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Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - (606) 256-2244 Volume 130 Number 52 50 per copy Thursday, January 5, 2017

## Vehicles stolen New Year's Day

**By: Mike French**  
Police are investigating the theft of four different vehicles stolen over the holiday week.

According to Rockcastle County Sheriff Mike Peters, local police have worked several stolen car reports since New Year's Day.

On Sunday, January 1st, Deputy Matt Bryant investigated the theft of a 2011 Nissan Rogue that had been stolen in Brodhead and, later in the same day, Bryant recovered a stolen Nissan Pathfinder from a different theft in the same area.

According to Bryant, local agencies are all working together to help locate the stolen vehicles and other thefts during the holiday season.

Mount Vernon Assistant Chief Joe Rush also reported a stolen 2001 Ford Explorer that had been stolen in the Mount Vernon city limits on the same day.

Bryant said Kentucky

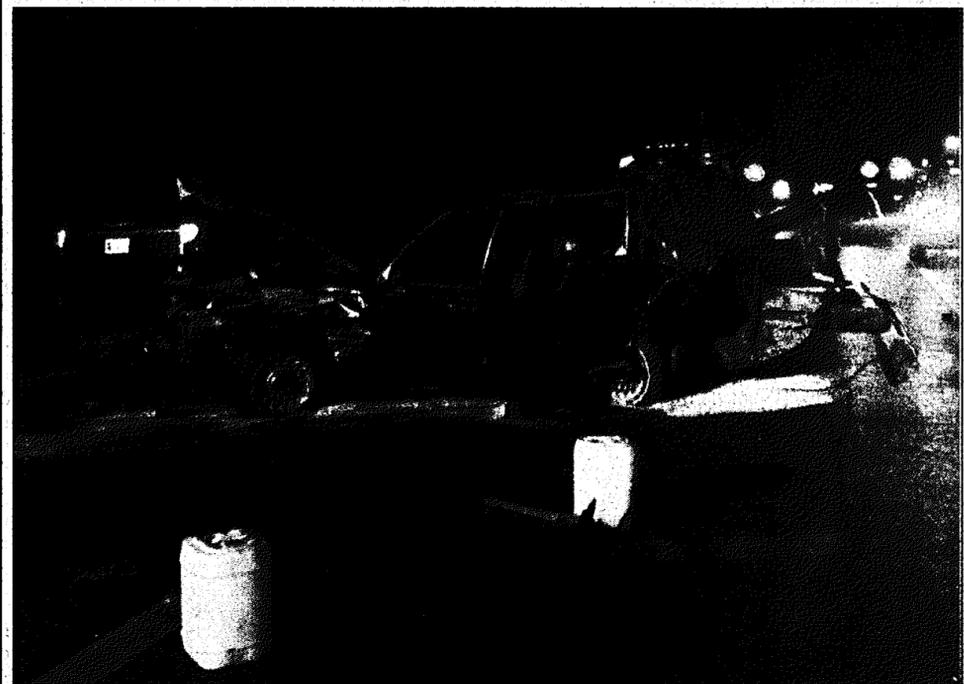
State Police Trooper Craig Sutton also recovered a stolen Honda Accord on Lambert Road in Rockcastle County on the same day.

The reports have not been filed and are under investigation by the officers involved but Bryant said cooperation among the three agencies will help to solve the crimes.

"All agencies have been sharing information about the thefts which is a big help in solving these types of crimes," said Bryant. "These crimes can span across agencies and across jurisdictional lines. But by working together we have a much better chance of finding those responsible."

Peters said local residents should take extra care during this time of year to protect themselves. "Do not leave your keys in your vehicle and lock your doors everytime," he said. "Once is all it takes and people should not make it easy for them."

Police are not aware yet if the theft of the four different vehicles were related but are investigating the crimes from every possible angle.



A two-car collision at mile marker 56 on New Year's Day blocked interstate traffic for several hours and claimed the life of a Mt. Vernon man. According to police reports, Bennie Pittman, 77, of Mount Vernon died during transport to the UK Medical Center after the accident. KSP trooper Chris Prewitt said Pittman lost control of his vehicle (shown above) and hit a guardrail. This caused the car to spin sideways down the interstate with the lights broken out. Since the car was black and had no lights, another vehicle did not see the car and struck Pittman's vehicle in the side. The vehicle that struck Pittman's vehicle was reportedly a Campbell County Coroner's van. The northbound lanes were reopened after David's Tire removed the vehicles from the highway.

## Fiscal Court holds end-of-year called meeting

At a special called meeting on Wednesday, December 28th, the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court dealt with several items including approving the 2017 budget

for County Clerk Danetta Allen.

At the request of Allen, the salary cap for her office was set at \$235,000, the same as in 2016.

Allen estimates that there will be \$48,408 in excess fees to turn over to the court

early in 2017 but this figure may be affected by the final revenue and disbursement

numbers for her office. Allen's budget shows (See "Court" on A7)

## Fire destroys home

Local residents asked to help

**By: Mike French**

A house fire on Green Pond Ridge Road in Rockcastle County last week completely destroyed the home of Marecca Owens.

According to Chief Brian Wynn, of the Climax Fire Department, the fire was likely started by an electrical short but the actual cause has not been determined as yet.

The Mount Vernon Fire Department also responded to the blaze and the two departments were able to keep the fire from spreading into the surrounding wooded areas or to nearby structures.

Officials say the Owens family lost everything in the fire and there is a "Go Fund Me" account set up under the name of Marecca Owens.

There will also be a benefit singing held at New Hope Baptist Church on January 7, beginning at 5 p.m. to help the family with expenses.



A house on Green Pond Ridge Road in Rockcastle County was destroyed after what may have been an electrical fire on New Year's evening. Officials say the Marecca Owens family lost everything and a "Go Fund Me" page has been established to help the family after the fire. There will also be a benefit singing held at New Hope Baptist Church on Saturday, January 7, beginning at 5 p.m. to help the family with expenses. Climax Volunteer Fire Dept. was the first responder on the scene and were assisted by the Mount Vernon Fire Department.

## Two meth busts made in county

**By: Mike French**

Two arrests were made in the county this week that were related to methamphetamine charges.

Jeremy Banks, 31, of Paris was arrested in Brodhead on existing warrants on

Friday, December 23rd. During a search, officials found a baggie in Banks' underwear, according to a Mount Vernon Police Department citation.

The report said the (See "Meth" on A7)

## Shell sworn in as House Majority Floor Leader

Rep. Jonathan Shell, R-Lancaster, was sworn in as Kentucky House Majority Floor Leader Tuesday during the first day of the 2017 regular session in Frankfort. To mark history, Rep. Shell represents the first-ever Republican to serve in the role of Kentucky House Majority Floor Leader.

"It is the honor of a lifetime for me to serve as the first-ever Republican House Majority Floor Leader," said Shell. "The new majority in Frankfort will hit the ground running with a robust agenda to improve the economic well-being of working Kentuckians."

Rep. Shell was first

elected to represent District 71 (Garrard, Rockcastle and part of Madison County) in the Kentucky House in 2012. He was the youngest member of the General Assembly.

He was elected by his fellow caucus members to serve as the House Republican Campaign Chairman putting him in charge of overseeing all Republican recruitment for the 2016 House elections.

Rep. Shell is a native of his district near Rockcastle County and helps run his family farm in Lancaster.

He is married to Brooke Shell, and is the father of three young children.

### January - June

## 2016: The Year in Review

The first week of January, 2016 involved work on the Rockcastle County Detention Center and inspections to bring prisoners back to the jail after a fire had caused damage to the facility a few months earlier.

Also in January, Sheriff Mike Peters and Representative Jonathan Shell waged war on synthetic drugs in the county since legislation had not yet addressed the issue with regulations that are in place over other drugs.

The Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority (RCIDA) discussed hiring a new executive director following the resignation of the current executive director the previous month.

In the second week of January, county inmates returned to the local jail and new policies and procedures were put in place to help prevent such a fire in the future.

It was in January that the local school board began holding their monthly meetings at local schools to follow growth and development as well as plans to improve. January's meeting was held at BES.

Also in the second week of January, new bloodhounds joined the sheriff's department while members of the Brodhead City Council began drafting a new nuisance ordinance for the city.

It was also in the second week of January that the first snow fell in the county.

In the third week of January, officials began discussion of creating a history museum in the county and another, larger snow storm hit the area.

By the fourth week of January, county officials had declared Rockcastle County in a state of emergency

after one of the largest snow storms to hit Kentucky in a decade. Officials said 18 inches of snow fell in Rockcastle and local schools were made into shelters for travelers passing through. Police were inundated with calls for help from stranded motorists and homebound residents.

### February, 2016

In the first week of February, the county was threatened with a lawsuit over the placement of the Ten Commandments in public buildings. However, local officials, Judge/Executive Doug Bishop, County Attorney Billy Reynolds, and other local officials stood their ground and have fought the lawsuit throughout the year.

It was also in the first week of February that newly-elected Governor Matt Bevin announced a plan to widen I-75 in Rockcastle County and Kentucky Wired announced plans to bring high speed internet through the area.

It was also the first week of February when the Mount Vernon Police department added a bloodhound of their own to their force.

The second week of February saw local officials and school board members hustling to make up for the winter storm that had hit the county.

This was also the month that Livingston Mayor Jason Medley announced the work going on in the old Depot Building to add a movie theater and other activities.

About as soon as the winter storm was cleaned up and

(See "Year" on A7)

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# Points East

By Ike Adams



The subject of "playing marbles" that I brought up here last week has produced a flurry of questions but they are coming from an age group that surprises me. I've heard from numerous people I know to be in their late 40s or 50s as well as a couple or three that are past 60 years of age who tell me the only marbles they ever played with had to do with Chinese Checkers, which is not really what I would ever consider a marbles game even though little round pieces of plastic or glass, shaped like playing marbles, are involved.

Then, last night, I posted the column on facebook after it had run in your favorite newspaper and a virtual gob of old "mibsters" (marbles players), mostly over 60, crawled out of the cyberwork.

I recall one of my favorite grade school teachers, Willy J. Back, affectionately referring to the student body at Blair Branch Grade School as his "mibsters" but it was somewhat later in life before I discovered that the term was generally applied in Merry Olde England to an assembly of marbles players.

I have also discovered that playing marbles was common on school grounds, frond yards and even in the middle of rural dirt roads all over Kentucky until the 1960s when most small, rural, schools were consolidated into much larger facilities.

Since playing marbles necessarily involves getting down on one's hands and knees and literally playing in the dirt, I imagine that might have been one reason the various marbles games were not encouraged at the larger schools. The fact that most marbles games could not accommodate more than half a dozen players at one time may also have played a role in their demise as did the emphasis on "team" sports. At least I've never heard of any school with a "marbles" team.

The basic skill in playing marbles involved gripping a "shooting" marble called your "taw" in the crook of your index finger and flipping it with your thumb in an attempt to make it hit another marble or land at a very specific destina-

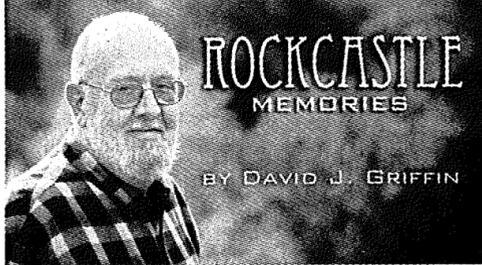
tion. Some players learned to grip their "taws" between the tips of their index and middle fingers to generate better leverage and accuracy but every shot had to be taken with "knuckles down" (at least one knuckle of the shooting hand touching the ground) and "no fudging" (moving the "taw" or your middle knuckle from exactly where the "taw" landed when it was your turn to shoot again).

One of the most popular marbles games at Blair Branch was called "Christmas Tree" because several games could be played in a 15 minute recess period. An approximately equilateral triangle of about 18 inches from base to apex was drawn on the ground with a "leg" that extended from its center to 8 or so inches below the base. "Ducks" marbles were placed on all 3 corners of the triangle as well as at the top of the leg in the middle, its intersection with the base and at the tip of the leg. Each duck was worth a certain number of points with the one in the middle double that of the ones on the corners, etc.

