Mount Vernon

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Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - (606) 256-2244 💛 Volume 135 • Number 16 🚜 50 per copy

Thursday, May 20, 2021



The groundbreaking ceremony for the long-awaited Farmers Market multi-use facility was held Monday evening with officials from the county and the City of Mount Vernon moving dirt to begin construction. The facility is expected to be ready before the end of growing season. The facility will also be used for other purposes. The project is located on Richmond Street beside the Teaching and Learning Center and is part of a collaborative effort between the City of Mount Vernon and the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court. The final total project winning bid was \$500,000 by MCKeehan Construction of Mount Vernon. Winstead Heating and Air will be in charge of the HVAC system. Farmers will offer their produce beside the courthouse until the building is ready for use. Shown at the ceremony from left are Magistrate Michael McGuire, contractor Billy MCKeehan, Magistrate Shannon Bishop, Farmers Market members Dennis and Debbie Saulpaugh, Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr., Mount Vernon Mayor Mike Bryant, Farmers Market members Donnie and Brenda Parsons, Tobee Harris, Doug Brock and Holly Robinson, RCIDA members Roland Mullins and Dale Whitaker, Magistrate Doug Prewitt, Excavation company sub-contractors Joseph Smith and Kevin Smith, RCIDA Executive Director Jeff VanHook and Kentucky State Representative Josh

School board deals with post-COVID district changes

By: Mike French
Editor

At last Tuesday night's regular monthly meeting of the Rockcastle County Board of Education, a unanimous vote on any issue seemed very elusive. Though the board continued discussion of each item on the agenda until a majority agreed, board member Larry Hammond voted "no" more often than "yes."

In a complex, threehour meeting, board members dealt with some issues never before addressed but will now be a regular part of most school board meetings, because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, "After the COVID Pandemic, times have changed and there

are new areas we have to deal with now," said Superintendent Carrie Ballinger.

Before the meeting began, Derek Bussell, Brodhead Elementary School Principal, talked about progress and challenges at the school. Though Bussell expressed optimism about the school's future, he said success is not coming easily. "There is no doubt our school is struggling with lack of structure," he said. "We have lost the power of routine and I think we may have all underestimated the social and mental challenges that would come along with the virtual learning environment. I did not expect the severity of the social and

(See "School" on A5)

Fiscal court holds regular monthly meeting

By: Mike French Editor

The Rockcastle County fiscal court held their regular monthly

Vaccine for ages 12 and up

A vaccine clinic will be held in Rockcastle County Thursday, May 20th from 4 to 5:30 p.m.at Rockcastle Hospital. Preregistration is required. Pfizer will be the only given at the clinic. Appointments are available for anyone 12 and older. Call 256-7767 or

email k.prewitt@rhrcc.org and provide your name and date of birth to schedule an appointment.

meeting last Tuesday and the first item on the agenda asked magistrates to approve an agreement with Lincoln County. "Lincoln County closed their jail and they have asked that, if they have an

Driver's license notice

The Department of Transportation is in the process of removing Driver's License issuing and testing from the local Circuit Court Clerk office. The last day of testing will be May 27. After that, testing for a new driver's license will be done in Somerset. Beginning June 1, you may schedule written tests and road tests online at

KentuckyStatePolice.org.

arrest nearby Rockcastle County, would we house that inmate for them," said Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook.

"As long as they are paying us, why not," said County Treasurer Joe Clontz. The motion

Next on the agenda, the court accepted the RCIDA report which

(See "School" on A5)

Vork release is back

By: Mike French Editor

After months of working with the State Department of Correction, Rockcastle County Jailer

Trash day changes

Due to extremely short staffing, anyone bringing trash to the Trash Drop Off Day on Saturday, May 22, must either be able to unload it yourself or bring someone with you who is capable of doing so. For more information, call 606 256-1902

Nathan Carter finally received permission to reinstate the work release

Memorial Day celebration

The American Legion, VFW and Memorial Day celebration at 10 a.m. at the Rockcastle County courthouse on Monday, May 31. All veterans and their families are urged to

attend. All veterans of

foriegn wars will be

honored.

Carter said the program provides the in-

tention center.

program at the local de-

mates with an opportunity to work time off their sentence while providing a service for the entire community. "Everyone wins through this program," he said. "We picked up 38 large bags of trash in just one day last week on old Brodhead Road."

The program is utilized by the county on several projects throughout the year but had been halted due to Governor Andy Beshear's COVID-

(See "Work" on A5)

County in **Red Zone**

In a surprising turn of events, Rockcastle County is one of only three counties that have returned to "Red Status" for COVID-19 outbreaks. Of the 120 Kentucky counties, Rockcastle, Adair and Webster Counties are now considered "high risk." However, with the lowered rate nationwide, the Cumberland Valley District Health Department is not recommending any changes to recent lifting of restrictions, according to CHDHD

Public relations director, Christi Green. There are currently 725 confirmed, 811 probable and 32 active cases in the county



Only fourth one in KY history

McIntosh throws perfect game for Rocket softball

RCHS senior Madison McIntosh became only the fourth pitcher in KHSAA history in Kentucky to pitch a perfect game.

McIntosh took on Lincoln County Tuesday, May 11th, faced 21 batters and struck out 21 batters in the 3-0 win.

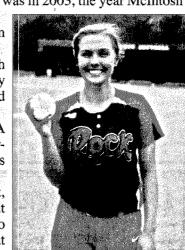
McIntosh threw 77 pitches in the seven inning game, 64 of them for strikes. The last time this was achieved in Kentucky was in 2003, the year McIntosh

McIntosh's perfect game was the first one in the United States since 2019.

"I was just completely shocked," McIntosh told MaxPreps after the feat. "In the back of my mind, I knew what was going on, but I just tried to play and not think about it."

The perfect game decreased McIntosh's ERA to 1.75. She has previously thrown no-hitters during her high school career but her previous strikeout high was 18 batters.

"She was on top of her game. She'll say that, you know, she was sore and stuff like that but after about the ninth or tenth batter, her dad who is also our pitching coach, we kind of looked at each other like, 'okay she's on'," Rockcastle County Fastpitch Head Coach Aaron Rupard told



Madison McIntosh with the game winning ball

McIntosh will continue her softball career next year with Berea College. She is the daughter of Tim McIntosh and granddaughter of Rita and Joe McIntosh.

Of Special Note Inside

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

- Classifieds......Pgs. B2&3
- EST Tool growingPg. B1 Deadline is Monday at 4 p.m.

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ramblings...

by; perlina m. anderkin

I was so impressed when daughter Paige informed me last week of the feat achieved by RCHS senior softball player Madison McIntosh.

Madison achieved something only three other softball pitchers have ever done in the state of Kentucky, throw a perfect game (the last one in 2003 the year Madison was born). She achieved this last week in a game at Stanford against Lincoln County. The Rockets won the game 3-0 after Madison retired all 21 batters she faced on strikeouts.

The talent, focus and fortitude that it took for Madison to accomplish this was amazing and something I could have never achieved.

For one thing, there's the talent thing and for another, I would have passed out on the mound about the 6th inning from

Madison, the daughter of Tim McIntosh, who is also her pitching coach, and the granddaughter of Rita and Joe McIntosh, will pitch for the Berea Lady Mountaineers softball team for her college

Congratulations, Madison on your outstanding accomplish-

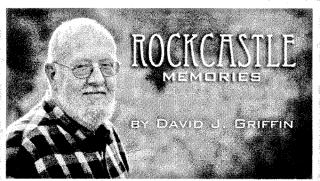
I don't have much to say this week about the Dems, there's only so many different ways you can point out how incompetent, mean spirited and just plain corrupt the present administration is.

I don't care if Biden's press secretary Jen Psaki says that recent data indicating inflationary pressures is indicative of a "successful economic policy."

Yeah, right, tell that to the people who have had the cost of their new home go up thousands of dollars because of the 400% increase in lumber prices since the Biden administration came into office.

And, of course, there's the present mess with gas prices skyrocketing because of the cyber attack of a major pipeline. By

(Continued on A3)



Memorable Trees

As I have said before, trees have been a very important part of my life. I want to tell you about four specific trees that I hold dear.

The first special tree that I have loved was a mulberry that was located in my grandfather's (Pop) yard. This mature giant was the place where the boys in my neighborhood gathered. We all loved to climb to our special spot in that mulberry.

Even my older brother (Al) held this tree in a special place in his memory. He recently recalled, "It was a perfect tree for growing boys to climb. I sat in that tree, dreaming dreams of flying in the biggest bombers when we were at war with the Germans. That great mulberry tree was the best for dreaming

(Continued on A3)

Points East By Ike Adams



When the sun in the morning peeps over the hill And kisses the roses round my window sill

Then my heart fills with gladness when I hear the trill

Of those birds in the tree-

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

Welcome Back to the Real World, Tonya. Dear Journal,

I've been so sick for the last several days. Somehow I've caught the COVID virus. I've been so careful I don't understand how it was possible.

It just proves how contagious this disease is. I didn't even know I had it until over a week into it. It started with just overpowering weakness. It was a weakness that I've never had before. I

(Continued on A2)

tops on Mocking bird hill

Tra la la, tweedle de de,

it gives me a thrill To wake up in the morning to the mocking

birds trill Tra la la, tweedle de de There's peace and good

You're welcome as the flowers on mocking bird hill

I have no idea who wrote or first recorded that song but I've been told that tra la la, tweedle dee, were among the first words I ever uttered when my mouth started working in the summer of 1949. My Mom and 2 of my older cousins used

(Continued on A3)

A bluow wa

it to sing me to sleep and

Aces Over

By: Mike French



My imagination has gone ballistic over a situation in California this week. It has absolutely nothing to do with me or anyone I will ever know but the situation has simply locked me up like a used Dell computer.

I am living in a glitch. I can't sleep at night thinking about it and can't concentrate on anything without it entering my mind.

No one knows who, but, some poor fellow, likely driving his 1986 Camry on a donut tire because he can't afford a replacement tire, hit the lottery...and he never collected.

I am imagining this fellow struggling by each week and watching people he loves having trouble paying their bills. But he can't help them because he can barely pay his own.

The fellow, like all of us, spent his life with dreams that he knew would never come true. He has tried and has worked hard all his life but supporting his family

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is about the best he has been able to achieve. The big home, the debtfree life, the nice new car, sleeping in on Monday mornings and owning that really cool boat he has dreamed of, has been elusive in life.

Then he stopped and purchased a lottery ticket at a corner convenient store one day after work. Knowing the luck he has had in his life, he really didn't have any expectations to win anything. He has bought several tickets and never won anything before. In fact, he was so convinced that "lady luck" would pass him by, that he may have accidently tossed the ticket away when he cleaned out his old car one day.

That ticket was a \$26,000,000 winner. The deadline to cash that ticket in and collect the \$26 million, passed last week. It is worthless now.

Are you kidding me? Personally, I can't

(Continued on A3)

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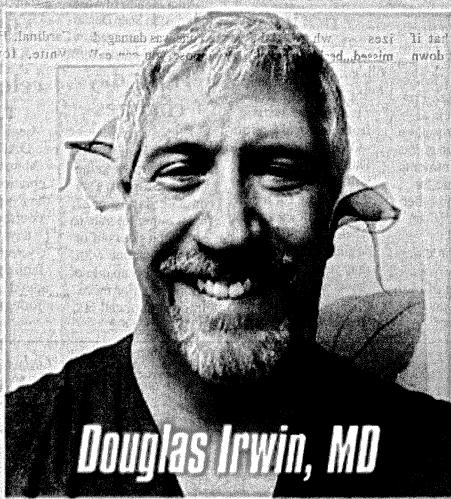
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Dr. Irwin has appointments available May 25th, June 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 22, 23

Dr. Irwin would like to welcome our newest hero, Shannah Click, APRN

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"Ramblings"

(Continued from A2)

some accounts, the price of a gallon of gas in Virginia went to \$7 this week but surely, that included quite a bit of gouging.

However, don't worry, pipeline executives have taken care of the problem by reportedly paying the hackers a ransom of around \$5 million. Of course, that won't be an incentive for it to happen again, and again.

There is also the problem of the anti-semitism that is being promoted in this country over the current Hamas-Israel conflict that began, now hear this, when Hamas hurled the first rockets at Israel. Hamas supporters, including Democrat Reps. Cori Bush, Rashid Talib, Ilhan Omar, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and CNN Contributor Adeel Raja who tweeted "The world needs another Hitler," (he did lose his job over it, thank goodness). Bush also recently praised a Black Lives Matter activist who called for the death of cops.

These are people in a seat of power in our government rooting for the destruction of Israel. They are incensed that Israel is defending themselves. How dare the Israeli government not just sit back and let Hamas kill Israeli citizens, since that is who Hamas targets with their rockets. Israel, meanwhile, will give warning to civilians, if they are going to bomb an area in which civilians live (and where Hamas prefers to put their missiles), with adequate time for them to get out.

Its disheartening because anyone who thinks at all realizes that if Hamas would lay down their weapons there would be peace in the middle east. If Israel were to lay down their weapons, they would be wiped off the face of the earth

And, in another area that upsets yours truly terribly, Hailey Davidson is being touted as a transgender woman who could be the first to play professional golf with the LPGA, after winning a mini-tour competing biological against women.

This is utterly ridiculous and needs to be corrected immediately or we will see the demise of women's sports in our time.

Some good news for those of us who had COVID and refuse to take the not FDA approved vaccine. Dr. Martin Kulldorff of Havard reports that those with prior COVID infections are immune for eight to 10 years. At my age, I shouldn't have to worry about this again.

But, I should also not be prevented from entering certain businesses, flying on a plane, taking a cruise, etc., because I don't have a vaccine "passport." This will be a fight for a long time and it's time for our Republicans in Congress to show a little backbone and refuse to allow this invasion of our private medical history.

And, as my final not going to talk about Dems this week item, HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge said HUD is NOT PRI-ORITIZING U.S. citizens over illegal immigrants for public housing assistance, despite a shortage of available units in certain areas during the COVID pandemic. According to 2019 statistics, there were about 32,000 illegal immigrants living in public housing. Meanwhile, homeless American citizens, including our veterans, are having to make do with a cardboard shanty under a bridge.

Okay, I'm through. I have managed to depress myself to where I'll probably go home and kick the cat just to try and make myself feel better (just kidding, my cat would kick me back and much harder)

"Aces"

(Continued from A2)

help but think winning the lottery requires Divine Intervention. I can't help it. Winning the lottery would change a person's entire world, along with their entire family's world. If properly handled, it can greatly and significantly affect an entire community or even a state. So, if leaders, such as Presidents and Popes, are ordained by God and we are supposed to respect and follow their lead, then surely such a massive change in direction for so many people would be ordained by God.

So, with that as my personal attitude, I am completely locked up.

Did God make him a winner with some great plan to affect life on Earth and create a new church or something? Or, did the guy just win by luck and God knew what he would have done with it and therefore caused him to lose the ticket? Is it all just pure random happenings and God is just watching it?

What will go through the guy's head if he ever finds the ticket and realhe what missed...besides a bullet? Will he never know? Is there someone (a spouse maybe) who remembers throwing the ticket away thinking it was nothing, but won't admit to it now? "No honey, I haven't seen a lottery ticket on the kitchen counter!" How would they sleep?

Maybe a friend accidently dropped it in the trash...or on purpose? Maybe as a joke? There are so many possibilities.

I can't help but wonder if the guy will someday go to Heaven and an Angel will meet him at the gate and say, "let me tell you an interesting story Fred."

There has to be some sort of massive life lesson here. Are we all so close to a completely different life at some instant? Did we all miss an opportunity to change our world and this guy is just one of

Anyway, I guess in the big picture of life, none of this really matters. It has simply blown my mind and I can't fathom the idea. But life will continue and I guess Fred will wake tomorrow and be happy that he could afford a cup of coffee on his way to work. Maybe he will never know he had the winning ticket.

I know I will be glad for a cup of coffee tomorrow. Hey wait...did I pass up \$26,000,000 yesterday? I'll never sleep again.

"Memory" (Continued from A2)

boys."

I also had a special spot in that tree. Whenever I wanted to think, I climbed to my spot (in the shade), and my mind would be so clear. There was nobody to interrupt your thoughts.

Another tree that will always remain special to me was a sugar maple that was in my back yard on Furnace Mountain in Powell County. When the builders were grading the yard, they bent the tiny maple over toward the 80-foot limestone cliff, where it clung. Therefore, it had to bend upward to get the sun's rays. That tree's trunk will be crooked for the rest of its natural life. That special maple grew full-sized and often protected the back of our house from winds and a variety of weather conditions. I hated to leave that maple when we sold the A-frame house.

As many know, the tulip poplar is the official state tree of Kentucky, and I have a history with those stately trees. When I was a youngster in Rockcastle County, our yard was filled with the towering giants, which customarily attain heights of over 120 feet.

In the spring, they are covered with yellow flowers with dashes of red and orange - and they fill the woods with a sweet aroma. Squirrels feast on the fruit of the trees, whose seeds are viable for 4-7 years. The trees' finest development is located, of course, in the Southern Appalachian Mountains.

