wife, Kim Singleton, Johnny Singleton, and Angel Singleton Daniels; one son-in-law, Bobby Dick; 14 grandchildren; and 13 great grandchildren; two brothers, Joe Singleton, and Robert and wife, Danielle Singleton; and four sisters, Mary Singleton and companion, Jackie Smith, Eva Calhoun, Glenda Singleton and companion, Dean Morgan, and Birdie Singleton and companion, Joey Elmore.

In addition to his wife and dad, he was preceded in death by: a son, Glen Singleton; daughter, Jennifer Singleton Dick; grandson, Buster Senters; one great grandchild; and a brother, Wilmer Singleton. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at McKnight Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Tim McClure and Bro. Jerry Denney officiating. Burial was in Philadelphia Baptist Church Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Bobby Dick, William Singleton, Jr., Robert Singleton, Joe Singleton, Joey Elmore and Aaron Oiler.

## Billy Ray Lake

Billy Ray Lake, 60, of Mt. Vernon, died Monday, January 8, 2024.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at Dowell & Martin Funeral Home. Burial was in the Ottawa Cemetery.

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.



Court

(Continued from front)

to accept bids for the property. Three bids were received; however, one of the bids, by Mike Pyles, of Indiana, was an escalating bid with \$500 increments. Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook explained that the amount of the bid is \$500 above whatever amount the second highest bid may be, up to \$91,500. Since the second highest bid received was from Jon Luke Bledsoe for \$85,000, the escalating bid was then for \$85,500. Magistrate Shane Thacker made a motion to sell the property to Pyles. The motion passed unanimously.

The court also agreed to reimburse \$1,140 in program support to the Rockcastle County Development Board and approved a donation of \$2,500 to the American Red Cross.

The court also approved an amended budget and an amended budget comparison from Sheriff's Deputy Dale McNew. The deputy said the sheriff's department "took in a lot more than we expected to take in" forcing them to create an amended budget. According to the amended budget, the department received \$115,000 more than expected in commissions and franchises creating a \$50,000 excess, after purchasing a car and returning fees to the court. "This is a good problem to have," said McNew. The court approved the amendments.

The court also agreed to approve an expenditure of \$7,000 to renew the courthouse annex maintenance service agreement and \$4,000 to renew the courthouse service maintenance agree-

ments with Comfort Systems.

The court also agreed to a new Rockcastle 911 pay scale. "This may or may not help but at least it is something," said Holbrook. "A certified dispatcher can go to Laurel County, a few miles up the road, and get \$18 per hour. We can't compete with that." The new pay scale raises starting pay from \$11.03 per hour to \$12 per hour. Increases also include an after-probation pay of \$13 per hour, after certification pay of \$14 per hour, two year anniversary pay of \$15 per hour and certified training officer pay to \$15.50 per hour. The 911 Director's salary will rise from \$36,413 to \$38,000. "I can't blame anyone for bettering themselves but I hope everyone considers those towns that can pay more also have a lot more runs and may be much more difficult," he said.

The new pay scale was approved unanimously.

There was some discussion concerning the court's program support to the AllAmerican Club, since the organization is not a 501c3 nonprofit organization. "We have been donating to them for years and they do good work in our community," said Holbrook. County Attorney Jeremy Rowe said he will study the issue to make certain the donations are done legally. The court voted unanimously to continue the support.

The court also made some changes to the plans to help dangerously steep areas of Freedom School Road. The court has been working for several months on a plan to help remove a sharp peak and some of the dangers in traveling the road. However, due to the

prohibitive costs of moving a water line, the court voted to raise the surrounding roadway rather than lower the peak itself. The motion passed unanimously.

The court also approved financial transfers as requested by Holbrook and County Treasurer Vickie Miller. The court agreed to transfer \$307,000 from the occupational tax fund to the general fund. "This is just to pay our monthly bills," said Holbrook.

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned. The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 13 at 4 p.m. at the courthouse. The public is invited to attend.

Snow

(Continued from front)

officials say temperatures dropped to the teens in some places allowing the snow to stick to presalted roadways.

"Our crews were out all night and continued salting and scraping throughout most of the following day," said Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr. Monday was Martin Luther King Day, which is recognized as a federal holiday allowing many to avoid travel Monday. However, accidents were reported on I-75 and on several side roads in the county.

According to Kentucky American Water officials, residents should take steps to protect water lines by eliminating drafts near piping and water heaters. Officials also recommend wrapping pipes in insulation and allowing a small trickle of water to run through the night when temperatures are below 32 degrees.

Holbrook said the county salt supply is in

good condition at this time and trucks were scraping roadways throughout Monday.

Warming centers were opened in the county (see related story) and local first responders readied themselves for eventual calls.

Officials say Rockcastle County was prepared for the snowstorm and will continue to work to keep local residents as safe as possible.

Police officials and the Sheriff's Department report many calls for assistance as some local residents needed medicines or other issues.

"I am proud of our first responders, our road department and the citizens of Rockcastle County," said Holbrook. "Everyone worked together to help those in need and provide the safest possible environment for all concerned."

Riddle

(Continued from front)

Council meetings.

Riddle says she believes in transparency and accountability in government and is familiar with the concerns of the people in the 71st district and believes in the power of common sense bipartisanship.

Serving as an election officer for over 15 years, Riddle also led the campaign for alcohol sales and continues to advocate for clean water. She also volunteers regularly in local schools.

"I believe the 71st deserves a representative who is dedicated to the legitimate concerns of the people and I will get the job done with real policy solutions," she said in her announcement.

Riddle has a 13-year-old son and says making the district better for him,

and everyone else, has always been her priority.

"I hope to earn your trust and support in the coming months. Let's get to work," she said.

School

(Continued from front)

final budget at the September meeting.

"Investing in education is not just a line item in a budget," Sweet said. "It is a down payment on the future, a commitment to empower generations, and a testament to the belief that knowledge has the power to transform lives and communities."

In other action, calendar committee representative, Marcus Reppert, presented three calendar options to the board. Reppert said the committee considered many situations of the community, including community events, businesses, Little World's Fair planning, and other circumstances while creating the options.

Of the three options, Reppert said the committee recommends option three which includes adding fifteen minutes to each school day. Reppert said the calendar is based on 1062 hour of instructional time and considers adding about five minutes in the mornings and ten minutes at the end of each school day.

