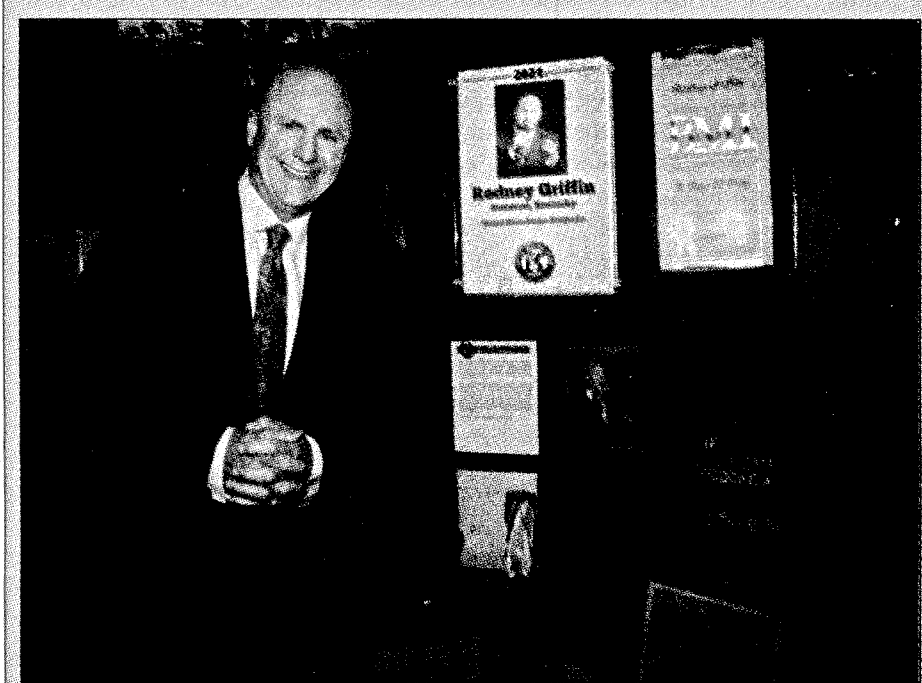


Mount Vernon Signal Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - (606) 256-2244 Volume 138 • Number 37 1.00 per copy Thursday, October 31, 2024

Twelve new members inducted into Hall of Fame

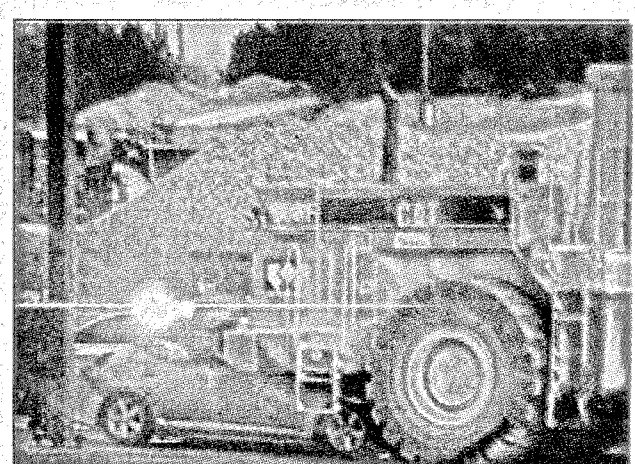
Once again the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and Museum has held the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in Renfro Valley. With local and state dignitaries, and a large crowd in support, 12 new inductees were named to the Hall of Fame Saturday evening. Jessica Blankenship, Director of the Hall of Fame, along with many of those present, said the event was a huge success. (See "Induct" on A5)



Somerset native Rodney Griffin, Gospel singer and songwriter, joined 11 other talented musicians, singers, songwriters and music personalities Saturday at the 2024 Kentucky Music Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Griffin currently resides in Mount Vernon with his wife, Regina Bengé Griffin and they have two daughters, Reagan Tounge and Riley Taylor.

Lexington man killed in crash near local quarry

By: Mike French Editor Robert A. Rhodus, 39, of Lexington, was killed last Thursday morning when his vehicle struck a piece of heavy equipment on KY-150 near the Heidelberg Materials rock quarry mine entrance, according to a Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department accident report. The Mount Vernon Police Department responded to the accident slightly after 7 a.m. Thursday, October 24. Upon arrival it was determined that Rhodus was deceased by Rockcastle EMS. The report says a preliminary investigation shows the front end loader was on the roadway, transitioning from the mine entrance to the loading area along KY-150. According to the report, it appears the vehicle driven by Rhodus struck the rear of the equipment which was driven by Dalton J. Miller, 28, of Mount Vernon, causing severe damage to the passenger (See "Fatal" on A5)



Shown above, a vehicle driven by Robert Rhodus crashed into a piece of heavy equipment last Thursday near the local rock quarry. Rhodus was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Justin Cody Whitt arrested Six year manhunt ends at Pizza Hut

By: Mike French Editor After a six-year manhunt, police located and arrested Justin Cody Whitt, 41, of Mount Vernon, last Wednesday evening. The manhunt began after Whitt escaped from the Rockcastle County Detention Center on November 11, 2018 as he was about to begin his day on the work release program. Since that time, due to his absence, Whitt has missed several court dates, adding to his charges while the manhunt was under way. A bench warrant issued for Whitt in 2020 includes the charges of no vehicle registration, no registration receipt, fleeing or evading police, no (See "Captured" on A5)

Officer finds loaded weapon in back of cruiser after placing suspect in local jail

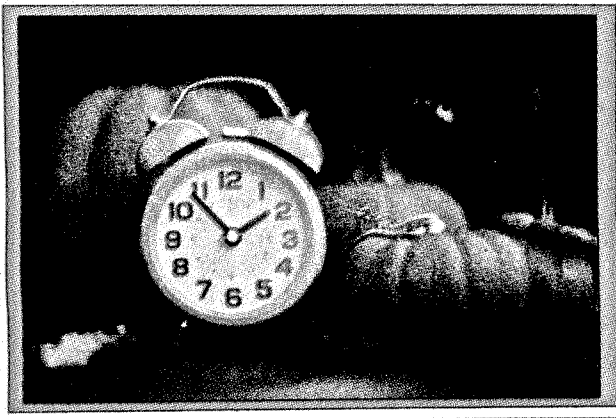
By: Mike French Editor On September 6, Richard Biggs, 43, of Brodhead was arrested and charged with possession of a handgun by a convicted felon, after a routine traffic stop. A uniform citation says the two passengers with Biggs had arrest warrants out for each of them and a bottle of pills was found on Biggs. Biggs apparently admitted the Suboxone was his and said he had a prescription for the medication. Once Mount Vernon Police officer Blake King arrived at the Rockcastle County Detention Center with the suspect, he escorted Biggs into the jail and then returned to his cruiser to perform his usual inspection of the back seat of his cruiser. During that process, Officer King located a loaded .22 revolver in the floor of the back seat area (See "Weapon" on A5)

Voting underway Voters may cast ballot Thursday, Friday and Saturday Election Day is Tuesday, November 5

By: Mike French Editor Voting for the 2024 general election has already begun across the nation and starting today (Thursday, October 31,) any registered voter may cast their ballot. Early voting, with an acceptable excuse, has already been happening across the state and in Rockcastle County but, starting today, early voting with no need for an excuse which includes all registered voters, is available. Any voter may vote (See "Vote" on A5)

Set clocks back Sunday at 2 a.m.

By: Mike French Editor Once again everyone inside the United States, except those in Hawaii and parts of Arizona, will set their clocks back one hour this Sunday, November 3, at 2 a.m. as Daylight Saving Time (DST) has come to an end in 2024. Each year there is discussion of putting an end to time changes across the nation. An article, published last year by Forbes, says any state may move into DST in March of 2025 and then remain on that time schedule eliminating the need to "fall back" in November each year, with proper legislation. In fact, federal legislation to eliminate falling back across the nation (See "Time" on A5)



RCMS to honor Veterans on November 11

Rockcastle County Middle School will host and honor Veterans on Veterans Day once again this year! All Veterans are invited to eat breakfast in the morning and enjoy a brief program. Breakfast will begin at 9am on November 11 with a program to follow. Please begin arriving at Rockcastle County Middle School at 8:30 to allow time to sign in at the office.

National champion



RCMS senior Anna Chaliff recently won the National Nursery Operations Proficiency award at the 97th National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis, IN. Anna won this very prestigious award based on her Supervised Agricultural Experience program, in which she works for Williams' Greenhouse in Berea. Anna was announced as a finalist for the award earlier this year and interviewed against three other students from across the nation before being selected as the winner. Anna is the daughter of Matt and Julie Chaliff of Mount Vernon. Additionally the Rockcastle County FFA Chapter was recognized as a three star chapter, the highest rating a chapter can receive on the national level. This is the third consecutive year the chapter has received this award. The FFA chapter also would like to recognize former member Daniel Bustle who is an agriculture teacher at Locust Trace Agriscience Center in Lexington. Daniel's student Caroline Groth was selected as the National Eastern Region VP, becoming only the 14th person from Kentucky to be elected as a national FFA officer.

Of Special Note Inside Viewpoints Pg. 2 Obituaries Pg. 4 Court News Pg. 6 Sports Pg. 8 Classifieds Pg. 13 Deadline is Monday at 4 p.m. Contact us at: mvsignal@windstream.net Deadline submission is 4:00 p.m. Monday Call 606-256-2244 for Advertising & Subscriptions





# ramblings...

by; perlina m. anderkin

Do you ever get tired of having people (read politicians) look you right in the eye and lie without one sign of hesitation. Lie to the point that you do not believe one word that comes out of their mouth! Lie to the point that you actually are concerned for their immortal soul, not to mention being in awe of the gullibility of the American voters who, despite clear and unsailable evidence to the contrary, will stand and applaud and catcall with enthusiasm the promises made by politicians. Politicians who have been in office for four years and EVERYTHING they have done has been to the DETRIMENT of the welfare of the American citizen. But, they are now going to "Turn the Page" to where everything is going to come up roses for Americans who have just gone through the worst four years, financially, of their lives and ALL brought on by policies of the current regime.

Not to mention that the candidate of the current regime has made well-

known her Communist ideology for all her political career but suddenly her policies (as much as she can be persuaded to share them to date) will now benefit all humankind, particularly black men with the forgivable \$20,000 loan, the \$25,000 for a down payment for first-time buyers on a home (including illegal immigrants) and the \$50,000 tax credit for new black business owners -- as I understand it she later retracted the \$20,000 forgivable loan for black men having been told by someone, with an IQ above 70, that it was unconstitutional.

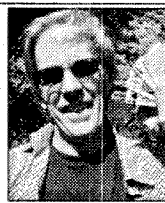
I actually don't see where it all wouldn't be unconstitutional since it's clearly discrimination against 80% of our country.

But, I digress. I intended to remind you of part of my column from the last couple of weeks where I told you that the Biden Administration has enacted a Martial Law (5240.01) giving the Pentagon authority, for the first time in history, to fire

(Continued on 3)

## Aces Over

By: Mike French



As I have mentioned before, I have learned several lessons in life but none more steadfast and consistent as the knowledge that we have a dysfunctional government. Not locally! But state and federal government has turned out to be pretty much less than useless. "Useless" means government would not help at all. It would be useless. "Less than useless" means it not only doesn't help but it makes the situation worse.

When I am about to approach a new endeavor, or take another step in life or make any change at all, my first question must always be, "is the government involved?"

I call it "the theory of fours." I have learned through endless and consistent trials that when federal or state government is involved, whatever I am doing will take four times as long, cost four times more money and be four times less likely to actually help my situation if state or federal government is involved in any way.

In my old fashioned views, government is supposed to help people instead of making our lives more complicated, expensive and difficult. If Frankfort could be operated like our local county clerk's or Circuit Clerk's office, Kentucky would be the most successful state in the country.

I have had more experiences with big government than I care to think about, but I have yet to find a subject where the state or federal govern-

ment actually made my life better. In most cases, government "gives" me something and acts as though our elected officials sacrificed their own life savings and first born child so that I could have that "privilege." In fact, the only reason I can "have" anything from government is because they took it from me without my consent for 40 years prior to giving me a tiny portion of it back.

And now the dreaded time has come. I am getting close to attempting to sign up for Medicare. One would think I am trying to change the molecular structure of carbon atoms and splice it into an extinct DNA source. I be-

(Continued on 3)

## Most Haunted Road and Cemetery in Kentucky

Dear Journal,  
This week will conclude the haunting tales of the Appalatian mountains giving homage to Haloween. The first tale is that of Mary Evelyn Ford and her mother who lived in Marion County or Lebanon, Kentucky. not so far from Louisville.

The story takes place in the mid 1800s. Mary and her mother lived alone on the outskirts of town and usually kept to themselves. Mary was just a little girl about eight or nine years old. People were rather suspicious of them for no particular reason, they just weren't very social, I suppose. One summer, the local peoples' crops began to

wither and die, almost overnight, and in about a week there wasn't a crop of anything alive to be found. Then the cows began to go dry and the chickens stopped laying eggs.

None could decide what was causing their misfortune. They finally decided that all of them had been cursed by witches, little Mary Evelyn Ford and her mother. One night, Mary and her mother were dragged from their home and burned at the stake. Both protested to no avail that they were innocent. They were hurriedly buried with a wrought iron fence placed around their graves to keep their spirits from coming back from the dead. As if that wasn't enough, the townspeople also planted thick rose bushes around the graves with especially thorny stems to deter their spirits.

It wasn't long after that when people began seeing the small figure of a little girl wandering the cemetery, especially at night. On quiet, still days the tree branches would bend and sway as if a strong wind was blowing. There were orbs of light seen at all times of the day or night and shadowy figures were also seen in the cemetery.

Once, there was a young couple in their teens who decided to visit the cemetery on a dare and bring back a rose from the thorny rose

(Continued on 3)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### You are urged to vote...

Dear Editor,  
Kentucky's general election day is Tuesday, November 5. On Thursday, October 31, in-person no excuse absentee voting will begin and will be conducted in the county clerk's office or other place designated by the county board of elections (Check with your county clerk for location details.) Early voting can be done from October 31 to November 2.