Due to their height and brittle nature, tulip poplars are frequently subject to lightning strikes and wind damage. I can remember several occasions when our trees were hurt by summer storms. Sometimes it felt like I had lost a member of the family when one was damaged. I suppose you can call me a "tree hugger," because I certainly feel a special connection to these huge plants.

The last special tree for me is a Sun Valley Red Maple that just this week we planted to replace a big crabapple tree damaged by the recent ice storm. We ordered this specimen from Al's Landscaping in Winchester, although I understand they had to travel to obtain it.

When it was planted, the guy from Al's said. "This tree will sleep the first year, will creep the second year, and will leap the third year." This specific maple will turn bright red in the fall and is considered to be very hardy.

The new maple tree had a four-inch caliper trunk as well as a huge root ball. I was surprised to see that my soil was black all the way to the bottom of the tree's hole in the ground. I am told that such rich dirt would cause anything to thrive.

I am thrilled to have a new maple tree in my yard. We placed a bench that had belonged to my wife's father adjacent to the new tree, and we named it Herman in honor of him (a nickname that he was often subjected to because of his height). We know well that John Scott would highly approve of what will be a lovely spot in the yard of our new home.

(You can reach me at themtnman1962@gmail.com or you can drop me a line at 30 Johnson Avenue - Mt. Sterling, KY 40353. I appreciate your comments and suggestions.)

"East"

(Continued from A2)

I'd bet a lot of money that my younger brothers enjoyed the lullaby as much as I did.

As I grew older and big enough to break beans and help peel taters, I came to realize that Mom had a special affection for a couple of mocking birds that hung out in our back yard as well as a small covey of bobwhite quail that resided in the side yard about 100 feet from the house. She took great delight in "talking" to them and having them talk back. She was even more delighted when she could get them talking to one another. We took our thrills wherever we could find them on Blair Branch back in those days.

Fast forward 50 years, if you are a regular reader if this column, and you already know that I am not a great fan of mocking birds. The ones on our place are intimidating bullies that chase other birds off our feeders and spend the rest of their time trying to flog my octogenarian cat. Poor Fancy has no peace on the front porch because 2 mocking birds stay ready to give her grief if I'm not out there with her.

But here's the thing. The largest, fattest, mist aggressive if these 2 scoundrels will sit on our garden fence, early in the morning and late in the day, up to an hour at a time and tra la la, tweedlde de de his way through bits and pieces of every birdsong he's heard in the last month or so.

We will hear distinct notes of Robin, Wren. Cardinal, Flicker, Bob White, Towhee, Red Wing Blackbirds, and a dozen others that I easily recognize, mixed in with dozens of othersounds that I only know to be birds. He even mimics the tiny wind chimes hanging on our front porch. If there is any meaning or pattern to his madness, Lhave not figured it out. As far as I can tell he simply loves to sing and does so with much gusto.

But he eventually tires of the serenade and before I I know it's over, he is back on the front porch rail within 3 feet of my face trying to gauge his chances at stealing a mouthful of Fancy's cat food.

I slap my hands at him and he simply hops to one side, stares me down and

which I take to mean, I'm hungry"

utters a very loud, one "Get off this porch. I've syllable. "GAARK"! sung my heart out and



RE: May 06 issue of the Signal; City and County getting cleaner... Dear Editor,

There's just no debate...City Councilman Wayne Bullock and his All-American Club are heroes for this county and they certainly walk the walk when it comes to outstanding civic action, outreach, and the selfless giving that they provide to us as Rockcastle citizens and Kentuckians. I am so grateful for their mission and their tireless work in our county.

It's sad that my accolades may merely be set on the shelf, alongside of the many other awards and recognitions that his organization has received over their 35 years of service. I think that Mr. Bullock is correct; we can educate ourselves and our citizens over and over about litter, but is that enough? We can continue to pickup after an ungrateful and lazy citizenry (sorry, citizen, is certainly not the correct word), but is that enough?

I'm reminded of my raising of 3 young children,

and the constant harassing and pleading their mother and I endured in trying to teach some personal discipline and responsibility for their personal and public actions. I guess that was educating, but you know, the true education only came after my children learned that there were consequences to any poor and ungrateful behavior. Indeed I didn't have to pick up after my children after those lessons were made clear to them.

I am surprised that some would be satisfied to continually have the All-American Club, local youth teams, churches, and others to continue to "pick up after" ungrateful litterbugs, all of whom learned that littering was disgraceful and illegal when they were in the 1st grade! Yes, we need the efforts of these volunteers and are grateful for them, but surely the county could offer a little assistance to their plight?

Mr. Holbrook recently returned some \$6,000 to the state for a litter abatement grant, presumably since he could not find a way to spend it? Now he doesn't have the manpower to start a litter abatement ticketing campaign? \$6,000 would have paid for a quite a few hours of overtime for some deputies to write a few littering tickets. Is "awareness" all the assistance for the tireless volunteers that the County can muster up? One thing for sure, if all we ever do sen with litter abatement is to continually pick up after the litterbugs, over and over, and nothing more, why in the world would these selfish and ungrateful criminals ever have a reason to stop littering?

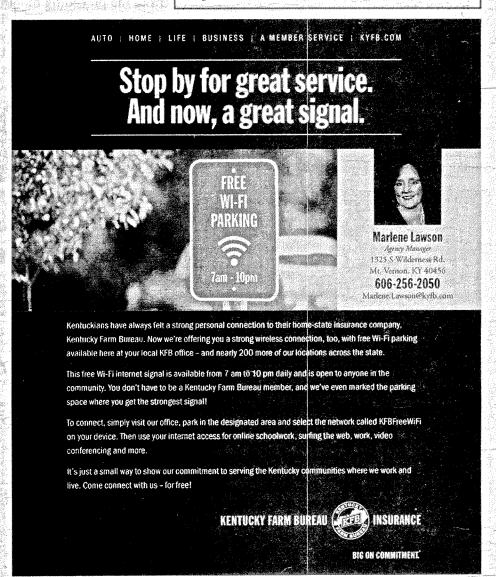
Mr. Bullock has it right...eatch the people littering, write them a ticket, and have them clean up the ditch lines 4 hours a day for a month. Consequences!

Andy Lawson

NOTICE OF BID OPPORTUNITY

Rockcastle County Fiscal Court will be accepting sealed bids for crushed limestone, asphalt surface (hot and cold mix), metal and DWP culverts for the fiscal year 2021-2022 until 12:00p.m. June 8,

Bid specifications may be obtained from the office of the County Judge-Executive prior to bid opening upon request. Bids will be opened at the Fiscal Court Meeting on June 08, 2021 at 4:00p.m. The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids. Bids can be mailed to Rockcastle County Fiscal Court, P. O. Box 755, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456. Please mark envelopes "Sealed Bid", and specify materials for which you are placing a bid. Thank you for your cooperation.



ifuanie,

Gerald Wilson Proctor

Gerald Wilson Proctor, 85, of Mt. Vernon, died April 17, 2020 at his residence in Orlando, FL. He was born June 7, 1934 in Spiro, to the late Eugene



and Bessie Proctor. He was a carpenter, was of the Baptist faith, and enjoyed spending time with his family. His biggest interest was to come home to Kentucky.

Those left to celebrate his life are: his six children, Sandra Reynolds, Sherry Henderson, Tammy Miller, Scotti Anthony, Mark Proctor, and Donna Horne; 15 grandchildren, Bryan

Nichols, Timothy Reynolds, Branden Reynolds, Mashell Woods, Jonathan Henderson, Tamatha Henderson, James Miller, Aaron Litteral, Mariah Mitchell, Mikaela Mitchell, Amya Anthony, Symara Anthony, Jeremiah Anthony, Marquis Timmerman, and Katlynn Grimes; 34 great grandchildren; and 13 great great grandchildren.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by: one son, James Kean; two grandchildren, Greg Kean, and Cameron Litteral; and six siblings, George Proctor, Ray Proctor, Charles Proctor, Geneva Race, Lillian Dowell, and Susie Price.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 10 a.m. at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Luther Allen officiating.

In accordance with current CDC guidelines, the family requests that visitors wear masks and observe social distancing.

> Condolences may be made at www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com.

Billy Joe Hopkins

Billy Joe Hopkins was born June 16, 1940, to the late Willie "Bill" Hopkins and Lillie Mabel (Craig) Taylor.

God chose to take him on May 4th, 2021.

Billy Joe wed Verla Hamm on June 12, 1965, in Kentucky. He attended Huron Street Church of Christ in Niles. He worked for Western Electric in -Cincinnatill moved to Cleveland, and retired from AT&T in Niles in 1990. He enjoyed gardening, yard work, photography, and jigsaw puzzles.



His mother, father, and step-father, Willie J. Tay-

ior preceded him in death.

He is survived by: his wife of 55 years, Verla (Hamm) Hopkins; daughter, Renee (Eric) Wolfe of Canton, Ohio; son, Nathan Hopkins of Niles, Michigan; and a granddaughter, Reagan Wolfe of UC Cin-

Billy Joe's family held a private service on May 7, 2021 at Brown Funeral Home in Niles, MI. He was laid to rest at Smith's Chapel Cemetery on Redfield Road in Niles.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Providence Cemetery in memory of Billy Joe Hopkins.

Reunions

Thacker/Brooks Family Reunion

The Thacker/Brooks Family Reunion will be held Saturday, June 12 from noon to ??? at Roundstone Baptist Church.

We are once again asking for your help in spreading the word to all family members and friends as to the date and location of the Thacker/Brooks Family Reunion.

Please bring a covered dish and join us.

Also, if you will provide us with a mailing address, e-mail address or phone number of any other relatives, we will gladly provide them a copy of this and future reunions.

Jessie Thacker 606-392-2303 or 606-308-4308; Brenda Chappell 606-256-5275 or 606-308-2245 or Email: jwthacker10@gmail.com

Christine Mize Morris

Christine Mize Morris, 92, of Berea, died Monday, May 17, 2021 at the Terrace Nursing & Rehabilitation Facility.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 1 p.m. at Dowell & Martin Funeral Home. Burial will follow in McGuire Cemetery in Livingston.

Friends may call at Dowell & Martin Funeral Home after 11 a.m. Saturday.

Face masks are not required for the fully vaccinated. However, if you feel more comfortable masked, or are not fully vaccinated, we ask that you please wear them while visiting the funeral home.

A complete obituary will appear in next week's

John Lester Williams

John Lester Williams, 83, of Mt. Vernon, husband of Edna Williams, died Saturday, May 15, 2021 at Rockcastle Regional Hospital

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 1 p.m. at Dowell & Martin Funeral Home. Burial was in Riddle Cemetery.

A complete obituary will appear in next week's Sig-

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

DBCAA accepting applications for LIHEAP subsidy through June 30

Home energy assistance program offering one-time payment assistance to qualified

residents across Kentucky

Daniel Boone Community Action Agency is taking applications for an added spring subsidy program for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis through June 30, 2021, or until designated funds are depleted.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to put strain on households across Kentucky. Families should not worry about how they will continue to keep themselves Healthy at Home," said Roger McCann, Executive Director of Community Action Kentucky. "This Spring LIHEAP Program will help to take burden off of Kentuckians as we all work towards recovery."

Spring Subsidy is designed to help low-income households offset home energy costs, with income eligibility requirements up to 150 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. The benefit amount awarded is based on a household's income and primary fuel type. Benefits are paid directly to the primary fuel vendor in the form of a voucher.

Kentucky's Community Action Network collectively operates outreach offices in all 120 Kentucky counties. Qualified applicants are encouraged to contact their local Community Action outreach office for specific applications instruc-

All applicants will be required to supply the following documentation at time of application: Proof of Social Security Number or Permanent

Residence card (Green Card) for each member of the household.

 Proof of all household's (all members) income from the preceding month.

 Most current heating bill, statement from your landlord if heating expenses are included in your rent, statement from utility company if you participate in a Pre-Pay Electric Program.

 The account number and name on the account for main heating fuel sources and electric bill. Health and Human Services. More information about LIHEAP and a listing of LIHEAP outreach offices can be found at the Community Action Kentucky website at www.CAPKY.org.



Daniel Nathan Bond

Daniel Nathan Bond, 58, of Eubank, died Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at his home. He was born in Ft. Wayne, IN, the son of Robert and Nora Higgins Bond.



He had been a musician and was a Mason. He loved reading, history, playing music, and generally spending time with family and friends.

He is survived by his life partner, Betty Jones and her three children, Sandra, Randall, and Tashia, and her granddaughter, Athena Willow. Also surviving are a sister,

Diana Bond of Mt. Vernon, and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by: his maternal grandparents, Earl and Mildred Higgins; his paternal grandparents, Harveand Myrtle Bond; and two infant brothers.

The family of Mr. Bond will hold memorial services at a later date.

Arrangements were by Dowell & Martin Funeral

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

Cemetery Notices

Maple Grove Cemetery

Maple Grove Cemetery is asking for donations for the upkeep and mowing of the cemetery.

Anyone that would like to help, please go to Community Trust Bank and make a deposit in the Maple Grove Cemetery account or donations may be sent to: Penny Cameron, 37 Bob White Lane, Brodhead, Ky. 40409.

We will also be at the cemetery Friday - Monday, May 28-31.

We would like to ask that everyone who has a loved one buried at the cemetery, please help us to keep it up. If everyone gives a little, it would hurt anyone.

Livesay Cemetery

Please send donations for mowing and upkeep of the Livesay Cemetery to: Gloria Seals, 5394 Brindle Ridge Road, Brodhead, Ky. 40409. Maretburg Cemetery

Please send donations for mowing and upkeep of the Maretburg Cemetery to: Gloria Seals, 5394 Brindle Ridge Road, Brodhead, Ky. 40409

Roberts Cemetery

Donations needed! Please help keep Roberts Cemetery (old Freedom Cemetery) mowed.

Send donations to: Roberts Cemetery, c/o Nancy Meadows, 20 Trinity Lane, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

McKinney Cemetery

We will be having our annual meeting on Sunday May 30th at 1 p.m. at the cemetery shelter. We will be practicing social distancing and wearing masks.

There are two committee positions that will be voted on, along with regular business.

As a reminder, we do not accept cash donations, we do accept personal checks, cashier's checks and money orders, payable McKinney Cemetery.

All donations are for the maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery.

Please send all mail donations to: McKinney Cemetery, P.O. Box 1404, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456

Phelps Cemetery

Donations for upkeep of Phelps Cemetery may be given on Saturday, May 29th between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the cemetery or may be sent to sent to Phelps Cemetery, c/o Randy Renner at 605 Steep Hollow Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

Comments can be addressed to Randy Renner at 606-392-9763 or

randyrenner76@gmail.com All donations are greatly appreciated.

Briarfield Cemetery Donations for the upkeep

of Briarfield Cemetery can

be given or mailed to: Timothy Robinson, 5408 Big Cave Road, Orlando, Ky. 40460; Kenny Reams, 4145 Hwy. 490, East Bernstadt, Ky. 40729 or Joe Robinson, 90 McK Farm Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

Please make checks payable to Briarfield Cemetery.

The committee will be at the cemetery on Memorial Weekend collection donations.

Thanks to everyone for helping with upkeep of the cemetery. Sand Hill Cemetery

Please send donations for upkeep and mowing of Sand Hill Cemetery at Sand Hill Baptist Church to: Brady Hensley, 2683 Sand Hill Road, Livingston, Ky. 40445.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

High Dry Cemetery

Please make donations for the upkeep of the High Dry Cemetery to High Dry Cemetery, c/o Coy Cromer, 1058 Rank Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456

Johnetta Cemetery

Memorial Services will be held at Johnetta Cemetery on Sunday, May 30th at the cemetery.

Maret Cemetery

The annual Maret Cemetery meeting will be held Saturday, May 29th at noon at the cemetery.

Donations for upkeep will of the cemetery will be taken at the meeting or may be mailed to: Sandra D. Ramsey, 245 Sunset Ridge, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

Oak Hill Cemetery

Donations are being accepted for the upkeep of Oak Hill Cemetery.

Anyone wishing to help should mail donations to: Oak Hill Cemetery, c/o Bill Lear, 60 Hope Drive, Orlando, Ky. 40460.

Donations will also be accepted May 28th through the 31st at the cemetery.

To contact Bill, his phone number is 606-308-3244.

Thank you for your support, it doesn't go unno-

Johnetta Cemetery

If anyone would like to donate to the mowing and upkeep of Johnetta Cemtery, please deposit donation at Community Trust Bank to the Johnetta Cemetery account.

You may also mail your donation to the bank at: Community Trust Bank, 120 E. Main St., Mt. Vernon.

We would like to ask everyone that has a loved one buried at the cemetery, please help us keep it up. If everyone gives a little, it wouldn't hurt anyone.

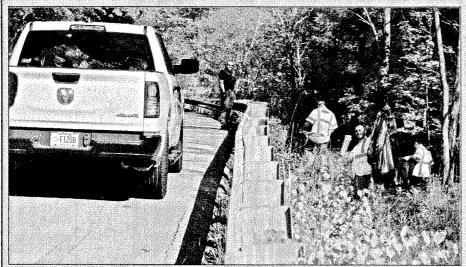
Nelce Drew, 4960 Climax Rd., Orlando, Ky. 40460 256-3874

New deadline

Due to changes at printing plant, Mount Vernon Signal's deadline is now with the second of the second second

"Work"

(Continued from front)



19 mandates. "We are glad to have our program back up and running," said

The "new" system of the work release program includes many new restrictions and mandates due to fears that an inmate or county employee may catch the COVID-19 virus. Carter says state workers drive by his crews, during their work, for drive-by inspections. "They watched us closely to make sure we were doing everything exactly as they require and we were," said Carter.