Reppert said a majority of the committee favored the option which places the first day of school on August 26. Option one was very similar to this year's calendar and option two included minor differences, according to Reppert. The board is expected to consider the options and approve their choice at the February meeting.

The board also heard from engineers concern-

ing the two projects expected to begin this summer. The Mount Vernon Elementary School project includes new paving and the high school project includes paving and ADA (American Disability Act) improvements. The bid for the elementary project was slightly more than expected at \$361,830, according to engineers working on the project. The high school project was bid at \$715,307 which was apparently expected. The board agreed to move forward with the project and make final decisions concerning alternate add-ons to the projects.

The board also heard the Superintendent's Personnel Action report. It is as follows:

Resignations

Gina Wynn, substitute bus monitor; Jacqueline Bishop, instructional assistant; Johnetta Lovell, LBD teacher at RCHS; Rebecca Hubbard, director of special education.

Certified substitutes

Nora Pullam, substitute teacher.

Classified substitutes

Carissa Hensley and Celia Shafer, substitute instructional assistants; Shawn Cain, substitute custodian; Whitney Daugherty, substitute school nurse.

Volunteers

Austin Thacker, Evanna Thacker and Michael Jones, volunteers at Brodhead Elementary School; Rosamond Brown, volunteer at Mount Vernon Elementary School.

Having no further business, the board meeting was adjourned. The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 13 at 6 p.m. at the Teaching and Learning Center on Richmond Street. The public is invited to attend.



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SUGAR'S PUZZLE PAGE

HIGH AND INSIDE

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61						62						63		

WINTER OLYMPIC SPORTS

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BIATHLON  
SKELETON  
LUGE  
SKI JUMPING  
SNOWBOARD  
CURLING  
SKIING  
SPEEDSKATING  
BOBSLED  
ICE HOCKEY

ACROSS

- Dog tag datum
- Sanctified (var.)
- Summon a genie, in a way
- French wine region
- 4:1, e.g.
- Metal-in-the-raw
- Occurs
- Like a burning candle
- Bog
- Sound of impact
- Clad
- Cause of concern at the polls
- One of the friends on "Friends"
- Altogether
- Does some tailoring
- Condescending one
- Furry household member
- Bank offering, for short
- Sgts., e.g.
- Type of lab
- The Tigers, on scoreboards
- Birdlike
- Accomplishment
- Pieces for eight
- Cascades peak
- Noisy toy
- Hunter, to the prey
- Broadcasting
- Old Turkish coins
- Fleur-de-
- Focus on satisfaction
- Columbus Day mo.
- University in Beaumont, Texas
- "Falstaff" composer
- Edward
- "Comprende?"
- Bulpen sound
- Shortsighted one

DOWN

- Mythical monster
- First name in comedy?
- de plume
- Adversaries
- Soak up again
- Like some humor
- Pool exercises
- Flight data, briefly
- "boom bah!"
- Drunkards
- Slatted furniture item
- Bathsheba's first husband
- Legendary TV actress White
- Birch or banyan
- Butter unit
- Ladybug's snack
- "So \_\_\_!"
- Sauce ingredient, sometimes
- Molecular bit
- Ancient Peruvians
- Twelve, half of the time
- Agitated state
- Related maternally
- Golden Horde member
- Innately gifted ones
- Kitchen appliance
- One way to be accused
- Certain special effect, in movies
- Short stride
- Globorotter's home
- Some shirts
- Chilled
- Badminton or tennis
- BBs, e.g.
- Antares, for one
- "At Seventeen" singer Janis
- "Long \_\_\_ and far away ..."
- Maple product
- "\_\_\_ he drove out of sight"



# News from the Rockcastle Courthouse



## Deeds Recorded

Matthew and Julie A. Chaliff and Joshua Chaliff, property in Rockcastle county, to Joshua Chaliff. No tax

John Matthew and Julie E. Chaliff and Joshua D. Chaliff, property in Rockcastle County to John Matthew and Julie Chaliff. No tax

Clyde D. and Betty Lou Burdette, property on Hurricane Road, to Teresa Lynn and Matthew John Hewitt. Tax \$130

Anthony P. Dattilo, Jr. and Marjorie Gail Montgomery, property on KY 1955, to Fernanda Veronica Quintara. Tax \$8

Robin Michelle and Jimmie Sparks, property on Woodland Dr., to Kelsey Wilson. Tax \$184  
Joshua Burke, property in Carter's Subdv., to Troy and Kimberly Hancock. Tax \$24

Parker Taylor Properties, LLC, property in Rockcastle County, to Phillip and Felicia Hampton. Tax \$180

Conard Keith Cope, John and Renay Cope and Jerry and Carmen Cope, property on US 150, to John and Renay Cope and Jerry and Carmen Cope. Tax \$50

Nathaniel Sandlin, property in Rockcastle County, to Dreamweaver Property Management, LLC. Tax \$5.50

Kristen Harper, property in Rockcastle County, to Elliot Malach, Kenneth Weaver and Vaishali Vashali. Tax \$340

Joseph E. Lambert and James H. and Brenda Lambert, property in Mt. Vernon, to Rockcastle County Historical Society, Inc. No tax

Curtis and Dollie Roberts, property in Rockcastle County, to Luther and Alma Akers. Tax \$20

Steven Haling, Charles D. and Kathy Brock, Henry Brock, Donald Sanders and John Sanders, property on Maple Grove Road, to Wendell Renner, Jr. and Teresa Renner. Tax \$10

George and Robin Bills, property in Rockcastle County, to Thomas Rusnak and Tammie Whitton. Tax \$42

J. Kevin and Linda Hamm, property in Rockcastle County, to Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority. Tax \$326.50

Michael Alcorn, property in Rockcastle County, to Hannah Campos. Tax \$35

Matthew and Cara Hill, property in Sunset Place Subdv., to Jimmie John and Robin Michelle Sparks. Tax \$367

Robert Leo Hayes, Jr. and Shanda Michelle Hayes, property in Benton Bullock Subdv., to Hershel and Myrtle Callahan. Tax \$50

## District Civil Suits

Sandia Resolution Company LLC v. Maeteca Lanay Shackleford, \$747 plus claimed due.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co. v. J. Ryan, \$4,204 plus

claimed due.