This general election, Kentuckians will be selecting candidates for President, United States House of Representatives, Kentucky's General Assembly, and certain other local offices. Members of Rockcastle County farm Bureau hope every voter will make their voices heard by casting informed votes for our government leaders.

As Kentuckians, it is our responsibility to know where each candidate stands on the issues that

(Continued on 14)

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Mike French, Editor

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In County - \$30.00 Yr. Out-of-County - \$35.00 Yr.

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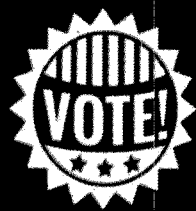
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delivers  
results  
for

## ROCKCASTLE

- ✓ \$20 million to build the new Rockcastle County Middle School
- ✓ \$20 million for natural gas
- ✓ \$62 million to purchase the Rockcastle County mega site
- ✓ \$71 million to widen US-25 and KY-461
- ✓ \$4.8 million for a recreation complex



Vote for

# JOSH BRAY

Early In-Person Voting Oct. 31 - Nov. 2  
Election Day Nov. 5



## ramblings...

(Continued from 2)

upon citizens who protest government policies.

I thought it was in our constitution that our military can never be used against U.S. citizens but it is actually federal law, the first one signed in 1878 (the Posse Comitatus Act) which removed the military from regular civil law enforcement. It was enacted in response to abuses resulting from the extensive use of the army in civil law enforcement during the Civil War and Reconstruction. The law has been updated three times (the last in 2022) to include all branches of the military except the Coast Guard who is under the authority of Homeland Security.

As I read the law, in order for the military to be used against civilians, it would have to be authorized by Congress and, as far as I can tell, this latest move by our unlawful regime is just that -- unlawful. I did not read anywhere where this came before Congress but, that shouldn't surprise anyone. Any administration that ignores a Supreme Court ruling that they CANNOT DO AWAY with student loan debt and does it anyway is a lawless regime.

BUT, the worst part of it is that I have heard both Harris and Walz telling everyone with a straight face that it's Trump who wants to use the military against U.S. citizens. In other words, lying through teeth and their followers standing and applauding their stance against the evil Trump!!

As far as I can tell, the main theme of Harris and Walz is Trump is a racist, bigoted Nazi who will end the world on Day One. Harris even said - didn't intimate, outright said - Trump hated Jews and would put his grandchildren (daughter Ivanka's children) in internment camp, along with all other Jews, when elected notwithstanding the fact that the man didn't do anything during his first administration to warrant these charges.

There are so many outright lies being disseminated by the Harris/Walz campaign that, quite frankly, it's hard to keep up with them. But, that's it that's all they have. They certainly cannot point to ANY successes in their administration (except raising the average family's monthly living expenses by \$1100 because of the inflationary policies they began installing on Day One of their failed regime). Every cause that Harris advocated for all her political life-abortion to birth-just because (and afterwards in case of a failed

abortion), banning fracking, mandatory buy-back of ALL firearms, unlimited illegal immigration, establishing bail funds for rioters who burn down our cities, she has now reneged on but you can be assured they're in place in her psyche only waiting to be unearthed in case we ever have the misfortune to see her in a position of power.

She has spent the last couple of weeks, calling Trump a Nazi with every breath she takes, while the only policies I have heard from her involve, stealing patents from inventors "with the swipe of my pen" and the pandering to black voters, particularly men.

Somewhere I read that all of these were unconstitutional but, to a lawless regime as she has been proven to be a part of, that wouldn't make one scintilla of difference to her.

**Voting problems** are popping up all over our country already, especially in swing states. In Lancaster and York counties in Pennsylvania, thousands of potentially fraudulent voter registration forms and mail-in ballot applications, from a third party group, are being received; the ballot printer in Lansdale, PA has failed (and lo and behold there's no backup available).

I'm not too hopeful that anything will be done about rampant cheating by the Dems since two of the most notorious poll workers/cheaters in Fulton County, GA in 2020, Ruby Freeman and her daughter Shaye Moss, received presidential medals and a jury award of \$148,169,000 against Rudy Giuliani for his defamation even though there was video proof of their crimes.

After Republican precinct workers were sent home, because of a "burst pipe," they were recorded pulling suitcases of ballots out from under tables and running them through vote counting machines numerous times.

There are so many atrocities being visited on legal citizens of this country by the current regime that it would take a full page in this paper to list them all. The fact that the average Social Security check averages \$1400 but, immediately upon crossing the border, illegals are given \$2,200 in cash a month, plus free housing, mostly in five star hotels, free food, medical care and jobs in most cases and drivers licenses.

Harris has said that she will provide taxpayer-funded

transgender surgeries for service members, prisoners and illegals and continue to allow male prisoners, who identify as female, into women's prisons where they are impregnating women inmates. Democrats advocate for transgender men in women's sports, along with coed locker and restrooms even though the Supreme Court recently struck down their amendments to Title IX which allowed these atrocities.

And, there should be no better proof of the disdain this regime has for our country than the lack of support that was given to the survivors of the devastation that occurred in North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia last month.

The official death toll has not been released, although many volunteers put it in the thousands but 90% of the rescues/relief had to be provided by volunteers from across our country since FEMA didn't have enough funds. But, they had enough funds to provide \$1.4 billion to illegals, doing their part in the \$150 billion that illegals cost this country in 2023 alone. Not to mention the 320,000 children that have gone missing after they crossed our border. This is attributed, mostly, to Biden/Harris ending

the Trump-implemented DNA testing at the border to make sure the children were related to those to whose care they were released into.

The list of the Biden/Harris acts against U.S. citizens goes on and on but they have really outdone themselves in the last few days calling Trump's rally at Madison Square Gardens a gathering of Nazis and identifying the over 20,000 in attendance (not counting the 10s of thousands that couldn't get in) also as Nazis.

As a last item of interest, Biden has told Congress that he will veto a bill to prevent illegal immigrants from voting in federal elections. Another solid indication of the way Biden's administration feels about this country.

## T.J.'s

(Continued from 2)

bushes. Something strange happened to both of them that night. They were found just outside of the cemetery gates the next morning looking pale, almost dead and mumbling incoherent words. As the days passed they seemed to revive a bit but the boy was never "right" again, as they say. The girl never had another good night's sleep again the rest of her life. Every night little Mary Evelyn would come to visit her by her bedside.

The next tale is that of Sleepy Hollow Road.

## Aces

(Continued from 2)

lieve such gene splicing and de-extinction processes would be less complex that signing up for Medicare.

It should be so simple. It should be the most simple thing a human has to do. "Please sign here, sir." There! That should do it! Oh but no! Government is involved.

Since I began thinking I have the task in my near future of joining the Medicare system, I have been invited to public community meetings to discuss the nearly infinite options involved. If you need a community-wide meeting with expert speakers and overhead displays to sign up for something, it has to be run by government.

I have a distant relative who has spent his life studying the intricacies involved in signing up for Medicare. I have received letters telling me to watch videos concerning the process of signing up for Medicare. I have been warned by professional CPAs that I have to be very careful how I approach Medicare. And I have discovered that apparently if I don't cross every "T" and dot every "I" and choose every option correctly, that I could cost myself thousands and thousands of dollars every year. But all

I have to do it watch these videos.

Somehow they think I am going to navigate through all this process but I haven't yet figured out how to make the videos play on my screen.

This is the scariest process I have ever approached. Professionals at every level are telling me the rest of my life hangs in the balance and depends upon what boxes I check and what I do when signing up for Medicare. There shouldn't even be any need for "professional" Medicare experts. It should be "please sign here, sir." Instead, because government is involved, people have had to spend their entire life studying the subject and even they still don't understand it all.

I believe the most destructive force in America has become bureaucracy. Unfortunately, state and federal government embrace and bow to bureaucracy as if it were the Fonz at Al's Diner.

Anyway, wish me luck. I guess I have to try to sign up soon and it appears that it is going to be tremendously difficult. They apparently expect me to navigate my way through this process that life-long experts don't understand. They must not be aware that my wife has to show me how to use a new coffee pot.

## Rockcastle Community Bulletin Board

### Rockcastle County Bookmobile Schedule

**Monday, November 4th:** Brodhead and Copper Creek.  
**Tuesday, November 5th:** Green Hill, Fairview, Brindle Ridge.  
**Wednesday, November 6th:** Senior Citizens/Adult Day Health, Wayne Stewart Center.

### Health Department Closings

The Rockcastle County Health Department will be closed on November 5, 2024 for the Presidential Election. We will be open at 8 a.m. on November 6, 2024. The department will also be closed on November 11, 2024 in observance of Veterans Day. Re-open 8 a.m. Nov. 12th.

### TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

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

### Vietnam Veterans Meeting Date

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

### Weekly Grief Support Group

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

### Kiwanis Club Meeting Location Update

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

### Chamber of Commerce Meetings

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

### VFW Post 5908

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

### DAR Meetings

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

### Rockcastle Historical Society & Museum

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

### Mt. Vernon Lions Club

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

### American Legion Post News

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

### Rockcastle UNITE Coalition

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

### Celebrate Recovery/AA/NA

**Monday-Celebrate Recovery-Brodhead:** Community Outreach Center, Monday, 6 p.m. 36 Castle Village Dr., Brodhead, Ky. Contact: Nathan DeLeon 859-230-9590, Kathryn Pope 606-308-3099.

**Tuesday-Celebrate Recovery-Mt. Vernon:** Northside Baptist Church, 777 Faith Mountain Rd., Mt. Vernon, Ky. Tuesday, 6 p.m. Contact: J.R. Cornelius 859-314-7828.

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

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

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

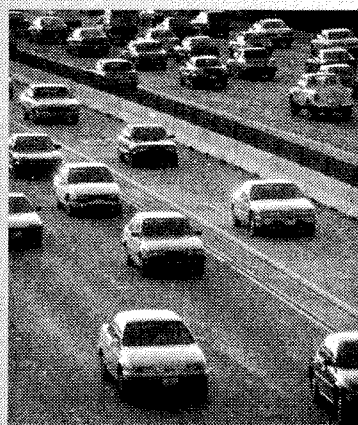
**Thursday-Alcohol Anonymous-Brodhead:** 7 p.m. 75 East Main St., Mt. Vernon, Ky. Contact: 606-308-8900. Please park in the Coffey & Ford parking lot.

**Sunday - Celebrate Recovery Step Studies-Men Only.**

6 p.m. Northside Baptist Church, 777 Faith Mountain Rd., Mt. Vernon, Ky. Contact: Jason DeBord 606-386-0646 or J.R. Cornelius 859-314-7828.

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# Obituaries



## Diana Gale Stewart

Diana Gale Stewart, 59, of Mt Vernon, died Sunday, October 27, 2024, at her daughter's home in Mt Vernon. She was born June 15, 1965, in Berea, a daughter of the late Thomas and Lonnie (Blackburn) Denney. On July 12, 1987, Diana married Allan (Tubb) Stewart, and they enjoyed 31 years together until his passing in 2019.



She loved shopping, sewing, and spending time with friends and family.

Those left to mourn her passing include: her daughter, Wendy Davidson (Michael Baker) of Mt Vernon; four grandchildren, Carlee and Korie Davidson, and Austin and Aubrey Baker; two sisters, Sue Ann Denney (Johnnie Bond) of London, and Darlene Denney (Stanley Pittman) of Mt Vernon; as well as a host of friends and family.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by: her husband, Allan (Tubb) Stewart; two brothers, Rocky and James Denney; and one sister, Patsy Denney.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, October 31, 2024 at Owens Chapel starting at 1 p.m. with Bro. James Carpenter officiating. Burial will follow in Stewart Family Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to Marvin Owens Home for Funerals.

## Linda Hayes

Linda Hayes, 79, of Mt Vernon, died Monday, October 21, 2024 at her home. She was born December 8, 1944, in Mt Vernon. Her parents were William and Ollie Peters Sowder. She was united in marriage to Donald Ray Hayes on December 2, 1959. From that union came three children, Sharon, Alvin and Brenda.



She was a member of Climax Christian Church. She loved working in her flower gardens, but the thing she loved the most

was her grandchildren and spending time with family.

Those left to mourn her passing are: her children, Sharon (Robbin) Bishop of Mt Vernon; Lloyd Alvin Hayes of Springfield, and Brenda F. Hayes of Mt Vernon; her grandchildren, Jessica Hayes of Nicholasville, Quenton Bishop of Richmond, Pamela Shackelford, and Billy Joe "BJ" Shackelford; great grandchildren, Ella and Violet Goldey of Nicholasville; a special cousin, Bobby Robinson; brother and sister-in-law, Daisy and Joe Kirby; and sister-in-law, Marie Hayes.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by: her husband of 49 years, Donald Ray Hayes; brothers, Ed and Charles; and sisters, Lucille, Christine, Elizabeth and Beulah.

Graveside services were held Thursday, October 24, 2024 at Merritt Cemetery with Bro. Ron Lutes officiating. Arrangements were entrusted to Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals.

In Lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St Jude's Children Hospital.

## Hand-to-Eye Audit

Pursuant to KRS 117.383(8), to validate the accuracy and fidelity of the vote tabulation, the Rockcastle County Board of Elections will conduct a hand-to-eye audit of the votes cast in ONE randomly selected race from ballots tabulated by ONE randomly selected scanner on November 7, 2024. The Secretary of State will randomly select the race and scanner to be the subject of the audit on November 6 at 9p.m. and notify each county that same day.

This audit will take place at 9AM in the 3rd Floor Fiscal Court Conference Room of Rockcastle County Courthouse located at 205 East Main Street, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456. The public may observe the audit.

## Rockcastle County Clerk Notice

A copy of the complete audit report, including financial statements and supplemental information, is on file at the County Clerk's office and is available for public inspection during normal business hours. Any citizen who wishes may obtain from the County Clerk's office a copy of the complete audit report, including financial statements and supplemental information, for his/her personal use. Those who wish to obtain a copy for personal use will be charged for duplication costs at a rate that shall not exceed twenty five cents (\$0.25) per page. Copies of the financial statement prepared in accordance with KRS 424.220 is available to the public at no cost at the business address of the officer responsible for preparation of the statement.