A start -shooting line, some 10 feet or so beyond the tip of the tree was drawn in the dirt with a stick or whatever lay handy. Players stood by the tree and "lagged" their "taws" toward start line to determine the shooting order. Points were scored by "knuckling down" (no fudging) and either hitting another player's "taw" to knock him or her out of the game and by knocking "ducks" off the tree. You had to knock the middle one out without your "taw" staying inside the triangle. If your "taw" stayed inside the triangle, it became a target for other players who acquired the points. The game was actually more complicated than that but "Christ Tree" was considered one of the most basic and "simple" games.

We don't have space here to describe "rolly hole" (think golf), "bull's eye" (think target shoot) or "rounders". The latter involved placing numerous "ducks" in the middle of a circle some 5 to 10 feet in diameter with a fairly complicated set of rules for

(Continued on A-3)



### Unique Christmas Gifts

Thank the good Lord that my wife and I were able to join the Griffin clan for Christmas this year at Al and Eva's in Mt. Vernon. I don't really know how Eva accomplishes her magic in the kitchen, but we all are tremendously grateful.

Even though Santa brought me several items that I love (special thanks to Kathy and Eva), I also received a few gifts that were not so common, certainly not expected. These wonderful, but more intangible, gifts really made this special season more memorable for me. Allow me to explain.

A few days before Christmas, Kathy and I were trying to finish our holiday shopping at Kroger's in Winchester, a place where I taught during the last 27 years of my 38-year career. A young lady saw us coming down the aisle and exclaimed, "Mr. Griffin!" I will admit that, much to my wife's chagrin, this is not an uncommon happening. Having taught for so many years in the same town makes it at least somewhat likely that I will run into a few of them from time to time. And I do. My wife insists that these occasions add 30-40 minutes of extra time to our visits to this particular grocery store. But I digress...

This young lady came toward us in a hurry and then proceeded to give me a huge hug. She then explained that she was a student who had taken my Human Physiology class at George Rogers Clark High School and had loved every day of it. She told me that she had majored in pre-med in college and eventually became a Pathologist, a specialist, with her medical degree. (This makes her the 19th former high school student of mine, whom I know for a fact became a physician.) But it was what she said next that was the finest gift that I could ever receive in this world. "Your class, Mr. Griffin, had more influence on my life than any other class I have ever taken. I would never have been a doctor without you," she said.

My response was something that I had no conscious control over. Tears welled up in my old eyes, and she could tell how her remark had affected me. Nothing else a former student could say can match the feeling that comes with a teacher hearing that. Nothing.

It was on Christmas Eve that I received my next surprise gift, and it was in the form of a text message on my phone. It was from one of my former football players - he was a quarterback - from Mt. Sterling. His name is Tom, and he was a member of the 1969 Class A State Championship football team. Tom went on to college and, he, too, became a teacher in Mt. Sterling. As a matter of fact, he even coached some football during his career. Now, he, too, has retired. His text read, "Thank you for being my

football coach!" Don't you know it, tears again? The following day, he hand delivered to me a can of Ruth Hunt cream candy, one of the pride-and-joys of those of us who have lived in Mt. Sterling.

My third unique gift came when we were at my brother Al's on Christmas Day. Billy Haddix is my great-nephew (Denise and Howardy's son), and he and I love to talk about cars and sports. Shawn Cloud, a friend of Billy's since childhood, was with us that day as he is considered by the Griffins as part of the family. This is especially lucky for the family because Shawn is a very capable young man who just happens to work for ESPN. So when it came time to take a group photo of our family, guess who volunteered for the job? How many of you can say that you had an ESPN professional take your holiday family photo?

It was so cool. He had us gather on the front steps of Al's house, where we good-naturedly waved back at all the onlookers driving down the street who were honking their horns at us! (Don't you just love small towns?)

God love him, Shawn had one after another family members handing him their phones and insisting that he take shots with theirs as well as the others. And he did! Just lined 'em up on the sidewalk and started shooting one sequence after another. What a great guy!

Now I am asking you, how many of you received three such memorable gifts this Christmas? Mine will be cherished for years to come.

(You can reach me at [themtman@att.net](mailto:themtman@att.net) or you can drop me a line at 2167 Furnace Road - Stanton, KY 40380. I appreciate your comments and suggestions.)

# T.J.'s Journal

by: Tonya J. Cook



### The Return of Parker the Possum

Dear Journal,

A few days ago, on November 8 to be exact, I discovered the mysterious creature we could hear scurrying around in the fallen leaves at night for the past few weeks. About 2 AM, I heard it on the front porch. Cautiously, I crept out to see what it was. I discovered a little, half-grown opossum hiding behind an old trunk I use for storing my outside seasonal decorations.

He popped his head out and was staring at me with his big bright eyes. He was so cute I could have gotten him and hugged him to death. I went back inside and left him alone to enjoy a bag of dog food Stanley had left on the porch.

Now, back to the present. Every year around this time, I bake some fruit cakes for Stanley and myself. My brother, Don, is a big fruit cake fan, so he gets one, too. I dread making them, as they are a lot of trouble.

I finally braced myself and decided about the day or so before Christmas to make the cakes. I believe the secret of the success is in the quality of the molasses. I tried some of those "store bought" kinds only to find that they just don't do well.

I use the same old recipe that has been in our family since Civil War times or before. It's been made by someone in our family for over a hundred years. I remember watching my mom and grandma making them. I made my first one when I was about fourteen or so. When I'm gone, I guess no one else will take on the tradition.

On Christmas Eve, I foolishly told Stanley to set Don's fruit cake on the front porch so we would be sure not to forget to take it with us the next morning. We were to meet with my brother and his wife, Carolyn, at 11 AM at the Golden Corral for the first of the meals we were to attend.

As I was finishing the last minute details before leaving I told Stanley to take the fruit cake down to the car and I'd be there in a second. The next thing I knew, he came to the kitchen holding the remains of the fruit cake. We were sure that the culprit had been Parker.

Oh, my God, what could I do? We had been eating ours, so giving him that one was not possible. Stanley said that somewhere out there was a mighty happy little possum this morning.

I couldn't believe it. We hadn't seen or heard of him in days. We thought he was gone, hibernating or something.

He had devoured an area about three or four inches long and about an inch deep into the round cake. He ate aluminum foil and all. The remaining cake still had the foil on it and was untouched.

About the only thing I could do at this point was to take the fruit cake on and try to explain about what happened. I called Don a day or two after Christmas and he said that he had managed to save about eighty percent of the cake. How embarrassed I've been. When I was young, I left out milk and cookies for Santa. Now, in my old age, I leave out fruit cake for possums on Christmas Eve.

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On January 2, 2017  
**Billy McKinney**  
(also known as Pa)  
celebrated his 71st Birthday!



We love you!

Carolyn, Tim, Dana, Jeff, Blake, Bethany, Shelby, Ashley and Tristan



You are the wind beneath our wings!



# Obituaries



**Mary Harding**

Mary Elizabeth Thomas Harding, 99, died Friday, December 23, 2016 at her home in the Clear Creek community in Rockcastle County. She was born April 15, 1917 to the late James H. Thomas and Flearie Robinson Thomas. She was also preceded in death by: her husband, John F. Harding; her son, Paul Harding; her daughter, Betty Jane Harding; two sons-in-law, Hubert Abney and Glen Martin; and several siblings, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a loving mother and grandmother and she was a member of the Clear Creek Baptist Church.

She is survived by: her children, Kathleen Abney of Berea, Wayne (Thelma) Harding of Mt. Vernon, Linda Martin of Berea, Bonnie (William) Lewis of London, Esther (Bennie) Gay of Berea, David (Kathy) Harding of Mt. Vernon, Janice (Ron) Owens of Mt. Vernon, and Perry (Phyllis) Harding of Mt. Vernon; 38 grandchildren and more than 200 great and great grand children; and her sister, Mossie Mullins of Berea.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at Lakes Funeral Home with Rev. Wayne Harding and Rev. Chris Cobb officiating. Burial was in the Dees - Harding Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Greg Abney, John Harding, Jeff Martin, Patrick Gay, Boyd Lewis, Terry Harding, Blade Owens, Trent Harding, and Wayne Jackson Lear.

Honorary pallbearers were the rest of the family. Online condolences at [www.lakesfuneralhome.com](http://www.lakesfuneralhome.com)



**Katherine Stevens**

Katherine Norine Smith Stevens, 79, died Sunday morning, December 25, 2016 at her home. She was the widow of William Noel Stevens, who preceded her in death on April 20, 2005. She was born September 7, 1937 in Rockcastle County. She was the daughter of the late John and Ruth Mink Smith. She was a member of the Baptist faith. She was a devoted and loving mother.

Survivors include: son: Jeff Stevens and Fiance Sharon Criswell; two sisters, Helen Price and Carol Huggard; several half brothers and sisters; and special sister-in-law, Bernice Reynolds.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Bill Smith.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at McKnight Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Dan Gutenson officiating. Burial was in Poplar Grove Cemetery.



**Alva Collins Mullins**

Alva Collins Mullins, 88, of Mt. Vernon, died Thursday, December 29, 2016 at the Compassionate Care Center in Richmond. She was born on Piney Branch in Livingston on February 1, 1928, the daughter of Arthur and Edna Westerfield Collins. She was a homemaker and a member of Pine Hill Holiness Church.

She is survived by: her sons, Delbert Wayne Mullins and Jeffery Lynn Mullins, both of Mt. Vernon, and Roy Marcus (Dorlean) Mullins of Brodhead; her sister, Beatrice Collins of Mt. Vernon; and five grandchildren, Jeffery Lynn Mullins, Rebecca Lynn Mullins, Tommy Johnson, Bobby Smith, and Christopher Smith. She was preceded in death by: her husband, William Edgar Mullins; six brothers, Robert Collins, George Collins, Lloyd Collins, Calvin Collins, Hurston Collins, and Arthur Collins, Jr.; and three sisters, Louella Conley, Maybell Moore, and Elizabeth Napier.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday, January 1, 2017 at Pine Hill Holiness Church by Bros. Tommy Hogue and Allen Hensley. Burial was in Pine Hill Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Blaine Collins, Raymond Collins, Russell Collins, Bentley Collins, James Scaff and Bobby Smith.

Arrangements were by Dowell & Martin Funeral Home.

Please visit [www.DowellMartin.com](http://www.DowellMartin.com) to view online obituary.

**Bennie Ray Pittman**

Bennie Ray Pittman, 77, of Mt. Vernon, died Monday, January 1, 2017 at the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, January 6, 2017 at 12 p.m. at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home Chapel by Bro. Elzie Doan. Burial will follow in the Pittman Cemetery.

Friends may call at Dowell & Martin Funeral Home after 11 a.m. Friday. A complete obituary will appear in next week's Signal.

Please visit [www.DowellMartin.com](http://www.DowellMartin.com) to view online obituary.

**Frank Rader**

Frank Rader, son of Dola and Sara Rader, died Tuesday, December 27, 2016.

He is survived by: his wife Terry; two daughters, Ashley (Jeremy) Grant and Rebecca Rader; his mother, Sara Rader; brothers, Manuel (Elaine) Rader, Nathan Rader and Enoch (Janet) Rader; sisters, Reva (Dale) Van Winkle and Zella (Bill) Daugherty; mother in law, Patricia Johnson; step-mother in law, Betty Deatherage; as well as several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made for his burial at web address [www.RememberingFrankRader.com](http://www.RememberingFrankRader.com)



**J.R. Stewart**

J.R. Stewart, 61, husband of Linna, died Sunday, December 25, 2016, at the Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital in Somerset. He was born March 25, 1955, to the late Bill and Roberta (Jackson) Stewart in Manchester. On December 9, 1989, he was united in Holy Matrimony to Linna and from that union came three sons, Rodney, Curtis and Billy Keith. He worked as a mechanic at David's Tire Center for 23 years. He enjoyed coon hunting, fishing, camping and spending time with his family and grandchildren.