LVNV Funding LLC v. Angela Whitaker, \$1,665 plus claimed due.

LVNV Funding LLC v. Kayla Todd, \$774 plus claimed due.

Spring Oaks Capital SPV LLC v. Jannan Reams, \$1,628 plus claimed due.

Discover Bank v. Doyle W. Sparks, \$3,689 plus claimed due.

Citibank, N.A. v. Josh Lamb, \$1,954 plus claimed due.

Midland Credit Management, Inc. v. Kevin Lockwood, \$2,404 plus claimed due.

N.A.R., Inc. v. Robert L. Abney, \$2,659 plus claimed due.

Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC v. Kristina M. Johnson, \$1,025 plus claimed due.

Cavalry SPV LLC, assignee of Citibank v. Elvin G. Pratt, \$730 plus claimed due. C-00005

## Circuit Civil Suits

Mid South Capital Partners, LP v. Jennifer Bright, et al, demand for master commissioner sale of property for property tax liens.

Jennifer Oliver v. Tommy Oliver, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Cassandra Gail Hibbard v. Benjamin Wayne Hibbard, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Discover Bank v. Sean Tritt, \$9,043.72 plus claimed due.

Connie Cheeks, et al v. Kevin Vanwinkle, complaint for child support and medical support.

Velviena Joyce Anderson v. Johnny Clay Anderson, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Kinzle Karalinn Smith v. David Logan Smith, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Connie Cheeks v. Samantha Vanwinkle, complaint for child support and medical support.

Commonwealth of Kentucky v. Maranda Didonato, complaint for child support and medical support.

Commonwealth of Kentucky v. Byron Bradley, complaint for child support and medical support.

Barbra Bennett v. Kimberly Sue McClure, verified petition to establish timesharing

Connie Joann Fletcher Prewitt v. Jeffrey K. Prewitt, verified petition for dissolution of marriage.

Keavin Aaron Webb v. Madison Nicole Webb, verified petition for dissolution of marriage.

Citibank, N.A. v. Gary Thatcher, \$5,330.53 plus claimed due.

Citibank, N.A. v. William T. Robbins, \$9,732.92 plus claimed due.

21st Mortgage Corp. v. Unknown Heirs of Mary Bachelor, \$28,358.06 plus claimed due.

JoAnn Fortney v. Helen Hellard Durham, et al, petition for partition of real estate.

Commonwealth of Kentucky v. Heather Rigsby, complaint for child support and medical support.

Stockton Mortgage Corp. v. Jared Spivey, et al, \$111,671.98 plus

claimed due.

Velocity Investments, LLC v. Tammy Stevens, \$9,072.10 plus claimed due.

Security Credit Services, LLC v. Matthew Isaacs, \$9,600 plus claimed due. CI-00006

## District Court

Donald Abney: fines/fees due (\$243), converted to five days in jail or payment in full.

Cameron C. Amburgey: criminal trespassing, public intoxication controlled substance, resisting arrest, bench warrant (bw) issued for failure to appear (fta).

Marsha S. Banks: n/expired registration plates - receipt; failure of owner to maintain req. insurance/security; failure to register transfer of motor vehicle; operating on suspended/revoked operators license and display of illegal/alterd registration plate, bw issued for fta/license suspended.

Clinton Bowman: fines/fees due (\$138), three days in jail or payment in full.

Justin Buck Branson: fines/fees due (\$158), four days in jail or payment in full.

Curtis Broughton: public intoxication controlled substance, 90 days in jail/probated 24 months on condition plus costs.

Nakota Clifford: false report which generates an emergency response, public intoxication controlled substance, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, theft by unlawful taking, bw issued for fta.

Stefan Lynn Cole: operating on suspended/revoked operators license, 90 days in jail/probated 24 months on condition; failure of owner to maintain req. insurance/security, \$500 fine plus costs.

Christina Coleman: no/expired registration plates - receipt, failure to produce insurance card, failure of non-owner operator to maintain req. insurance and five other charges, bw issued for fta/license suspended.

Dillard Wayne Cotton: no/expired registration plates - receipt, failure of owner to maintain req. insurance/security, failure to produce insurance card, bw issued for fta/license suspended.

Gary Dewayne Dennis: careless driving, \$50 fine plus costs.

Michael W. Denny: operating on suspended/revoked operators license, \$100 fine; failure of non-owner operator to maintain req. insurance, \$500 fine plus costs.

James Curtis Fahringer: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol and failure to or improper signal, bw issued for fta.

Roseanna Michelle France: fines/fees due (\$184), bw issued for fta/four days in jail or payment in full.

Bobby Earl Hendrickson: fines/fees due (\$218), bw issued for fta/five days in jail or payment in full.

Jason Matthew Hoblit: failure of non-owner operator to maintain req. insurance, \$500 fine plus costs.

Donald Jent: fines/fees

due (\$173), bw issued for fta/four days in jail or payment in full.

Joshua Nicholas Johnson: speeding, operating on suspended/revoked operators license, careless driving and four other charges, bw issued for fta/license suspended.

James H. Jones: assault, bw issued for fta.

James P. Kidwell: booster seat violation, \$25 fine/costs merged.

Bobby Lee Kirby: improper start from parked position, \$25 fine plus costs.

Ronnie W. Lewis: fines/fees due (\$736.), court notice issued.

Jesse O. Mason: fines/fees due (\$183), four days in jail or payment in full.

Angela K. May: no/expired registration plates - receipt and five other charges, bw issued for fta.

Jamie Medley: fines/fees due (\$813), court notice issued.

Matthew Spurlock: fines/fees due (\$388), bw issued for fta/eight days in jail or payment in full.

James M. Miller: possession of marijuana, possession controlled substance (methamphetamine) and drug paraphernalia-buy/possess, bw issued for fta.

Kris Lee Million: failure to or improper signal, \$25 fine plus costs.

James S. Mink: rear license not illuminated, failure of non-owner operator to maintain req. insurance, failure to produce insurance card and three other charges, bw issued for fta/license suspended.

Cody Monk: fines/fees due (\$613), bw issued for fta/13 days in jail or payment in full.