Rockcastle County Clerk  
205 East Main Street • Box 6  
Mount Vernon, KY 40456  
(606)-256-2831 • Danetta Ford Allen, Clerk

## Patricia Sue Mckinney

Patricia Sue Mckinney, 78, of Brodhead, died Saturday, October 26, 2024, at her son's home in Corbin. She was born October 23, 1946, in Brodhead. She was the daughter of Frank and Fannie (Capps) Mays. She was united in marriage to Bobby Ray Mckinney on April 17, 1965. From that union came one child, Bobby Chris Mckinney.

She was a member of Freedom Baptist Church. Pat was a Beautician for many years, she was also a bus driver for Rockcastle Schools. She enjoyed farming, cooking, and U.K. basketball. She loved spending time with family, and she was a caregiver to everyone she loved.

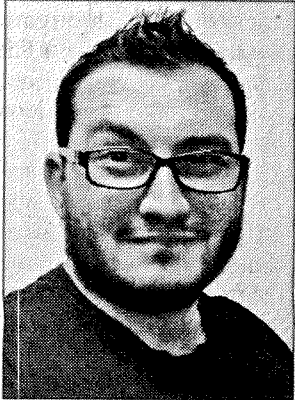
Those left to mourn her passing are: her son, Bobby Chris Mckinney (Janice Perkins) of Corbin; a grandchild, Tasha Hubbs of Corbin; great grandchildren, Tyler Hubbs of Corbin, and Jonathan Hubbs of Corbin; one sister, Georgia Thomas of Ohio; a special nephew, Scott Mays (Becky) of Brodhead; a special niece, Jodi Carpenter (David) of Brodhead; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, friends and family.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by: her husband of 55 years, Bobby Ray Mckinney; two brothers, Melvin Mays, and Wesley Mays; two sisters, Lois Callahan and Herschelene Durham; and one infant brother and sister.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at Marvin Owens Chapel with Bro. Barry Hurst officiating. Burial was in Freedom Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals.

## Austin King

Austin Taylor "Cookie" King, 29, of Richmond, died Thursday, October 17, 2024. He was born in Richmond on January 9, 1995, the son of Kevin Wayne King and Tammy Michelle McGuire. He was the owner/operator of Kingz-Tech Information Technology Company and was an avid video gamer. He also enjoyed lifting weights, listening to music, comic books and movies, building computers, and collecting knives and swords. His greatest love, however, was his world, his daughter, Elliana.



In addition to his only daughter, Elliana Monroe King, he is survived by: his mother, Tammy McGuire of Mt. Vernon; his devoted companion, Eliza Leanne Mason of Livingston; his paternal grandmother, Billie Jo Dandeneau; his uncle, Tim McGuire and wife Tricia; his aunt, Kelly Muschong and husband Fred; and a special cousin, Terina McGuire Buttry and husband William Dean. Also surviving are: his dearest friends, Lester Feltner, Chase McGuire, Caymen McClure, Zach Reams, Noah Reams, Chris Decker, Jacob Bussell, Adam Young, Warren Mullins, Zack King, Hunter "Sausage" VanGrinsven, HoLam "Brandon" Lai, Clarke Rowe, Brandon Lily, and Chris Miller; as well as several other cousins, family members, and friends.

He was preceded in death by: his father, Kevin W. King; his maternal "Mamaw and Paw", Gary "Juicy" and Roberta Newcomb McGuire; his paternal grandfather, Milton S. "Stan" King; and his paternal step-grandfather, Richard J. "Dick" Dandeneau.

Celebration of Life services were conducted Saturday, October 26, 2024 at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home Chapel by Bro. Jason Medley.

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



## Let the Bible Speak

Tune in to "Let the Bible Speak," with Brett Hickey, on Sunday mornings at 6:30 a.m. on WDKY Fox TV **Revival at Livingston Pentecostal**

Livingston Pentecostal Holiness Church will hold Revival Services Friday, November 1st thru Sunday, November 3rd.

Services on Friday and Saturday will begin at 7 p.m. and on Sunday at 11 a.m.

Bro. Ron Oplinger will be the evangelist.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend and hear the Word of God.

## Trunk or Treat at Cupps Chapel

Cupps Chapel Holiness Church is having a Trunk or Treat for the children on Thursday, October 31st (tonight) from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

The church is located at 2808 Copper Creek Road, Brodhead.

Everyone welcome.

## Card of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone for their support and condolences during the illness and passing of our loved one.

For the wonderful calls, cards, food, flowers and comforting words, the staff at U.K. Emergency Dept. for their support and kindness, Mt. Vernon Fuel Center and staff for the food and friendship (after the funeral also) we thank you.

We would also like to thank Diann Cundiff for her help and, most of all, we would like to thank Dowell and Martin Funeral Home for their professionalism and superior service and Sparks Flowers and More for their beautiful arrangement for the casket.

*The Philbeck Family*

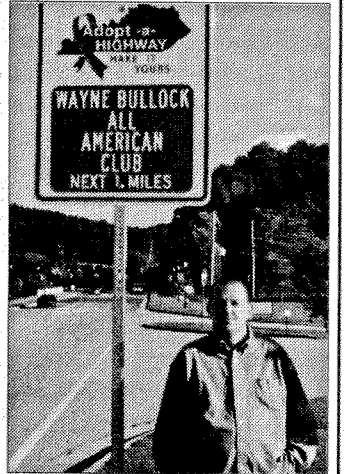
## Vote For and Re-Elect



## Wayne Bullock

Mount Vernon City Council

30 Years in Office



Paid for by Wayne Bullock

## The Friday Night Gospel Singing Proudly Presents!



Free Admission

November 1st at 6pm  
9174 Main Street Livingston KY.

## The potter and the clay!

Jeremiah the prophet was known as the weeping prophet, he was a true prophet of God. He was constantly trying to preach to the Jewish people that they needed to turn from their idols and serve God. In Jeremiah chapter 18 and 19 we read how God used a potter and clay to illustrate to Jeremiah what was happening to Isreal was God transforming them into what they needed to be to be pleasing unto him. The potter has power over the clay, the clay has no power over the potter.

So, it is with God and his people. Isreal had turned their back upon God time and time and time again. Jeremiah was preaching to them as instructed by God and they became so stiff necked and rebellious they wanted to kill Jeremiah. You've heard the expression if you don't like the message, shoot the messenger. Jeremiah 18:6 says, O house of Isreal, cannot I do with you as this potter? Saith the Lord, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you mine hand, O house of Isreal. V 7 At what instant I shall I speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck it up, and to pull it down, and to destroy it; V 8 If that nation, against whom I pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them, V 9 And at what instant shall I speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it, V10 If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.

V 11 Now therefore go to, speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, thus saith the Lord; Behold, I framed evil against you: and devise a device against you: return you now everyone from his evil ways and make your ways and your doings good. I want you to notice

V 12 Ask yourself if this sounds formular, and they said, there is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart. Chapter 19:15 tells us, Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God Isreal; Behold, I will bring upon this city and upon all her towns all the evil that I have pronounced against it, because they have hardened their necks, that they might not hear my words.

Paul sums these thoughts up in Romans 9:20 by saying, Nay but, O man, who art thou that questions God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, why hast they made me this way?

Everyone Welcome  
Robby Cable - 606-305-8452

109 Providence Cemetery Rd. • Brodhead

Providence CHURCH of CHRIST

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



## Induct

(Continued from front) cess. "It takes two years of planning for these induction ceremonies and I want to thank all my staff, the board of directors, our sponsors and volunteers and their families as well as all our past inductees," she said. Blankenship said she was proud to take part in the induction of the latest inductees saying "this is the finest that Kentucky has to offer."

Officials at the Hall of Fame opened the doors of the center Sunday afternoon to display the 12 displays for each of the new inductees.

Inducted at this year's ceremony were: Black Stone Cherry, rock musicians and singer/songwriters; Rodney Griffin, Gospel singer/songwriter; Bobby Mackey, singer/songwriter and honkey tonk owner; Paul Martin, bass guitarist, producer and singer/songwriter; Jimmy Mattingly, fiddle player; the McClain Family Band, bluegrass musicians; Billy Moore, sound engineer; Ruble Sanderson, owner of Legends Corner, Second Fiddle and The Stage; Sturgill Simpson, multi-genre singer/songwriter; Charlie Sizemore, bluegrass musician, singer/songwriter; Karl Shannon, radio personality and Gary Stewart, country music singer/songwriter.

Special guests at the event include Rockland Road, Dean Dillon, Kentucky Headhunters, Exile, Danny McBride and Steve Wariner.

Two guitars, signed by all participants, were auctioned raising \$8,000 for the Hall of Fame and Black Stone Cherry held a Bottle Signing at Great Spirits with all proceeds going to the Sanders Music Fund.

Plans have already begun for the next induction ceremony. "We love what we do because music changes lives," said Blankenship."

## Fatal

(Continued from front) car.

Mount Vernon police have enlisted the assistance of the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department Accident reconstruction Force to investigate the incident. Sheriff's Detective Sam Brock, expert technician with the force, says he was assisted at the scene by Trooper Corey Jones with the Kentucky State Police, and the Mount Vernon Police Department along with the Mount Vernon Fire Department, Rockcastle EMS, Rockcastle Emergency Management and the Laurel County Coroner's office.

The roadway was blocked for about an hour and traffic diverted around the scene.

The crash is still under investigation.

Miller was not injured in the incident.

## Time

(Continued from front) was introduced in 2021 and unanimously passed the United States Senate but was never brought to the house floor for a vote.

According to several sources, the time change happens at 2 a.m. on Sunday because when DST was established originally in 1918, no trains departed the station at 2 a.m. on Sundays. Therefore, the change would

cause the least disruption at that time. DST was ended shortly after it was introduced in 1918 but then established permanently in 1966 as a way to save energy and fossil fuels under the "Sunshine Protection Act."

The issue of ending the time change is typically discussed among lawmakers each year but no legislation is currently pending to do away with the time change.

This year's DST will end on November 3.

## Weapon

(Continued from front) of his cruiser.

Officer King then re-entered the jail to add the charge of possession of a handgun by a convicted felon to Biggs' charges.

More than a month later, on October 22, a citation says Biggs walked up to the front of a home on Purr Rigsby Road, carrying a stick. When the occupant came to the front door, Biggs apparently said, "I am going to lay down my weapon because I don't want any trouble." The citation says Biggs then asked for a cigarette. The resident told Biggs to move on and he complied. However, the occupant of the home then apparently followed Biggs and called 911.

KSP Trooper Ben Allen responded to the call, locating Biggs near a cornfield. Biggs, began to run as Allen approached and when Allen yelled that he would take Biggs, the citation says, Biggs stopped some distance away. As the officer approached Biggs, he began to run again until Trooper Allen caught him and a fight ensued.

According to the citation, the scuffle lasted for some time with Biggs allegedly reaching for the officer's firearm at one point. As the fight continued, a landowner near the scene witnessed the scuffle and then helped the officer gain control of Biggs and get handcuffs on him.

According to the citation, Biggs complained the handcuffs were cutting into his wrists and Allen then placed the handcuffs on Biggs in front of his body.

However, when the trooper arrived at the jail to deliver Biggs, he discovered the handcuffs had been removed and were lying on the seat of the cruiser.

The citation also says Biggs told the officer he had dropped a .22 revolver on the ground during the earlier foot chase. The officer returned to the scene to retrieve the gun.

Biggs was taken into the Rockcastle County Detention Center where he was charged with public intoxication, fleeing and/or evading police, assault of a police officer in the third degree, resisting arrest, attempted escape and possession of a handgun by a convicted felon.

No bond was set at press time.

## Captured

(Continued from front)

license in possession, failure to maintain insurance, no insurance card, illegal use of a police radio, possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to transfer a vehicle.

A bench warrant issued in January of 2019 charges Whitt with fourth degree assault and a bench warrant dated as

April of 2019 charges him with improper passing, reckless driving, operating a vehicle on suspended or revoked license, failure to maintain proper insurance, criminal mischief, wanton endangerment, leaving the scene of an accident and two counts of failure to report an accident.

A uniform citation issued on November 26, 2018 listed Whitt in contempt of court and another citation issued on December 13, 2018 charges Whitt for failure to appear.

An Indictment Warrant issued May 22, 2019 charges Whitt with escape in the third degree and being a persistent felon. A citation dated May 13, 2019 charges Whitt with escape in the second degree and being a persistent felon.

Officials say the Kentucky State Police have posted photos of Whitt occasionally to social media while continuing their search for him. Detective Ryan Loudermilk continued the search since the escape. However, thanks to the continuing investigation, police spotted Whitt at a local Pizza Hut and made the arrest without incident last week.

"He has been gone since before I even got here," said Jailer Nathan Carter. "But they never give up and now he is back in his cell."

## Vote

(Continued from front)

early at the Rockcastle County Courthouse today from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and tomorrow (Friday, No-

vember 1) from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, (November 2) from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5 and voters may cast their ballot at any of five locations from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on that day.

The five locations where voters may vote on Election Day are the Rockcastle County Courthouse, Mount Vernon Elementary, Brodhead Elementary, Livingston Volunteer Fire Department and Roundstone Elementary School.

Officials say they expect a high voter turnout this year since the election includes a Presidential race as well as several local and state races that affect Rockcastle County and all three cities inside the county.

Mount Vernon voters will see 11 candidates running for the office of Mount Vernon City Council and voters in Livingston will see two candidates for Mayor. Write-in candidate Melissa Hahn has announced she is withdrawing from the race for mayor due to family reasons leaving two candidates.

Rockcastle voters also have a Democrat and a Republican candidate for the office of Kentucky State Representative.

There are also two amendments to the Kentucky Constitution and a question concerning medical cannabis for voters in Mount Vernon on the ballot that are expected to slow the process more than usual.

All voters must have a valid photo identification with them in order to vote.

## Pastor Appreciation

Crab Orchard Pentecostal Church would like to thank Bro and Sister Eugene Webb for all they do for us!!! They have been a blessing to us!! We do love and appreciate them from the bottom of our hearts. We thank the good Lord for them!