Those left to celebrate his life are: his wife of 27 years, Linna Stewart; his sons, Rodney (Tonya) Stewart of Coppercreek, Curtis (Brittany) Bullock of Somerset, and Billy Keith (Tiffany) Stewart of Somerset; his grandchildren, Tyler Holman, Brandon Stewart, Madison Stewart, Madison Hysinger, Kaydence Summer Rose Stewart and Hunter Stewart; his great grandchild, Liam Stewart; his brothers, Edd, Ledford and Melvin Stewart; his sisters, Rose Mills, Sally Smith, Cleo Metcalf, Virgie Hall, Beulah Jackson, Malvery Grubb and Margeret Walker; as well as many nieces and nephews whom loved him dearly, friends and neighbors.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Lester and Hence Stewart.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 27, 2016, at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Zandell Hasty and Buford Parkerson officiating. Burial was in Lawrence Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family requested that donations be made to the funeral fund.

Condolence may be made at [www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com](http://www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com)

**Jack Ray Clontz**

Jack Ray Clontz, 77, husband of Karen Witt Clontz of Berea, died December 26, 2016 at St Joseph Hospital in Lexington.

He was a carpenter and a member of the New Hope Holiness Church. He was born in Rockcastle County to the late John William and Carma Tyree Clontz. He was also preceded in death by one son Anthony Ray "Bubby" Clontz.

He is survived by: his wife, Karen Clontz; children, Bill Clontz, Jackie Clontz, Timmy Clontz, Lisa Miller, Greg Clontz, Lana Alexander and Ricky Clontz; brothers, Charles Clontz, Trenton Wayne Clontz and John Clontz; and sisters, Carolyn Sue Renzenbrink and Mildred Dooléy McKinney; 16 grandchildren; and 18 great grandchildren. He is also survived by many brothers and sisters in-law.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 29, 2016 at the Crestview Holy Sanctuary with Bro. Everly Eads officiating. Burial was in the Madison County Memorial Gardens. Lakes Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Online condolences at [www.lakesfuneralhome.com](http://www.lakesfuneralhome.com)



**Myrtle Adams**

Myrtle Elizabeth Adams, 80, of Brodhead, died Monday January 2, 2017, at Rockcastle County Hospital surrounded by family and friends. She was born in Brodhead on April 16, 1936, the daughter of the late Everett and Grace Burton and fostered by the late Ard and Viola Cox. She was a retired factory worker and devoted 39 1/2 years to the Parker Seal Company. She loved spending time with her grandchildren, setting on her front porch, tending to flowers and gardening, and yard sales and flea markets. She was a member of Brodhead Baptist Church and had an unwavering faith in her Heavenly Father. She was united in marriage to Earl Pennington Adams on December 11, 1965, and from that union came two children, Vicky Adams Farthing and Lee Earl (Teresa) Adams.

She is survived by: both of her children; grandchildren, Kelly Farthing Ponder, Brandon Campbell, Krystal Farthing Powell, Zachary Adams, Danielle Adams Miller, and Destiny Osborne; great grandchildren, Jaylon Ponder, Kayleigh and Addison Miller, Evan Powell, and Braedon, Brody, and Blaine Campbell; brothers, Leroy (Nancy) Burton, Henry (Polly) Burton, and Leman (Dee) Burton; sisters, Brenda Montgomery, Susan (Bill) Swinney, Lorene (Carl) Miller and Julie Burton; as well as many nieces and nephews, friends and neighbors.

She was preceded in death by: both sets of parents; her loving husband of 47 years, Earl P. Adams; four brothers, Cecil Cox, Harold, James David, and Olan Burton; and three sisters, Loretta Burton Hacker, Anna Mae Burton Lovett, and Joyce Burton Payne.

Visitation will be held Thursday, January 5, from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, January 6, 2017, at 1 p.m. at the funeral home with Bros. Ralph Baker and Toby Mullins officiating. Burial will follow in the Piney Grove Cemetery.

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



**Mike Stewart**

Mike Stewart, 53, of Burnside, died Sunday, December 18, 2016 at Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital in Somerset. He was born in Rockcastle County on June 16, 1963, the son of Charles and Mary McGuire Stewart. He was a machine operator for Armstrong Wood Flooring in Somerset and had previously worked in the Maintenance Department for Eastern Kentucky University and Berea College, then later at Somerset Community College. He was also a licensed electrician and plumber and was of the Baptist Faith. He enjoyed Nascar racing, riding his motorcycle and making wood products.

He is survived by: wife, Betty Stewart of Burnside; two daughters, Kim Stewart and Samantha (Daniel) Hamilton, both of Richmond; two step sons, James Viars and Jessie Walters, both of Burnside; his parents, Charles and Mary Stewart; one brother, Larry (Lisa) Stewart of Mt. Vernon; and one sister, Teresa (Tim) Daugherty of Livingston. Also surviving are two grandsons, Cody Jackson and Coty Hamilton.

He was preceded in death by: his grandparents, John and Audrey French McGuire and Sam and Pairalee Leger Stewart; one infant brother, Charles Wesley Stewart; and one brother, Jeffery Charles Stewart.

Funeral Services were conducted Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home by Bro. Burgess Daugherty. Burial was in Briarfield Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Aron Cromer, Daniel Hamilton, Doug Hampton, Ricky Threet, James Viars, and Jessie Walters.

Visit [www.DowellMartin.com](http://www.DowellMartin.com) to view online obituary.



**Linda Meyer**

Linda Darlene Meyer, 74, died Monday, December 26, 2016 in Richmond, Ky.

She was born in Mt. Vernon on Sept. 6, 1942, the beloved daughter of the late Lee and Doris Niceley Duncan and granddaughter of the late Charlie and Sinnie Cummins Niceley and Hazel Barker.

Darlene was a long-distance telephone operator in Dayton, Ohio when she met Thomas Meyer, a wonderful man and an instant love match. They were blessed with a son, Donald.

She was a loving wife and mother who enjoyed reading, movies, traveling and being with her family.

She and Tom attended and were faithful members of a Methodist Church in South Carolina.

After the death of her husband, she moved to Richmond, bringing with her her mother, Doris, whom she cared for until her death.

Darlene continued to attend church when she could and was loved for her cheerful manner and kind heart and many said she reminded them of her mother.

Besides her son, Don and wife, Tammy of Orlando, Florida, survivors include her brother, Barry and wife, Barbara of Jensen Beach, Florida; her sister, Sandra and Gene Blair of Dayton, Ohio and Jensen Beach, Florida; two nephews; several aunts and uncles and many cousins.

She has enriched our lives and will be sorely missed.

Funeral services were held Friday, December 30, 2016 at Cox Funeral Home with Bro. Buford Parkerson and Bro. Perry Noe officiating. Burial followed in Calvary Cemetery in Dayton, Ohio next to her love, Tom.

News and advertising  
deadline is  
noon Tuesday  
Call 256-2244

MONEY FOR FARM IMPROVEMENTS AVAILABLE...

**KADF**  
KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Rockcastle County Conservation District located in the USDA Service Center at 153 Andover Lane Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 or Rockcastle County Extension Service located at 1050 West Main Street Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CAIP)

Applications will be available for Rockcastle County's CAIP to assist farmers in making important on-farm investments.

Application Period: January 10, 2017 - February 10, 2017 No applications will be accepted after February 10, 2017.

Application Availability: will begin on January 10, 2017 at the Rockcastle County Conservation District or Rockcastle County Extension Service Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Informational Meetings: will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 10 a.m. and Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the County Extension Service Meeting Room

For More Information: Contact: Sandy Whitaker at 606-256-2525 ext. 3 or Tom Mills at 606-256-2403 All applications are scored, based on the scoring criteria set by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

# Obituaries



## Donald Ray Newcomb

Donald Ray Newcomb, 61, of Mt. Vernon, died Sunday, December 25, 2016 at the Golden Living-Harmon Heights in Stanford. He entered into this life August 11, 1955 in Livingston, the son of the late Robert E. and Norma Whitt Newcomb. He enjoyed fishing, gardening, and going to church. He was a member of the Higher Praise Ministries in East Bernstadt.

Those left to celebrate his life are: his children, Donald Ray Newcomb, Jr. (Jennifer McLemore) of Mt. Vernon; Rebecca (Rodney) Moberley of Lancaster; his grandchildren, Preslee Mobley, Alexis Dooley and Lyndsay Rae Newcomb; his brothers, Farley (Teresa) Newcomb of Livingston, and Robert Earl (Pam) Newcomb of Hazel Patch; his sisters, Roberta (Gary) McGuire of Mt. Vernon, Sharon (Donnie) Eversole of Mt. Vernon and Phyllis (Jim) Lambdin of Mt. Vernon; as well as a host of nieces/nephews, friends and neighbors.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Newcomb.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at Higher Praise Ministries Church in East Bernstadt with Bro. Chris Davidson officiating. Burial was in the Whitt Cemetery in Swiss Colony (Laurel County).

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

## Gladys Wren Brock

Gladys Lancaster Wren Brock, 86, died Sunday, January 1, 2017 at the Ephraim McDowell Hospital in Danville. She was the wife of the late Carl Waggoner "C.W." Brock. She was born March 6, 1930 in Lincoln County. She was a member of Crab Orchard Pentecostal Church. She enjoyed cooking and quilting when she was able but was always a loving mother and grandmother.

Survivors include: four children, Charlotte (Ernie) Bowling, Gary Joe (Regina) Wren, Velma (David) Shelton and Melissa Carlene Brock; two sisters, Jonell Wilder and Louise Dutton; 12 grandchildren; 30 great grandchildren; eight great great grandchildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by: one son, Charles Wayne Wren; sisters, Lula and Pauline; brothers, Lester, Alfred, Eugene, Raymond and Junior; grandson, Terry Bowling; and three great grandchildren.

Pallbearers include: James Bowling, Shane and Gary Wren, Billy McMahan, Shaun Johnson, Kirklan Wells  
Honorary pallbearers: Sherry Bowling and Kathryn Hensley.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, January 6, 2017 at Crab Orchard Pentecostal Church with Bro. Walter Bowling and Bro. Donald King officiating.

Burial was in Mt. Zion Church of Christ Cemetery. Visitation will be held after 6 p.m. (today) Thursday, January 5, at McKnight Funeral Home and also after 11 a.m. on Friday at the Crab Orchard Pentecostal Church.



## Mary Oma Hunt

Mary Oma Hunt, 81, of Somerset, died Monday, January 2, 2017, at her residence. She was born April 9, 1935, to the late Parnick Lee and Flora (Stevens) Barron in Ottawa. On May 5, 1959, she was united in Holy Matrimony to her late husband Shirley Richard Hunt and from that union came two children, Bobby and Diane. She was a member of the New Hope Church of God and also attended the New Direction Worship Center. She enjoyed cooking and gardening.

Those left to celebrate her life are: her children, Bobby (Lisa) Hunt of Berea and Diane Hunt and John Engle of Somerset; her grandson, Joseph Stephens and his fiancé Kaitlyn Lawson of Somerset; her brother, Robert (Irene) Barron of Mt. Vernon; as well as many friends and neighbors.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Shirley Richard Hunt; infants, Peggy and Bonnie Hunt; brothers, Ed Barron and Herman Barron; and sisters, Gracie Owens, Martha Swinney, Maggie Baker and Locie Barron.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 4, 2017, at Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Eddie Dick officiating. Burial was in Maretburg Cemetery.

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



### Around-the-clock

## American Cancer Society provides help to patients and caregivers

Each year, the American Cancer Society's National Cancer Information Center (NCIC) receives about 800,000 calls, emails and chats from people who are in need of answers — they may need information and support or they may want to volunteer or make a donation. Those contacts lead to more than 1.7 million services being provided. Phone lines are open around the clock, 365 days a year, to ease fears and give people all the answers they need about cancer.