Krise R. Mullins: fines/fees due (\$198), bw issued for fta/four days in jail or payment in full.

Jeffery Robert Phelps: failure to wear seat belts, \$25 fine.

Bessie Marie Phillips: unauthorized use of motor vehicle, theft by unlawful taking, bw issued for fta.

Travis Powell: fines/fees due (\$143), three days in jail or payment in full.

Ryan Roberts: failure of non-owner operator to maintain req. insurance, \$500 fine plus costs; operating on suspended/revoked operators license, \$100 fine.

Zachary James Lee Shepherd: fines/fees due (\$188), bw issued for fta/four days in jail or payment in full.

Lori Smith: fines/fees due (\$1491), 31 days in jail or payment in full.

Brandy Snowden: possession of marijuana, \$100 fine plus costs.

Sara Snyder: failure of owner to maintain req. insurance/security, \$500 fine plus costs.

Gordon Sowder: possession controlled substance (two counts), drug paraphernalia - buy/possess, tampering with physical evidence and eight other charges, bw issued for fta.

Steve Spoonamore: operating motor vehicle under influence of substance, \$200 fine plus costs, \$425 service fee, license suspension up to six months

Shania Staley/Harris: fines/fees due (\$348), bw issued for fta/seven days in jail or payment in full.

Eddie Gilbert Vanwinkle: operating on suspended/revoked operators license, failure to produce insurance card, inadequate silencer (muffler), bw issued for fta.

David Gregg Walls: fines/fees due (\$168), four days in jail or payment in full.

Dustin Curtis Yount: fines/fees due (\$158), bw

issued for fta/four days in jail or payment in full.

Speeding: Kara Lynn Bailey, Kelly B. Maloney, Joshua Anthony Miller, Roger Elias Wilson Price, Makenzie Renee Sherwood, license suspended for fta; James Dillon Guinn, paid; Jesus Omar Ortiz, \$60 fine plus costs.

Failure to wear seat belts: Fayeth Loutisha Marie Begley, Richard Travis Herring, paid in full; Rodger D. Payne, license suspended for fta.

## Mayor

(Continued from front)

The board was formed last year after new nuisance ordinances were passed by the council and the board was required for appeals by any citizens who may receive a warning or citation for violating the ordinance.

Some present asked about Mayor's Davidson's absence but officials said he was attending to other business at meeting time and was expected back in town immediately.

Police Chief Travis

Davis said the town is becoming quieter and he is still patrolling on an unpredictable schedule so that his time on duty will not be known to those who may plan illegal activity. The commission has discussed moving Davis to a full time schedule when finances will allow.

Having no further business, the short meeting was adjourned. The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 8 in City Hall.

## SUGAR'S PUZZLE ANSWERS

5	1	9	6	4	8	2	7	3
7	8	2	5	3	9	4	6	1
6	3	4	1	2	7	9	8	5
8	9	5	7	1	4	6	3	2
2	4	1	9	6	3	8	5	7
3	7	6	2	8	5	1	9	4
9	5	8	4	7	1	3	2	6
1	2	7	3	9	6	5	4	8
4	6	3	8	5	2	7	1	9

OWN	ER	B	LE	S	T	R	UB
R	H	O	N	E	R	A	T
C	O	M	E	S	T	O	P
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A	T	T	I	R	E	D	A
P	H	O	E	B	E	I	N
H	E	M	S	S	N	O	O
I	R	A	N	O	N	C	O
D	E	T	A	V	I	A	N
O	C	T	E	T	S	H	A
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O	C	T	A	M	A	R	E
S	E	E	S	N	O	R	T

## Perils of the Soul

Doctrines of men. Worship founded upon the doctrines of men are vain. (Matt.15:9) But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. Perilous for the soul for the blind to lead the blind. (Matt.15:14) Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch. Strange plants are to be rooted up. (Matt.15:13) Every plant that my heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up. "We must be careful not to be planting weeds."

He who preaches some other gospel will be damned. (Gal.1:8,9)

Ignorance crucified Christ (Acts 3:17) People are destroyed from lack of knowledge. (Hos.4:6) My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. Must know and accept the truth, to be free. (Jon.8:32)

A desire to please men. Caused King Saul to sin (1Sam.15:24) And Saul said unto Samauel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice. This happens so much today in the religious world, we have preachers who are people pleasers, ear ticklers, who are transgressing the word of the Lord.

Procrastination. Kept Felix from obeying the gospel. (Acts 24:25) Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee. I have probably heard this over thousand times in my life, "I will" most still never have. There are so many Felixes in the world in which we live.

Lukewarmness. So perilous that Jesus will spew such out of His mouth. (Rev.3:16) So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot: I will spue thee out of my mouth.

Thank you for reading this article. We have videos to watch and on our You Tube channel.Chestnut Ridge Church of Christ Mt Vernon Kentucky. The church assembles for worship every Sunday morning at 10:00 A.M and Wednesday evening at 7:00P.M.. Everyone is welcome. We have free Bible correspondence course. If you would like to contact someone from the church you can either call or text this number 606-224-1480.

REMEMBER GOD LOVES YOU AND WE LOVE YOU TOO

• Chestnut Ridge Church of Christ •

Sundays @ 10 a.m. & Wednesdays @ 7 p.m. • Everyone Welcome  
Bro. Ova Baker 606-878-8104 • Bro. Dale McNew 859-582-4021

Church is located 2 Miles South of Mt. Vernon on Hwy. 25



# SPORTS

Now 9-7 on the season

## Rockets beat Casey; now 2-3 in district

The Rockets traveled to Casey County last Friday night for a district matchup which gave them their second district win on the season and a 2-3 record.