In fact, if there is one case of COVID-19 in the local jail, the work release program will be halted again, according to Carter.

The Jailer asks all local motorists to keep an eye out for his workers. "We will have signs up warning drivers that our crews are ahead and we ask everyone to please slow down and use caution when driving by our guys cleaning up the ditchlines in our community."

In the meantime, Carter plans to be out on the streets on Tuesdays, Thursdays and every other Friday. "Everyone should watch for us," he said. "We are all happy to be back out there keeping our community cleaner."

"T.J.'s"

(Continued from A2)

described it as "I can feel my spirit leaving my body... I feel myself actually dying." Then I started smothering, and I couldn't breathe when I started to go to sleep. Finally, I got the COVID test and it was positive. Then came the nausea and diarrhea for three days. It took what seemed weeks, but I finally started to feel just a little better. I got to where I could eat a little, sleep and breathe, and walk through the house without total exhaustion. I'd take rides with Stanley but stay in the car in my nightgown and house shoes covered in a throw. "Slow but sure", so they say. I've just about gone stir crazy sitting around not able to do anything."

I hadn't been to Walmart in about two weeks or longer. One day just ran into the other and time lost its meaning. I got well enough to get out and go shopping as by now, I was needing several things. I got some actual clothes on and went to Walmart with Stanley. I got checked out first so I waited by the front door on a scooter chair for Stanley to come along. So there I sat. Some things about Walmart never change. "Welcome back to reality,

Tonya". It was a real smack in the face and almost a shock until I remembered that nothing is shocking anymore. It was a cool afternoon and windy as it has been lately. There was a young woman in her twenties, probably, that walked past. She had on a heavy button up sweater which I thought wouldn't feel bad at all. Now, this girl was rather large...about three hundred pounds plus. I know I'm no small or medium size woman so I can talk. She had on some shorts, I mean SHORTS. About three inches of butt cheek was hanging out from beneath the shorts on each side and no underwear to be seen. Then there was the butt crack or should I say the canyon or crevice that came into play. Absolutely unbelievable. If I hadn't seen it for myself I'd thought it was just a wild tale, pun intended. This was my first trip out to see the world after quarantine for days. What a welcome.

Three or four days later on a Sunday afternoon, we went to eat at the Smokehouse Grill Buffet in Berea. Low and behold, I think I saw her there. If it wasn't, it was her twin sister. I pointed her out to Stanley and he

just had to shake his head. It is good to know that some things in life never change. You can always count on an eye opening experience at Walmart.

State Rep working on **COVID-related bills**

By: Mike French

Officials say there is a move afoot that would allow businesses, organizations and government buildings to require citizens to have a COVID-19 vaccination "passport" before they may use the service or enter the premises. Such a move would require some form of identification, such as a vaccination card, that would let the business or service know that a citizens has been vaccinated.

However, there are many who say such a requirement would violate HIPAA rules. HIPAA (Health Insurance Probability and Accountability Act of 1996) protects all "individual identifiable health information" and includes "Individual's past, present or future physical or mental health condition."

Some say being forced to provide personal information concerning the COVID-19 virus, would violate that act.

However, some have also expressed the opinion that such information should not be private in order to protect others around them. The argument continues that those who have received the vaccine would not catch the virus so they should not care who has been vaccinated.

The issue is being debated on a federal level but also at a state level.

Kentucky State Representative Josh Bray says a bill has been filed that would not allow the state government to require the vaccine but that bill does not extend to private busi-

"I am dealing with the issue right now," said Bray, who is not personally in favor of a vaccine "passport" being required.

Bray is planning on meetings this week with House leadership concerning the issue. "I am working on two other bills right now but I will file that one also if needed," he said.

Fiscal Court hears monthly budget

By: Mike French

Rockcastle County Treasurer Joe Clontz presented the fiscal court with the county's financial statement at the regular monthly meeting on May 11th=.

Clontz asked the court to open a new account for the \$1.3 million that is expected soon as part of the federal American Rescue Plan. However, Clontz said there has been no indication of how that money must be spent by county governments. "I am sure there will be very strict guidelines as to how we can use that money," he said. "But until we know for sure, we should place it in its own account and set it aside."

Clontz said he expects another \$1.3 million next fiscal year and he hopes the money can be used, at least partially, for road work and infrastructure.

The general fund ending balance at the end of April was \$329,068 and

the road fund was \$244,877. The detention center balance was \$40,299 and the LGEA fund was \$84,334. The forestry fund showed a balance of \$194 and the federal fund balance was \$500 while the 911 fund was \$22,763. The CSEPP fund was \$75,625 at the end of April while the fairgrounds fund was \$1,188 and the LEPC fund was \$658. The occupational tax account at the end of April had a balance of \$857,833.

The Microfoodery account once again showed no action and no movement since the previous report and still has \$84,484 as a balance at the end of April while the parks and recreation board has \$10,549 and the plastics building account had \$747,026.

"I think we are looking pretty good this month," said Clontz. "There were no real surprises and that's always a good thing."

"School"

(Continued from front)

mental affects this would have on students."

Still, Bussell said he sees the challenges as opportunities and he is confident that students will be better than expected once a routine is established.

Even the normally formal approval of "Operations and Actions" was questioned before a vote to approve the items within that section of the agenda. One items included the action to approve Shad J. Allen, CPA, PLLC, as the new district auditor. "I have some questions about the auditor chosen and how that came to be." said Hammond. "Why have we changed auditors?

Finance Director Jenny Sweet informed Hammond that the audit had been let for bid and a former employee of White and Associates (the previous auditor) was the low bid. "We also contacted other districts he had done audits with and they recommended him," said Superintendent Carrie Ballinger.

Hammond then questioned additions in the area of medical and/or trauma care plans and how those additions will be funded.

Ballinger said a trauma care plan will be presented to the board at the next meeting and it will address school violence and stopping potential events before they happen, as well as emotional trauma caused by COVID mandates. The plan will include professional training for everyone within the school system. "A student with trauma may just as easily stop and talk to a custodian as they would a teacher or other employee," she said. "This is another way to support our teachers and staff and everyone would be trained to deal with those situations and better foresee future problems. It is all about the safety of our students and

Operations and actions were then approved.

The board then discussed Senate Bill 128 which addresses a supplemental school year program. The program involves students who apply to retake some classes for many different reasons. After long and complicated discussion about the purpose of the bill, and how it works as well as qualifications and requirement, and comments by every member present, the motion to offer a supplemental school year passed with only Hammond voting "no."

change with the times

and keep up with tech-

nology and offer this ser-

vice to our students."

The board then addressed a waiver for students who wish to remain in MyRock virtual learning next school year even if full-time, everyday classes are available as expected. sition at a time." Once again, board members discussed the issue in minute detail. Currently there are about 460 students enrolled in MyRock virtual learning. "Other districts will offer virtual learning and there will be students who prefer to remain virtual," said Ballinger. "It is our responsibility to

Chairman Angela Mink expressed concern that the future may hold more and more virtual settings which will eventually drastically drop the number of teachers needed nationwide. "This keeping up with the times is pushing us further and further away from the teacher/student relationship that is so badly needed for students," she said.

However, even Mink said she agrees that such a setting should be offered by the district and that it will be available in most other districts.

Hammond expressed his concerns as well saying he is not in favor of promoting the reduction of time a student spends with their teacher.

Once again the motion to provide the virtual option was argued against, by Hammond but the motion passed unanimously.

The school salary schedule has been the source of disagreement for months and this continued when Ballinger submitted the salary schedule, including the hiring of a Human Resource Manager in the district. Hammond expressed concern over the salary for the position and this time Mink agreed that the salary may be too high.

Board member Anna Goff said she too disagrees with that particular salary. "Something isn't right that position 'A' requires a BS and is essential and that person makes \$20,000, but position 'B' requires a BS, and is essential but they make \$70,000."

However, Ballinger and Sweet said the salary of the Human Resource Manager is largely adjusted according to grants that fund the position. Sweet said grants provide that much money for that position. "If the board wants to supplement the other salaries that are lower so that they will be more equal, we can use general funds to do that," she said.

Ballinger called the position an "extreme need" for the district.

Again, a long discussion about the position was held and a motion was made to remove the position from the salary schedule so that the salary schedule (without that position) could be approved. All agreed to remove the Human Resource Director position and discuss it separately

The salary schedule then passed.

"I think the entire salary schedule needs to be looked at closely next year," said Hammond. "I am all in favor of classified making more. I support and respect all the employees. I don't support vast differences between pay scales for similar jobs or the same pay for positions that have vastly different requirements. Next year I hope the salary schedule is color coded to reflect any changes and we can address it in detail, one po-

Next on the agenda, a motion was made to replace some contract services, such as Speech Pathologist, who would make nearly \$600 per day via contract, with a speech pathologist position inside the district. "Now that I can support," said Hammond. The motion passed unanimously.

Other new position were also discussed including a Mental Health Advocate, an interventionist and a Rockcastle County Academy Principal. The motion passed but Hammond voted against the package as a whole saying "there are parts I would support and some parts that I can't vote for."

The Superintendent's Personnel Action reports was also presented to the board.

Full time classified employees hired

Joann Delph, custodian at RCMS.

Resignations

Aaron McNabb and Jackie Weaver, both assistant football coaches at RCMS; Jason Coguer, digital learning coach; Christy Cash, assistant girls' basketball coach at RCMS; Brenda McKnight, custodian at RCMS.

Retirements

Tracy Lewis, Sherri Cash and Paula Cowan, all teachers at MVES; Tena Daugherty, instructional assistant; Diane Stephens, bus driver; Michelle Atkin, teacher at RES: Brenda Hatton, cook/baker at RCHS; Joan North, instructional assistant at RES.

Certified substitutes hired

Conner Richardson, substitute teacher.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 8 at 6 p.m.

"Court"

(Continued from front)

showed a surplus of

\$5,547. The court approved a Rockcastle County Annex reimbursement from the State Administrative Office of the Courts

(AOC) estimate of \$173,528, The court also ap proved an Advanced Healthcare Contract for \$148,627 for the Rockcastle County Detention Center. Jailer Nathan Carter said he had budgeted \$181,000 for healthcare but the reduction was welcome. According to Clontz, that insurance pays the first \$25,000 and then splits the next \$25,000 with

Clontz. Clontz presented the financial statements to the court which was also unanimousl;y approved. Clontz said there has been no action on the MicroFoodery account.

the county for any in-

mate needing medical

services. "Anything over

\$50,000 is on us," said

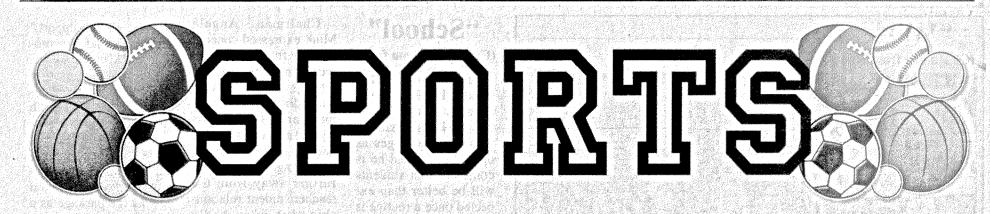
The court also approved an \$8,000 estimate on the electrical system for the new heating and air condition system scheduled for the

Livingston Gymnasium. At the end of the meeting, Clontz requested the transfer of \$200,000 from the occupational tax fund to the general fund. He also requested transfers then of \$50,000 to the road fund, \$75,000 to the jail fund, \$1,500 to the fairground fund and \$10,000 to the 911 fund,

from the general fund. The request was approved unanimously.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 8 at 4 p.m.

Subscribe to the Mount Vernon Signal 606-256-2244



Rocket softball extends record to 14-7 on season

Rocket softball picked up two wins last week with a 3-0 win over Lincoln County and a 11-1 victory over Berea.

The Rockets lost a tough one, 4-3 to Southwestern on Friday.

In the 3-0 win over Lincoln County, senior Madison McIntosh pitched a perfect game to lead the Rockets (see related story on the front page).

McIntosh faced 21 batters over seven innings and struck out all 21 batters.

It took six innings before the Rockets got on the scoreboard scoring three in the top of the sixth.

Madison Yates singled and stole second and scored on a Raegan Chasteen single for the first run.

Casey Coleman doubled to score Chasteen and Haley Pingleton singled to score Coleman.

Chasteen led the Rockets offensively with two hits, one RBI and one run scored.

The Rockets came back Friday, on senior night, and defeated Berea 11-1 in five innings.

Rockcastle took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the second and added four more in the third and and six runs in the fourth.

Offensively, Casey Coleman led the Rockets going three for three with a homerun, five RBI and a run scored. Raegan Chasteen was two for three with three RBI and three runs scored. Laney Bryant was one for two with a triple, two RBI and two runs scored.

McIntosh picked up the win going four innings giving up no runs and one hit, striking out seven and walking one.

Katie Denham threw one inning in relief.

The Rockets lost a tough one on the road Friday to Southwestern,

The game was scoreless until the bottom of the fifth when the Warriors took a 3-0 lead.

Rockcastle wasted no time answering with three runs of their own in the top of the sixth.

McIntosh singled and stole second and advanced to third on a ground out. Raegan Chasteen reached on an error while McIntosh scored. Casey Coleman evened the score with a two-run homer.

Southwestern answered in the bottom of the sixth scoring one run on two singles and a sac bunt.

Ella Bussell started the top of the seventh off with a single but that was it for the Rockets as the Warriors held on for the 4-3

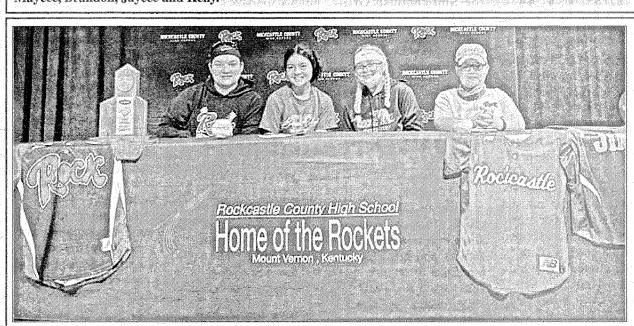
McIntosh took the loss going six innings, allowing four runs on eight hits, striking out seven and walking none.

Offensively, McIntosh led the Rockets going two for three with a walk and run scored.

The Rockets travel to Garrard County Wednesday the 19th and to South Laurel on Thursday. Bryan Station comes to town Friday for a 6 p.m. start and the Rockets host South Laurel next Mon-



RCHS senior Madison McIntosh signed her letter-of-intent Friday to continue her softball career at Berea College. Family members attending the ceremony are shown above, from left: grandfather Joe McIntosh, Beau, Brayden, grandmother Rita McIntosh, Madison and her dad, Timothy McIntosh. Back row from left: Maycee, Brandon, Jaycee and Kelly.



RCHS senior Madison Yates signed her letter-of-intent last Friday to continue her softball career at Berea College. Family members with Madison are shown, from left: her mother, Crystal Hester and siblings, Makyla and Marrick.

ocket baseball wins two, loses

Rocket baseball was 2-1 this past week with wins Knox Central and a loss to Danville.

In the Garrard County win Tuesday, May 11th, the Rockets found themselves down 1-0 until the bottom of the fourth when two runs cross the plate for the lead.

Cade Prewitt started the inning off with a walk and advanced to third on a Noah Fain double. Cam Prewitt singled to score Cade Prewitt and Fain to take the 2-1 lead.

The Rockets found themselves having to answer runs in the fifth and sixth inning and they did just that.

In the bottom of the fifth, Connor Price singled and stole second then scored on an Ethan Fain single.

In the bottom of the

Prewitt was hit by pitch striking out six. and both were sacrificed over by Carson King. Fain was out at home after a Rily Smith fielder's choice and Landon Dillingham drew a walk to load the bases. Connor Price then drew an RBI walk for the lead that the

Rockets never gave up. Rily Smith was credited with the win allowing one hit and no runs over one and one-third innings, striking out four and walking none.

Noah Fain started the game for the Rockets go-

sixth, the Rockets took ing five and two-thirds the 4-3 lead after Noah innings, allowing seven over Garrard County and Fain singled, Cam hits and three runs while

The Rockets took one on the chin last Wednesday losing to Danville 8-

Danville scored early and often and the Rockets just couldn't recover. Ethan Fain was the

lone Rocket with two Carson King took the

loss for the Rockets going four innings, allowing six hits and six runs while striking out three.

Rockcastle scored one in the first inning after an Ethan Fain double and Silas Shaffer ground ball. the game.

for four in the second inning. Rily Smith drew a walk and Dalton Gibbs reached on an error. Both advanced on a Landon Dillingham ground out. Ethan Fain singled to score Smith and Gibbs. Cade Prewitt singled and Silas Shaffer doubled to score Fain and Prewitt.