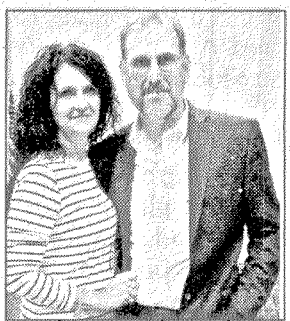
## Pastor Appreciation

First Christian Church would like to thank our pastor, Bro. Richie Smith for all he does for our church. You are truly a servant after God's own heart. We are blessed to have you and thank God for you.



## Pastor Appreciation

Pine Hill Baptist Church celebrated Pastor Appreciation Month on Sunday evening, October 27, with a cake and ice cream fellowship. We love and appreciate Bro. Clyde & Tonya Miller and are so blessed to have had them with us for the past 14 years.



## Pastor Appreciation

We would like to say thank you and we appreciate all you do for our church and the congregation....we love you ...May God continue to bless you all your days...



## Coat and Toy Drive underway now

It is once again time to help those in need during the holiday season. The annual Cash Express Coat and Toy Drive is underway.

Organizers invite everyone in the celebration of giving as officials pair up with a charity in the community

to become a blessing to families.

Organizers will be accepting coats, toys, shoes (washable) clothing and non perishable food items in many drop off locations in the area.

Donations must be re-

ceived by December 15 in order to have them delivered in time for Christmas.

Officials of the event say they are working with schools and plan to provide a pizza party to the class in each grade that collects the most.

There will also be bake sales on November 1 and November 15 from 9:30 to 5:30 and on December 3 from 9-5 at the 75 S. Wilderness Road location in Mount Vernon. For info call 606-256-0886.

### Ordinance #2024-6

#### AN ORDINANCE LEVYING THE ANNUAL AD VALOREM TAX FOR CITY PURPOSES IN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF MT. VERNON, KENTUCKY

**WHEREAS**, Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS) 92.280 requires that the legislative body of each city annually levy an ad valorem tax for city purposes, and;  
**WHEREAS**, KRS 92.330 requires that all taxes be levied by ordinance, and;  
**WHEREAS**, KRS 83A.130 requires that the legislative body, by ordinance provide for sufficient revenue to operate city government, and;  
**WHEREAS**, the city has calculated the tax rate(s) for real and personal property in accordance with KRS chapter 132.  
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the City of Mt. Vernon, Kentucky as follows:

##### SECTION ONE: TAX LEVY – Real estate and personal property.

- A. An ad valorem tax rate of .1466 cents on each \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) assessed value of real property subject to taxation under the laws of the State of Kentucky is hereby levied for city purposes.
- B. An ad valorem tax rate of .1466 cents on each \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) assessed value of personal property subject to taxation under the laws of the State of Kentucky is hereby levied for city purposes.

##### SECTION TWO: DUE DATE, PAYMENT, DISCOUNT AND PENALTY

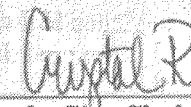
All said taxes shall be due and payable at the City Offices as set forth on the tax bill. Taxes paid prior to the due dates shall receive a Two percent (2%) discount. Taxes paid up to thirty (30) days after the due date shall be at face amount. Taxes paid more than thirty (30) days after the due date shall be charged Ten percent (10%) penalty.

##### SECTION THREE: EFFECTIVE DATE AND USE THEREOF

This ordinance applies to the 2024 calendar year tax assessment and all receipts shall be used for city purposes and accounted in the 2025 fiscal year and subsequent fiscal years in reference to delinquent collections.

Adopted this the 9th day October, 2024.

  
Tim Roberts, Mayor

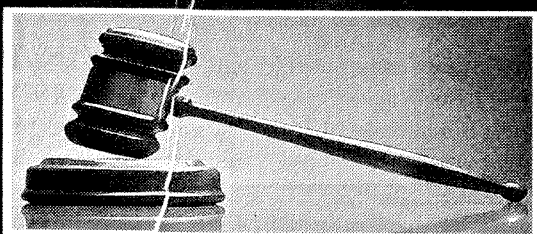
  
Crystal Rush, City Clerk

October 9, 2024  
Date of first reading

October 17, 2024  
Date of second reading



# News from the Rockcastle Courthouse



## Deeds Recorded

Bentley and Bobbie Ann Durham, property in McCall Knob Subdivision, to Forest and Betty Jo McGuire. \$15 tax

Bentley and Bobbie Ann Durham, property in McCall Knob Subdv., to Darren and Mary Waugh. Tax \$39

John G. and Connie Hamm and John and Sheila Clontz, property in Castle Ridge Subdv., to OBH Renovation Management, LLC.

Joshua Smith and Jason Smith, co-executors, and others, property on Walt Smith Street, to Ernest Aaron and Kelly Ann Mobley.

Tim and Jessica Alexander, property on Clyde Barnett Road (Woodson plat), to Joel Miguel and Lenora F. Inocencio. Tax \$325

Freeman and Kathy A. Robinson, property in Dusty Trails Subdv., to Frankie and Lora S. Baker. Tax \$30

Cody and Rebecca Shuart, property in Rockcastle County, to Aaron and Amy Caldwell. Tax \$3

Andrew and Sasha Cromer, property in Rockcastle County, to Robert Zachary and Alivia Walker. Tax \$20

John G. and Connie Hamm and John and sheila Clontz, property in Castle Ridge Subdv., to Steven and Kimberly Hunter. Tax \$15

Darlene Pensol and Zachary Pensol, property in Rockcastle County, to Danny and Gaylen Settles.

Bonnie Jean Land and Vicky Ann and Jerry Hubbard, property in Rpeclastle County, to Clara A. and Eli Powell. Tax \$100

Judy Martin, Josh and Brooklyn Martin and Justin and Rebecca Martin, property on KY 2614, to Josh and Brooklyn Martin. Tax \$10

Mark and Deanna Carpenter, property in Lear Crest Subdv., to Jeremy and Alfreda Caldwell. Tax \$15

Mark and Deanna Carpenter, property in Lear Crest Subdv., to Jeremy and Alfreda Caldwell. Tax \$225

Rita Payne, property in Pine Valley Estates, to Rick and Amber Payne. Tax \$11

JRJ Rentals, LLC, property on Albright St., to Shannon and Michelle McCormick. Tax \$32

Kenneth and Rachel Ballinger, property in Rockcastle County, to Phillip Michael and Jessica McFerron. Tax \$30

Floyd and Carolyn Bradley, property in Rockcastle Co. to Tammy Cash.

Connie L. Williams, property on Lambert Road, to Michael Alan Brown. Tax \$42.50

Doug and Rhonda Prewitt, property in Rockcastle County, to Andrew and Patricia Hayes. Tax \$160

Mikah and Danielle Reams, Delia Sue Reams-Mays and Richard Mays and Jared Reams, property in Benton Bullock Freedom School Road, to Roger and Rebecca Isaacs. Tax \$13

Golden Investments LLC, property in Rockcastle County, to

WW Investments, LLC. Tax \$194

Jack and Sharon Dawn Stallsworth, property in Benton Bullock Freedom School Road, to George and Renee Bauer. Tax \$58

George and Renee Bauer, property in Benton Bullock Freedom School Road, to Brenda Duerson, Trustee. Tax \$95

Tina D. and Jessie Dale Doan, property in Bowling Ridge Subdv., to Billnita and Jonathan Collins. Tax \$30

**Marriage Licenses**  
Amanda Carol North, 43, Somerset, stay-at-home mom and Wendell Dustin Sizemore, 36, Somerset, unemployed. 10/7/24

Veronica Mere Solis, 31, Mt. Vernon, order filler and Sean Michael Tritt, 38, Mt. Vernon, order filler. 10/7/24

Celeste Maxine Edwards, 47, Mt. Vernon, CNA and Jason Matthew Hoblit, 43, Mt. Vernon, construction. 10/10/24

Shyann Leesha Bowling, 32, Brodhead, general clerk to Geoffrey Paul Vanhook, 35, Brodhead, carpenter. 10/10/24

Sharly Raven Dees, 28, Mt. Vernon, general clerk and Joshua William Ballard, 38, Mt. Vernon, factory. 10/11/24

Hannah Noelle Prewitt, 27, Mt. Vernon, program assistant and Ryan Patrick Winstead, 25, Mt. Vernon, HVAC. 10/17/24

Megan Danielle Neikirk, 32, Brodhead, medical assistant and Roger Shane Rowe, 36, Mt. Vernon, general manager. 10/18/24

Destiny Cheyenne Brogan, 24, Crab Orchard, homemaker and Tanner Matias Carrera, 24, Mt. Vernon, HVAC. 10/21/24

Destiny Hope Adams, 20, Brodhead, student and Rylee Hobbs DeLeon, 22, Mt. Vernon, construction. 10/23/24

Angel Elizabeth Turner, 22, Brodhead, daycare worker and James Darrell Houk, 24, Mt. Vernon, fast food. 10/25/24

## District Civil Suits

Patricia Weaver v Lucinda Isaacs McFerron, et al, forcible detainer complaint.

LVNV Funding, LLC v Jack Collins, \$1,756 plus claimed due.

Portfolio Recovery Asso., LLC v Kelsey Nelson, \$1,937 plus claimed due.

LVNV Funding, LLC v Matthew Blevins, \$2,051 plus claimed due.

Forsythe Finance, LLC v Lindsey Carpenter, \$2,850 plus claimed due.

LVNV Funding, LLC v Melinda Gates, \$1,789 plus claimed due.

LVNV Funding, LLC v. Anita VanWinkle, \$1,569 plus claimed due.

Mariner Finance, LLC v Megan Kidwell, \$1,407 plus claimed due.

Capital One v. Linda VanWinkle, \$3,154 plus claimed due.

Midland Credit Mgmt., Inc. v. Tommy Oliver, \$790 plus claimed due.

Denali Capital, LLC v. Katelyn O'Bannon, \$972 plus claimed due.

Denali Capital, LLC v.

Paul Ball, \$2,325 plus claimed due.

Cash Express, LLC v: Raymond Carpenter, \$627 plus claimed due; George Carpenter, \$126 plus claimed due; Stephanie Cameron, \$126 plus claimed due; Kelli Cain, \$586 plus claimed due; Amber Estes, \$637 plus claimed due; Richard Emery -III, \$260 plus claimed due; Lukas Emerson, \$318 plus claimed due; Kimberly Dozier, \$486 plus claimed due; Janie Bowman, \$318 plus claimed due and Melissa Bishop, \$435 plus claimed due.

Anesthesia Services PLLC v. Lesley Burdette, \$659 plus claimed due

LVNV Funding, LLC v. Eva Hume, \$1,270 plus claimed due.

Synchrony Bank v. Irene Blair, \$3,050 plus claimed due.

Midland Credit Management, Inc. v. Stacy Creech, \$710 plus claimed due.

LVNV Funding, Inc. v. Bonnie Thatcher, \$1,377 plus claimed due.

Laurel Financial Co. v. David W. Martin, \$846 plus claimed due.

Portfolio Recovery Asso., LLC v. Randall Cromer, \$1,069 plus claimed due.

Portfolio Recovery Asso., LLC v. Ashley Newland, \$1,901 plus claimed due.

Discover Bank v. Jasmine Barron, \$1,652 plus claimed due.

Discover Bank v. Amanda N. Roark, \$1,996 plus claimed due.

## Circuit Civil Suits

United Financial Casualty Co. v. Windstream Communications, complaint.

Susie Catchen v. Rockcastle Riverside Campground, LLC, et al, damages claimed due.

Dylan Belt v. Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Care, complaint.

21st Mortgage Corp. v. Melody Reed, et al, complaint.

Whitaker Bank, Inc. v. Jason Childress, et al, complaint.

Travis Logan Hensley v. Rebekah DeBorde, verified petition for custody.

Destiny Linville v. Shane Linville, Jr., petition for dissolution of marriage.

Alfreda Caldwell v Zachary Taylor, et al, complaint.

Teresa Hesson v. Michael Kevin Rowe, M.D., et al, complaint.

Betty Hunt, et al v. Amanda Gault, complaint.

Deanna Lynn Sowder v. David Ray Sowder, petition for dissolution of marriage.

US Bank National Asso. v. Gregory Sartin, et al, complaint.

Cabinet for Families and Children v. Robert E. Hobson, Jr., complaint.

Commonwealth of Kentucky v. Brittany Lear, complain for child support and medical support.

Republic Finance, LLC v. Larry Phipps, \$12,133 plus claimed due.

Discover Bank v. Eric Thacker, \$5,204 plus claimed due.

Synchrony Bank v. Irene A. Blair, \$5,210 plus claimed due. CI-00271

## District Court

Oct. 16-23, 2024

**Hon. Benjamin Hardy**  
Pablo A. Aguilar Gonzalez: driving motor vehicle, Part 391 Fed Safety Regs-Qualifications of Drivers, operating on suspended/revoked operators license, bench warrant (bw) issued for failure to appear (fta).

Amy D. Case: theft by unlawful taking, 90 days in jail/probated two years on condition/costs waived/restitution if required.

Rayquan L. Minor: fines/fees due (\$185), four days in jail or payment in full.

Christopher Dustin Smith: alcohol intoxication in a public place, \$50 fine plus costs.

Failure to wear seat belts: Abdirashid Mohamed Abdi, Tatyana Marie Buckner, Christopher Lee Downie, Kyle J. Daniels, Arthur Lee Eason, Gregory Allen Manley, Nemon Lamar Smith, Herbert Jamie Thomas, license suspended for fta; Daiyrbek Murzamdram Ismanaliev, paid;

Speeding: Bernadette C Caballero, Calvin E. Green, Jasmine L. Patterson, Michael Rene Reynolds, Greg Wilson Hasenyager, James Allen Beck, Nikhil V. Bhadane, Aaron Fredrick Poss, Brandon Lee Spradlin, license suspended for fta; Michael Scott Mobley, \$32 fine plus costs; Shelby Wade Byrd, speeding (19 mph over limit)/amended to 10 mph over limit, \$20 fine plus costs; Jason M. Smith, \$34 fine plus costs; Joshua John Miller, paid; Briana Machell Creech, \$40 fine plus costs; Oscar Mauricio Sants, \$50 fine plus costs; Kristina M. Bush, \$10 fine plus costs;

Brandon C. Stinson: failure to wear seat belts, Part 391 of Fed Safety Regs-Qualification of drivers, Viol Part 390 Federal Safety Regs-General Policy, no/expired registration plates - receipt, license suspended for fta.