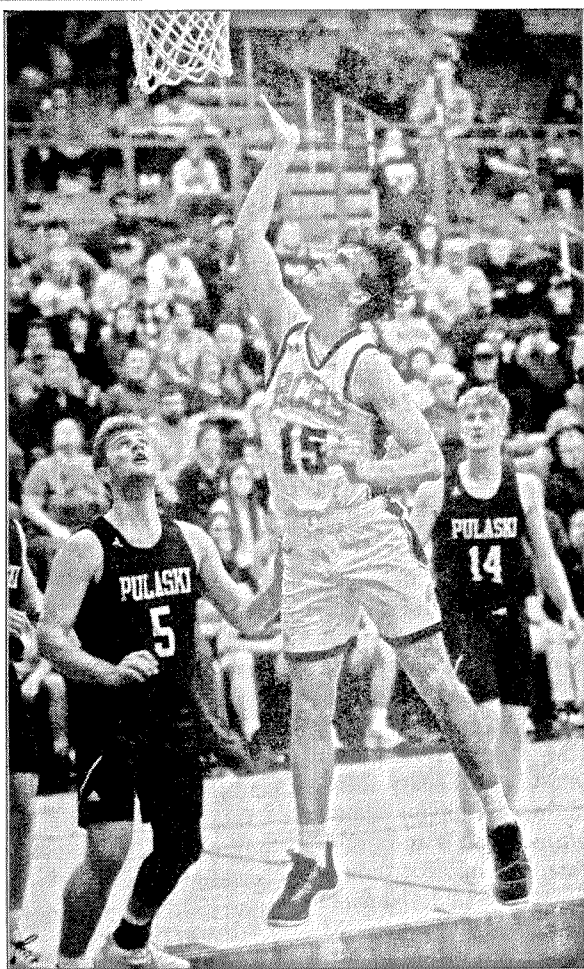
It was a blowout from the beginning with the Rockets ahead 16-2 at the first quarter stop, 40-7 at the half, 58-13 at the end of the third quarter and the final 66-23.

Head Coach Andrew Cash got to clear his bench and eight Rockets got in the scoring column.

Sophomore Walker Craig and senior Trent Wilson tied for scoring honors with 18 each. They also combined for 7/14 three point baskets. Wilson also grabbed five rebounds and went 5/6 from the free throw line.

Besides Craig's and Wilson's combined 36, Connor Hunt scored 14 points, hitting 7/8 field goals and pulling down five rebounds; Jace Rogers got seven points and was credited with four assists; Kaleb Alexander got four points, all at the free throw line; senior Skylar Durham and freshman Colton Cash each had two points and Durham led in rebounding with eight and dished out six assists and Maddux McClure hit a free throw.

The Rockets and Lady Rockets were scheduled to host Wayne County Tuesday night but was cancelled and will travel to Pulaski County Friday night for their final district game of the season.



Colton Cash takes it to the hole in a recent game with Pulaski County. The Rockets defeated Casey 56-23 Friday night. Photo by Jamie Cornelius

## Lady Rockets destroy Lady Rebels 65-25

The Lady Rockets sit atop the district rankings with five wins against zero losses, after having demolished the Casey County Lady Rebels last Friday night 65-25.

The Lady Rockets completely dominated the game, leading 23-5 at the end of the first quarter, 44-17 at the half and 61-23 at the third quarter stop.

Senior Talyne Shearer led the scoring for her team with 17 points; Taylor King and Macy Spivey put in 15 each; Camryn Cash scored five points and Markley Richards and Abby DeLeon each got two points.

The Lady Rockets were scheduled to host Wayne County Tuesday night but cancelled due to weather and will travel to Pulaski County Friday night for their last district game of the season.

The Lady Rockets now sport a 13-3 (5-0) record on the season.

## Haven (Continued from A3)

Florida for a year but returned to Berea where he worked as a carpenter and maintenance man for Berea College. Most reports explain that even though Mullins was well-known for his carpentry skills, he was bound to return to his love of painting and art.

The WPA, renamed the Work Projects Administration was mostly known for employing unskilled blue-collar laborers for infrastructure. These men built schools, bridges, airfields, and the American roadways. They even planted millions of trees. While these projects were fundamental in building the American economy, there was another aspect of the WPA that led to funding artists like Bert Mullins. Federal Project Number One helped to employ artists, musicians, actors, and writers. According to History.com "Roosevelt intended Federal One to put artists back to work while entertaining and inspiring the larger population by creating a hopeful view of life amidst the economic turmoil." These artists painted motivational posters and murals of Americana in public buildings.

In 1936 Mullins was able to travel to Provincetown, Massachusetts to study under the American Impressionist painter Richard Miller. After studying for several months, Mullins returned to Kentucky where he decided to work as an artist full-time. The Library Guides article states that Mullins shared a studio with another artist on Main St. in Berea for some time. "He was commissioned by the Works Progress Administration in 1938 under President Roosevelt's New Deal to paint murals for public spaces such as U.S. Postal Service buildings and courthouses many of which still retain Mullin's paintings." One of his early pieces, a four by twelve-foot mural titled "Agriculture and Stock Raising in Kentucky" was part of the Campbellsville, Kentucky Post Office decor. One of his most notable pieces is a mural at Radio City in Rockefeller Center in New York City. Hagerstown, Maryland Post Office was another location of one of Mullins' murals of Kentucky mountain life. Other murals were closer to home. "Roland Roberts, Superintendent of the Jessamine County High School, requested one of the last works that Mullins would create. It was titled, 'The Evolution of Education' and was placed in that school." He also did a mu-

ral in the Renfro Valley Studio in Renfro Valley in Rockcastle County. Mullins' obituary states that his works are in the post offices at Campbellsville, Morganfield, Berea, and Louisville; at the courtroom at Madisonville, and the First Christian Church at Berea and Mt. Vernon.

When Mullins wasn't painting murals he was commissioned to paint portraits. One unique portrait was of the philanthropist Colonel Edward R. Bradley's horse Bimelech. He also did a portrait of Lincoln that was last known to be on display at Berea College and a portrait of John James Audubon that hung at the State Park, Henderson.

The front page obituary featured on the front page of the Mt. Vernon Signal describes his artistic style. "His art technique was original and modern...his colors mostly in grays, blues, greens, and various pastel tones were always blended and fused to the mass and subject matter of his works."

Mr. Mullins and his wife lived in a house that they chose to build with their own hands, they named the house in Disputanta Wood Betony. The house was similar to the artist-unique with fourteen gables. Unfortunately, he passed before the home was finished.

Much of Mullins' work has faded with time, but one mural still stands. One can visit the First Christian Church in Mt. Vernon, Kentucky to see a sample of Mullins' murals. The painting of Christ carrying the cross still exists behind the pulpit. A post on Facebook names several Rockcastle Countians whose faces might stand out on those of the sinners and saints depicted in the painting. Mary A. Hunt says that the woman with her hand held out is Mrs. Ruth Mullins McFerron and the soldier in the helmet was Robert Robinson.