Rockcastle added three more in the bottom of the fifth. Noah Fain and Cam Prewitt each drew a walk and Carson King singled to load the bases. Fain scored on a passed ball and Prewitt scored on a sac fly by Gibbs. Dillingham singled to score King for the Rockets' final run of

The Rockets exploded Silas Shaffer earned the win allowing three hits and one run over five innings, striking out 12. Skyler Durham threw two innings in relief.

Ethan Fain led the Rockets with three hits, two RBI and two runs scored, while Silas Shaffer had three RBI. Carson King had two hits and one run scored.

The Rockets were scheduled to face West Jessamine Tuesday, May 18th and Corbin comes to town Wednesday the 19th for a 6 p.m. start. The Rockets host Lincoln County Friday and travel to Garrard County on Saturday and to Russell County next Monday.

Tori Dotson places 6th in 800m in Conference USA

On Saturday, Marshall freshman Tori Dotson competed in the 800-meter run prelims at the Conference USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships hosted by Middle Tennessee State in Murfreesboro, Tennes-

The preliminary heats were fast and Tori placed 2nd in her heat with an awesome time of 2:13.59, automatically qualifying her for Sunday's finals. Sunday's final would feature 8 of the best 800 runners in the conference, including Tori. After an incredibly fast start for the entire field, Tori had a great finish, placing 6th overall with another fast time of

Tori has had a sensational freshman year at Marshall. Her indoor season was highlighted by an indoor win at the Marshall Classic, as well as earning all-conference honors with a 3rd place finish at the Conference USA Indoor Track and Field Championships in February.

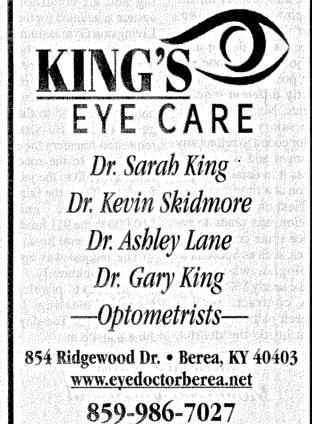
Also at that meet, Tori and her teammates set a new Marshall school record in the Distance Medley Relay (DMR) and placed 3rd, earning all-conference hon-

During outdoor season, she won the 800 at the Charlotte 49er Classic, while breaking the 18-year old Marshall school record in the event with an amazing all-time personal best of 2:11.51. She placed 2nd in the Adidas Winthrop Invitational and the Charlotte Invitational, before closing out the season with her impressive 6th place finish at the C-USA Outdoor

Tori will begin her summer workouts soon in preparation for her sophomore cross-country season this



Marshall freshman Tori Dotson competed in the 800-meter run prelims held this past Saturday at the Conference USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships hosted by Middle Tennessee State in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.



Conference Champion...

RCMS sixth grader Maliyah Swinney led all scorers in the meet with 36 total points at the Commonwealth Conference Championships hosted by Farristown Middle School on Monday. Maliyah won the conference championship in long jump, winning with a great jump of 13'6.5". A little later, she won her second conference championship title in triple jump with an outstanding jump of 30'3". In the 400-meter dash, she finished as conference runner-up with a great time of 1:07.75, just missing her all-time personal best in the event. In the 200, she blazed her way to an awesome all-time personal best of 29.26 seconds and another conference runner-up finish. During both runner-up finishes, she lost close races to a couple of strong 8th graders. Maliyah has currently qualified for the middle school state championships in June in Louisville in long jump, triple jump, and the 400. She's less than three tenths of a second away from qualifying in the 200 and will have another chance to qualify at Pulaski County on Monday.



Conference Champion...

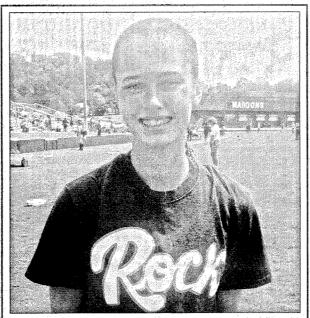
RCMS eighth grader Caitlyn Kirby had several outstanding performances on Monday at the Commonwealth Conference Championships hosted by Farristown Middle School. She scored 23 total points and won the conference championship title in discus, just missing her all-time personal best with an awesome throw of 73'4". In shot put, she finished as conference runner-up with an incredible throw of 25'8". She also placed 4th in the javelin competition, trying her all-time personal best of 40'3". Caitlyn has qualified for the middle school state championships in Louisville in June in discus and is only 10" away from qualifying in shot put and will have another chance to qualify at Pulaski County on Monday.

Conference Runner-Up...

RCMS eighth grader Gracie Peavie scored 16 to-

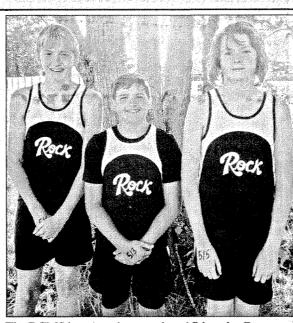
tal points and finished as conference runner-up in high jump with an awesome jump of 4'0" at the Commonwealth Conference Championships hosted by Farristown Middle School on Monday. She placed 5th in triple jump with an outstanding all-time personal best of 24'0. She also placed 5th in the 400-meter dash with an exceptional time of 1:16.28, not too far from her all-time personal best in the event.





New school and meet record; #1 in Class 2A in 400m and 800m

RCHS freshman Lexi Dotson continued her assault on the RCHS record books and the state leader boards, posting some outstanding, record-breaking performances at the Randy Elmore PCI Track Classic hosted by Pulaski County on Saturday. This meet would be a little unconventional for her as she chose to work on her speed a bit. She decided to take a break from the mile run and began her day with the 400-meter dash. Lexi had only ran the 400 in competition once in middle school and had never ran one in a high school competition. She had a couple of key times in mind though, former Lady Rocket all-time great Michaela Hunter's 400-meter meet record of 58.96 seconds set back in 2011 and the RCHS school record of 58.42 seconds set way back in 2003 by former Lady Rocket and KTCCCA Track and Field Hall of Famer Heather Hamilton (formerly Heather Hammond). Lexi blistered the track on her way to the 1st place win with an amazing meet record and RCHS all-time record of 58.12 seconds. Her awesome time currently ranks her #1 in Class 2A and #3 out of all three state classes. With only one event in between, she also shattered her all-time personal best in the 800meter run with an outstanding 2nd place finish and an awesome time of 2:17.41. She broke the meet record by nearly 5 seconds, but the actual record went to the winner, Phoebe McCowan, the phenomenal 800-meter allclass state record holder and UK signee from South Laurel. Lexi's exceptional time ranks her #1 in Class 2A and #2 out of all three state classes. She managed to pull off a very rare "double" that landed her at the top of the Class 2A state leader boards in both events. Immediately after the 800, she ran her first-ever 200-meter dash, placing 5th overall with an awesome time of 28.03 seconds. As impressive as her day was, this was only a fraction of what she will accomplish if she continues to work hard.

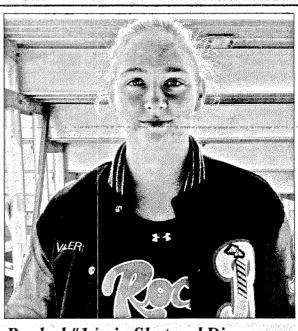


The RCMS boys' track team placed 7th at the Commonwealth Conference Championships hosted by Farristown Middle School on Monday. In the 100-meter dash, sixth grader Dylan Burke led the way with a 9th place finish and a personal best of 15.15 seconds. Seventh grader Jackson Reams placed 10th with a personal best of 15.16 seconds. Seventh grader Harrison Mullins placed 12th in his first-ever meet with a personal best of 15.74 seconds. In the 200-meter dash, Jackson led the way with a 12th place finish and a personal best of 31.54 seconds. Dylan placed 14th with a personal best of 32.3 seconds. Harrison placed 15th with a personal best of 33.55 seconds. In the javelin competition, the first-ever for the boys, Dylan led the way with a 5th place finish and an impressive throw of 74'8", a new RCMS school record for a 6th grader in the event. Jackson placed 10th with a throw of 52'0". Harrison led the way in long jump with a 13th place finish and a personal best jump of 9'5.5". Jackson placed 14th with a jump of 9'1". Team members are pictured from left: Jackson Reams, Dylan Burke, and Harrison Mullins.

The RCMS girls' track team placed 4th with 95 points at the Commonwealth Conference Championships Farristown on Monday. Several Lady Rockets had outstanding performances. In the 100meter dash, 8th grader Jailyn Brown led the way and placed 5th in a fast time of 15.14 seconds, despite being hampered somewhat by a sore ankle. 6th grader Chloe Burke placed 13th in 16.43 seconds. 6th



grader Jaden McPhetridge, in her first-ever meet with only a handful of practices, placed 14th in 16.52 seconds. In the 200, Jailyn placed 8th in 32.32 seconds, while Jaden finished 14th in 35.33 seconds. Jaden also placed 9th in high jump with a jump of 3'4". In the 400, 4th grader Aria French placed 11th in 1:35.56. In the javelin competition, Aria threw an amazing 38'3" and placed 5th. Chloe Burke placed 7th with a throw of 34'8". The 4x200-meter relay team of 6th grader Makayla Wagers, 6th grader Chloe Wilson, 7th grader Aubrey Burke, and 5th grader Chloe Burke placed 3rd with a great time of 2:26.26. Later in the 4x100-meter relay, the team placed 4th with another nice time of 1:04.45. The Lady Rockets will have their final meet of the season on Monday at Pulaski County. Team members are from left: Jailyn Brown, Maliyah Swinney, Jaden McPhetridge, Gracie Peavie, Makayla Wagers, Chloe Wilson, Aubrey Burke, Chloe Burke, and Aria French. Not pictured: Caitlyn Kirby.



Ranked #1 in in Shot and Discus...

RCHS senior Valerie Kendrick had two outstanding throws at the Danville All-Comers Meet on Tuesday. In discus, she won with an amazing all-time personal best and new RCHS record throw of 133'6", which improved upon her Class 2A State leading throw of 125'8". Her throw was nearly 5' better than her previous personal best and ranks her 6th all-time in Class 2A and 10th alltime out of all three state classes combined. Valerie has her sights set on the all-time all-class state record of 143'2". With roughly a month to go this season and her beginning to hit on all cylinders, the record is definitely within reach. She was equally impressive in shot put, winning with another incredible RCHS all-time record and personal best of 38'11", an improvement of 1'10" over her previous personal best. Her amazing throw is also the current best in Class 2A. She followed that with two more outstanding performances on Saturday at the Randy Elmore PCI Track Classic hosted by Pulaski County. She won shot put by over 6' with an amazing throw of 38'11", tying her own RCHS all-time record in the event. Her other throws of 36'11" and 38'2.5" were a part of the greatest series of throws ever for an RCHS girl in shot put. She missed the meet record by only 4". She continues to be ranked #1 in Class 2A and #3 out of all three state classes. Valerie was equally impressive in discus, winning by more than 30' with an incredible throw of 130'6". She shattered her own meet record by an unbelievable margin of 16'6". She continues to be ranked #1 in Class 2A and #2 out of all three state classes.



RCHS freshman Cayla Marcum and RCMS eighth grader Jailyn Brown turned in all-time personal best high school performances in the 100-meter dash at the Randy Elmore PCI Track Classic hosted by Pulaski County on Saturday. Cayla placed 22nd overall with an awesome time of 14.82 seconds. Despite having a middle school meet on Thursday and the fact that she was nursing a sore ankle, Jailyn ran a fast high school PR of 15.3 seconds and placed 30th overall. Cayla also placed 6th in high jump, tying her all-time personal best with a nice jump of 4'0". Overall, the RCHS girls' team placed 4th out of 27 teams entered in the meet.

#5 in Class 2A in 400m...

RCHS sophomore Emma Watson had another great meet with four outstanding performancesat the Randy Elmore PCI Track Classic hosted by Pulaski County



on Saturday. In the 100-meter dash, she shattered her all-time personal best by over three tenths of a second, placing 5th in a very fast field of competitors with an awesome time of 13.28 seconds. In the 400-meter dash, Emma blazed her way to a 3rd place finish overall, while knocking nearly 2 seconds off her season's best time with an amazing performance of 1:00.85. Her time

now ranks her #5 in Class 2A in the event and only one hundredth of a second away from the #4 spot. Emma also ran an exceptional race in the 200-meter dash, placing 4th with another fast time of 27.75 seconds. Emma was the only top five sprinter in the meet that ran all three of the sprint events, including the 100, 200, and 400. All others only competed in two of those due to participation in relays and field events. Her final event of the day was long jump, an event she's started working on again this outdoor season. She had a great series of jumps and placed 7th overall with a season's best leap of 14'11". Emma's getting faster with each practice and should continue to improve greatly with her continued hard work.

Ranked in Top 10 in three events in Class 2A RCHS junior Allie Martin had two outstanding performances in the jumping events, despite some issues with

a sore hip, as well as having to leave early to get ready for prom at the Randy Elmore PCI Track Classic hosted by Pulaski County on Saturday. In triple jump, Allie placed 7th overall with a great jump of 32'0", but had some difficulty jumping correctly with the soreness she was experiencing. After a lengthy wait, she con-



peted in an early flight of long jump and placed 6th with a great jump of 15'2.5", even though she was having some difficulty hitting the takeoff board which cost her over a foot on her jumps. Allie is currently ranked in the top ten in 3 events in the state in Class 2A. She's ranked 6th in triple jump, 7th in long jump, and 10th in the 400. Once she recovers fully from her hip issue, she will get back to normal and continue to improve with her strong work ethic.





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Mount Vernon Signal

Second Section

Thursday, May 20, 2021

EST Tool and Machine

Another local success story

By: Mike French

There is no question the widening of I-75, the additional manufacturing plants, Dollar General stores, Family Dollar stores, the new Marathon station at Livingston, the planned Farmers Market, potential natural gas lines, plans to widen US 461, an approved water basin for Lake Linville, the Lake Linville Park expansion plans and development near exit 62, that new development is happening all around the county.

But Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority Executive. Director Jeff VanHook says, "it doesn't have to be new to contribute to our growth and development. Our tried and true, well-established businesses are still growing too."

A good example of that success is EST Tool and Machine near Brodhead. "We have been right here and we love being here,' said co-owner and CEO Steve Taylor. "We serve the entire forging industry across the United States from right here in Rockcastle County."

Even the building itself will impress the visitors that walk into it for a tour. "I worked here in the 1980s and the building had been here a while then," said Rockcastle County Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, Jr. "It wasn't EST Tool then but it was a big part of our community even then."

Now the building, located in Brodhead, includes office space and a warehouse filled with million-dollar machines from end to end. "We have some of the most high-tech, modern equipment available and we have an extremely welltrained group of people to run them," said Taylor.

About 35 employees fill the loud building now. There were 50 before COVID came to the area but that number dropped to 30 after the pandemic began. "We are back to 35 now and will get back to 40 fairly soon," said Tay-

Huge blocks of steel weighing many tons lie beside machines nearly the size of a dump truck as Taylor led a tour, including Holbrook, VanHook and Kentucky State Representative Josh Bray. "This machine will turn this three-ton block of steel into a very precise part that will make a cam shaft for a motor," Taylor said proudly."

walking While through the plant, the CEO explained a detailed new technique of centering a steel rod inside a hole that keeps the rod in the center rather than using a set screw and moving the rod to one side of the hole. "This prevents that one-thousandths of an inch off center," he said proudly.

Taylor led the visitors through the machine area of the warehouse and then into the technical offices where workers could be seen sitting at computers. "These guys are telling those machines what to do out there," he said.

The business currently runs 24 hours a day, five days a week and on some Saturdays when a large project is underway but through it all, Taylor has another goal. "We need to make sure the next generation knows this stuff," he said. "So many of the younger generation has no idea what goes on here, This is a needed profession and we need to keep the next generation up to date on what goes on at places like this."

Of the employees currently on board at the local plant, Taylor says the average salary is probably over \$20 per hour. "We service companies across the country and it is a good, environmentally conscience profession that pays rather

well," he said. VanHook agreed. "This is exactly what we

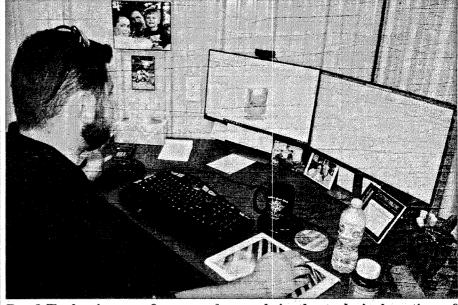
strive for in our county," he said. "A strong, successful company like this, shipping goods all over America made right here in our county. We have got to keep our youth involved in this."

Bray said he too learned a lot from the tour. "I enjoy these tours mostly because I can see first hand how we need to support Kentucky's emerging businesses. We all need to know the needs and opportunity that we have in our state," he said. "The best way we can improve the lives of our citizens is to provide them with the opportunity to do better for themselves."