"While many people are familiar with the research efforts of the American Cancer Society, few are aware of the full scope of free services available to cancer patients and their loved ones," says Kevin Babb, vice president of the National Cancer Information Center. "These services can be obtained through one easy toll-free call to the American Cancer Society at 1-800-227-2345."

According to Babb, when an individual calls the American Cancer Society they will be connected to a live Cancer Information Specialist. These specialists, who staff the phone lines 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, are specially trained to listen to and identify the needs of cancer patients and their caregivers, then match them with services or resources to meet their needs.

"Our specialists really listen to where the patient is in their cancer journey," Babb says. "Did they just get diagnosed and need educational materials? Are they in the middle of treatment and looking for a ride to their appointments? We make sure to manage all requests through to completion. No one will be left to navigate a cancer experience alone when they reach out to us."

Through the process of

probing and clarifying, NCIC specialists often discover that a person's needs may go beyond their initial question. For example, a woman asking about the side effects of chemotherapy treatment actually may be concerned about losing her hair and how to prepare her children for this journey.

*Road to Recovery is an in-demand service*

The National Cancer Information Center can provide information on road to recovery, look good feel better, wigs, smoking cessation, clinical trials, and emotional and financial support. They have access to thousands of resources and can help cancer patients and their caregivers in both English and Spanish with more than 200 other languages available via a translation service.

"Whatever their needs might be, no matter how big or small, we always try to help," Babb says. "Even if a person is just lonely or scared and needs to talk, we're here. We are dedicated to serving the needs of all cancer patients. Our entire structure revolves around helping them get well."

For more information about the many free American Cancer Society patient programs and services, or to learn how you can become a volunteer or donate, please call 1-800-227-2345 or visit [cancer.org](http://cancer.org).

*About The American Cancer Society*

The American Cancer Society is a global grassroots force of 2.5 million volunteers saving lives and fighting for every birthday threatened by every cancer in every community. As the largest voluntary health organization, the Society's efforts have contributed to a 22 percent decline in cancer death rates in the US during the past two decades, and a

50 percent drop in smoking rates. Thanks in part to our progress nearly 14.5 million Americans who have had cancer and countless more who have avoided it will celebrate more birthdays this year. We're determined to finish the fight against cancer. As the nation's largest private, not-for-profit investor in cancer research,

we're finding cures and ensuring people facing cancer have the help they need and continuing the fight for access to quality health care, lifesaving screenings, clean air, and more. For more information, to get help, or to join the fight, visit [cancer.org](http://cancer.org) or call us anytime, day or night, at 1-800-227-2345.

### Free smoking cessation program

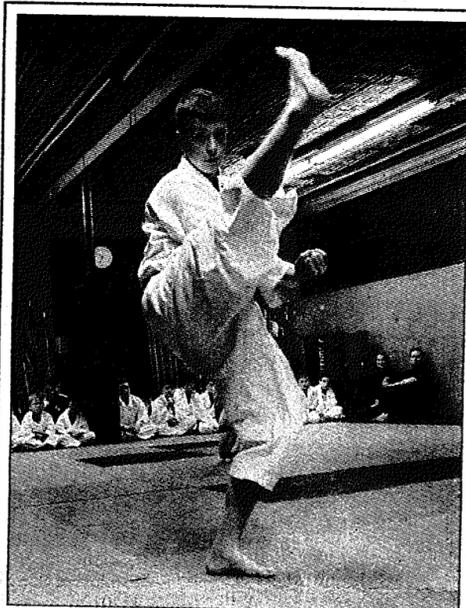
If you would like to quit smoking, Rockcastle Regional Hospital can help. Using an innovative smoking-cessation program called Freedom From Smoking, we can help you become a non-smoker.

Join us Tuesday, January 17, 2017 to start the 8-week program sponsored by Rockcastle Regional Hospital. Classes are Tuesdays at 5 p.m. in the hospital's large conference room.

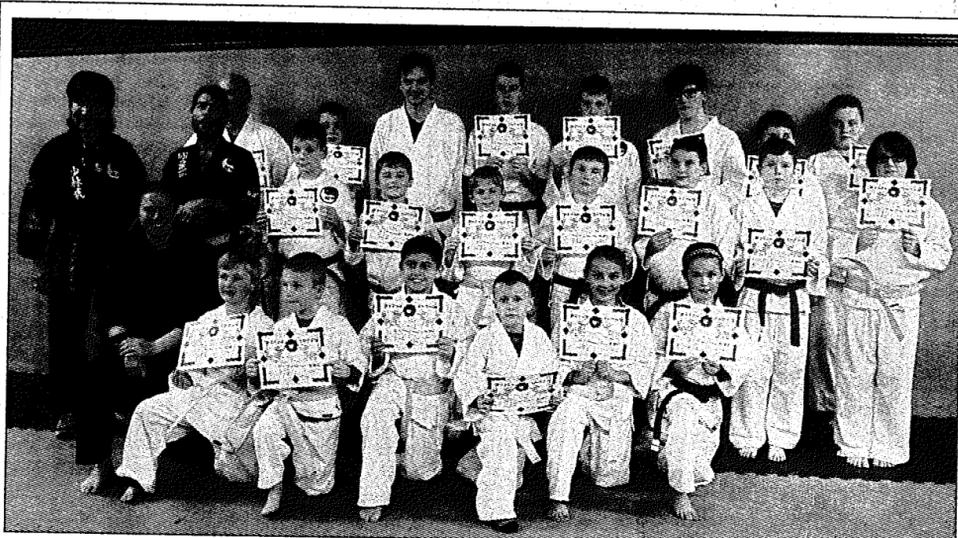
Interested in participating? Contact Morgan Bray 256-7704 or [m.bray@rhccc.org](mailto:m.bray@rhccc.org).

### Benefit for Owens Family

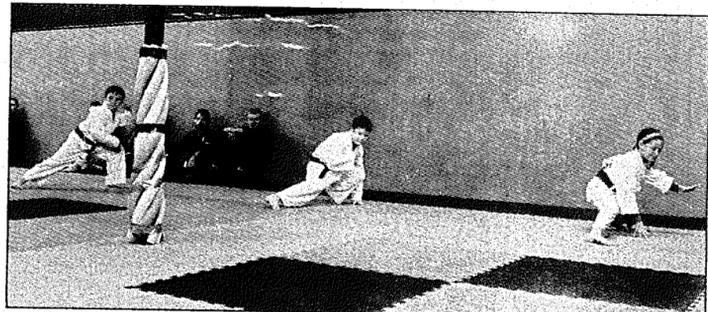
There will be a Benefit Singing and Soup Supper at New Hope Baptist Church on Saturday, Jan. 7th, beginning at 5 p.m. for Marecca Owens and family who lost their home and nearly all of their possession in a house fire on Wednesday, December 28th. If you would like to donate to this family, clothing sizes are as follows: womens - 12 jeans, XL shirts and 8.5-9 shoes; men's - 30x32 jeans, L shirts and 9.5-10 shoes and boy's - 12 jeans, 10/12 shirts and sz. 3 shoes. Please call 606-256-5010 to find out where to send and drop off any donations.



Hunter Medley performing Lo Han Chien.



Twenty three students tested into their next rank this December at Rockcastle Shaolin Do, including students from Berea, Livingston, and Eubank classes. Pictured are students after receiving their belts with instructors and Grandmaster Sin The'. Anyone interested in classes can call/text (859)588-8905 or visit the website at [www.RockcastleShaolinDo.com](http://www.RockcastleShaolinDo.com). Congratulations to everyone on their achievement and hard work. Students testing from White to Yellow belt: Todd Hackler, Keelyn Hursey, Raleigh Walden, Talmadge Walden, Austin Edmister, Audrey Jennings, Kelly Horseman, Ian Horseman and Alex Gray. Yellow-Blue belt: John Howard. Blue-Green belt: Matt McNew. Green-3rd Brown Belt: Hunter Medley, Hayden Medley and Ethan Medley. 3rd Brown-2nd Brown belt: Austin McClure, Susanne Mullins, Harrison Mullins, John Asher, Jailun Tyree, Heath Barnes and Inan McFarland. 2nd Brown-1st Brown Sash: James Mullins.



Austin McClure, Harrison Mullins, and Susanne Mullins performing the 1st White Crane.



Livingston class students pictured with instructors and Grandmaster Sin The'.

**Donations are needed for fencing and to board up the windows at Buckeye Christian Church to keep vandals from doing further damage.**

Please send donations to Gary M. Reppert, P.O. Box 174, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456

# SPORTS

Place third in Aleris Toourney

## Rockets win South Central Bank-Halton Classic Tournament

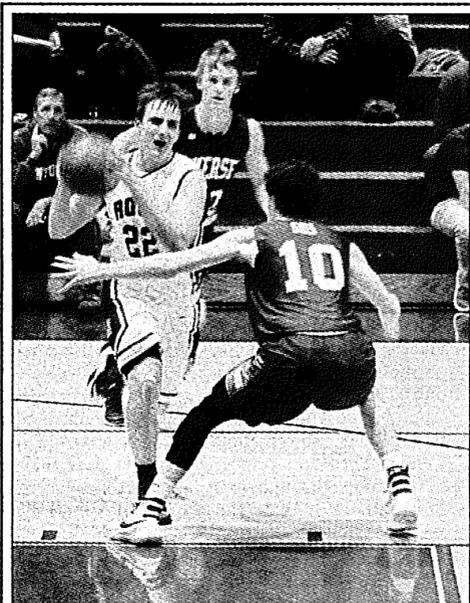
After winning their opening game in the Aleris Invitational in Hancock Co., 64-44, the Rockets dropped their next game, against Holy Cross 73-72.

It was a close game all the way against Holy Cross with the Rockets down 13-12 at the first quarter stop, up 34 to 31 at the half and up 58-53 at third quarter stop. However, in the fourth

quarter, the rockets were outscored 20-14 for the one point loss.

The two teams were almost perfectly matched. The Rockets hit nine three point shots to Holy Cross's 10 and the Rockets hit 9 of 16 at the free throw line while Holy Cross hit 9 of 21.

(Cont. to A7)



Senior Rocket John Cornelius fights hard to get to the goal in the Rockets 78-64 win over Somerset Tuesday night. Cornelius scored 22 points in the win for the Rock.

## Lady Rockets win 2 of 3 at Nelson Co. Invitational

The Lady Rockets started off their part of the Nelson County Invitational with a 57-52 win over Thomas Nelson.

The Rockets were up 24-17 at the halftime stop but Thomas Nelson came back in the third quarter to outscore the Lady Rockets 18-11 and the game was knotted at 35 at the end of regulation play.

In overtime, senior Mahala Saylor poured in six of her teams' 11 points, to Thomas Nelson's 6 points, for the final 57-52.

Senior Hope Kelley, named to the tourney's All-Tournament Team, led the scoring for her team with 14 points; Saylor got 13; senior Maddy Bullen 11; eighth grader Casey Coleman scored eight; freshman Kenzi Himes and senior

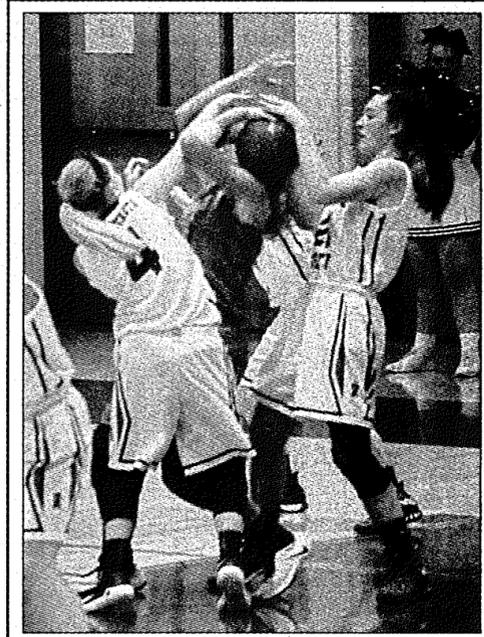
Emme Barker got four each and junior Leaellen Rogers got two.