According to Keim and Berea College, Mullins was a member of the American Federation of Artists, the Kentucky Guild of Artists & Craftsmen, and was listed in the 1956 edition of Marquis "Who's Who". Mullins was an artist and like many of us a historian, he was a member of the Filson Club, a historical society with the state of Kentucky.

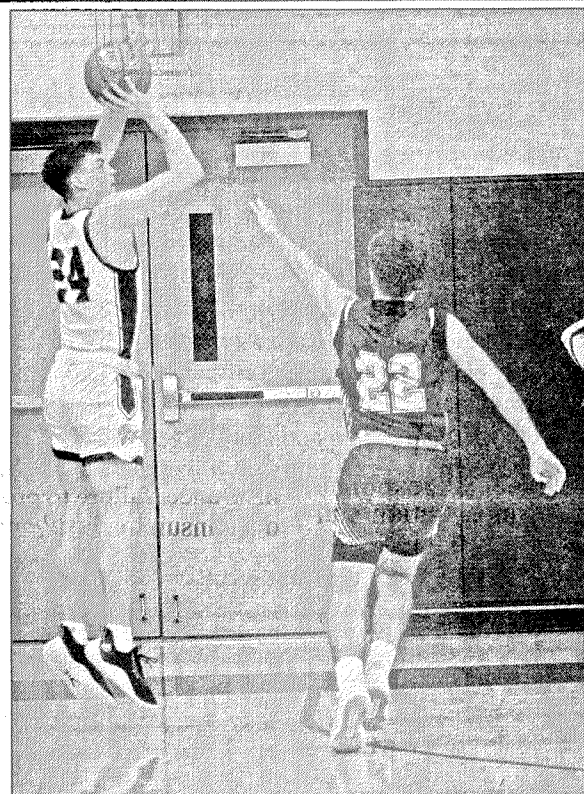
It's funny, I am a member of the First Christian Church in Mt. Vernon, and every week I see this uniquely beautifully moving mural of Christ's suffering never knowing that it was created by a nationally renowned artist.

Rockcastle County is host to a multifaceted group of unique individuals including talented artists like our own

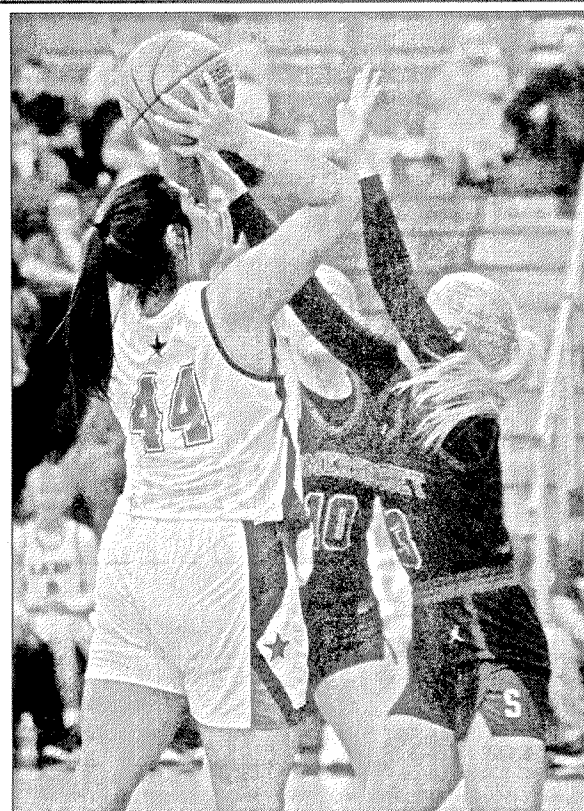
## Pawfect Pets



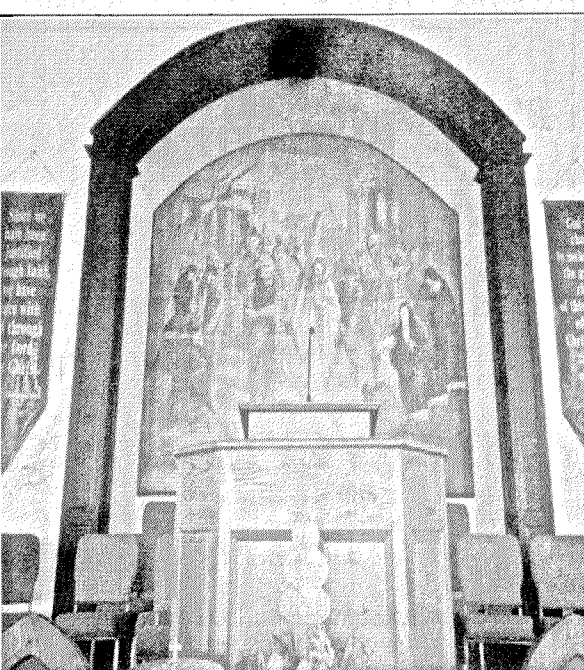
This week's installment of Pawfect Pets includes this 8-week old, male Great Pyrenees mix named Toby (left) and Sally, a female Border Collie between one and two years old. Sally is a very friendly pet. Anyone interested in adopting either of these two pets, or looking over the others that are available, should visit or contact the shelter at 606-256-1833 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., A \$20 adoption fee will help get your new family member to their forever home.



Trent Wilson puts up a three in recent action against Somerset. Wilson scored 18 in the Rockets' win over Casey County Friday night.



Abby DeLeon puts up a shot during the Rockets' win over Somerset. The Lady Rockets defeated Casey County 65-25 Friday night.



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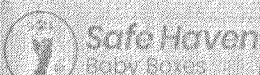
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[www.eyedoctorberea.net](http://www.eyedoctorberea.net)

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## Take Action

### What is the Safe Haven Law?

KRS 405.075 states that a newborn infant can legally be placed in a device designed to permit a parent to anonymously surrender their baby with the intent for an emergency medical services provider to remove the newborn take custody.



- There are currently 136 SHBB
- 16 of those boxes are located in KY
- The first baby was placed in a KY SHBB on 2/10/2023, less than 2 mths after installation

The nearest Safe Haven Box to Mt. Vernon, KY is in Mt. Washington, 97 miles away.