The company, originally formed in 1994 in Ohio, moved to Rockcastle in 1999. Taylor's parents, Eugene and Sarah Taylor, founded the company.

Steve, and his general manager Justin Ramsey, invite anyone interested in working for the company to drop a resume by the building.

"We are always looking for good people to join us and we hope to keep growing and getting better every day for many years to come," Taylor added.



Brad Taylor is one of many who work in the technical section of EST Tool and Machine. Taylor is the son of CEO Steve Taylor and he helps operate huge, complex machinery through his computer terminal.



RCIDA Executive Director Jeff VanHook (left) asked CEO Steve Taylor some technical questions about the computer software involved in the plant's operating proceedures.



Shown from left, Rockcastle County Judge/Executive Howell Holbrook, RCIDA Executive Director Jeff VanHook and Kentucky State Representative Josh Bray toured the EST Tool and Machine facility Monday morning as owner Steve Taylor explained how some of the equipment turns steel plates into useful parts for equipment across the nation.

Rockcastle County's Melissa Benson Owens receives state Outstanding American History Teacher Award

For more than a century, the DAR has dedicated itself to historical preservation, promotion of education, and encouragement of patriotic endeavor. As part of that ors American History Teachers each year with the Outstanding American History Teacher Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize

mission, the society hon- teachers for their love of American History and their outstanding commitment to their students.

> To be nominated for this award, a teacher must have an incisive

This year's Kentucky recipient of the Outstanding American History Teacher Award is Melissa Benson Owens. Mrs. Owens formally taught for 26 years at Rockcastle County Middle School before retiring from teaching this past January. Rockcastle Chapter Regent Karen Adams (right) presented Owens the award.

knowledge of American history that they share with their students. They must foster a spirit of patriotism and loyal support to our country and constitutional government. They must demonstrate the ability to relate history to modern life and events and have high academic standards, always requiring excellencefrom their students. Finally, they must be committed to their students and enjoy good rapport with them.

This year's Kentucky recipient is Melissa Benson Owens. Mrs. Owens formally taught for 26 years at Rockcastle Co. Middle School before retiring from teaching this past January. She exemplified the qualifications for this award by being a dedicated teacher who was passionate about education and the academic success of all her students. Her motivation to open doors of opportunities for her students was an inspiration to all those she encountered, whether student or teacher.

She strived to use materials that would meet the students where they were while challenging them to become more historically literate. She challengedthem in visual literacy as well as being able to comprehend the written word. She was creative and unique in the ways that she presented all history curriculum and hada special passion for American History. She made American history come alive for her students.

Her demeanor with her students was most impressive. She presented information on a wide variety of topics while projecting a composed presence; she had a great sense of humor

and maintained a posi-

tive classroom environment. It can be said that she wasa champion for education. She was a dedicated teacher who genuinely cared about her craft and students.

Due to the current

COVID-19 restrictions, the 124th KSDAR State Conference was held virtually this year and the State Historian, Pam Osborne was unable to present the award in person. A pre-recorded presentation was made via zoom. Rockcastle Chapter Regent Karen Adams presented Mrs. Owens her award in person at an in-person award here in Rockcastle County. Mrs. Owens' application has been sent to the national committee for further consideration for the Na-Outstanding tional American History Teacher Award which will be announced in June. Good luck to her.

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Posted: No trespassing on property owned by Kimberly and Joseph Ramsey on Copper Creek Road. No riding horses, ATVs or any other vehicles. No illegal dumping of trash. Not responsible for accidents. 10x8

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

Posted: No hunting or tres-

passing on farms, belonging

to Gary and Peggy Roberts,

on KY 3245. Violators will

be prosecuted. 47x50p Posted: Absolutely no trespassing on land belonging to LJL Honeycomb LLC for any reason. Formerly known as Christ Outreach for the Blind. Violators will be prosecuted. 35x51p

Posted: No hunting or trespassing on land belonging to Orville and Bernice Burkhart on Cove Branch. Livingston, Mt. Vernon. Violators will be prosecuted. 27x51p

Posted: No trespassing of any kind on land belonging to Eugenia Cykowski Heir(s) at 402 Albright St., Brodhead, Ky. 17xntf

Posted: Property belonging to Don and Kitty Reese on Smallwood Road at Roundstone. All trespassers will be prosecuted. 49xntf 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, trespassing or ATVs on land belonging to Jason and Sara Coguer at Roundstone, Not responsible for accidents.

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

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.

Attention

Due to being extremely short-handed, you must either be able to unload yourself or bring someone with you who is capable of doing so!

May 22, 2021 **Rockcastle County** FREE TRASH **DROP-OFF DAY**

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court is pleased to offer a Free Trash and Bulk Goods Drop-Off Day This event will be held Saturday, May 22, 2021 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (rain or shine) at the

Brodhead Fairgrounds.

This event is open to Rockcastle County residents <u>only! Identification and sign-in</u>

at the gate will be required! We will be accepting the following items: household trash, bulk goods (such as couches, chairs, mattresses,

etc), appliances, televisions, computer equipment, etc. Personnel will be on hand to assist with unloading items.

We will NOT accept any tires, liquids, brush, leaves, clean wood, propane tanks or hazardous materials.

We will also have a stand-alone dumpster for flood debris. This can include any household waste materials that have been cleared from a flooded home or business. Items excluded are brush, limbs, and driftwood. Items accepted are sheetrock, flooring, ceiling materials, wall materials, or other water damaged items from inside the home or business. Please indicate at the gate whether you have flood debris or regular solid waste.

Limited personnel will be on hand to assist with unloading items. however, you may have to unload yourself if we are either shorthanded or getting behind. This is a service to our citizens, if your are able to unload, then you should be willing to do so!

For more information, call the Rockcastle County Solid Waste Office at 606-256-1902

Help Wanted

Need someone to bushhog. Call 606-767-6439. 16x2 Snack Shack is hiring a part-time cook and front person. Experience needed. Apply in person.16x1

The Mt. Vernon-Rockcastle County Tourist Commission is now hiring for multiple open positions, including retail clerks and administrative assistants. Applications can be obtained at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame & Museum any day of the week between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Yard Sale

Annual Lion's Club Yard Sale. Saturday, June 5th, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rain or shine. At the Mount Vernon First Christian Church parking lot (back lot), 160 West Main St.

Miscellaneous For Sale

Cemetery Plot in Cresthaven Cemetery. Asking \$500. Call Larry at 513-659-4547 or 513-607-0116. 29xntf

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Rural Transit Enterprises Coordinated, Inc. (RTEC) in Mt. Vernon is hiring for the following full-time positions:

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Job Requirements: Must be physically able to push, pull, stoop, bend and lift up to 50 lbs. to perform the tasks required. High School diploma or GED. Valid KY driver's license. Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the RTEC office. Salary commensurate with

Subject to background check and drug screening

Garage Attendant

Job Requirements: Capable of cleaning vehicles, performing work on grounds and facilities. Must be physically able to push, pull, stoop, bend and lift up to 50 lbs. to perform the tasks required. High School diploma or GED. Valid KY driver's license. Operates company vehicle. Salary commensurate with experience. Subject to background check and drug screening

Part-time or Full-time 2nd Shift Dispatcher

Job Requirements: Good computer skills, telephone and communication etiquette a must. The ability to be trained in computer and vehicle procedures. Ability to sit for long periods of time with high levels of concentration. High School Diploma or

> Starting rate of pay is \$12.50 per hour. Subject to background check and drug screening

Cafeteria Assistant

Job Requirements: Previous food service and cooking experience a plus. High School diploma or GED. Salary commensurate with

Subject to background check and drug screening

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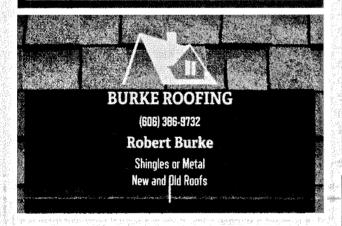


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Frankfort Update

By: Josh Bray State Representative

Kentucky children shouldn't suffer at hands of administration's agenda on religious liberty

Last week, I joined fellow members of the House Majority Caucus in sup-

porting Sunrise Children's Services in a contract disagreement with Governor Beshear. Specifically, we asked the administration to continue

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Rockcastle County Bookmobile Schedule

Monday, May 24th: Brodhead and Copper Creek. Tues-

day, May 25th: Green Hill, Fairview, Brindle Ridge.

Wednesday, May 26th: Cave Valley Apartments. Li-

brary is open 8:30 to 5:00 Monday through Friday

and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays. Curbside service is

Brodhead Alumni Banquet October 2nd

The Annual Brodhead Alumni Banquet, originally

scheduled for April 10th, has been rescheduled for Oc-

Rockcastle Co. Extension Service Classes

June 3: 5:30 to 8 p.m. Basic Sewing Class - Sew your

own apron. June 24: - 5:30 - 8 p.m. Home Canning

Workshop. June 29: 5:30 to 7 p.m. Freezing/Drying

Fresh Produce Workshop, Please call the Extension Of-

Mt. Vernon High School Reunion

The Mt. Vernon High School Reunion is scheduled for

September 11, 2021 at the Rockcastle County Middle

School, beginning at 6 p.m. The classes of 1970 and 1971

will be honored. Invitations will be mailed out in July.

CrossPoint Church of God will host a monthly Celebrate

Sobriety Service on the second Thursday of each month

at 7 p.m. We are located at 211 Industrial Park Road

(across from the high school) in Mt. Vernon, KY. Call

Chamber of Commerce Meetings

The Rockcastle County Chamber of Commerce meets

VFW Post Item

VFW Post 5908 at Lake Linville welcomes all mem-

bers, those qualified to be members and family mem-

bers. Currently the post is closed, other then for monthly

meetings or by appointment only, because of COVID-

19. Monthly meetings are held on the third Saturday of

every month at 5 p.m. Those wishing to contact the VFW

for help, information or any need, please contact Post

Commander William B.J. Thomason at 859-358-2882

American Legion Post News

The David M. Smith American Legion meets at Lime-

stone 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 Don Gabbard at

859-200-2204 or Chaplain B.J. Thomason at 859-358-

Rockcastle County Recovery Meetings

Monday-Celebrate Recovery-Brodhead: Community

Outreach Center, two sessions - Monday, 11:30 a.m. and

6 p.m. Leaders: Nathan DeLeon 859-230-9590/Kathryn

Tuesday-Celebrate Recovery-Mt. Vernon - Northside

Baptist Church, 606-256-5577 Tuesday, 6 p.m.. ••• Please

Alcoholics Anonymous: 7 p.m. on Williams St., Mt.

Wednesday-Celebrate Recovery Step Studies. Men

Only. Northside Baptist, 606-256-5577, Wednesday, 7

p.m. Please call by 4 p.m. if you need a ride on the church

Thursday-Celebrate Recovery-Step Studies - Women

Only. Community Outreach Center, Brodhead, Thurs-

day, 6 p.m. Leaders: Katheryn Pope, 606-308-3099 and

AA Meeting, 8 p.m. Open Share at the Brodhead Cen-

Friday-Celebrate Recovery-Livingston School Cafe,

Saturday - Celebrate Recovery: Crosspoint Church of

God, 211 Industrial Park Road, Mt. Vernon. 10:30 a.m.

Saturday. Leaders: John Burton 606-308-8226, Joanie

DAR Meetings

The Rockcastle Chapter of the Daughters of the Ameri-

can 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

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m.

behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church on Wil-

Leader: J.R. Cornelius, 859-314-7828. Friday, 6 p.m.

Tammy McGuire 606-308-1614.

Mink 606-308-3190.

liams St. in Mt. Vernon.

attend.

call by 4 p.m. if you need a ride in the church van.

Pope 606-308-3099/Tammy McGuire 606-308-1614.

or Adjutant Glenda Botellos at 606-386-9360.

stone Grille. All members are encouraged to attend.

month, on the third Tuesday, at noon at Lime

Celebrate Sobriety Service

tober 2nd at 6 p.m. at Brodhead Elementary School.

still available for books and DVDs.

fice at 606-256-2403 to register.

859-582-2553 with any questions.

the longstanding practice of offering an accommodation that would allow Sunrise to continue providing quality care to children in state care while preserving the organization's religious rights.

Without this accommodation, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services is in danger of losing an incredible partner in providing care for neglected and abused children. The administration's stance not only violates the fun-

gious liberty, but also the Executive Branch Budget (HB 192) that we approved this past session. HB 192 was amended in free conference committee to include the followprovision: ing "Children's Services Contractors: Notwithstanding KRS Chapter 45A, no contracts awarded for the use and benefit of the Department for Community Based Services shall interfere with contractor's freedom of religion as set forth in KRS 446.350. Any such contracts shall contain a provision allowing a contractor to allow a substitute contractor who is also licensed or approved by the Cabinet to deliver the contracted services if the contractor cannot perform a contracted service because of religiously held beliefs as outlined in

damental right of reli-

The budget clearly ensures that the state cannot discriminate against a provider because of that organization's religious convictions.

446.350."

The administration's issue with Sunrise has nothing to do with quality of care. In fact, Sunrise holds the "Gold Seal of Approval" from its accreditation agency and is the largest private residential childcare provider in Kentucky. Frankly, Sunrise cared for our most vulnerable and neglected children before the government did, and they have continued to do so for generations.

Sunrise dates back to 1859 and played a significant part in caring for those orphaned by the Civil War less than a decade later. The organization began contracting with the state in the 1970s. To end this relationship risks the well-

Chasteen family invited to **DAR Meeting**

Anyone with any knowlat 10 a.m. at First Chris-Vernon.



Drug Tip Hotline

Toll-free Treatment Help Line

PUBLIC HEARING The Public Service Commission of

Kentucky will hold a hearing on Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, via video link, for the purpose of cross-examination of witnesses in Case No. 2021-00090, which is the Electronic Application of Kentucky-American Water Company to Amend Tariff to Revise Quali fied Infrastructure Program Charge. This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov. Public comments may be made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to make oral public comments may do so by following the instructions listed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov

being of thousands of children and adults who would directly benefit from quality care, particularly since the state has no obvious plan for the placement of the 600 children currently under the care of Sunrise. However, the admin-

istration clearly has another agenda. The Governor takes issue with the deeply held religious beliefs of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, which Sunrise is affiliated with, and how they apply to the organization's hiring practices and approach to foster parent applicants. This runs contrary to not only the language we included in the budget, but the basic tenets and constitutional right to religious liberty.

The First Amendment "protects religious observers against unequal treatment" and there are many in the legal community who can tell you that the Supreme Court of the United States has repeatedly affirmed this. For example, last year the court ruled in a Montana case that students from Christian schools could not be excluded from a publicly funded scholarship program.

Sunrise is a proven partner in our state's efforts to improve the quality of life for Kentucky children. It is time for the Governor to stop playing politics with the lives of these children and recognize the rule of

Thanks for taking the time to read this week's update. If you have any questions or comments, I can be reached through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181 or by email at Josh.Bray@lrc.ky.gov. If you would like more information about any of these bills or legislative actions, you can also visit the Legislative Research Commission website

Knowing When to Speak and When to Keep Silent

Ecclesiastes 3:7 There is a time to speak and a time to keep silent. To discern the difference between knowing when to speak or be silent, we need to humbly seek the Lord through prayer, immerse ourselves in Scripture, and ask for His wisdom.

James 1:19 Instructs us: Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger. I Peter 3:10 Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit.

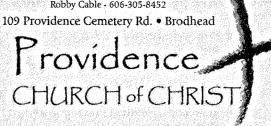
What scriptures like these are telling us, is that we need to be careful with our decision to speak or be silent. How easy it is for our flesh to dominate an argument? In our pride and foolishness, we are itching to prove our point and end up speaking anger. Psalms 141:3 Set guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my

When we consider how God would view the words we're about to let roll off our lips, it might change what we say and the way we say it.

Matthew 12:36-37 But I say unto you, That every word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgement. V37 For by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

This scripture, which was spoken by Christ, should remind all of us of the seriousness of the things that we say!

Everyone Welcome Robby Cable - 606-305-8452



Land of the Far Better

Philippians 1:23-24 For I am in a strait between two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ, which is far better, Nevertheless, to abide in the flesh is more needful for you. The apostle Paul had a way of putting things in an easy way to help us understand his feelings. Who wants to leave loved ones behind? Yet who wants to lose out on eternal life? These scriptures show how the apostle Paul was filled with emotions.

The apostle Paul was driven to be with the Lord, whether it be today, tomorrow, or next week, or next year, he realized he was on a journey to a real destination. It is the land of the far better.

We are in a tent camping until we get home. 2 Corinthians 5:1 For we know if that our earthly house this tabernacle, were dissolved we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens. This word tabernacle is defined (as a hut, or a temporary dwelling) the human body figuratively, is a temporary dwelling for the soul of man.

2 Peter 1:13-14 Yes, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance, Knowing, that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.

God dwelt with his people by coming and being with them in a tent called a tabernacle. It was moveable and on a journey to a good new land. This land they had not seen but longed for the land of God's promise. That tent was moved from place to place. The moveable tent was soon set aside for that which was permanent. The last was greatest in value.