In the second game of the tournament, the Lady Rockets were dominated by Nelson County 66-52. The Rockets trailed at all the quarter stops 19-9 at the end of the first quarter, 40-22 at the half and 58-40 at the third quarter stop.

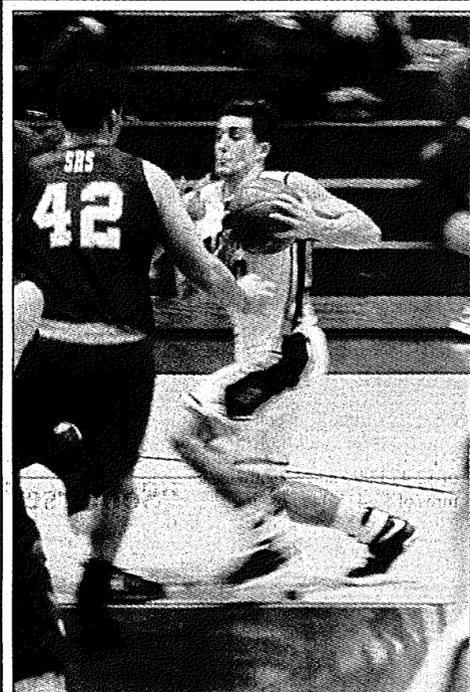
Kenzi Himes was the only Lady Rocket in double figures with 16; Barker got 9; Coleman and Saylor scored seven each; senior Jayna Albright got 6; Kelley got four and Bullen and junior Emily Adams got two points each.

In their final game of the tournament, the Lady Rockets pulled out a 54-52 win over Green County.

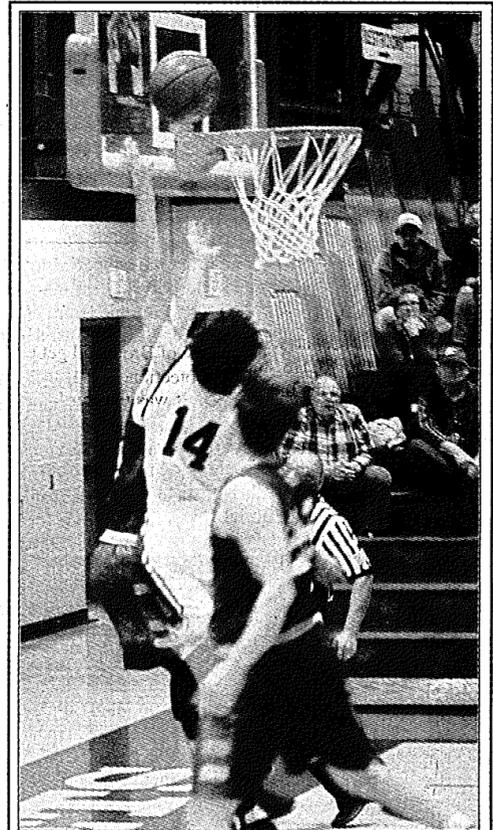
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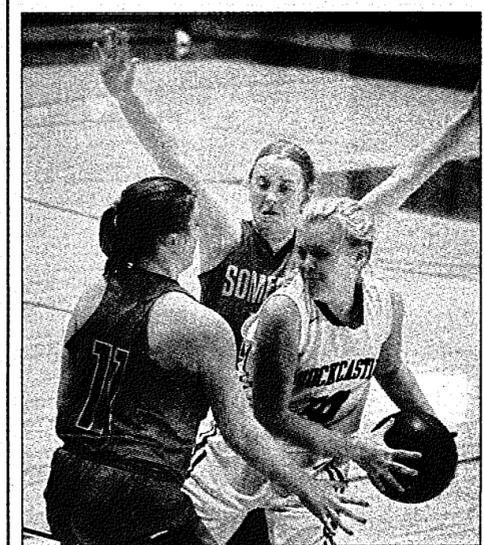
Shelby Newland and Lea Ellen Rogers double team a Somerset player in the Lady Rockets win Tuesday night.



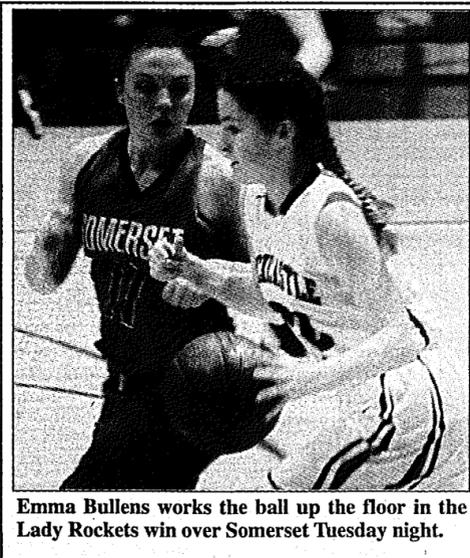
Senior Rocket Carson Noble takes the ball to the hole for two of his 13 points in the Rockets 78-64 win over Somerset Tuesday night.



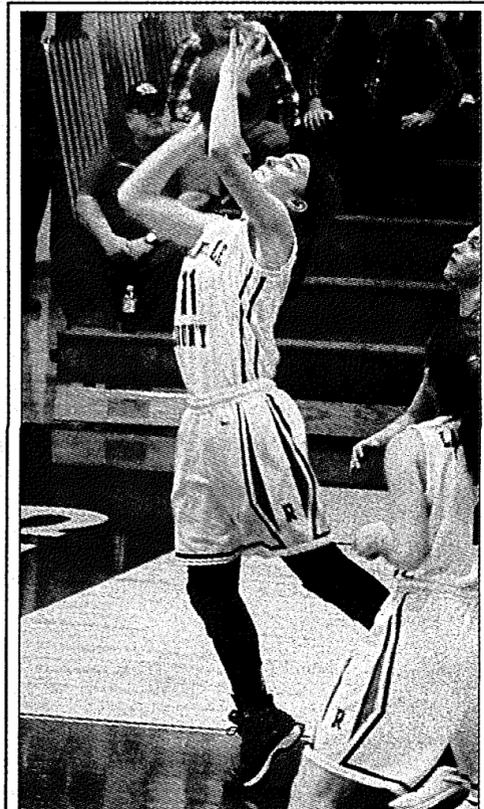
Senior Rocket Jordan Hawkins goes up for two in the Rockets win Tuesday night. The Rockets and Lady Rockets travel to Pulaski County Friday night for a district match-up.



Junior Lady Rockets Mackenzie Payne looks for a teammate during their win over Somerset Tuesday night.



Emma Bullens works the ball up the floor in the Lady Rockets win over Somerset Tuesday night.



Lady Rocket Casey Coleman goes up for two of her seven points in the Lady Rockets' 65-42 win over Somerset Tuesday night.

## Both Rocket teams get second district win

Both the Rockets and Lady Rockets racked up their second district win of the season with wins over the Somerset Briar Jumpers Tuesday night at RCHS.

The Lady Rockets were in complete control of their game, beating the Lady Briar Jumpers 65-42 behind a balanced scoring attack which saw three Lady Rockets in double figures.

The Lady Rockets were up 12-7 at the first quarter stop, 32-16 at the half and 48-24 at the end of the third quarter.

Senior Hope Kelley led the scoring for her team with 14; freshman Kenzi Himes got 12; senior Maddy Bullen 10; senior Mahala Saylor scored nine points; eighth grader Casey Coleman scored seven points, including a perfect 5 for 5 from the charity stripe;

freshman Shelby Newland got six points; sophomore Kassie Lay scored a three point basket and Albright and Barker got two points each.

### Rockets 78 Somerset 64

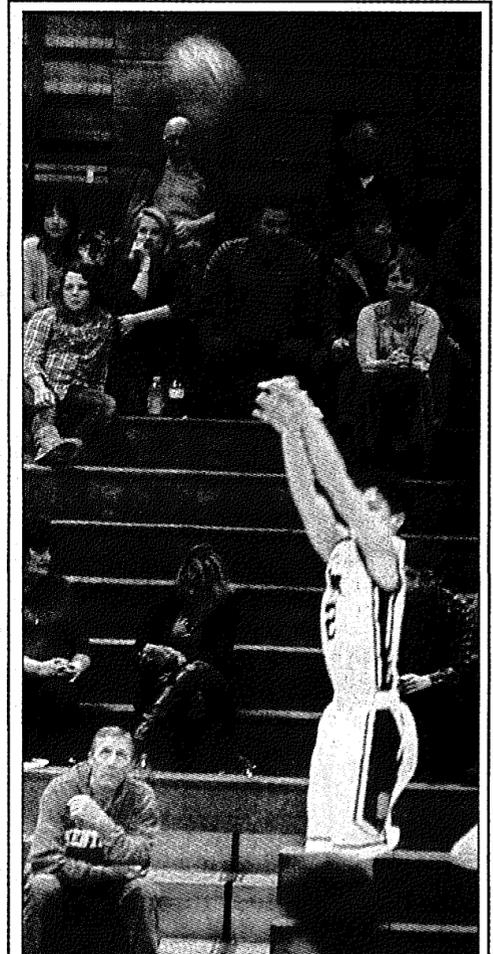
In a return match between the Somerset Briar Jumpers and the Rockcastle Rockets, the Rockets once again proved up to the task in the 78-64 district win.

Four Rockets were in double figures in the hotly contested game through three quarters.

The Rockets were down 13-12 at the first quarter stop, 35-28 at the half and the score was knotted at 51 at the end of the third quarter.

However, the Rockets came back in the fourth

(Cont. to A7)



Senior Rocket Thomas Burdette puts up a three in Tuesday night's game against Somerset. Burdette scored 22 in the win.



4-H Sewing Project participants from Mt. Vernon Elementary School were front row from left: Daisy Flannery, Allie Cable, Caitlyn Kirby, Allie Payne, Lacie Laws, Anna Chaliff and Grace Reams. Back row from left: Amy Angell, Paige Cash, Raychel Carpenter, Alivia Kirby, Lila Holt, Madison York, Savannah Davis and Brock Mason.

## "Year"

(Continued from front)

damage was repaired, another storm hit the area in February, causing the cancellation of spring break at local schools.

It was also that week that mudslides occurred in the county and one in particular blocked U.S. 25 between Mount Vernon and Livingston.

### March, 2016

In the first week of March, the first-ever Republican Caucus was scheduled in the county.

Also in March, new state laws were passed addressing synthetic drugs which allowed local law enforcement to pursue such drug users with the same approach as other drugs.

In that same week, PRIDE awarded \$1,000 for environmental education in Rockcastle County.

By the second week of March, Donald Trump dominated the Republican Caucus in Rockcastle County.

This was also the week that County Clerk Danetta Ford Allen presented \$103,000 to the Fiscal Court in excess fees and Source HOV announced 150 new jobs coming to the county.

Also in the second week of March, the RCHS and RCMS girls won the Indoor Track State Championship.

It was in March that all three county mayors and Judge/Executive Doug Bishop gave a state of the county address at the Rockcastle Chamber of Commerce meeting.

In the third week of March, the county received high praise on their annual financial audit. Also, over 300 local residents attended a Whitetail Unlimited Banquet at RCMS.

In the last week of March, officials gathered over 20 grams of meth off the streets to add to their almost weekly confiscation of drugs in the county.

### April, 2016

In the first week of April, Senator Rand Paul held a town meeting in the county and more meth was found by local police.

In the second week of April, the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court established a Parks and Recreation Board, with members to be announced at a later date, and Brodhead council members continued to update their nuisance ordinance.

It was also in April that Robert Lawson pled guilty to Theft by Deception during his position as the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame Director.

Also in April, Constable Frank Maples was arrested and charged with terroristic threatening and the I-75 widening project was approved by the Kentucky General Assembly.

In this same week, Carlos McClure, Jailer, was recognized for outstanding service in the repair of the jail after fire damaged the facility in late December of 2015.

### May, 2016

In May, Governor Matt Bevin was at the Limestone Grille in Mt. Vernon where a full house heard his plans for the I-75 widening project and other projects.