For more information, or to make a donation contact  
Makaela Brooke Abney  
[makaela.abney@rockcastle.kyschools.us](mailto:makaela.abney@rockcastle.kyschools.us)





# Classifieds

**CLASSIFIED RATES**

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

**Deadline for Classifieds is 4 p.m. Monday**

**For Rent**

**Chism Drive Thru Storage.** 9 1/2 x14 indoor units. \$50. 24 hr. access and security cameras. 859-559-9903. 3xntf

**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 Kincaid 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 be-

longing to LJL 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 Burkhart on Cove Branch, Livingston, Mt. Vernon. **Anyone entering the property must be with Orville Burkhart.** 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 Bengé property).

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

**Miscellaneous For Sale**

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

**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

**Notice is hereby given that** Danny R. Mink, Jr., P.O. Box 431, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 and Angelia M. Bullock, P.O. Box 1901, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 have been appointed Co-Executors of the Estate of Mary L. Mink, deceased, on the 10th day of January, 2024. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Danny R. Mink, Jr. and Angelia M. Bullock or to Hon. John D. Ford, P.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before July 10, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. 48x3

**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.




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**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.

**Call or text 988 or chat [988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org), or reach out to a mental health professional.**



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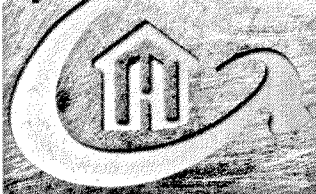
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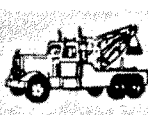
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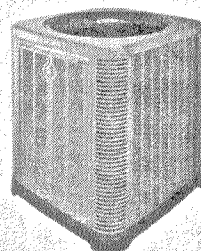
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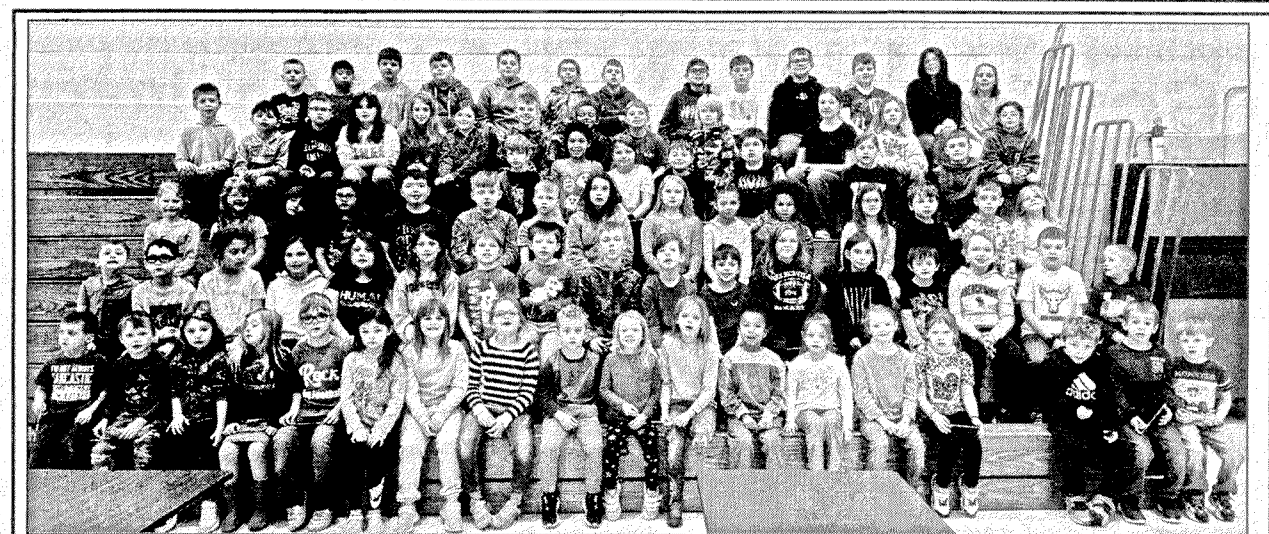
## CLASSIFIED ADS NOTICE

NO classifieds can be placed over the phone without paying at time of placing advertisement

For your convenience, we accept VISA, Mastercard, Discover, American Express.

To place your classified, have your credit card ready and call  
**(606) 256-2244**





**Roundstone Elementary School had 93 students with perfect attendance for the month of December. RES was the County School Attendance Champion August through November. RES would like to thank the families for their work in getting students to school every day.**

### Tax Resources for USDA Program Participants

Navigating filing taxes can be challenging, especially if you are new to running a farm business, participating in disaster programs for first time, or trying to forecast the farm's tax bill. Receiving funds from USDA through activities such as a conservation program payment or a disaster program is considered farm income that includes a tax liability for farm businesses. USDA technical assistance is free and creates no tax implications.

At the end of the tax year, USDA issues tax forms 1098 and 1099 forms for farm loans, conservation programs administered by the Farm Service Agency and Natural Resource Conservation Service including the Conservation Reserve Program and Environmental Quality Incentives Program, crop disaster payments, and the Mar-

## Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, FSA Director

ket Facilitation Program. USDA also issues tax forms for recipients of assistance for distressed borrowers, including through Section 22006 of the Inflation Reduction Act.

If you have received tax forms related to your operation, USDA cannot and does not provide tax advice but wants you to be aware of options that may help manage your tax liability. USDA has partnered with experts to provide resources to help you make the right tax decisions for your operation. Monthly webinars are available for registration and to view on demand at <https://www.farmers.gov/working-with-us/taxes>.

The Tax Estimator Tool is an interactive spreadsheet that producers can download to

estimate tax liability. It is for informational and educational purposes and should not considered tax or legal advice. Producers may need to work with a tax professional to determine the correct information to be entered in the Tax Estimator Tool.

We encourage you to visit <https://www.farmers.gov/working-with-us/taxes> for more information on how to find and work with a tax preparer as well as instructions on how to request copies of USDA documents and links to other helpful tax resources.

Committee Meeting Date: February 7 2024 8:30 A.M. at the Mount Vernon USDA Service Center.