1 Corinthians 15:43-44 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. A man's house is the temporary place where he dwells, and in keeping with Peter's remarks of dwelling there just here for a while, then the body of man, this house. W are going to leave our little house, home or residence, that we have shared with our family and also our fleshly house, our body, soon will be moving to the big

Thank you as always for reading this message, I pray God as blessed you this week with the things you have need of, and so much more. Let us always count our blessings and name them one by one. You can contact some from the church at these numbers: Bro Dale McNew- 859-582-4021 or Bro. Ova Baker-606-878-8104.

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

legislature.ky.gov.

edge of the grave of Revolutionary War soldier James Chasteen, please attend the May 22nd meeting of the Rockcastle Chapter DAR tian Church in Mount



1-866-424-4382

1-866-90-UNITE

NOTICE OF



of the late Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Lear's

184 Acres m/l in Tracts & **Farm Machinery & Personal Property**

Saturday, May 22nd at 10:30 a.m.

Scaffold Cane section of Rockcastle • 446 Lear Lane, Mt. Vernon

DIRECTIONS: Turn off of Hwy 25 near Roundstone Elementary onto Hwy 1617. Follow auction signs to sale site. in order to settle the estate of the late Mrs. Beulah Lear, the co-executors, Terry Lear & Cindy Moberly have authorized us to sell this real estate for the absolute high dollar. This farm consists of 184 acres m/l. 156 acres of this farm has just been surveyed. The other 2 tracts are selling by deed boundary and have not been surveyed.

TRACT 1 is 1.2 acres, fronts on Sinking Valley Springs Rd. TRACT 2 is 1.8 acres, fronts on Sinking Valley Springs Rd. TRACT 3 is 1.5 acres, fronts on Sinking Valley Springs Rd. TRACT 4 is 1.4 acres and fronts on west side of Lear Lane.

TRACT 5 is 3.1 acres and fronts on west side of Lear Lane. TRACT 6 is 3 acres and fronts on west side of Lear Lane. TRACT 7 is 8.2 acres and fronts on west side of Lear Lane.

TRACT 8 is 60.1 acres, fronts on west side of Lear Lane and is improved with a barn

TRACT 9 is 8.1 acres, fronts on west side of Lear and is improved with an older 2 story house. The house has 1 bedroom, bath w/large sho w/oak cabinets, large utility room on the first floor. Upstairs is 2 large bedrooms and large unfinished area. The house has metal roof, vinyl siding, central heat & air, washer,

TRACT 10 is 17.1 acres and fronts on west side of Lear Lane. TRACT 11 is 50 acres and fronts on east side of Lear Lane.

TRACT 13 is 25 acres m/l, not surveyed and is selling by boundary deed. It is all wooded and fronts on Sinking Valley Springs Rd TRACT 14 is 3 acres m/s, not surveyed and is selling by boundary deed. It is all wooded and fronts on Sinking Valley Springs Rd. All tracts have electric and city water available.

If you enjoy the beauty of the Kentucky hills, you lilove this farm. Each of the tracts have fantastic views & ideal building sites. *ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE ON REAL ESTATE ONLY **

Farm Equipment includes: 12x20 insulated metal storage building ~ Massey Ferguson 265 diesel tractor w/ 2700 hours ~ BushHog rotary mower, like new ~ Kory 8 ton wagon w/ 18' flat -- Massey Ferguson wagon w/ 15' flat -- horse drawn wagon -- hay fork -- post hole digger -- 14" Ford plow -- 16" single Ford plow -- 6' grader blade --John Deere horse drawn mowing machine -- McCormick horse drawn mowing machine -- 6' Ford mowing machine, needs work -- 7' Ford harrow -- horse drawn disc harrow orchard harrow - corral panels - hydraulic disc wheel - cultivator for tobacco setter - tobacco setter - boom pole - hay cradie - 550 gallon water tank - barbed wire fence posts – electric wire – tractor seats – tobacco knives – tobacco sticks Personal Property includes: Knox Mealmaster wood cookstove w/ water well - pak entertainment center - 4 piece wood bedroom suite - pak marble top coffee table

k end tables ~ cedar wardrobe ~ fern stands ~ antique oak stand table ~ antique rocker ~ sofa table ~ oak dining room table & 6 chairs ~ jewelry case ~ Roper washin & dryer ~ Frigidaire refrigerator ~ cast iron tub — Carnival glassware ~ metal lawn furniture ~ concrete flower pots ~ Bluegrass tiller ~ aluminum step ladder ~ cross cut

saws — various hand tools — logging chains — draw knives — antique vice — horse harness and much more Multi-Parcel Auction: The property will be offered in tracts utilizing the multi-parcel method and selling in the manner that reflects the best returns for the sellers. This concept gives each and every prospective buyer the ability to purchase his or her individual tract or combination

NOTE: The our chaser of a single-family residence built before 1978 has a maximum of 10 days to inspect the property of lead-based paint. The period for inspections begin May 12th through May 21st. The successful bidder must sign a waiver of the 10-day inspection period: BUYER'S PREMIUM: A 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to the winning bid to determine the final sale price.

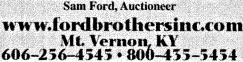
TERMS: Real Estate- 20% down due day of sale, with balance in 30 days with deed, Personal Property- Payment in full due day of sale in the form of cash, check, Visa or MasterCard with an additional 3% processing fee (\$3 minimum).

lotice: In accordance with the CDC and to protect our customers and staff, we would like to encourage the maintaining of social distancing and recommend wearing facial rering at our auction site to further prevent the spread of Covid-19

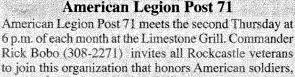




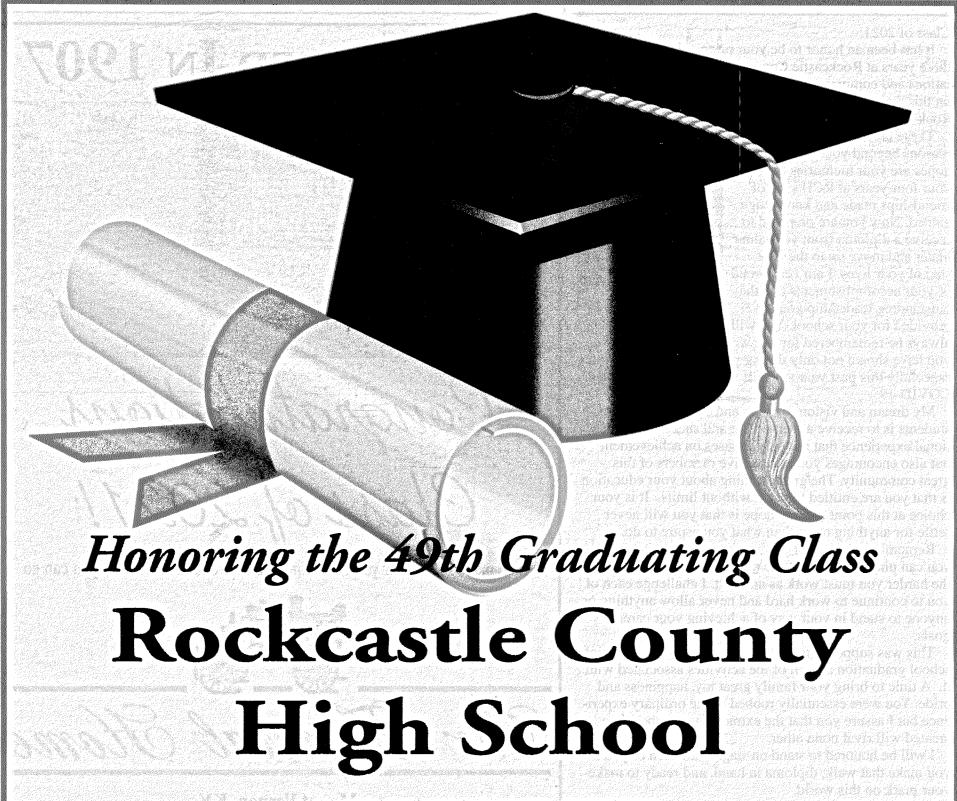
Sam Ford, Auctioneer







6 p.m. of each month at the Limestone Grill. Commander Rick Bobo (308-2271) invites all Rockcastle veterans to join this organization that honors American soldiers, sailors and airmen.



COMMENCEMENT

Tuesday, May 25, 2020 • 7:00 p.m. Rockcastle County Middle School Football Field

Class of 2021:

It has been an honor to be your principal for the last three years at Rockcastle County High School. Congratulations and commendations to each and every one of you on this remarkable achievement of graduation from "The Rock" through these unprecedented times.

These last two years will forever be synonymous for

reasons beyond your control. My hopes are your memories from your four years at RCHS are of friendships made and knowledge gained. Now you are prepared to receive a diploma from your alma mater and move on to the next step of your lives. I am very proud of your accomplishments and the outstanding leadership you have provided for your school. You will



always be remembered for this work ethic and leadership you have shown not only during your years at RCHS but especially this past year and half while our planet battled COVID-19.

My dream and vision for each and every one of our students is to receive a memorable and successful educational experience that not only focuses on achievement but also encourages you to be active members of this great community. The greatest thing about your education is that you are entitled to use it without limits. It is your choice at this point and my hope is that you will never settle for anything other than what you aspire to do.

Remember, the harder you work as a child, the more you can play as an adult. The more you play as a child, the harder you must work as an adult. I challenge each of you to continue to work hard and never allow anything or anyone to stand in your way of achieving your career goals.

This was supposed to be the time you experienced high school graduation and all of the activities associated with it. A time to bring your family great joy, happiness and pride. You were essentially robbed of the ordinary experience but I assure you that the extraordinary experience created will rival none other.

I will be honored to stand on stage with each of you as you make that walk, diploma in hand, and ready to make your mark on this world.

And as you go forth from your high school experience, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

With my most sincere regards,

J.D. Bussell

J.Susee

Principal RCHS

ESTABLISHED IN 1907



Congratulations Class of 2021!

Take pride in how far you have come and have faith in how far you can go



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Mount Vernon, KY
Phone Anytime Day or Night - 606-256-2345
24 Hour Obit Line 606-256-5454

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2021 Senior Class

Sarah Allen, Mt. Vernon, daugher of Jeremy Allen and Chasity Allen.

Destiney Assel, Orlando, daughter of Emily and Adam Hunter. FFA, one year - highest land judging score; Young Feminists, two years; Drama Club, two years - lead in Steel Magnolias; Advanced Placement, four years; International Club, two years; Chess Club, three years; Business and Office, three years; Dance Blue Talent Show, one year.

Chandler T. Batchelor, Mt. Vernon, son of Katherine Sizemore. JROTC, four years.

Alexis Bethany Brasher, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Ashley and Ricky Brasher. HOSA and UNITE.

Logan Isaiah Brown, Brodhead, son of Jason and Amanda Brown. Skills USA, Football, Track.

Madison Bryant, Brodhead, daughter of the late William Henry and Chara Leigh Bryant. Honors Club, JROTC and JROTC Club, Dance Blue, International Club, Rook Club, RAK.

Kaylan Bullock, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Tony and Alicia Bullock. FFA, four years - Asst. Treasurer, Treasurer and Vice President. Competed and placed third in Prepared Public Speaking at regional level, sophomore year. Regional FFA Reporter. FCA, four years.

Matthew Bullock, Berea/Mt. Vernon, son of James and Amanda Bullock. FFA, JROTC, Automotive, Welding. Jessalyn Burton, Brodhead, daughter of Mary Burton. Track and Field; Dance Blue Crew Member; Future Business Leaders of America - Reporter for two years and President one year; Key Club; Honors Club and Beta Club; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Educators Rising; Academic Team; Future Problem Solvers; Completion of Business Industry Pathway at RATC, Summa Cum Laude.

Alexa Bussell, Brodhead, daughter of J.D. and Gina Bussell. AP Scholar Top of Class, Summa Cum Laude; Varsity Lady Rockets Golf - five years; Varsity Swim Team - five years; Watercolor Artist, Dance Blue, FCA, Key Club, CAR, National Honor Society, Beta Club, Educators Rising.

Kelsey Carlton, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Crystal Bullock and Kevin Carlton. Tennis, HOSA, Dance Blue. Nikolas Chasteen, Crab Orchard, son of Treena and Nick Chasteen. Basketball and Track.

Raegan Chasteen, Brodhead, daughter of Bruce and Nikki Chasteen.

Audrey Childress, Conway, daughter of Eric and Amy Childress. Academic Team (Captain); Young Feminists (President); Drama Club; Volleyball; 4.0 GPA; ACT Score of 30; Math Club; Environmentalist Club; RCMS Academic Team Student Coach; Future Business Leaders of America (President).

Riley Jaye Clark, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Trent and Ashley Clark. Varsity Golf Team, seven years; 10th Region Golf Player of the Year; 3 time All 10th Region Team; First Team Bluegrass All-Stars; 2 Time All State Golf Participant (both years since induction), 3 KHSAA State Championship Appearances; 6 year Varsity Swim Team Member; HOSA, four years; FCA, four years; BETA Club, four years; Dance Blue, four years; Honors Club, four years; UNITE, four years; Random Acts of Kindness, four years.

Norman Richard Clouse III, Mt. Vernon, son of Norman Richard Clouse, Jr. and Lisa Dawn Mink. Captain and Staff S3 in JROTC, Rifle Team Leader and one of highest shooters.

Karina Coffey, Brodhead, daughter of Ronald and LaMonica Coffey

Kyle Aaron Coffey, Mt. Vernon, son of Scottie and Wanda Coffey. Rogers Scholars Scholarship Recipient; Union College Archery, Full Tuition Scholarship; NASP State Archery Scholarship, \$1,000; NASP National Archery Scholarship, \$1,000; FFA Scholarship, \$500. Perfect Attendance, 13 years. Archery Team, 9 years; Key Club, Honors Club, FFA, Madison Poultry Club; 4-H.

Casey Coleman, Berea, daughter of Adam and Debbie Coleman. Varsity Basketball - 4x All District; 2020 and 2021 2nd Team All Region; 2021 12th Region All Tournament; 1000 Point Club; Varsity Softball; FCA; HOSA; Dance Blue; National Honor Society; Beta Club; 2019 HOBY.

Brianna Collins, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Jonathan and Billnita Collins.

Jacob Collinsworth, Crab Orchard,

son of Tonya and Michael Collinsworth. Track.

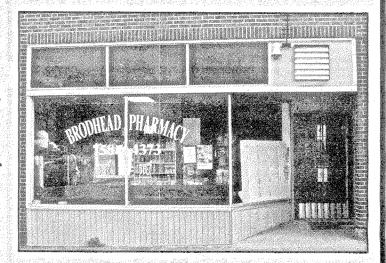
Jacob Cook, Brodhead, son of Sherman and Jennifer Cook. HOSA, 4 years - treasurer three years; Skills USA and Y Club, one year; 2020 Governor's Scholar; RCHS Archery, three years, high score of 288/300; FCA, four years - officer 2 years; Dance Blue, two years. First Place in Researched Persuasive Writing and

(Cont. to page 6)

Brodhead Pharmacy

Main St. • Brodhead • 606-758-4373

We offer a full line of prescription drugs as well as over the counter products.



Stop in and let one of our knowledgeable staff help you with all your prescription needs!

WE DELIVER COUNTYWIDE!!

If you are looking for a small town pharmacy offering very personalized service we are "just what the Dr. ordered"!

Congratulations Class of 2021



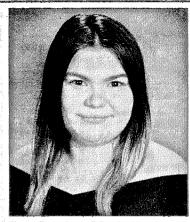
David Collins - Owner



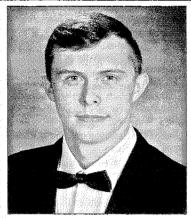
Hayley Brooke Allen



Robert Dylan Allen



Destiney Marie Assel



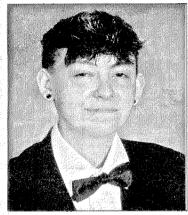
Nelson Blake Barnett



Chandler Texes Batchelor



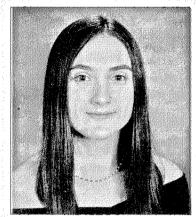
Alexis Bethany Brasher**



Cortney Marie Brown



Logan Isaiah Brown



Madison Eden Aleigha Bryant**



James Mitchell Buckner

Best Wishes To The Class of \$\approx 2021

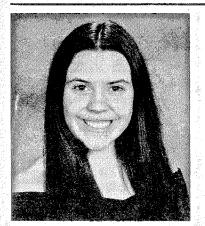
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Rockcastle Jailer
Nathan
Carter

CONGRATULATIONS New Done:

May this be the beginning of a lifetime of success!