Also during May, the fiscal court approved a new gym floor for the old Livingston School and Livingston held their annual Founder's Day Parade.

Primary elections were held in May in the county and Rockcastle County saw a 24% turnout of registered voters. Incumbent Jonathan Shell took 80% of the vote for Kentucky State Representative.

Also in May, former Chief Justice Joe Lambert was honored by the Fiscal Court.

In the last week of May, the Rockcastle Regional Hospital received a Quality Award for the eighth time while the graduating class of 2016 gathered for commencement at RCHS.

### June, 2016

In June, a lawsuit was filed against the local detention center after an inmate committed suicide while in custody.

Also in June, a large crowd showed up for the Memorial Day event held on the Courthouse lawn honoring veterans.

The Fiscal Court approved a \$6.6 million budget for the county and the RCMS Girl's Track Team won a state championship.

It was also in June that the Fiscal Court gave \$12,000 per year to help the city of Brodhead get police protection.

It was the third week of June when Source HOV announced 600 new jobs coming to the county.

Also in June, several black bears were spotted in the area and officials were on guard to keep them away from residents.

(Please see the remaining 6 months of last year in review in next week's issue of *The Mount Vernon Signal*.)

## "Rockets"

(Continued from A6)

The Rockets were led in scoring by senior John Cornelius with 23 points; senior Carson Noble got 19; seniors Thomas Burdette and Jordan Hawkins scored 11 points each and senior Lucas Gentry and junior Nick Dillingham each scored four points.

The Rockets won their final game of the tourney 81-61 over Livingston Central and secured third place in the tournament.

The Rockets took an early 25-16 point lead in the game and increased their lead with each quarter for the final 20 point win.

The Rockets had a big edge in the three point basket department, hitting eight threes to Livingston Central's two. But Livingston Central had 22 chances at the three point line and made good on 16 of them while the Rockets only got nine chances, hitting seven.

Cornelius again led the scoring for his team with 31 points; Noble got 19; Burdette 17; Gentry six; junior Devin Mullins 5 and senior Jordan Hawkins 3.

At the South Central Bank-Halton Classic in Scottsville, the Rockets won all three of their games to finish in first place for the tournament.

Their first game was against Elizabethtown which they won 80-77. The win came on a three point basket by Gentry with a little over a second on the clock.

The Rockets jumped out to an early 21-14 first quar-

ter lead but the score was tied 30 all at halftime. However a strong third quarter by the Rockets gave them a 58-49 lead and, despite a comeback by ETown in the fourth, when they outscored the Rockets 28-22 to tie the score at 77 all, the Rockets took the win on Gentry's clutch three.

For the third time in a row, Cornelius took game high scoring honors with 28, which included four three point baskets; Burdette got 15 points; Noble 13; Hawkins and Gentry 11, each and Mullins 2.

The championship game saw the Rockets pitted against the host team, Allen Co-Scottville and, despite trailing 27-25 at the half, the Rockets put together a strong second half, outscoring Allen Co-Scottville 38-30 for the 63-57 win.

Noble took high scoring honors with 21 points; Burdette got 20; Cornelius 12; Hawkins eight and Gentry two.

The Rockets hit seven three point shots, while ACS was hitting four, and ten of 18 free throws to ACS's 9 of 14.

## "Court"

(Continued from front)

expected income for 2017 of \$2,473,900 and expenditures of \$2,411,449, leaving estimated excess fees of \$62,450 for 2017.

The expected income for 2017 is up \$85,550 over the 2016 figure of \$2,388,350 which had been received through the date the new budget was compiled and disbursements for 2017 are expected to be up \$71,508.

During the meeting, the court also approved payment of \$55,600 to Todd Builders and \$30,000 to Rays Carpentry, for the new exhibition building at the Fairgrounds in Brodhead, bringing the total expended thus far on the project to \$213,000. The court received a \$100,000 grant toward construction of the building from the state agricultural department.

Fiscal Court Clerk Patricia Martin said Tuesday that this is the bulk of the expenses of construction of the new building with only minor items remaining to be paid for.

## Singleton named to Dean's List

Julianna Singleton, a Mount Vernon native, qualified for the Fall 2016 Dean's List at Belmont University. Eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

Approximately 30 percent of Belmont's 7,700 students qualified for the Fall 2016 Dean's List. Belmont Provost Dr. Thomas Burns said, "This achievement for the fall semester indicates that these students have placed a high priority on their work at Belmont and have invested time and energy in their studies. It is our strong belief that consistent application in this manner will reap great benefits, which will equip them for a lifetime of learning and growing."

## "Meth"

(Continued from front)

baggie contained a crystal-like rock substance suspected to be meth which weighed over seven grams. Banks was charged with possession of a controlled substance and promoting contraband and lodged in the Rockcastle County Detention Center.

On Friday, December 30, police arrested Billy Ray Gadd, 27 of Mount Vernon who was also charged with possession of meth.

A citation from the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Office says police searched a vehicle, in which Gadd was a passenger, and found a pill bottle with a baggie inside.

The report says the baggie contained a crystal-rock substance suspected to be meth and that Gadd stated the substance was "ice" which is a street name for meth.

The bond for Gadd was set at \$7,500/10%. No bond has been set for Banks.

## "Lady Rock"

(Continued from A6)

Himes was again the top scorer for her team with 18 points, 10 of them coming in the fourth quarter; Saylor got 12 points; Kelley 11; Bullen six; Albright five and Barker two.

The Lady Rockets didn't fare as well at the Garrard Co. Invitational where they lost to Woodford County, South Laurel and Johnson Central.

In the Woodford County game, the Lady Rockets led 14-13 at the first quarter stop but a cold shooting second quarter saw them down 28-22 at the half. They fought back in the third to within two at 42-40 but Woodford poured it on in the fourth to outscore the Lady Rockets 20-15 for the final 62-55.

Himes and Coleman again led the scoring for their team with 11 each; Bullen got 10; Barker nine; Kelley eight; Bullen three; Albright two and Rogers one.

Woodford hit 26 of 34 free throw attempts, 12 in the fourth quarter. The Lady Rockets were 16 of 25.

In the second game of the tourney, the Lady Rockets ran into a buzz saw in the persona of the South Laurel Lady Cardinals, losing 69-45.

Kelley led the scoring for her team in this game with 11 points; Himes got 10; Albright and Bullen had eight each; Saylor got three; Coleman and Rogers scored two each and freshman Shelby Newland got one point.

In the final game of the tourney, the Lady Rockets were defeated 55-51 by Johnson Central.

Kelley again led the scoring for her team with 14 points; Himes got 13; Saylor and Barker scored six each; Coleman got 5; Newland 4 and Bullen three.

## "Somerset"

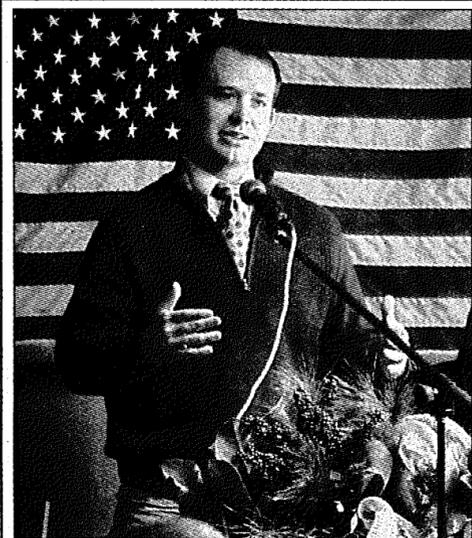
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quarter to outscore Somerset 27-13 for the win.

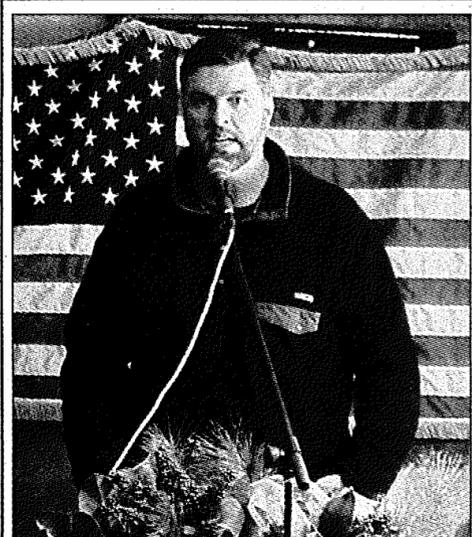
Seniors Thomas Burdette and John Cornelius took scoring honors for their team with 22 points each; seniors Carson Noble and Jordan Hawkins got 13 points each; junior Devin Mullins scored 5 points and senior Lucas Gentry 3.

The Rockets hit 10 of 18 tries from the free throw line and got four three point baskets.

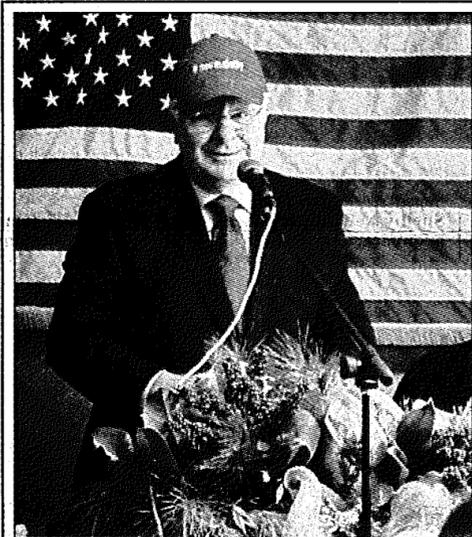
Both the Rockets and Lady Rockets will travel to Pulaski County Friday, January 6th for another district game and, next Tuesday night, they will host East Jessamine in a doubleheader.



State Representative for Rockcastle and House Majority Floor Leader spoke to a large crowd December 22nd at the Limestone Grille in Mt. Vernon. It was a joint meeting between the Rockcastle Chamber of Commerce and the Rockcastle Kiwanis Club.



Rockcastle's State Senator Jared Carpenter also spoke to the crowd about issues facing Kentuckians in the new session which began January 3rd.



Former State Representative Danny Ford, of Mt. Vernon, was part of the Chamber/Kiwanis program held December 22nd at the Limestone Grille.



Travis Burton, Manager of Public Affairs at the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the crowd about issues the Chamber would be working hard for in the upcoming session.

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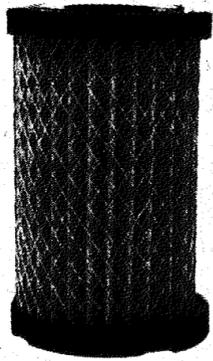
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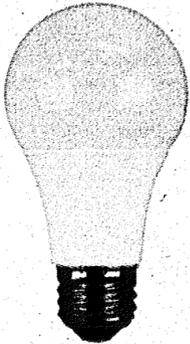
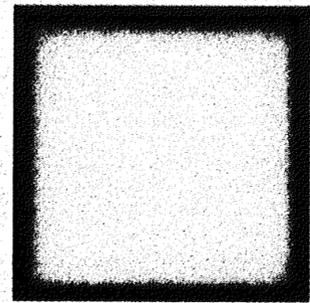
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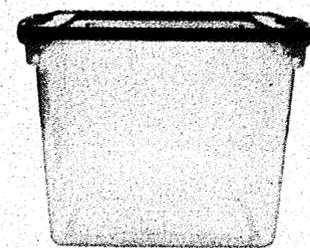
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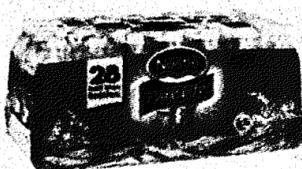


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# Mount Vernon Signal

Second Section

Thursday, January 5, 2017

## Rope rescue saves hunting dog's life

By: Mike French

In a daring rescue, local fire fighters of the Brodhead Volunteer Fire Department and Mount Vernon Fire Department climbed into a 65-foot deep hole to rescue, "Jackson," a hunting dog.

The owner of the dog called the Mount Vernon Fire Department when the dog fell into the hole and Mount Vernon called the Brodhead Fire Department because of their special training in rope rescue, according to John Dyehouse, Brodhead Fire Chief.