Michael Glenn Whitt: Careless driving, \$50 fine plus costs; disregarding traffic regulation, \$50 fine.

Chasity H. Wilkerson: controlled substance prescription not in original container, \$100 fine plus costs.

Bawandeep Singh: Viol Part 392, Fed Safety Reg. Driving of Motor Vehicle (four counts), bw issued for fta.

Bruce Gaige Bowen: speeding, \$50 fine plus costs; failure to produce insurance card, \$25 fine.

Justin L. Bishop: operating motor vehicle under influence of substance/amended to DUI, 2nd offense, 10 days in jail in lieu of fine and costs/credit time served.

Steven E. Collins: following another vehicle too closely, \$25 fine; driving on DUI suspended license, 90 days in jail/probated two years on condition; operating motor vehicle/motorcycle function w/o ignition interlock device, 365 days in jail/probated two years on condition/concurrent.

Christopher Foster: alcohol intoxication in public place and disorderly conduct, 10 days in jail/each count/concurrent/costs waived.

Joshua L. Engle: operating on suspended/revoked operators license - receipt, failure to produce insurance card, bw issued for fta.

Johnathan Patrick Foster: strangulation, 1st degree (amended to assault, 4th degree), enrollment in rehab program no less than six months/costs waived.

Austin McCormick: fleeing or evading police, 60 days in jail/to serve/credit time served/costs waived/concurrent w/any holders.

Shannon York: rear license not illuminated and operating on suspended/revoked operators license, bw issued for fta.

Melvin Thomas Haskins: Viol Part 392, Fed Safety Reg, Driving

(Continued on A7)

## Ordinance #2024-7

**An Ordinance levying the annual ad valorem tax on motor vehicles for city purposes in the corporate limits of Mt. Vernon, Kentucky.**

**Whereas,** KRS 83A, 130, 140 and 150 require that the legislative body, by ordinance, provide for sufficient revenue to operate city government, and;

**Whereas,** KRS 132.487 and 132.488 requires submission to the Kentucky Revenue Cabinet prior to October 1 of each year the annual tax rate to be levied on motor vehicles and motorboats.

**Now Therefore Be It Ordained,** by the City of Mt. Vernon, Kentucky as follows:

### Section One: Tax Levy – Motor Vehicles and Motorboats

A. An ad valorem tax rate of 16.7 cents on each \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) assessed value of motor vehicles and motorboats subject to taxation under the laws of the State of Kentucky is hereby levied for city purposes.

### Section Two: Due Date, Payment, Discount and Penalty

A. All ad valorem taxes on motor vehicles and motorboats shall be collected by the Rockcastle County Clerk in accordance with the provisions of KRS 134.800 and other applicable statutes.

B. Ad valorem taxes on motor vehicles and motorboats shall become due and delinquent as set forth in KRS 134.810 and such taxes not paid when due shall be subject to the penalty and interest as specified therein.

Adopted this the 9th day of October, 2024

Tim Roberts, Mayor

Attest:

Crystal Rush, City Clerk

October 9, 2024  
Date of First Reading

October 17, 2024  
Date of Second Reading



## Op Ed

### Vote NO on Amendment 2

I am writing to urge our community to Vote NO on Amendment 2 in the upcoming election.

I love Rockcastle County Schools and I love public education. I cherish Friday Night Lights, listening to our band play our fight song, and jumping every time the Rockets score a touchdown. I am filled with pride watching our FFA students excel in competitions. I am humbled when I hear a senior welding student share their future plans and when I witness the joy in a first grader's eyes as they read an entire book for the first time. I'm inspired when I walk into Rockcastle County Middle School and see a group of young students working together with tools to construct a shelf to be displayed in their school. I appreciate hearing the hopes and dreams of our students, regardless of their age, and I admire the dedication of our staff in nurturing students from Rocket Learners to Rocket Leaders.

Rockcastle County Schools openly welcomes every student who walks through our doors and supports them to reach their fullest capacity. We are a proud community school district, and I want to preserve that spirit. I want my future grandchildren to have the same public school experience that my children have had. I want future generations to experience the pride that comes from being a Rocket. By Voting No on Amendment 2, we can preserve what we love about our community—our public school system.

The proposed amend-

ment requires that 7 sections of Kentucky's constitution be changed to allow public tax dollars to be used to fund private schools. The ramifications of allowing public tax dollars to fund private schools will be extremely detrimental to Rockcastle County Schools, as well as to other rural schools across Kentucky.

As I have researched the impact that Amendment 2 could have on our local school district, I am deeply concerned about the financial constraints we could experience as a result of this amendment. Based on outcomes observed in Florida's voucher system, if Amendment 2 passes, Rockcastle County Schools could face an alarming 18% decrease in our budget. This would equate to cutting 60 teacher jobs and a loss of \$6 million in state funding—devastating consequences for our students and community.

In Kentucky, 52% of private schools are concentrated in just three counties: Jefferson (33%), Fayette (10%), and Kenton (10%). Alarming, nearly half of Kentucky's 120 counties have zero private schools. This disparity means that many families, particularly those in rural areas like Rockcastle County, will suffer from a depletion of resources as public funds are redirected away from our local school district.

Public schools are mandated to serve all students, promoting equity in education for everyone in our community. This in fact is our mission. We see it as an honor to serve all students and work tirelessly to meet the needs of all students enrolled in our school district. Private schools, however, have the ability to select

their students based on criteria that often exclude those from low-income families, students with disabilities, or students facing academic and behavioral challenges. This simply creates a system of haves and have nots.

Private and charter schools operate without the same level of accountability as public schools. They are not required to adhere to state testing, curriculum standards, or financial transparency. They are not required to employ certified teachers. It is imperative that public tax dollars support institutions that are held to high standards of oversight and accountability.

Amendment 2 will NOT increase teacher pay or funding for public schools as stated in TV commercials and in a recent mailer to Rockcastle families. In reality, it will do the exact opposite. It will actively take away resources from our community and force Rockcastle County Schools to make staffing and programing cuts, thereby harming our kids and local schools.

In November, Kentucky voters will have the opportunity to protect our public education system. By Voting NO on Amendment 2, we can ensure that public tax dollars remain right here at home to support our Rockcastle students and not be used to support students in private schools in other parts of our state. Our school district is the backbone of our community and I humbly ask you to Vote NO on Amendment 2 in support of your Rockets.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Carrie Ballinger  
This Letter to the Editor represents the opinions of the individual listed and was written on personal time without the utilization of school resources. The views expressed are solely those of the individual author and do not necessarily represent the views, opinions or positions of any entity or group with which the author is affiliated.

-- Sincerely,  
Dr. Carrie E. Ballinger  
Superintendent,  
Rockcastle County Schools

lamps, no operators/moped license, no/expired registration plates - receipt, operating motor vehicle under influence of substance and four other charges/Rocket Docket plea approved.

Danny Sowder: possession of a controlled substance/Rocket Docket plea approved.

Dustin Smith: possession of a controlled substance/Rocket Docket plea approved.

Calvin R. Cromer: stalking, 365 days in jail/probated 24 months on condition/concurrent/costs and arrest fee waived.

Christopher T. Wstill: speeding, no operators/moped license, operating on suspended/revoked operators license, bw issued for fta.

Christopher Gray: resident hunting/trapping w/ license/permit, \$50 fine; illegal take/pursue deer/wild turkey, \$100 fine plus costs; illegal take/pursue deer/wild turkey, \$100 fine.

David Jones: no operators/moped license, \$100 fine plus costs.

Joshua Wayne Nagel: failure of non-owner operator to maintain req. insurance, \$750 fine plus costs.

Abisai Perez Cruz: failure to wear seat belts, operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol, possess open alcohol beverage container in motor vehicle, no operators/moped license, bw issued for fta.

Tristan K. Cox: speeding and failure to wear seat belts, license suspended for fta.

## District Court

(Continued from A5)

of Motor Vehicle, bw issued for fta.

Kendell D. Jackson: improper use of left lane/overtaking vehicle, license suspended for fta.

Parviz Abdol Nazar: improper lane usage/vehicles keep in right except to pass, license suspended for fta.

Malcom Roddy Smith: Part 396, Fed Safety Regs Inspect/Repair/Maintenance (two counts), bw issued for fta.

Rodney Bryant Stovall: Viol Part 392, Fed Safety Reg, Driving of Motor Vehicle (three counts), bw issued for fta.

Fred Tushabe: improper use of left lane/overtaking vehicle, license suspended for fta.

John Stewart: failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, \$750 fine/costs waived.

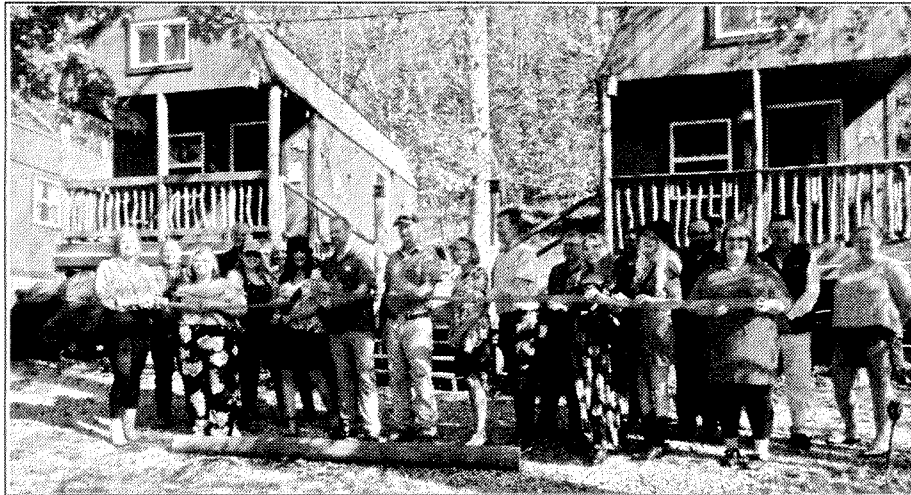
Samantha Cook: bail jumping, 83 days/to serve/credit time served/consecutive/costs waived; hindering prosecution or apprehension, probation violation/stipulating to violation sentence of 170 days imposed/credit time served.

Nathan Gadd: public intoxication controlled sub/stipulation to violation/30 day sentence imposed/credit time served. Additional 335 days probated for two years.

Robin Malee Mason: possession controlled substance, Rocket Docket plea approved.

Jack McCormick: Failure to illuminate head

## New cabins



The Rockcastle Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting at the Fireglow Forest Riverside Campground on May 23rd. A beautiful Fall day brought individuals from Rockcastle, Madison and Laurel Counties to celebrate the opening of four new cabins recently completed by owner, Susan Jones. For information contact Susan Jones at: fireglowcampground@gmail.com. Shown above are Keyla Shubbleheld, Teresa Webb, Jessie Eldridge, Shane Whittmore, Doreen Parsley, Alison Connell, Susan Jones, Gerald Walker, Shawn Harville, Noah Sturgill, Helen McCoy, Steve McKinney, James Renner, Ilka Lunsford, Emiliano Canete, Jeremy Rowe, Wanda Coffey, Anthony Asher, Shawn Griffin, Lynn Tatum (photographer)

## 2023-24 UNITE Clubs of the Year

Operation UNITE has selected 11 UNITE Clubs for their outstanding performance during the 2023-24 school year.

The outstanding school clubs are:

- Brodhead Elementary School, grades 4-5 (Rockcastle County)
- Buckhorn School, grades 9-12 (Perry County)
- Evarts Junior High School, grades 6-8 (Harlan County)
- Feds Creek Elementary School, grades 6-8 (Pike County)
- Harlan (Ind.) High School, grades 9-12 (Harlan County)
- James A. Cawood Elementary School, grades 4-5 (Harlan County)
- Pikeville (Ind.) High School, grades 9-12 (Pike County)
- Prichard Elementary School, grade 4 (Carter County)
- Rockcastle County Middle School, grades 6-8 (Rockcastle County)
- Salyersville Grade School, grade 4 (Magoffin County)
- Waynesburg Elementary School, grades 4-5 (Lincoln County)

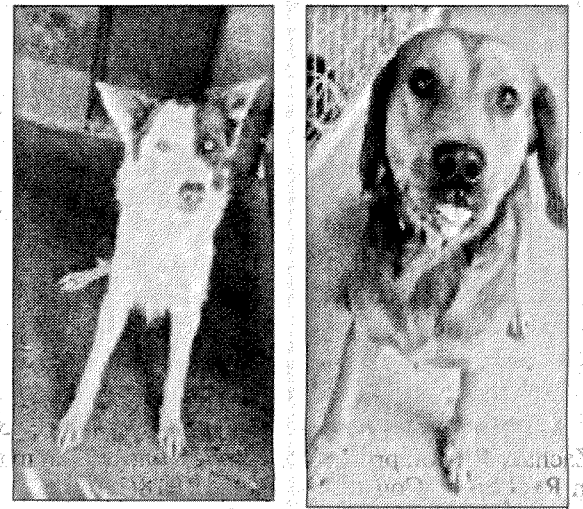
To qualify as a "UNITE Club of the Year," each club was required to submit a scrapbook showcasing their monthly activities, service projects, and

mentoring activities. Scrapbooks were judged in elementary, middle, and high school categories to determine the regional winners.

Winning clubs are eligible to receive up to \$1,000 in additional funding to support substance misuse prevention and activities during the 2024-25 school year.

"There were a record number of students participating in UNITE Clubs last school year," stated Courtney Maynard, UNITE Education Director. "These students participated in many impactful service projects that benefitted not only their schools, but communities."

## Pawfect Pets



This week's installment of Pawfect Pets includes Bunny (left) the 8 month-old female Border Collie who is extremely friendly and Sam, the 1-2 year-old, male hound mix who is also friendly. Anyone interested in adopting one of these pets or any other animal at the Rockcastle County Animal Shelter, should visit the shelter or call 256-1833. There will be a \$20 adoption fee.