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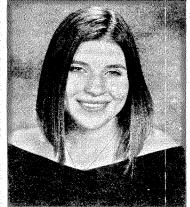


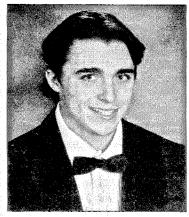
Kaylan Marie Bullock**



Jessalyn DeAnn Burton***







Nikolas Ryan Chasteen**



Raegan Jo Chasteen**



Audrey Glynn Childress***



Riley Jaye Clark***



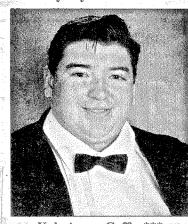
Norman Richard Clouse III*



Noami Heart Co**

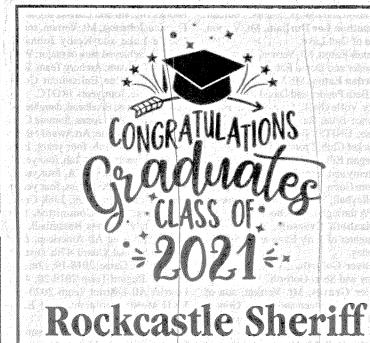


Karina Renae Coffey**



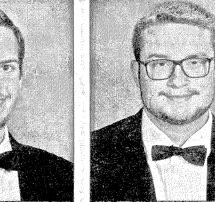


Kyle Aaron Coffey*** Casey Elizabeth Coleman***





Brianna Nicole Collins* Jacob Michael Collinsworth



Jacob Dale Cook***

Shannon Franklin

Speaking at KY HOSA SLC 2018. First Place in Medical Terminology at Virtual KY HOSA SLC 2020. Jackson Energy Scholarship Recipient. 4.23 GPA. Future Barebow Shooter for Lindsey Wilson College.

Orion N. Copenhaver, Mt. Vernon, son of Julie Copenhaver. Cross Country, three years.

Amy Elizabeth Cornelius, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Chris and Jamie Cornelius. EKU Merit Schlarship; Jim Cox Memorial Scholarship. Volleyball, six years; Swim Team, two years; Cheer, one year; Dance Blue, four years; FCA, seven years.

Jasmine Daniels, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Angel Daniels and Bobby Daniels.

Bailee Deborde, Brodhead, daughter of Charles and Paula Deborde.

Callie Elizabeth Delph, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Elizabeth and Christopher Delph.

Rylee DeLeon, Mt. Vernon, son of Nathan DeLeon and Beth Cunningham. Football; Basketball; FCA; Honors Club; 3.86 GPA; Completed Business Pathway.

Olivia Denney, Brodhead, daughter of Jason and Cassie Denney and Angela and Ron Bradley. FCCLA - officer two years; Key Club; Dance Blue; Random Acts of Kindness; UNITE; FCA.

Isaiah Daniel Didelot, Orlando, son of Jason and Jenifer Didelot. Football. Jonathon Lee Durham, Mt. Vernon, son of Gail Lake.

Jonah Eaton, Mt. Vernon, son of Beth Ponder and David Eaton.

Jordan Eaton, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Beth Ponder and David Eaton. Varsity volleyball, four years; FCA; Dance Blue; Random Acts of Kindness; UNITE; Teenage Republicans; Rocket Club; Prom Club.

Megan Ellis, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Jeremy and Jenni Ellis. Karaoke Club; Prom Committee; Rocket Club; FCA; Volleyball, four years. 3.5 or greater GPA through high school.

Elizabeth Eversole, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Jerry Eversole and Stacy Kelley.

Denver Goforth, Livingston, son of Troy and Sheri Goforth.

Tyler Graves, Mt. Vernon, son of Rachael Chasteen and Kenny Graves. Advanced Civics and Geography Award 2018.

Taylor Hall, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Jessica and Brian Hall. SCA Club Cheerleader; RCHS Cheerleader - three years; National Beta Club officer two years; National Honor Society officer two years; Dance Blue officer one year; HOSA - three years; FCA - three years.

Ashton Hansel, Berea, son of Courtney Smith. Honors Club member and officer; Football; Key Club; eSports; Robotics Team.

Jordan Harper, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Greg and Casey Harper. Basketball - won district tournament junior year. Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Dance Blue, Prom Committee, Rocket Club, Teenage Republicans, UNITE Club, Random Acts of Kindness. Senior Elite, Summa Cum Laude.

Faith Harris, Brodhead, daughter of Johnny and Worth Anne Harris. Volleyball, five years; Dance Blue, four years; UNITE, four years; HOSA, four years; FCA, four years; Honors Club, three years; EKU Tier 1 Merit Scholarship full tuition; Cruise in the Valley Scholarship; Legacy Scholarship, EKU.

Kyleigh Hatton, Livingston, daughter of Brenda and Freddie Hatton. Art Club.

Haley Hayes, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Erin Kirby and James Hayes. FFA, 3.8 GPA

Shyann Hellard, Orlando, daughter of Brandy Hellard and William Hellard. Erin Hindman, Brodhead, daughter of Joshua Frith and Carlista Bond and the late Elizabeth Penny Frith. Dance Blue - five years - committee person two years; FCA - officer three years; FBLA, three years - secretary junior year and vice president senior year. Hunter Ingram, Mt. Vernon, son of Brooks Ingram and Carissa Ingram.

Damien Johnson, Mt. Vernon, son of Nicole Lake and Kelby Johnson. JROTC - achieved rank of major; Walk Club; Rifle Team; Archery Team. Red, White and Blue Enlistment Cord; White Stole, four years JROTC.

Lindsey Jones, Brodhead, daughter of Michael and Beth Jones. Summa Cum Laude, Senior Elite; Art Award - three years; Honors Club, four years, Beta Club, four years; Key Club, four years; UNITE, four years; FCA, four years; Random Acts of Kindness, four years; Dance Blue, four years; Link Crew, two years; Prom Committee, two years. Lady Rockets Basketball, six years; Academic All-American, four years; National Guard 47th District Player of the Game, 2018-19; 12th Region All Region Team 2019-20; 47th District All District Team 2020-21. EKU Merit Scholarship and EKU Legacy Scholarship.

Shaun Jones, Mt. Vernon, son of Carolyn Bullen and Shaun Jones.

Valerie Kendrick, Brodhead, daughter of Matt and Jennie Kendrick. Track and Field Varsity Team, four years; First Team All State 2018, 2019; Shot Put Indoor State Champion 2020 and 2021; Discus State Runner-Up 2018 and 2019; Environmental Club; Young

(Cont. to page 15)

Congratulations

RUES

2021

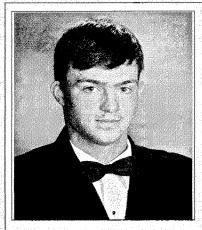
Attorneys:

James L. Cox,

Jerry J. Cox

and Heidi Weatherly

Staff: Shari Proctor & Amanda Brown



Special congratulations to senior

Logan Brown

115 Richmond St. • Mt. Vernon • 606-256-5111

Congratulations— Class of 2021

a sad ending to a new beginning....

From all of us at

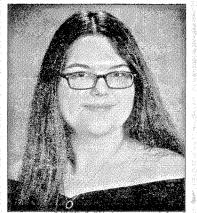




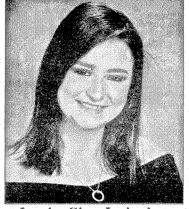
Amy Elizabeth Cornelius***



Bethany Grace Cromer***



Carolyn Paige Daniel*



Jasmine Glena Lashaylene Daniels

From everyone at



305 W. Hwy. 150 Mt. Vernon (606) 256-2514

Congratulations Class of 2021

Sparks Flowers Wore

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Mount Vernon, Kentucky
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Special congratulations to **Jett Masters**



365 West Main Street . Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456

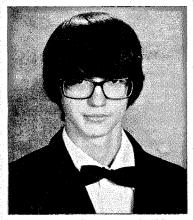
Take pride in how far you have come and have faith in how far you can go...



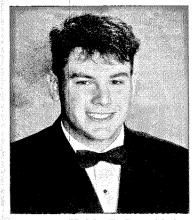
Kaylee Elissa Deatherage



Bailee Cheyene Deborde***



Thomas Steven Dees III



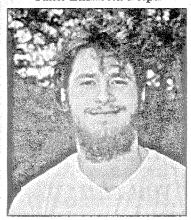
Rylee Hobbs DeLeon**



Callie Elizabeth Delph

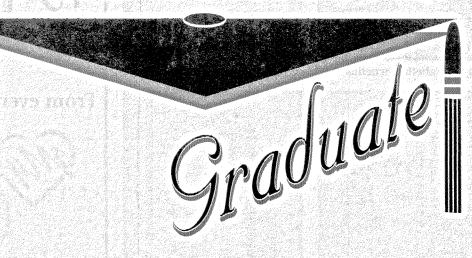


Olivia Darlene Denney*

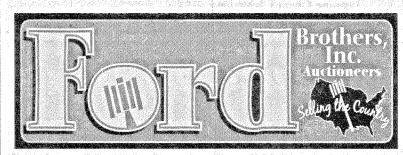




-----Isaiah Daniel Didelot*-------Jonathon Lee Durham



from your friends at



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geric (+ spier) Europe

606-878-7111 Somerset, KY 606-679-2212



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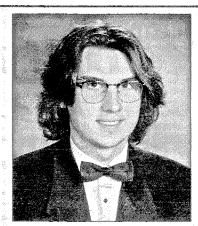




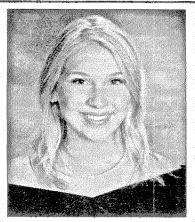
Haley Marie Dyer



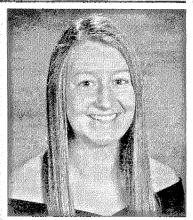
Austin James Hunter Eaton**



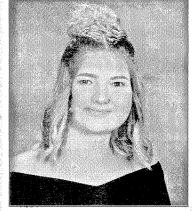
Jonah David Eaton



Jordan Leigh Eaton



Megan Dalynn Ellis**



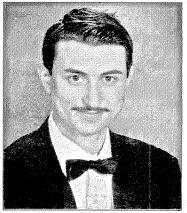
Cadee Olivia Evans*



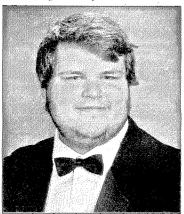
Elizabeth Gayle Faith Eversole



Tiffany Dawn Faulkner



Denver Carter Vaden Goforth



Tyler Benjamin Scott Graves*

Congratulations

Class of Cla

from

County Clerk

Danetta Ford-Allen

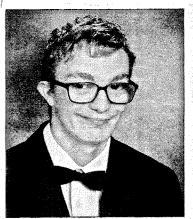
Congratulations
Class of 2021

Coffey & Ford, PSC

Attorneys At Law

Willis Coffey and John D. Ford

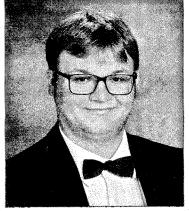
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Tracy Allen Grimsley, Jr.



Andrew Dalton Gross

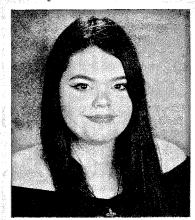


Nelson Blake Halcomb** Taylor Addison Hall***





Ashton Taylor Hansel*



Jasmine Pearl Hanson

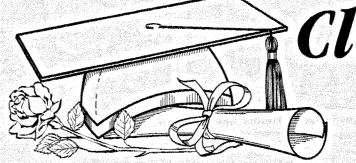


Jordan Renee Harper***



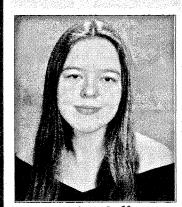
Faith Anne Harris***

Congratulations



Class of **2021**

Special congratulations to senior employees



Karina Coffey

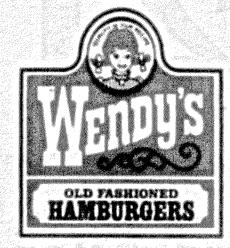


Paige Daniel



Delani Reynolds

Danny, Gaylen and Chris Settles and all the employees of





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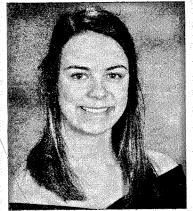
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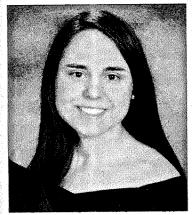
Kyleigh Sue Martin Hatton



Haley Nicole Hayes**



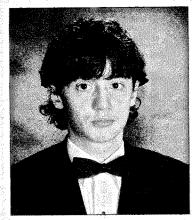
Erin Nicole Hindman**



Zoey Elizabeth Holland***



Brianna Nicole Holsing

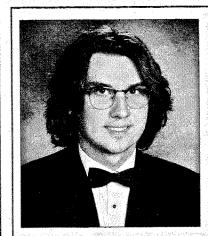


Jeffrey Hunter Ingram



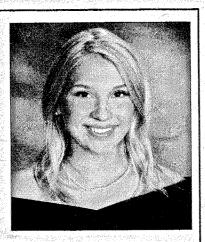


Damien Charles Johnson Lindsey Elizabeth Jones**



Special congratulations to

Jonah and Jordan **Eaton**

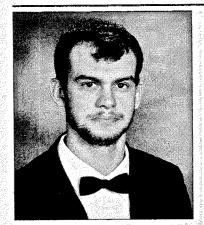


"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the -- Ioshua 1:9 Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

From everyone at....

Central Body Service

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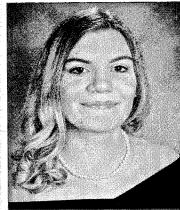
Shaun Thomas Jones



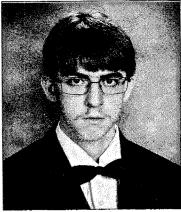
Valerie Nicole Kendrick***



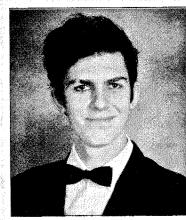
Kansas October Kirby***



Graycen Elizabeth Krammes*



Dalton Franklin Lefler**

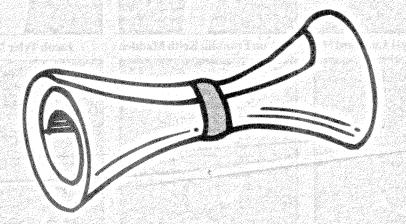


Thomas Eugene Ligon*



Aliyah LaRae Lopez*** Alyssa Ann Lunsford***





The best is yet to come!

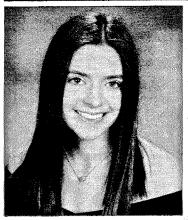


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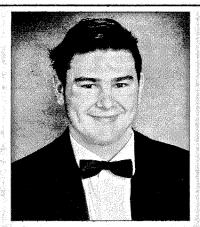
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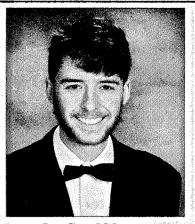
Mckenzi Danyel Lunsford**



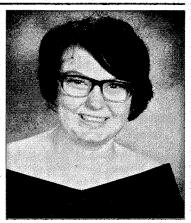
William Franklin Keith Madden



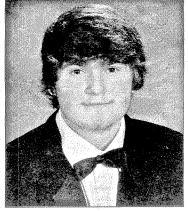
Jacob Tyler Mason**



Jett Creed Masters



Brianna Paige McClure

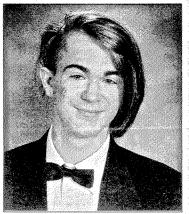


Logan Blake McClure

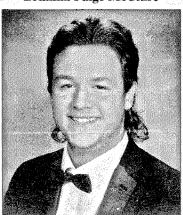


Christopher Ricky Eugene McCoy*** Michael Heagan McCoy**





Robert James Thomas McGee



Nate Manley McGuire

Congratulations, Siraduate

Circuit Court Clerk Eliza Jane York-Hansel

Brittnay Mullins, Renita Blanton, Marcia Olinger, Sam Alcorn, Brenda Miller, Kim Denny, Stephanie Allen, Sandra Hamm and Priscilla Napier

606-256-2581

All the folks at Snack Shack

Congratulate the graduates of the

Class of 2021

Richmond St. Mt. Vernon 256-2212



Feminists; Academic Team; Prom Committee; VEX Robotics; Art Club; Dance Blue; Random Acts of Kindness; Drama Club; Baskeball Freshman Team; National Honors Society; Educators Rising; Senior Elite GPA 4.14; Honors Biology Award; Business and Office Award; MOS Microsoft Word Certification; Outstanding Performance at AJ's Heart of the Bluegrass.

Destiny Marie Kidwell, Brodhead, daughter of Henry and Billie Kidwell. Dalton Lefler, Brodhead, son of Frankie and Sarah Lefler. EKU Tier 1 Merit Scholarship, full tuition.

Thomas Ligon, Mt. Vernon, son of Tabitha Ray.

Aliyah Lopez, Berea, daughter of Jamie Karr and Michael and JaDawn Lopez. Basketball, six years.

Mckenzi Lunsford, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Tabita Collins and Mark Lunsford. Volleyball, Dance Blue, Student Y, Key Club, Honors Society. Attending Eastern Kentucky University in the fall.

Jacob Mason, Brodhead, son of Jessica Maher and B.J. Mason.

Jett Masters, Brodhead, son of Jensen and Gina Masters.

Brianna McClure, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Mindy Weaver and Jamie McClure, JROTC, FCCLA.

Logan B. McClure, Brodhead, son of Beverly McClure Caldwell and Glen Burge. FFA, two years.

Michael McCoy, Mt. Vernon, son of Carla McCoy and Travis McCoy. eSports, Robotics, FFA.