Dyehouse said he fully understands the concerns of the dog owner. "I'm a dog owner too and I love animals. This was a chance to

both do some good and to hone our skills," he said. "We don't get a lot of rope rescue here in Rockcastle so this kind of thing keeps our skills sharp and available."

Dyehouse also said there is a chance that if the fire department hadn't helped the situation could have escalated.

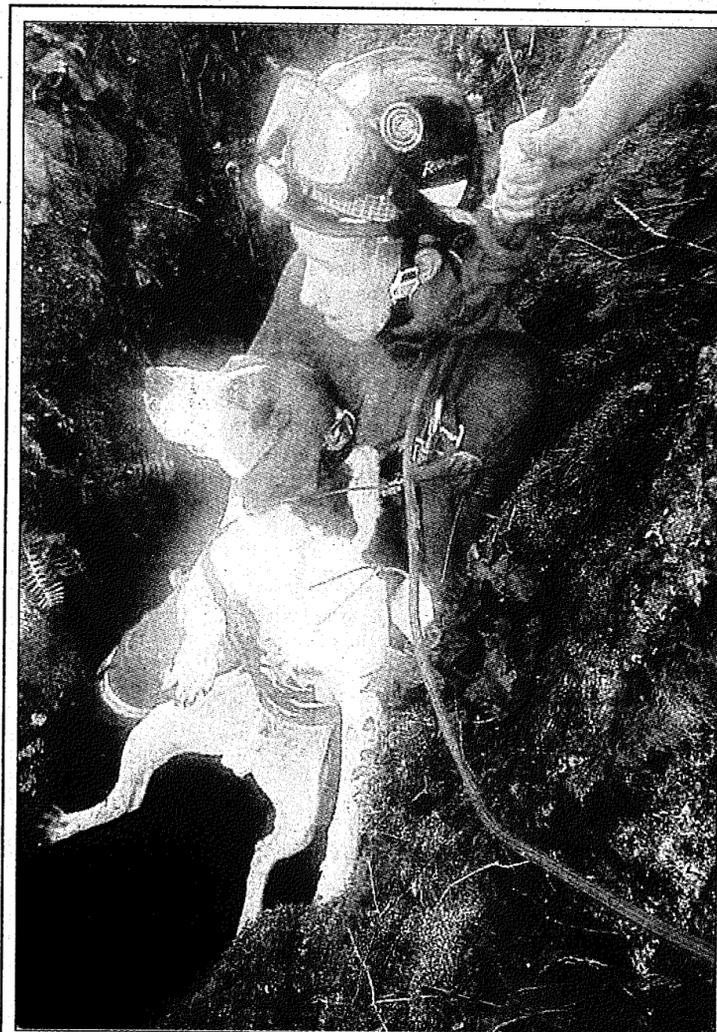
"I love my dogs too. And if we didn't go rescue animals in this manner, there's a chance the owner would try to performed the technical, complicated rescue and we could have to rescue an owner some day," said Dyehouse. "So we gladly use the chance to perfect our skills and in the mean time,

we are saving an animal's life and protecting an owner."

According to Dyehouse, this is the purpose of the many rescue teams across the country. "We protect lives and property. That's what we do," he said.

Fire fighter Larkin Prewitt was the fire fighter that actually entered the hole to rescue the animal, but Brodhead and Mount Vernon firefighters were at the edge of the hole as Prewitt brought "Jackson" out of the cave.

A cheer was heard from owners and fire fighters as well as Jackson was reunited with his owner.



### Rescue

Larkin Prewitt, with the Brodhead Fire Department, entered a 65-foot hole to rescue "Jackson", a hunting dog last week. Members of the Brodhead Fire Department have had special training in rope rescue and was able to use those skills and training to save the trapped animal. Fire Chief John Dyehouse said such rescues keep the volunteers honed on their rope rescue skills while saving an animal's life. "It's what we do. Save life and property," said Dyehouse.

## Nick Bastin credits career path to education, experience and hard work

When Lincoln County native Nick Bastin made the decision to attend Somerset Community College for the Physical Therapist Assistant program, he knew he was setting his career into motion; however, he didn't realize that starting at SCC would launch him into his current position as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Compliance Officer at a place he loves.

Bastin, a 1997 graduate of Lincoln County High School, currently serves as the chief financial officer (CFO) at Rockcastle Regional Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc. His career path began in 1999 when he graduated with an Associate in Applied Science with High Distinction from SCC. He began working at Rockcastle Regional as a physical therapist assistant and worked his way up, earning degrees in accounting from Eastern Kentucky University and his Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of the Cumberlands along the way.

"Benjamin Franklin made this comment in regards to education: 'an investment in knowledge pays the best interest,'" Bastin said. "While education provides an avenue to increase our knowledge, it's the opportunities and experiences it lends that creates so much value. Education is important because it can change your path in life and grants opportunities to make a difference and enrich the lives of others."

Starting at SCC made financial sense for Bastin, he said, as well as provided

the opportunity to remain close to home. He credits much of his success with what he learned at the community college level.

"Without my education and training from SCC, I would not have been afforded the experience and opportunities that I have gained in the past 17 years," Bastin said. "For me, education has granted me so much more than an increase in knowledge base. My education at SCC paved the way for opportunities I did not know existed at the time. Those opportunities yielded a career in healthcare for me and allowed me to be a difference maker. Now, I have the chance to do more than just earn a pay check. At the end of the day, those of us in health care get to make a difference in someone's life. Whether it's a warm smile, a gentle touch or compassionate care, as healthcare providers we have an opportunity to make someone's day a little brighter."

In his current position as CFO and compliance officer, Bastin is responsible for the overall financial well-being of the hospital and care center's financial planning, strategy, budgeting, investment management and revenue cycle management. He also provides supervision of accounting to the business office, health information, materials management and information services.

"I'm blessed to serve as CFO at a great organization that delivers exceptional patient care with a regional presence. Rockcastle Regional Hospital & Respiratory Care Center is a very progressive organization

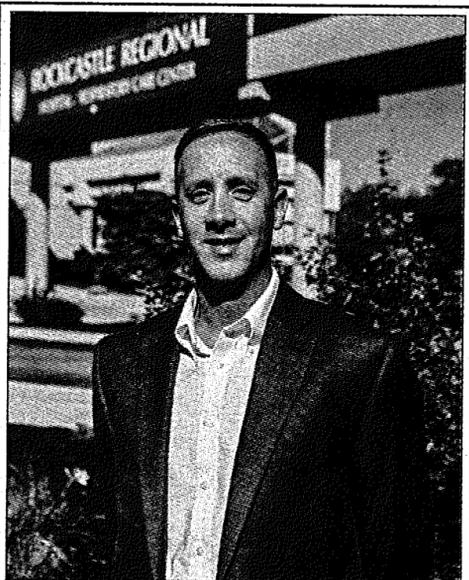
and our growth in services demonstrates our commitment to meeting the healthcare needs of this region," Bastin said. "The Rock' offers quality care close to home by physicians who don't just know your medical diagnosis, they also know your name. The staff and culture here is tremendous and I hope to continue to serve as CFO so we can continue to make Rockcastle a great place for patients to receive care, employees to work and physicians to practice medicine."

In his position, Bastin has the opportunity to work with others who have been trained at SCC and sees the community college as vital to the success of our region.

"In rural communities, and especially in our region, hospitals can serve as the economic engine for the community. The hospital is often the largest employer in a county, and without it, access to critical patient care is limited and hundreds of jobs and tax revenue is gone. SCC provides the skilled talent necessary with the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) and Registered Nursing (RN) programs for hospitals to continue to provide exceptional care in a local venue while adding additional tax revenue for local government entities," Bastin said. "In 2017, 'The Rock' plans to expand our long term care ventilator program by 28 beds, which means we will add approximately 85 jobs to a total workforce of nearly 800 employees. Finding top nursing talent is critical to our success and would not be possible without SCC producing a talented pool of nurses."

Bastin also credits his success to his family, his wife Melanie, who also works in health care as an occupational therapist, and children Caden, age 11, and Abby, age 8. In addition to his position at the hospital, Bastin owns and operates a 40-acre farm and raises beef cattle. He enjoys running and coaching his kids in soccer and baseball, as well as serving as a deacon at Pleasant View Baptist Church.

"Personally, I'm focused on embracing the moment with our children," said Bastin. "At 11 and 8, we are becoming increasingly involved in athletic, educational, church activities and farming. While life can be a bit fast-paced, I'm trying to embrace the ride and make memories that last a lifetime."



Nick Bastin, a graduate of the Somerset Community College's Physical Therapist Assistant program, now serves as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Compliance Officer at Rockcastle Regional Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc. in Mount Vernon.

## Rockcastle Pediatrics receives Hospice Above and Beyond Award

Hospice Care Plus presented four Above and Beyond awards at its 2016 annual dinner, and one of them honored Rockcastle Pediatrics.

The awards are given each year to civic groups, non-profits, churches, businesses or other organizations that go to great lengths to support the mission of Hospice Care Plus and its patients and families.

Rockcastle Pediatrics was chosen for its outstanding support of pediatric patients served by Hospice Care Plus. The Mt. Vernon-based practice provides two physicians, doctors Callie Shaffer and Sarah Oliver, to serve as medical directors for hospice's youngest patients. They make themselves available 24/7 to oversee medical care, participate in care team meetings, write orders for prescriptions, and help design plans of care that promote quality of life and pain and symptom management.

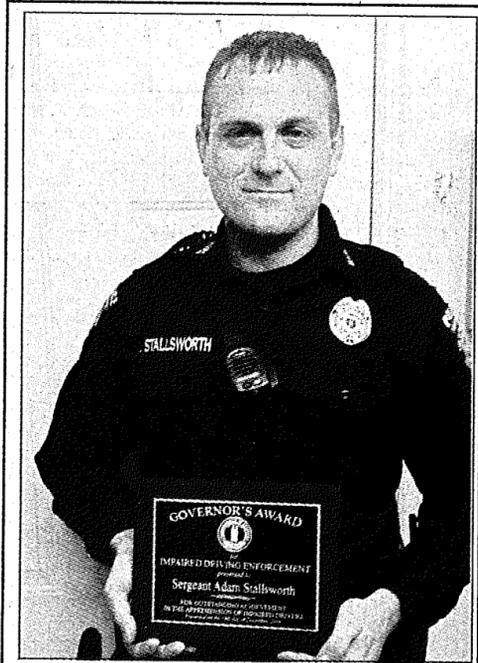
In presenting the award, Hospice Care Plus noted that, without the support of Rockcastle Pediatrics, its staff, and doctors Shaffer and Oliver, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to provide care for pediatric

hospice patients and their families.

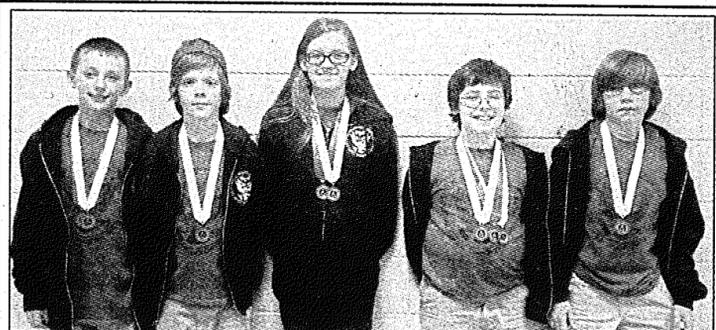
The other three Above and Beyond awards were presented to Hogg Rentals of Berea, Madison County EMS, and Marcum and Wallace Memorial Hospital

in Irvine.

Hospice Care Plus is Rockcastle County's sole provider of hospice, palliative, and bereavement care. For more information, visit [hospicecareplus.org](http://hospicecareplus.org) or call 859-986-1500.



Sergeant Adams Stallsworth was recently received the Governor's Award for the most D.U.I. arrests for the Mt. Vernon Police Department in 2016.