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Mount Vernon Signal  
606-256-2244



EAT  
DRINK  
BE  
HEALTHY

Join us for a lunch and learn with clinical dietitians  
Lindsay Gabbard, RDN, LD  
Rebekah Ferguson, RD, LD

Tuesday,  
November 12, 2024  
Marcella's Restaurant  
12 Noon

RSVP to Kaitlyn Stratton  
at (606) 256-7381  
by Friday, November 8.





# SPORTS

## Rockets defeat Knox Central 38-6

**By: Chad Hensley**  
The Rockcastle County High School Rockets football team was able to overturn an early deficit into a comfortable 38-6 victory over archrival Knox Central at Andy Frye Stadium on the campus of Centre College.

The Rockets turned the ball over on the opening kickoff setting up good field position by the Panthers, who would take their time in progressing down the field before scoring with 4:22 left in the opening stanza on a 22-yard pass play to go up 6-0.

It was then that the bear had been poked and awoke from its slumber as the Rockets answered quickly when Caden Lovell connected with Isaiah Jackson on a 24-yard pass play with 2:06 left in the first quarter to tie the game.

Benjamin Brenda then kicked the first of three extra points on the night to give RCHS a lead that it would not relinquish.

"Well, the game didn't start exactly like you would want," said RCHS head coach Chris Larkey when asked about how his team played in the first quarter. "We got the kick-

off and fumbled and turned it over. Eventually they took a 6-0 lead. Our kids didn't panic and played even harder. That's a testament to how hard they work in practice and show much it means to them."

The win over the Panthers (4-5, 1-3) locks up the second seed in Class 3A District 7 for the Rockets (8-1, 3-1) and will guarantee a first-round home game against the Estill County Engineers on Friday, Nov. 8.

"It was a huge win and to go 8-1 so far in the season, and to be runner up is a huge accomplishment, even though we feel we are perhaps the best team in the district," Larkey added. "Anytime you don't have to travel to the other team's place is an advantage. Although we are pretty much paying at a neutral site, at least it's not an away game."

Carter Powell had himself a dandy of a game rushing the ball so having this game at Centre College ahead of a playoff game there can only help familiarize the Rockets with the angles and nuances that a nice, small-college turf facility encompasses.

Powell, a senior full-back, scored back-to-back rushing touchdowns of 17 and four yards, respectively, less than five minutes into the second quarter to extend the Rockets' lead out to 21-6.

A Brenda 36-yard field goal with 0:06.2 remaining in the first half would give the Rockets a 24-6 lead over the Panthers going into halftime.

Powell would tack on a third touchdown with 5:32 left in the third quarter to all but put the game away as the RCHS defense was standing tall against a Panthers rushing attack that had been doing well in their three previous district contests.

Hunter Pingleton tallied the final touchdown for the Rockets when he took the handoff from Lovell and plunged his way into the endzone from 8-yards out.

Powell ended the night with 120 yards rushing on 18 carries and three touchdowns and his performance was masterfully accompanied by that of Jackson, who recorded eight carries for 52 yards as well as three receptions for 68 yards and a touchdown as well as a 2-point conversion.

"I can't talk enough about how Carter and Isaiah have helped each other," Larkey said when asked about the pair complimenting each other's game. "It's so hard to concentrate on one guy. Isaiah being able to be the athlete he is and play both wide receiver and running back opens up so much more. If he gets in the open field, its game over. They both know their roles and what's expected of them."

One such player that is also coming into his own and growing into his role is Lovell at the starting quarterback position. It could have been nerves at the beginning of the season that got to him, but Lovell has been phenomenal taking the snaps and

(Cont. to page 9)



Benjamin Brenda was three-for-three in PAT's during the Rockets' 38-6 win Friday night. Holding for this PAT is Nick Reppert.



Conner Wright returns an interception 40 yards during the Rockets' 38-6 win over Knox Central. The win brings the Rockets' record to 8-1 on the season and will travel to Casey County Friday night for their final regular season game.



The RCMS Golf Team had their best showing to date finishing 5th at the Kentucky Middle School State Championship at Henry County Country Club held Friday, October 18th. Conner "Smoke" Ford defended his title shooting a 68 to win his second consecutive state championship this year. Team members are pictured from left: Ella Ford, Trapper Bray, Parker Cash, Conner Ford, Sawyer Cash and Carson Neeley. The team is coached by John Ford and Jeremy Neely.



Carter Powell picks up yardage during the Rockets' win Friday night. Leading the block is Caden Lovell. Powell had 18 carries for 120 yards with three rushing touchdowns.



Creed Gabbard and Blake Mullins make a tackle during the Rockets' 38-6 win Friday night.



Hannah King, Addy Rush and Addy King were recently named to the 47th District All-Season volleyball team.



“Rockets”

(Cont. from page 8)

commanding the offense. On Friday night, Lovell was 7-for-10 passing for 123 yards and one touchdown. Over the last two games, he has 293 yards on 15-of-21 passing compared to that of 8-for-25 for 188 yards in the first seven games of the season. “We have limited the routes and put in more play action in the passing game,” stated Larkey about what has helped Lovell the last few weeks. “When you have some really good running backs then the play action is go-

ing to be open a lot of times. It’s easy reads and gives Caden a chance to run the ball also if the wide receiver isn’t open. Caden is getting more comfortable in the offense.” Freshman Brayden Thacker carried the ball five times for 47 yards while Pingleton toted the ball seven times for 36 yards and a touchdown. Xavier Leger and Jai Denny both notched four carries with Leger earning 25 yards to Denny’s 16. Lovell and Camden Larkey each scampered for 10 yards with Lovell doing so on two carries to Larkey’s three. In the receptions de-

partment, Pingleton caught two passes for 35 yards while Blake Mullins and Ethan Weaver each recorded a reception with Mullins’ going to 11 yards to Weaver’s nine yards. The defense was one again led by Pingleton, who collected 10 total tackles with two being for being to loss of yardage. Jaydon Bowles had an outstanding game recording seven tackles with one being for loss and a defensive sack. Mullins notched six tackles, three for loss and two sacks. Mullins’ two defensive sacks vaults himself into sole possession of the second-highest amount in all of Class 3A with nine on the season.

In first place in that same category would be fellow RCHS standout defender Creed Gabbard, who recorded three tackles, one for loss, a defensive sack and a forced fumble. Gabbard now has 10 sacks on the season.

Jackson and Powell had strong performances defensively with Jackson recording five tackles to Powell’s four. Jackson also had an interception on the night.

“We held a really good Knox team,” said Larkey’s of his team’s defensive performance. “I was surprised that we did as well as we did. Knox has a good team. It just shows how tough and determined our kids are. One stat that isn’t on there is blocked kicks/punts. We have to be close to some record for that. Our speed on defense is what has set us apart from other teams; plus the unselfishness of our defensive line to allow these guys to go make tackles. Our kids play together as one.”

Lovell recorded three tackles to two each from Leger and Heath Barnes while Colin Hamilton and Connor Wright both had a tackle each. Hamilton had a tackle for loss and Wright recorded an interception from his defensive back position.

Next up is a trip to Liberty to take on a winless Casey County Rebels team that has scored just 14 points all season and given up 419 points. Kickoff is slated for 7:30 p.m.

“Casey County had a very good team last year and graduated a lot of kids but still returned 10 seniors,” Larkey emphasized about Casey County heading into this season. “The tough schedule they have and the new coaching change has hurt them a lot this year. We take this game seriously just like we do the others because once you overlook an opponent, it gets easy to overlook another. Casey still has kids competing to win and we will have to go there on senior night and play them knowing it will be their Super Bowl.”

Mount Vernon working on parks, campsite and dock

By: Mike French  
Editor

The Lake Linville Campground has undergone several changes and expansions over the past few years, including the covered area and big changes in the boat dock area. Such renovations and growth is still underway, according to City Administrator Andrew Pensol, and may never stop. Pensol says the city is always looking to expand or improve the campground area.

“We are excited about several projects that we have underway right now,” Pensol said. “The campground improvements are among them.”

According to Pensol, the campground is currently undergoing a full remodeling. “All campsites will have full hook-ups, electric, water and sewer,” he said. “All the sites are being freshly graded and graveled and that part of the project is expected to be completed by the end of the week.”

Pensol said he and city workers are also working with Kentucky Fish and Wildlife seeking a grant to greatly improve the ramp at the boat dock. “We hope to be able to rework the area to lengthen the ramp making it easier to get boats in and out of the water,” he said.

Through current renovations, a few additional campsites have been added. “We are also trying to make enough room for our campers to spread out and have a better experience during their visit,” he said. “The campground is a source of revenue for the city but the main goal here is that we want it to be a nice area that will attract more people to the restaurant as well as the lake and the park.”

The City of Mount Vernon is the owner of the building at the dock and leases it to Back Porch Restaurant. “We are working to make some needed repairs to that building as well,” Pensol said. “The restaurant certainly adds to the enjoyment of those who visit the lake and is a great attraction.”

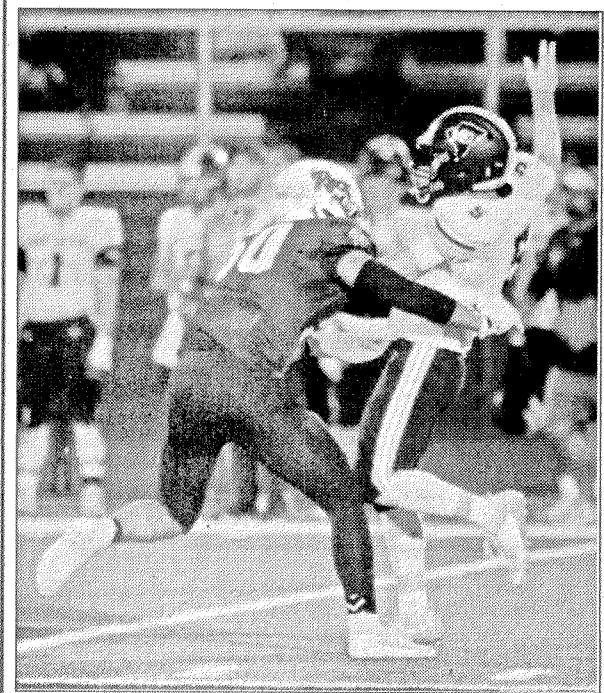
But the campsite is not the only part of the city experiencing improvements, according to Pensol. In fact a progress meeting was held just last week concerning the new water basin project that is expected to eliminate the bad taste and odor from the local water system. Pensol said the project is going as expected, on schedule and on budget.

“We also have plans for some improvements at both our city parks in town,” Pensol said. “We want to make our park system more enjoyable for everyone and as safe as possible at all times.”

The city is also working towards improvements for the city sewer system. “We are working towards some improvements to our sewer system, including a new lift station on High

Street which is greatly needed. All of these projects are at different stages but once completed will be great improvements to our city and for the community,” he said.

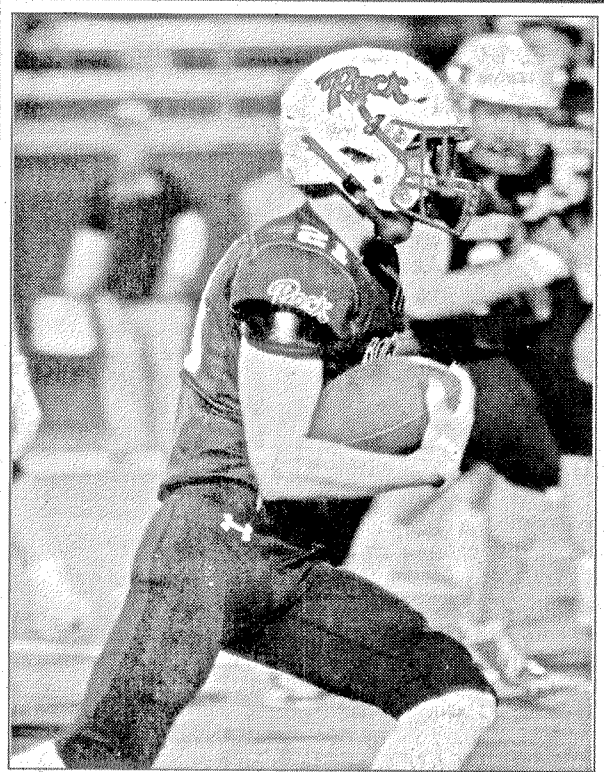
Pensol said he and Mayor Tim Roberts are excited about the improvements and have even more plans in mind for the future growth and development of the city.



Jace Bowles gets to Knox Central’s quarterback during the Rockets’ 38-6 win Friday night. Bowles had seven tackles on the night including a sack.



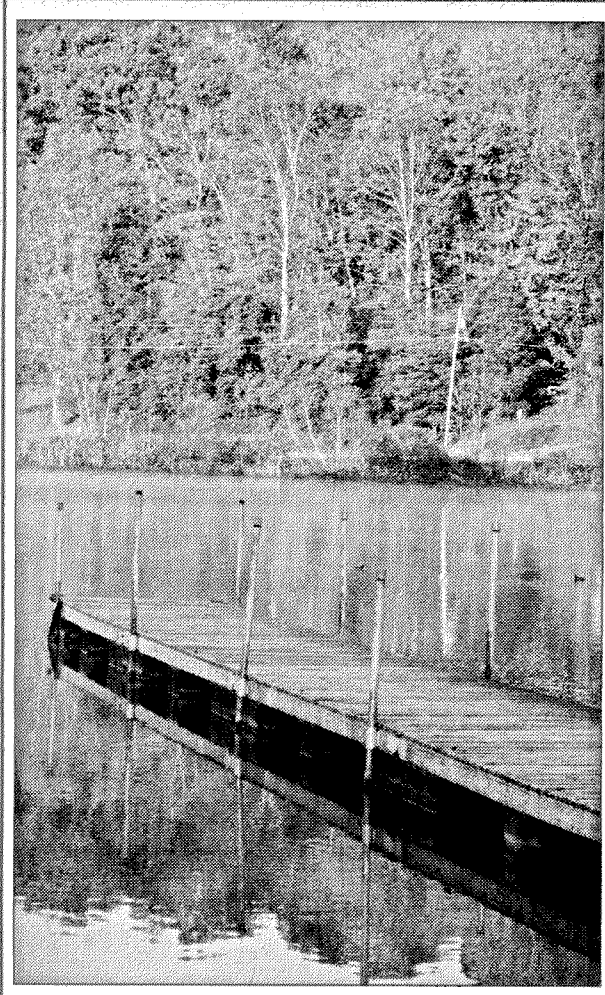
Ethan Weaver had a nine-yard reception during the Rockets’ 38-6 win Friday night.