Nate McGuire, Orlando, son of Michael and Melinda McGuire.

Reece McGuire, Mt. Vernon, son of Eric and Heather McGuire.

Madison McIntosh, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Tim McIntosh, grand-daughter of Rita and Joe McIntosh. Dance Blue, Rocket Club, Teenage Republicans, UNITE Club, FCA, varsity softball starter, four years.

Kerrigan Medley, Brodhead, daughter of Anthony and Jill Medley. 2020 Governor's Scholar; Miss RCHS; Student Council Representative - four years; HOSA - Future Health Professionals - President; Honors/Beta Club President; RCHS Cheerleading Team Captain; Key Club Historian; Senior Elite; Yearbook Assistant Editor; Dance Blue; Link Crew Representative; Summa Cum Laude; Homecoming Court Representative; Georgetown College Cheerleading Commit.

Camden Mink, Mt. Vernon, son of Kaci Brown and Danny Mink, Jr. Honors Club, Beta Club, National Honors Society, FFA, Key Club, Dance Blue. Golf Team, one year and Mt. Vernon Volunteer Fire Department, four years. Accepted to Eastern Kentucky University where will major in Education. **Drew Mink**, Brodhead, son of Kristy and Greg Mink. Football - lettered four

years; Track, 2 years.

Justin Douglas Lee Mink,
Livingston, son of Joanie Mink
Woodall and Doug and Loretta Mink
(grandparents). Mr. RCHS; Senior
Elite; Homecoming King; Yearbook
Editor; Kentucky Youth Assembly
President of the Commonwealth Senate; Rockcastle KY YMCA Chapter
President; Y Corps Captain; HOSA
Service Chair; Prom Committee; Link
Crew; RAK; Honors Society; UNITE
Ambassador; Georgetown College
Pre-Med Health Scholar; Student
Council At Large Representative.

Alexus Moore, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Jeanna and Scotty Moore. Dance Blue; FBLA; Ranked Second in Broadcast and Journalism; Art Club. Nathan Munguia, Mt. Vernon, son of Geraldo and Regina Munguia. Welding, three years; Working at Qualex Machinery.

Shawn Murphy, Mt. Vernon, son of Annie Clay Murphy. Chess Club; JROTC; Guitar Club.

Hannah Neeley, Berea, daughter of Becky and Tony Neeley. Tennis; Educators Rising; Skills USA.

Christian New, Mt. Vernon, son of Elizabeth Eversole and Jason New. Employed at Lee's Fried Chicken for two years.

Taylee Owens, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Angela Owens and Jeremy Blade Owens. FBLA.

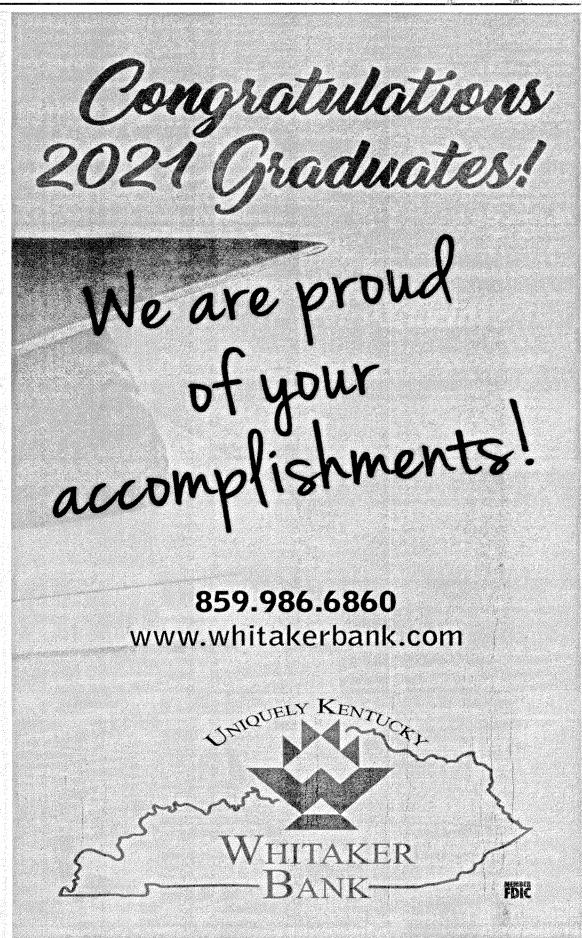
Noah Scott Parkey, Brodhead, son of Scott and Kristy Parkey. Honors Club; National Honor Society; Beta Club; UNITE; Dance Blue; Senior Elite. Recipient of the UNITE Scholarship, Lions Club Scholarship, EKU Alumni Scholarship and EKU Merit Scholarship. RCHS Track Team, three years; RCHS Football, four years. Recipient of the UNITE Bowl Offensive Player of the Game in 2019 and the Class 3A District 5 Player of the Year Award for 2020. Attending Eastern Kentucky University in the Fall.

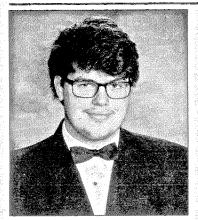
MaKayla Lynn Pash, Berea, daughter of Teresa and Mike Anglin. Honors Club; Beta Club; Random Acts of Kindness Club; Teenage Republican Club; FCA; UNITE Club.

Gentry Phillips, Mt. Vernon, son of Robert and Julie Phillips. Baptist Leadership Award. Future Business Leaders of America - officer two years; FCA. Archery Team, seven years. State Archery, four years; National Archery, three years.

Erica Pigg, Brodhead, daughter of Alvin and Donna Pigg. FFA - four years.

(Cont. to pg. 21)





Reece Brav McGuire**



Madison Marie McIntosh***

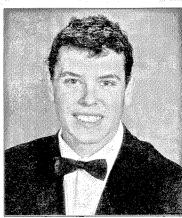


Kerrigan Jilann Medlev***

* Photos Not Available *

Sarah Allen · William Anglin · Fayeth Begley Matthew Bullock • Dallas Bussell • Nathan Chaney Orion Copenhaver . Michael Cromer . Lucas Dees Cager Doan . Shelby Harris . Shyann Hellard Kaley Kidd . Destiny Kidwell . Megan King Taylor Kirby • Andrew Mink • Haley Mink Alexus Moore • Austin New • Elisabeth Owens Taylee Owens . Matthew Pendery . Jason Puckett Jordan Rose • Madison Ross • Cassidy Shepherd Kaden Welch • Alissa Wilcox • Sebastian Isaacs

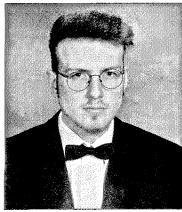




Camden Lane Mink* Christopher Drew Mink



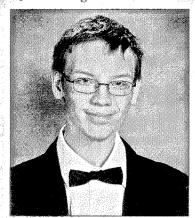
Justin Douglas Lee Mink**



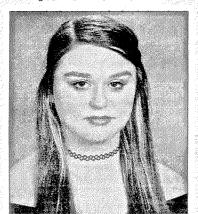
John Conner Mullins



Nathan Riveria Munguia



Shawn Claude Murphy



Makensey Paige Navarre**



Hannah Elizabeth Neelev**



Christian Blake New



Congratulations

Class of 2021

Rockcastle PVA

Janet Vaughn

Ruth Thompson Cindy Offutt • Brandy Bowman

Phone 606-256-4194

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



2021

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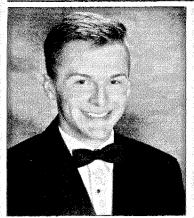
Mount Vernon 606-256-2500

Somerset

Brodhead 606-758-8212

McKee 606-287-8390

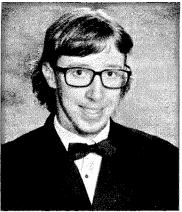




Noah Scott Parkey***



MaKayla Lynn Pash**



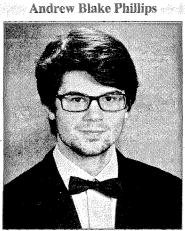
Jacob Allen Fairbanks Pennington-Lopez**



Gentry Robert Phillips***



Erica Marie Pigg*



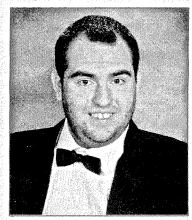
Zachary John Poyle*



Connor Wayne Price*



Isaiah Anderson Price



Corey Austin Rader



Kyra Faith Ramsey***



Delani Kae Reynolds**

Congratulations

Class of

Your friend....

County Judge/Executive

Howell Holbrook

Congratulations Class of 2021

Graduation isn't the end of a tough journey
It is the beginning of a beautiful one...



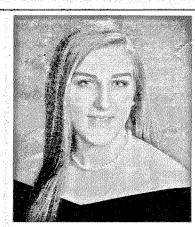
District Judge Katie Slone



Emily Lynn Reynolds



Morgan Leigh Ann Robinson**



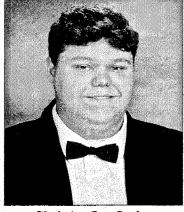
Olivia Cucielle Robinson



Elizabeth Loucanda Ross*



Hannah Paige Ruppe*



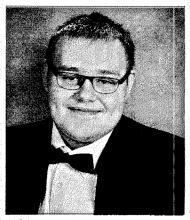
Christian Lee Saylor



Douglas Stewart Shields III



Kendra Jo Silva*



Matthew Frank Skochelak



Taylor Rose Sloat**

Congratulations

CILASSOF 201211

from

Rockcastle County Attorney

Jeremy Rowe

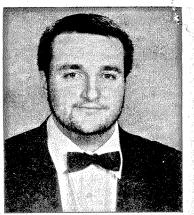
& staff

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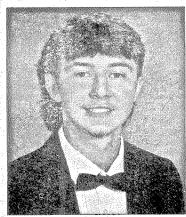
Devona Lee Smith*



Rily Chase Smith



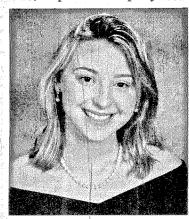
Micah Dewayne Sparks



Joseph Hunter Spivey*



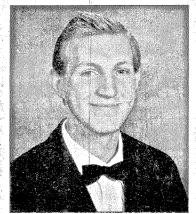
Hunter Lee Stanley



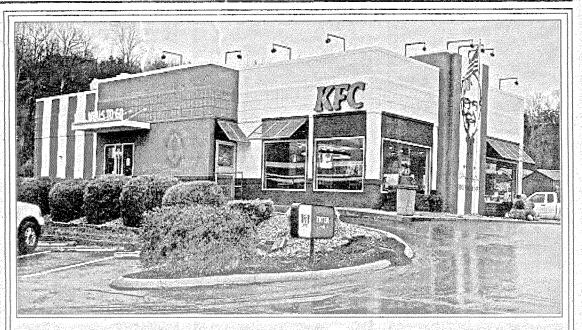
Chelsea Brooke Blair Stephens***



Aidan Scott Thompson**



Austin Tyler Vanwinkle



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256-4910

Connor Price, Mt. Vernon, son of Kelly Powell and Scotty Price. Baseball.

Isaiah Price, Orlando, son of Jed Price and Jessica and Nick Renner. Skills USA - three years; Fishing Team three years; work for Rockcastle Stone Masonry. Enrolled at Kentucky Welding Institute.

Corey A. Rader, Mt. Vernon, son of John and Mindy Lunsford and the late Ashley Nicole Rader. JROTC, 3 years. Kyra Ramsey, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Paula Amyx and Carl Ramsey. Environmental Club; Educators Rising Club; Prom Committee; Rocket Club; Spirit Club: Dance Blue: Art Club: Drama Club. Senior Elite, 4.19 GPA; Passed AP GOPO and AP World Exam; Passed SED 104 and U.S. History (Dual Credit); Passed Honors Biology; Accepted to EKU. Member of Senior Homecoming Court 2021; Volleyball, one year; Cross Country, one year; Track and Field, two years.

Delani K. Reynolds, daughter of Sabrina Bowles Alcorn of Mt. Vernon and Stephen Reynolds of Eubank, granddaughter of Darlene K. Allen. FBCLA, Honors Club, Drama Club, Honors Choir, Craft Club, Beta Club, Dance Blue and Young Feminists Club.

Morgan Robinson, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Leigh Ann and Scott Robinson.

Hannah Ruppe, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Kristy Ruppe and Clayton Cox. KYA KUNA (passed bill); Dance Blue; Honors Club; Merit Scholarship at Centre College.

Christian L. Saylor, Brodhead, son of Jeff and Cherryell Bradley, Skills USA - officer; Passed all ASE Student Certifications.

Kendra J. Silva, Brodhead, daughter of Kenneth and Angela Silva. Color Guard, Winter Guard, Honors Choir, Drama Club. \$1,000 scholarship to LaJames College in Mason City, Iowa. Matthew Skochelak, Livingston, son of Evelyn Skochelak and Frank Skochelak. Principal's Award, one year; JROTC, Perfect Attendance Award. Plan on joining Kentucky National Guard upon graduation to be an MP and then will join the Kentucky State Police.

Rily Chase Smith, Mt. Vernon, son of Scott and Becky Smith. Baseball-on Region Runner-Up team 2019; FCA - four years; Electrical Program - plan to be a diesel mechanic.

Michael Sparks, Mt. Vernon, son of Dorian Sparks and Vernice Hargis Bryant. FBLA - two years, competed at state level; completed Business program; Microsoft Certified in Word, Excel and Powerpoint. Joseph Hunter Spivey, Orlando, son of Joe and LaCosta Spivey. Varsity Baseball, four years - member of 2018 regional runner-up team; 3.5 GPA; Electrical Award. Plan to attend Lineman School.

Hunter Stanley, Mt. Vernon, son of David and Lori Stanley. Welding.

Chelsea Brooke Blair Stephens, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Sabrina and Bennie Stephens. FCA; FCCLA; FFA; Dance Blue; UNITE; RAK; Y Club; Game Club; Rocket Club; Prom Committee; Drama Club; Yearbook Staff. Senior Who's Who - Best Dressed. Physical Science Award, freshman year; Biology Award, sophomore year. Aidan Thompson, Mt. Vernon, son of Scott Thompson and Angel Thompson. Austin Van Winkle, Mt. Vernon, son of Susan Van Winkle and Jessie Van Winkle. JROTC, four years, Basketball Club, one year.

Lauren Vanzant, Orlando, daughter of Ronnie and Kristy Vanzant. Key Club; Dance Blue; UNITE; RAK; FCCLA officer two years.

Nicolas Whipple, Mt. Vernon, son of Nici and Joseph Thomas and Darwin Whipple. Plan to attend Iowa State University and study history with plans to become high school history teacher. Caleb Williams, Conway, son of Chad Williams and Angie Hopkins. Football - lettered three years; Fishing Team lettered five years.

Lily A. Wood, Mt. Vernon, daugher of Nikki Roy and Eric Roy. Martial Arts Club.

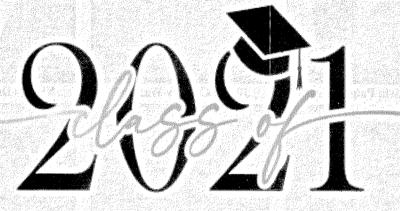
Justin Wynn, Berea, son of Darrel Wynn and Stella Wynn. Choir, six years.

Laurel Reagan Yates, Mt. Vernon. daughter of John and Amy Yates. Varsity swimming, eight years; FCA, two years; Key Club, two years; Random Acts of Kindness, three years: HOSA. three years; Dance Blue, three years; UNITE, three years; Beta Club, three years; Honors Club, three years; Prom Committee, two years; Y Club, three years. 6x All Region 9 Swim Team; 2019 Region 9 Outstanding Girl's Swimming Competitor. First Swimmer in RCHS history to qualify for KHSAA State Swimming Championship; 6x KHSAA State Swimming Championship Qualifier. 2020-21, Homecoming Queen Candidate. 2020 DAR Outstanding Work in Literacy Promotion. Founder of Rock2Read Book Project. Madison Yates, Mt. Vernon, daughter of Lyndel and Crystal Hester. Gold Honor Roll, four years; Varsity Softball, four years; Dance Blue; Senior Elite; FCA; UNITE Club; co-op at Rockcastle Regional, now State Registered Nurse Aide; continuing her education and athletic career in softball at Berea College.

Information provided by 2021 Senior Class

Please Note:

In order to attend this year's graduation, you must have a ticket



CONGRATS!

Shoot for the moon.

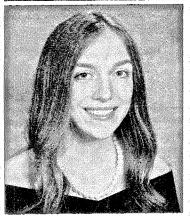
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you'll land among
the stars.

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uren Olivia Paige Vanzant



Jillian Cassidy Wallin**



Nicolas Darwin Whipple



Christopher Thomas Whitehead***



Caleb Walton Williams



Lily Aislign Wood



Justin Ray Wynn



Laurel Reagan Yates***



Madison Gabrielle Yates***

***Summa Cum Laude GPA 4.0 or higher **Magna Cum Laude GPA 3.75-3.99 *Cum Laude GPA 3.5-3.74

You must have ticket to attend this year's graduation



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Paid for by Josh Bray for State Representative

Congratulations



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