*Important program dates and Interest Rates*

Farm Operating Loans-Direct = 5.750%

### Cumberland Dean's List

In recognition of academic performance, the Office of Academic Affairs at University of the Cumberlands has announced the students named to the Dean's List for the fall 2023 semester.

Local students named to the Fall 2023 Dean's List at University of the Cumberlands: Rebekah Hurley of Mount Vernon; Reese Sherrow of Brodhead; Natalie Mullins of Mount Vernon; Jennifer Parsons of Mount Vernon; Hallie Brown of Brodhead; Hannah Bryant of Brodhead; Peyton Cotton of Orlando; Riley Sherrow of Brodhead; and Emma Watson of Mount Vernon.

### Spiritual Detours

Worldly detours are distractions from the original intended route that we had planned to take. Detours are typically unexpected and inconvenient. Detours take us off our intended route, and it takes us longer than we had planned to get to our final destination. Spiritual detours can be seen as the same definition.

Why does God take us on Spiritual Detours? One reason God may take us on a spiritual detour is for the purpose of maturing and equipping us for the future.

Another reason God sends us on a spiritual detour is to encourage those who struggle with difficult circumstances by helping them identify the Lord's hand in the midst of the storm.

We see many examples in the bible of men that were sent on spiritual detours, example.

Moses wondering in the wilderness for forty years (Numbers 32:13), Abraham was sent on a detour for twenty-five years while he waited for God to give him an heir (Genesis 12:1-4; 21:1-8), the Apostle Paul waited three years for his preaching to continue (Galatians 1:15-18), Joseph spent thirteen years enduring slavery and prison before entering Pharaoh's service (Genesis 37:1-2; 41:46).

Just like these biblical examples, God often takes us on detours to develop us for a purpose and helps us to develop patience while doing so.

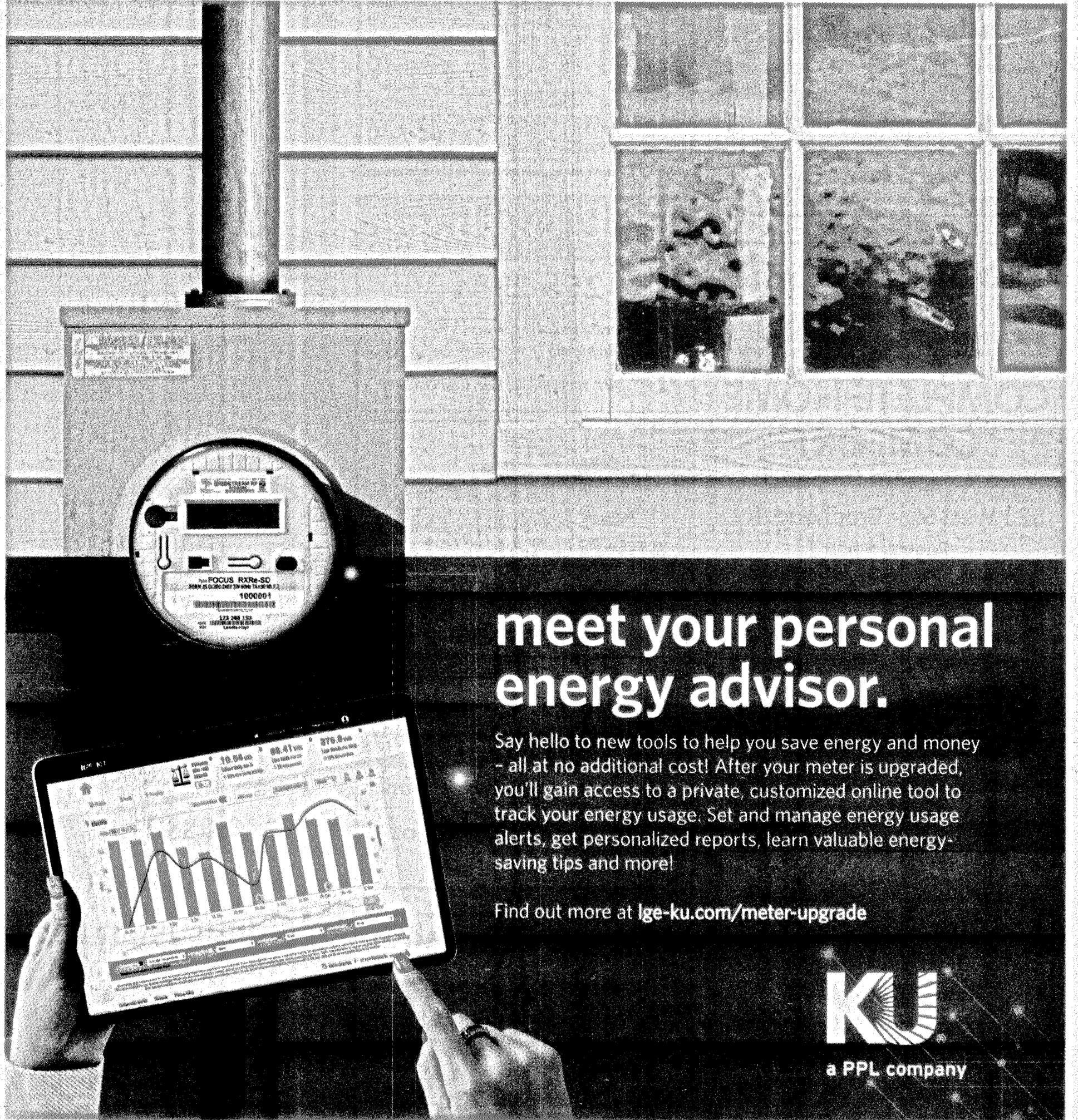
One very important thing to remember while we travel down this road called life, is that when we have a detour ahead of us, make sure you always have God with you. God promises to stay with us not only when we have detours in life but through a whole host of trials and storms. He tells us this in Deuteronomy 31:6, Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Everyone Welcome  
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109 Providence Cemetery Rd. • Brodhead

## Providence

### CHURCH of CHRIST

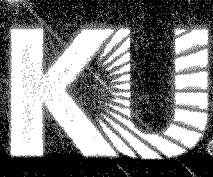
Come Worship With Us! Sunday Morning Bible Study: 9:30  
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:20- Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00  
Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00



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