Brayden Thacker had five carries for 47 yards in the Rockets’ win over Knox Central.



Camden Larkey makes a pitch to a back during the Rockets’ 38-6 win over Knox Central Friday night. Larkey had three carries for 10 yards. Starting quarterback Caden Lovell had two carries for 10 yards and completed seven of 10 pass attempts for 123 yards and a touchdown.



Shown above is the boat dock area with the recently built boat dock surrounded by fall foliage, ducks and geese. Officials plan more growth at the boat dock area very soon.

**PATRIOT GRAVE MARKING SERVICE**  
In Honor Of  
**REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOT**  
**Private Francis A. Ramsey**  
Sponsored by  
**The Rockcastle Chapter, NSDAR**  
&  
**Lafayette Chapter, KYSSAR**  
Sunday Nov 3, 2024  
Musters 1:00 p.m. - Service 2:00 p.m.  
**Hiatt Cemetery**  
On the corner of Hwy #25 and Lake Linville Road,  
Reno Valley, Kentucky  
37.387848, -84.332797, Reno Valley, KY 40456  
Reception immediately following the service at Limestone Grill,  
75 Hill Rd. Mt Vernon, KY 40456  
For questions/information or for DAR/ICAR/SAR/DVF Wreath  
Presentation Registration: (rockcastledar@gmail.com)  
by 10/31/24 to be in the program.  
Parking available at the Aunt Polly House across the road  
2590 Richmond Street Mt. Vernon, KY

**Suicide Warning Signs for Youth**

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

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

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available.

Call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org, or reach out to a mental health professional.

**988**  
SUICIDE  
LIFELINE

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859-986-7027



where he was charged with receiving stolen property \$1,000 to \$10,000, receiving stolen property over \$10,000, contempt of court, operating a vehicle on a suspended or revoked license, failure to maintain proper insurance and being a persistent felon.





# Are You Prepared To Vote?

Please take time to read and understand what will be on your ballot prior to entering the polls. Precinct workers are not able to explain or advise you about any races or questions. They are only able to explain the process of voting. Taking the time to prepare yourself will keep you from becoming flustered and feeling rushed; our goal is to keep the lines during Early Vote and Election Day flowing smoothly.

# SAMPLE BALLOT

PAGE 1 OF 2

PURSUANT TO KRS 424.290, "MATTERS REQUIRED TO BE PUBLISHED," THE FOLLOWING RACES WILL APPEAR ON THE VOTING MACHINES AND PAPER BALLOTS ALL PRECINCTS LISTED IN **ROCKCASTLE COUNTY** FOR THE **GENERAL ELECTION**, NOVEMBER 5, 2024.

Straight Party		UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE in CONGRESS 5th Congressional District (Vote for one)		CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT	
<input type="radio"/>	 <b>Republican Party</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<b>Hal ROGERS</b> Republican Party	<b>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1</b>  Are you in favor of amending Sections 145 and 155 of the Constitution of Kentucky to prohibit persons who are not citizens of the United States from being allowed to vote in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, as stated below?  IT IS PROPOSED THAT SECTION 145 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF KENTUCKY BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: Every citizen of the United States of the age of eighteen years who has resided in the state one year, and in the county six months, and the precinct in which he or she offers to vote sixty days next preceding the election, shall be a voter in said precinct and not elsewhere. No person who is not a citizen of the United States shall be allowed to vote in this state. The following persons also shall not have the right to vote: 1. Persons convicted in any court of competent jurisdiction of treason, or felony, or bribery in an election, or of such high misdemeanor as the General Assembly may declare shall operate as an exclusion from the right of suffrage, but persons hereby excluded may be restored to their civil rights by executive pardon. 2. Persons who, at the time of the election, are in confinement under the judgment of a court for some penal offense. 3. Idiots and insane persons.	
<input type="radio"/>	 <b>Democratic Party</b>	<input type="radio"/>			
<input type="radio"/>	 <b>Kentucky Party</b>	<input type="radio"/>	Write-in		
<input type="radio"/>	 <b>Libertarian Party</b>	<input type="radio"/>			
<b>PRESIDENT and VICE PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES</b> (Vote for one)		<b>STATE SENATOR</b> <b>21st Senatorial District</b> (Vote for one)		<b>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2</b>  To give parents choices in educational opportunities for their children, are you in favor of enabling the General Assembly to provide financial support for the education costs of students in kindergarten through 12th grade who are outside the system of common (public) schools by amending the Constitution of Kentucky as stated below?  IT IS PROPOSED THAT A NEW SECTION BE ADDED TO THE CONSTITUTION OF KENTUCKY TO READ AS FOLLOWS: The General Assembly may provide financial support for the education of students outside the system of common schools. The General Assembly may exercise this authority by law, Sections 59, 60, 171, 183, 184, 186, and 189 of this Constitution notwithstanding.	
<input type="radio"/>	<b>Donald J. TRUMP</b> J. D. VANCE Republican Party	<input type="radio"/>	<b>Brandon J. STORM</b> Republican Party		
<input type="radio"/>	<b>Kamala D. HARRIS</b> Tim WALZ Democratic Party	<input type="radio"/>	Write-in		
<input type="radio"/>	<b>Jill STEIN</b> Samson KPADENOU Kentucky Party	<input type="radio"/>	<b>STATE REPRESENTATIVE</b> <b>71st Representative District</b> (Vote for one)		
<input type="radio"/>	<b>Robert F. KENNEDY JR.</b> Nicole SHANAHAN Independent	<input type="radio"/>	<b>Josh BRAY</b> Republican Party	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
<input type="radio"/>	<b>Shiva AYYADURAI</b> Crystal ELLIS Independent	<input type="radio"/>	<b>Rachelle RIDDLE</b> Democratic Party		
<input type="radio"/>	<b>Chase OLIVER</b> Mike TER MAAT Libertarian Party	<input type="radio"/>	Write-in		
<input type="radio"/>	Write-in	<input type="radio"/>	<b>COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY</b> <b>28th Judicial Circuit</b> (Vote for one)		
<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<b>David L. DALTON</b> Republican Party	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	Write-in		
<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<b>CIRCUIT COURT CLERK</b> (Vote for one)		
<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<b>Eliza Jane YORK-HANSEL</b> Republican Party		
<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	Write-in		
<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	Write-in		

# ALL PRECINCTS



PAGE 1 OF 2







Yards to Paradise

By Max Phelps

Revisiting Eden, the Garden of God

Some months ago, in an address to a garden club group, I began "Once upon a time, long, long ago...." to a couple sets of rolling eyeballs. I continued, "there was a garden called Eden..." as some looked in awe or amazement and others averted their eyes towards the scenery outside the windows.

I had their attention—some were happy and others not so much.

This column will soon

be continuously published for 24 years, and regular readers know I continually nudge folks to turn their yards into a paradise—an Eden, if you will. Gardening advice, landscaping ideas, and a reminder to honor the Creator rather than the creation through it all.

Things are looking more like Armageddon and the end of our world are not just scary words but may actually not be too far into the future. Deceptions, wars, famines, diseases (as revealed by the removal of the first

4 seals of the scroll in Revelation) are just the start of things to come.

But, there will follow on a dawning, with a divine government, liberty for all, and peace on earth at last after the old Devil is put in a pit, and the earth has a restoration to the Eden sort of conditions once again. And even wild and poisonous animals will have their natures changed and cause no harm anymore. May the day come soon.

The powerful oppress the weak today. Tomorrow, with equitable divine government, with deserts blooming, with everyone being a landowner and having fruits and vegetables and livestock, with animals all being harmless even to a baby, what paradise Tomorrow's World will be.

live in peace and raise a family or retire and enjoy the final years after a life of hard work.

Losses to hurricanes and floods (as all other kinds of losses) can make us realize life can be fleeting.

Human life eventually comes to it's end. About

the best we can hope for is to live peaceably and enjoy our blessings, including our homes and yards, as we practice growing a bit of paradise at our place.

In closing, I could attempt to try to forecast the future. But, rather, I'll encourage all of you to get

out in the outdoors more and to spend some time and resources to make your place a little more like that Garden in Eden. If nothing else, you'll have your mind off the evils of society for a little spell.

The author is a landscaper, semi-retired. To contact: rockcastles@gmail.com

Donations requested

Kenna's Kitchen in 24th year

Kenna's Kitchen, Mount Vernon's largest community Thanksgiving outreach endeavor, celebrates its 24th year this upcoming Thanksgiving holiday. The annual event, hosted by Mt. Vernon Elementary School staff and students, served over 1700 meals last year to members of our community that may not otherwise have a Thanksgiving meal.

Kenna's Kitchen has more than doubled the number of people served through its outreach, and the staff and students at MVES are asking the community for help in providing this great service. Each year, students at Mt. Vernon Elementary School donate the vegetable sides that are prepared. However, the donations that students and staff have given have not been enough to make the number of meals being

requested and additional funding has been needed to meet the need. The Rockcastle County High School FCCLA has also helped, making all of the desserts for the meals.

Monetary donations from businesses, churches and individuals to help meet the cost of providing a Thanksgiving meal to those who may otherwise not have one can be mailed to Mt. Vernon Elementary School, C/O Regina Hull-Brown, PO Box 1530, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456. For more information on what the monetary donations are used for or if you wish to help on Tuesday, November 26th, you may contact Regina Hull-Brown at MVES between 8:00 am and 3 pm, at 256-5173 or 606-392-1876.

Please consider donating to this very worthy cause.

Meanwhile, we may sigh about things, but we can still work to improve our immediate surroundings and cultivate more peace and paradise around our own homes and neighborhoods.

Some presume to play God by trying to alter the climate or the weather, but in reality a really big explosion on the sun can alter life and set technology back years, and an eruption of a super volcano (or the explosion of a few nuclear bombs) can quickly erase all the possible benefits of efforts to replace fossil fuels with solar or wind energy.

One's home is one's sanctuary, one's castle. Yet, even so, government regulations, taxes of numerous kinds, regulations by states and cities, and rules by homeowners associations all exert pressure on the individual homeowner just wanting to

Mamaw's Kitchen

By Regina Poynter Hoskins

CRANBERRY ORANGE BREAD

2 cups flour  
3/4 cup white sugar  
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder  
3/4 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1/4 cup unsalted butter, cut into pieces and softened  
3/4 cup orange juice  
1 tablespoon grated orange zest  
1 large egg, beaten  
1 cup chopped fresh cranberries

Preheat the oven to 350°. Grease a 8 x 4 loaf pan. Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, and baking soda in a bowl. Stir butter into flour mixture until combined. Add orange juice, orange zest, and egg; mix well. Fold in cranberries. Spoon batter into the prepared pan. Bake in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, 60 to 75 minutes. Cool in the pan for 10 minutes before removing to cool completely on a wire rack.

ORANGE CRANBERRY COOKIE BARS

1 and 1/2 cups packed brown sugar  
1 cup butter, melted  
2 large eggs, room temperature  
2 teaspoons vanilla extract  
2 and 1/4 cups all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 cup white baking chips  
1 cup dried cranberries,

coarsely chopped

1 cup chopped pecans, toasted  
1/4 cup grated orange zest

FROSTING:

1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened  
1 cup powdered sugar  
1/2 cup butter, softened  
3 tablespoons grated orange zest, divided  
2 teaspoons vanilla extract  
1/3 cup dried cranberries, coarsely chopped

Preheat oven to 350°. In a large bowl, beat brown sugar, melted butter, eggs and vanilla until well blended. In another bowl, whisk flour, baking powder and salt; gradually beat into

sugar mixture. Stir in baking chips, cranberries, pecans and orange zest. Spread into a greased 15 x 10 baking pan. Bake until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 18-22 minutes. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack. For frosting, in a large bowl, combine cream cheese, confectioners' sugar, butter, 1 tablespoon zest and vanilla; beat until smooth. Spread over bars. Combine dried cranberries and remaining 2 tablespoons zest; sprinkle over frosting. Refrigerate at least 2 hours. Cut into triangles. Store in the refrigerator.

Vote

Lonetta Daugherty

Mount Vernon City Council



Citizens of Mt. Vernon, I would appreciate your vote for City Council on Tuesday, November 05, 2024. I believe great things are on the verge for our city and county and I'd like to use my God-given abilities to help make that

happen for my family and yours.

Thank you,  
LONETTA DAUGHERTY

Paid for by Lonetta Daugherty



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Halloween

D	N	T	R	E	A	T	S	S	K	C	I	R	T
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P	U	M	P	K	I	N	V	U	L	U	C	R	S
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GHOST  
SCARY  
BATS  
CHILDREN  
CANDY CORN  
TREATS  
JACK O LANTERN  
FALL  
WITCHES  
FUNNY  
LEAVES  
SPIDERS  
COSTUMES  
PUMPKIN  
HAPPY  
BROOM  
EYEBALLS  
DECORATIONS  
MIDNIGHT  
GOBLINS  
BOO  
TRICKS  
MONSTERS

SUGAR'S PUZZLE PAGE

HERE, HERE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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57						58						59		
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63						64						65		

ACROSS

- 1) Cannabis product
- 5) Type of beef
- 10) Golfer's rental
- 14) Assert confidently
- 15) Brown in a pan
- 16) Ubiquitous cosmetics ingredient
- 17) What souffles do
- 18) Kind of panel
- 19) Unexplainable picked-up feeling
- 20) Stress
- 23) Large-eyed lemur
- 24) Showing signs of wear and tear
- 25) Total
- 28) Cause for opening a window
- 30) What a good pilot knows how to do
- 31) Den drug of old
- 33) "7 Faces of Dr. \_\_\_\_\_"
- 36) Project for homebuilders
- 40) The avant-garde's Yoko
- 41) Judicial orders
- 42) \_\_\_\_\_ spumante
- 43) Bit of perspiration
- 44) Larry Bird was one

- 46) Salesperson's pitch
- 49) Harmful bacteria
- 51) Bad GPS revelation
- 57) Goddess symbolized by a cow
- 58) Extra
- 59) Delight or jubilation
- 60) Convene
- 61) Sailor buddy
- 62) Long fishes
- 63) Blows it
- 64) Pulled vehicles
- 65) Becomes compost

DOWN

- 1) Instrument with 47 strings
- 2) Good's opposite
- 3) Large butte
- 4) Prevent from happening
- 5) Declare firmly
- 6) Watts of Hollywood
- 7) Takes huge drinks
- 8) Four Corners state
- 9) "Buona \_\_\_\_\_" (Italian "Good evening")
- 10) Fancy cracker topper
- 11) Choice invitees
- 12) Automaton
- 13) Itsy-bitsy

- 21) Long, long, long time
- 22) Pound the ground
- 25) "But wait, there's more"
- 26) Bounding site?
- 27) Not deceived by
- 28) Lubricates
- 29) Double header?
- 31) "Ars Amatoria" poet
- 32) Family member who may eat off the floor
- 33) "\_\_\_\_\_ we forget"
- 34) Naysayer
- 35) Applying to ears
- 37) Took up residence
- 38) Historic time
- 39) Avoid work
- 43) Wild creatures
- 44) Some New York-style hotdogs
- 45) Big game
- 46) Gunk
- 47) Tough puzzle
- 48) Less cordial
- 49) Related maternally
- 50) Like many hams
- 52) Doctrines
- 53) Australian gemstone
- 54) Fake butter
- 55) Lash mark
- 56) Eliot of the Untouchables

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3	8	6						



# Classifieds

## CLASSIFIED RATES

• Local Rates - \$5 for 25 words or less - .10 each additional word

• Display Classifieds  
\$5.00/Inch

Deadline for Classifieds  
is 4 p.m. Monday

## For Rent

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

### Accepting Applications

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

## For Rent Maple Street Storage of Brodhead

606-308-3032  
606-392-8654

## Property For Sale

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

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

## Posted

Posted: No trespassing on former Red McDaniel place on Collins Cemetery Road. Frank Bradley. 37x3

Posted: No hunting or trespassing on property belonging to Wayne and Marie Bullock on Kincade Ridge Road and 1250 Spiro Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 37(24)51

Posted: Absolutely No Trespassing on property owned by David King, located on Hwy. 3245. No dirt bikes or four wheelers. 34x4p

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

Posted: No hunting or trespassing on property belonging to Victor and Debbie Francisco located at 7194 South Wilderness Rd., Calloway. Violators will be prosecuted. 33x8p

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Notices

NOTICE: Hellard's Concrete and Excavation, LLC is not, nor ever have been, affiliated with Perry Mink or Amy and Perry Mink Properties. We lease the building at 110 Old Somerset Road but will not be responsible for any business associated with Perry Mink or Amy and Perry Mink Properties. **Brandon Hellard, Hellard's Concrete and Excavation.** 36x3

Notice is hereby given that Jason L. Philbeck, PO Box 1715, Mount Vernon, KY 40456 has been appointed Executor of the estate of Robert E. Philbeck on the 23rd day of October, 2024. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them according to law, to the said Jason L. Philbeck, or to Hon. James L. Cox, PO Box 1555, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 on or before April 23, 2025. 37x3

Notice is hereby given that Sheila Lovell, 4682 Brindle Ridge Road, Brodhead, KY 40409 has been appointed Administratrix of the estate of Roger Wayne Lovell, deceased, on the 30th day of September 2024. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Sheila Lovell or Hon. Heidi Weatherly, PO Box 1555, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 on or before April 2, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. 37x4

## Professional Services

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

## Yard Sales

Huge Garage Sale: 148 Spring Hill Lane, Houston Point Subdivision, home of Mattie Miller. Nov. 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 8 a.m. to ? Lots of household items, furniture, queen comforter sets, small deep freeze, Christmas decorations, rocker chair, sets of dishes still in boxes. Generator pressure washer, air compressor, men's Lee jeans 38x32. Children's toys, gold and sterling jewelry. cast iron skillets cookware. D-28 Martin Guitar w/hard shell case. New shoes (still in box), new lady's boots, men's and women's clothes - all sizes, men's shirts XL, 2X, 3X, 50 year old Pepsi pitcher. Last yard sale of the year. For more info, call 606-224-0501.

## Cresthaven Cemetery Plots

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

## Motor Vehicles For Sale

For Sale: 2017 Ford 150. V8 5., two wd. \$15,500 606-758-9312. 36x3p

Classified  
Deadline is  
4 p.m.

Monday

Call

606-256-2244

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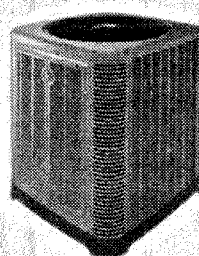
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Letters

(Continued from 2) affect us every day. As Rockcastle Countians it is our responsibility to let the candidates know what issues are important to our community. A number of key issues are expected to be considered by our legislative leaders at all levels of government. Therefore it is critically important we have elected officials in office who understands the importance of agriculture and the concerns confronting rural Kentuckians. Participating in the voting process is as important now as it has ever been. Your involvement will make a difference in the process. Rockcastle County Farm Bureau urges you to make an impact by voting in the November General Election. Sincerely,

Terry Lawson  
President  
Rockcastle Farm Bureau.

Vote NO on Amendment 2...

Dear Editor,  
Nothing is more important than having an educated society. Everything else depends on our ability to collectively learn and grow. This question will appear on your ballot:  
“The General Assembly may provide financial support for the education of students outside the system of common schools. The General Assembly may exercise this authority by law, Sections 59, 60, 171, 183, 184, 186, and 189 of this Constitution notwithstanding.”  
Outside is a very important term here. There are no specifications where our public tax dol-

lars could go. Our legislature would decide how much and where. The last sentence allows the General Assembly to disregard 7 sections of our over 200 year old state constitution allowing them to provide public funds for private vouchers.  
Rockcastle has 6 public schools, zero private schools. Using Florida’s voucher program as a model, Amendment 2 would cost our schools a 18% budget reduction, 60 educator jobs, and \$6,400,219 in lost funding. The average KY income of families with a kid in private school is \$148,400. These families would qualify for vouchers. Vouchers do not cover the entire cost of tuition. Private schools can deny any kid for any reason. In states that have passed voucher programs, most vouchers go to students already in private schools. This leaves public schools, who are required to accept all students, overpopulated and underfunded, increasing the gap between rich and poor.  
The difference in per-pupil funding between the state’s poorest and wealthiest districts now exceeds the level deemed unconstitutional by the Kentucky Supreme Court. In 1990, there was a \$3,489 per-pupil funding gap (in 2022 dollars) between the wealthiest and poorest school districts. In 2022, the per-pupil gap reached \$3,902.  
This “equity gap” shrank dramatically after 1990 when historic tax increases to fund education and a new system of more equitable school finance contained in the Kentucky Education Reform Act. Soon the trend began to gradually reverse due to inadequate

state appropriations for K-12 education and tax breaks that reduced state revenues.  
Kentucky has the biggest rainy day fund in state history and our General Assembly is trying to amend our constitution rather than fund our public schools. We can’t trust them to take our public funds “outside” our public schools. VOTE NO on Amendment 2! Save our public schools Kentucky!  
Rachelle Riddle

Vote No on Cannabis...

Dear Editor,  
Medicinal Cannabis in the City of Mt. Vernon  
There is a question on the second page bottom left corner of the ballot that will ask the Voters of the City of Mt. Vernon a very important question that will have a dramatic impact on not only the City of Mt. Vernon itself but even more important, The People. VOTE “NO”  
The Question is: “Are you in favor of the sale of medicinal cannabis at a licensed dispensary AND the operation of OTHER cannabis businesses in the City of Mt. Vernon?” VOTE “NO”.  
VOTE “NO” for the sale of drugs to our children and our children’s children. Like other communities in Kentucky and throughout our great nation, there is a major drug problem. Our city does NOT need to add to this overwhelming problem. It will simply be “Broken Promises” just like the alcohol sales that was supposed to bring money into our area. They even add the term “medicinal” in front of cannabis for marketing. It’s a multi-million dollar business, if you are an investor. However, in

many other towns, it is a death sentence.  
If cannabis helps people, let it be approved and dispensed just like every other drug. VOTE “NO.” It has also been proven that “radiation” kills cancer cells, but no one is selling this service. WHY? Because if it isn’t dispensed accurately it kills. Even when it is dispensed accurately, it has

been known to kill.  
In EVERY other town that has passed the sale of cannabis, it has been a stepping stone for the legalization of the sale of marijuana and that is exactly what this will be. I do not want my children, my family, my friends nor their children to be fooled by “getting high.” It kills brain cells and dulls the senses.

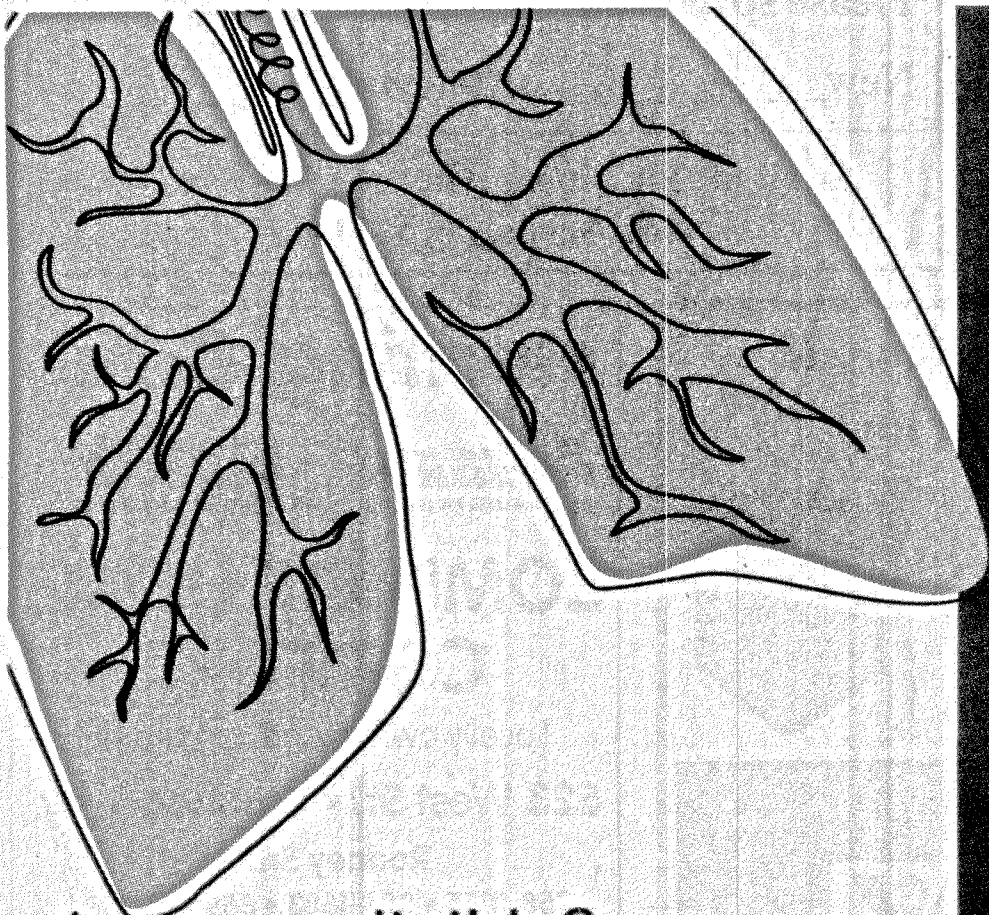
I ask you to send a message to the Mt. Vernon City Counsel! VOTE “NO”. Stand up and say “NOT IN MY CITY, NOT IN MY TOWN.”  
The Bible says that the “love of money is the root of all evil” in 1 Timothy 6:10.  
Jeff Cromer

Social Security announces benefit increase for 2025

Social Security benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments for more than 72.5 million Americans will increase 2.5 percent in 2025, the Social Security Administration announced today. On average, Social Security retirement benefits will increase by about \$50 per month starting in January.  
Over the last decade the COLA increase has averaged about 2.6 percent. The COLA was 3.2 percent in 2024.  
Nearly 68 million Social Security beneficiaries will see a 2.5 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) beginning in January 2025. Increased payments to nearly 7.5 million people receiving SSI will begin on December 31, 2024. (Note: Some people receive both Social Security benefits and SSI).  
Social Security benefits and SSI payments will increase in 2025, helping tens of millions of people keep up with expenses even as inflation has started to cool, said Martin O’Malley, Commissioner of Social Security. Some other adjust-

ments that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) is slated to increase to \$176,100 from \$168,600.  
Security begins notifying people about their new benefit amount by mail starting in early December.  
This year, for the first time, Social Security beneficiaries will receive a newly designed and improved COLA notice that makes it easier for customers to find the information they need most. The simplified COLA notice is now only one page, uses plain and personalized language, and provides exact dates and dollar amounts of a person’s new benefit amount and any deductions.  
Individuals who have a personal my Social Security account can view their COLA notice online, which is secure, easy, and faster than receiving a letter in the mail. People can set up text or email alerts when there is a new message—

such as their COLA notice—waiting for them in my Social Security.  
People will need to have a personal my Social Security account by Nov. 20 to see their COLA notice online. To get started, visit [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount).  
Information about Medicare changes for 2025 will be available at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). For Social Security beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare, the 2025 benefit amount will be available via my Social Security Message Center starting in late November. Those who have not opted to receive messages online will receive their COLA notice by mail in December.  
The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated. The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) as determined by the Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
To read more, or more information about the subject, please visit [www.ssa.gov/cola](http://www.ssa.gov/cola)



Are you eligible?

- Are you 50 to 80 years old?
- Do you currently smoke or have quit in the past 15 years?
- Do you have at least a 20 pack-year smoking history?

What do you need to do to prepare for screening?

- It’s a good idea to receive counseling to quit smoking if you currently smoke.
- You should see your primary care doctor about the benefits, and limits, of screening with Low Dose CT scans.
- You should check with your insurance provider to see if you need a referral for screening.

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LUNG  
CANCER  
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