The Rockcastle County Middle School Academic Team was very successful at the Sixth-Grade Showcase competition held at South Laurel Middle School on Saturday, December 3rd. The entire team placed fourth overall and the Quick Recall team placed third. In individual written assessment, Hunter Day placed sixth in Math, Logen Dykes placed fourth in Language Arts, Joseph Pickle placed second in Science and third in Social Studies and Kaitlyn Burgin placed fourth in Arts and Humanities. Pictured from left are: Logen Dykes, Samuel Burdine, Kaitlyn Burgin, Joseph Pickle and Hunter Day.

# News from the Rockcastle Courthouse



## Marriage Licenses

Leanne Spurlock, 22, Mt. Vernon, KFC to Phillip Andrew Spoonamore, 37, Mt. Vernon, Redi Mart. 12/28/16  
 Jennifer Horn, 25, Richmond, daycare provider, to Donovan Bishop, 20, Richmond, concrete plant. 12/29/17

## Deeds Recorded

Ricky Dale and Brenda Gail Bullock, property in Countryside Estates, to Jeffrey S. and Conda

Robinson. Tax \$106.50  
 Orlean Price, property on waters of Negro Creek, to Phillip Price and Anita Brown. Tax \$25  
 Lois A. Owens, property on Sweetwater Road, to Frank Maples. Tax \$65  
 Jennifer Renee Bowman and Tommy Oliver, property in Orlando Subdv., to Kenneth Sargent. Tax \$12.  
 Steven L. and Hope Renfro, property in Mt. Vernon, to Thurman Jack and Evelene Raines. Tax \$164  
 Estate of Barbara Sue Taylor, Robert Earl and Christa Taylor and Utina Katrina Taylor Meade, property in Mt. Vernon, to Aaron and Kelly Ann Mobley and Robert and Frances Gabbard. Tax \$26  
 Planet Home Lending,

property on Old State Road, to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. No tax  
 Louise Kirby, property in Rockcastle County, to Kenneth Wayne Kirby and Linda Gail Hamm. No tax  
 Regina G. Goforth, property in Rockcastle County, to Charles and Melissa Ann Miller. Tax \$20  
 Farm Credit Mid-America FLCA, property in Rockcastle County, to Robert Eli French. Tax \$59  
 Anthony W. and Melissa S. McClure, property on Copper Creek Road, to Kristopher and Ashley Rose. Tax \$78  
 Don and Sue Long, property in Rockcastle County, to William G. and Marcella W. Lovell. Tax \$85  
 Jason and Carla Robinson, property in Willie Todd Family Project, to Lonnie Joe Robinson. No tax  
 Dirrell Mitchell Cress, Jr., property on waters of Brush Creek, to Jeffrey Scott and Rhonda Joyce McClure and Jeffrey Curtis and Kayla Denise McClure. Tax \$95  
 James B. and Janie D. King, property on US 25 at Conway, to Tommy L. Oliver and Jennifer R. Bowman. Tax \$65  
 Everett and Naomi Renner, property on Skeggs Creek, to Randy Renner and Eric Renner. No tax

insurance/security, failure to produce insurance card, failure to wear seat belts, bench warrant (bw) issued for failure to appear (fta).  
 Jeriah K. Hamm: no/expired registration plates - receipt, operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, public intoxication, bw issued for fta.  
 Kyle J. Harrington: operating on suspended/revoked operators license, bw issued for fta.  
 Jerry W. Hubbard: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, sentencing order entered.  
 Donald Kingsley: speeding, no/expired registration plates - receipt, failure to produce insurance card, license suspended for fta.  
 Nakasha M. Mink: attempt fleeing or evading police and criminal trespassing, bw issued for fta.  
 David Ray Northern: public intoxication, \$100 fine plus costs.  
 Brandon Robinson: speeding (two counts), \$34 fine and costs, \$38 fine; operating on suspended/revoked operators license, \$100 fine; license to be in possession, operating on suspended \$25 fine/suspended; driving too fast for traffic conditions, \$25 fine; reckless driving, \$25 fine.  
 Kasey Quinn Rogers: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, sentencing order entered.  
 William Roger Barron: failure to wear seat belts, \$25 fine.  
 Speeding: Kristina Lee Davis, Patsy Poore Dobbs, license suspended for fta;  
 Richard Lovell: criminal mischief, sentencing order entered.  
 Jerry D. Kirkland: driving motor vehicle using handheld mobile telephone, license suspended for fta.  
 Jeffery F. Marlow: fail-

ure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 3 days in jail/costs waived.  
 Logan McGuire: drug paraphernalia - buy/possess and assault, 4th degree, sentencing orders entered.  
 Samantha Pittman: criminal mischief, 30 days in jail/concurrent/costs waived.  
 Shawn P. Davidson: failure to or improper signal and operating on suspended/revoked operators license (two counts), bw issued for fta.  
 Megan A. Halcomb: hindering prosecution or apprehension, 10 days in jail/to serve/costs waived.  
 Joseph S. Holsing: failure of non-owner operator to maintain req. insurance, failure to produce insurance card, operating on suspended/revoked operators

license, drug paraphernalia - buy/possess, no/expired Kentucky registration receipt, improper display of registration plates, bw issued for fta.  
 Summer C. McCown: theft by unlawful taking, drug paraphernalia - buy/possess, sentencing orders entered.  
 John C. Newland: permit unlicensed operator to operate motor vehicle, \$50 plus costs.  
 Allen Stanley: operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, no tail lamps, failure to produce insurance card, license to be in possession, bw issued for fta.  
 Steven Young: speeding, operating on suspended/revoked operators license, bw issued.

## Request For Proposal

The Kentucky Music Hall of Fame, 2590 Richmond Street, Mt. Vernon KY, 40456, is now accepting proposals to replace the existing cooling and heating system at that location. If you are interested in submitting a proposal please call 606-256-1000 to schedule a time to inspect the facility. All proposals must be mailed to PO Box 1467 Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 or hand delivered to the facility by no later than January 13, 2017.

## District Civil Suits

First Financial Credit v. Robert Carosello, \$1,524.66 plus claimed due.  
 Lendmark Financial Services v. Alex Hooker, \$8,032.68 plus claimed due.  
 Heights Finance Corp. v. Brandon Lamb, \$2,211.91 plus claimed due. C-00313

## Circuit Civil Suits

Synchrony Bank v. Amy Bray, \$7,600.42 plus claimed due.  
 Park Community Credit Union v. Sharon S. Robbins, et al, \$8,502.38 plus claimed due.  
 Angel M. Daniel v. Chuck W. Smith, complaint for child support and medical support.  
 Cabinet for Families and Children v. Kyle Cornelius, complaint for child support and medical support.  
 James Wagers v. Allahanah Daley, petition for custody and visitation.  
 Casey J. Miller v. Joseph D. Miller, verified petition for dissolution of marriage. CI-00346

## District Court

12/19-21, 2016  
 Hon. Jeffrey S. Lawless  
 Justin Burkhart: receiving stolen property, sentencing order entered.  
 Casey S. Crank: failure of owner to maintain required

## Rockcastle County Recycling Center open for recycling drop-offs

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

### The following items may be recycled:

Newspapers w/inserts, magazines, catalogs, office paper, junk mail, shredded paper (needs to be bagged), books, phone books (paper products cannot be plastic lined or coated), cardboard (corrugated and slick), plastics #1 Pet or Pete, plastics #2 HDPE, plastic grocery store bags, bread bags, and shrink wrap (no other sheet plastics can be accepted), metal cans, aerosol cans, aluminum cans, aluminum foil, aluminum pie plates, glass bottles and glass jars (lids must be removed and discarded), old cell phones, car batteries, empty printer and toner cartridges, old computers (we no longer accept monitors of any kind) and all related accessories, telephones, radios, digital clocks, rechargeable batteries (if the battery says rechargeable on it, then it is recyclable), and large bulky metal items.

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

### Recycling Drop-Off Trailers are available for use at:

- Brodhead (at the back baseball field)
- Conway (by Brindle Ridge Volunteer Fire Dept.)
- Livingston (beside the old school gym)
- Pongo (by Pongo Volunteer Fire Dept.)
- Climax (by Climax Volunteer Fire Dept.)

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

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

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



## MONEY FOR FARM IMPROVEMENTS AVAILABLE...



Rockcastle County Conservation District located in the USDA Service Center at 153 Andover Lane Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 or Rockcastle County Extension Service located at 1050 West Main Street Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

## COUNTY AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CAIP)

Applications will be available for Rockcastle County's CAIP to assist farmers in making important on-farm investments.

Application Period: January 10, 2017 - February 10, 2017. No applications will be accepted after February 10, 2017.

Application Availability: will begin on January 10, 2017 at the Rockcastle County Conservation District or Rockcastle County Extension Service Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Informational Meetings: will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 10 a.m. and Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the County Extension Service Meeting Room

For More Information: Contact: Sandy Whitaker at 606-256-2525 ext. 3 or Tom Mills at 606-256-2403. All applications are scored, based on the scoring criteria set by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

**WE KNOW YOU'RE BUSY.**

**Are YOU Prepared?**

We understand you have important things to do. But if you could take just a few minutes out of your day to put together a Family Disaster Kit, wouldn't it be worth your time?

**Family Disaster Kit**

- ▶ 3-day supply of drinking water
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- ▶ Clothing, bedding, toiletries
- ▶ First aid kit
- ▶ Tools - flashlight batteries, etc.
- ▶ Special items - baby needs, medicine

**Build a Family Disaster Kit. It will be time well spent.**

**PrepareKY.com**

# CHURCH NEWS

## Free Bible Courses

Free Bible Correspondence Course. Send your name and address to 3168 Quail Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

## Let the Bible Speak

Tune in to "Let the Bible Speak," with Brett Hickey, on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. on WDKY Fox 56.

## Alpha Recovery

Alpha Recovery, a program promoting freedom from addiction, not a life long struggle with drugs, alcohol or anything else, meets each Saturday from 3 to 4 p.m. at Chestnut Ridge Church of God in Mt. Vernon. The group is led by Ray Owens and Tommy and Gina Dooley. "The past does not have to be your prison. You have a voice in your destiny. You have a choice in the path you take." Max Lucado For more information, call 606-308-5593.

## Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery classes are held every Monday night at the Community Outreach Center in Brodhead. Celebrate Recovery is a 12-step Christ-centered program and is a safe place to share and begin healing from all hurts, hang-ups and habits. Meal at 6 p.m. Music 6:45 p.m.

Large Group 7 p.m. Signatures available for court, probation and snap. For more information, please call Chris Martin 606-308-3368.

## Northside Baptist Celebrate Recovery

Gain hope each Tuesday night, from 6 to 8:30, through Celebrate Recovery at Northside Baptist Church.

Food and child care are provided. If you need transportation, call 606-256-5577 before 4:30 p.m. on day of meeting.

## Donations for Buckeye Christian

Donations are needed for fencing and to board up the windows of the Buckeye Christian Church to keep vandals from doing further damage to the structure.

Please send donations to Gary M. Reppert, P.O. Box 174, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456.

## Special Service

There will be a special service at the Berea Gospel Tabernacle, U.S. 25, Berea on Friday, January 13th, beginning at 7 p.m. George Mullins will be the special speaker.

Ralph Chasteen and congregation invite everyone to attend.



19 students recently graduated from the Somerset Community College (SCC) Medical Assisting Program, located at the SCC Laurel North campus. Pictured front from left are: Medical Assisting Professor and Program Coordinator Karen C. Webb; Courtney Allen-Freeman, Corbin; Amber Bodary, Woodbine; Kayla Bowling, Bear Branch; Lesley Broaddus, Mount Vernon; Chelsea Bryant, Whitley City; Amber Hoskins, Somerset; Sierra King, McKee; Ashley Lawless, Jamestown; and Medical Assisting Clinical Coordinator Debra Elam. Back row from left: Medical Assisting Program Lab Instructional Specialist Ashley Cloyd; SCC Dean of Health Sciences Nancy Powell; Lisa Wyatt, Lily; Anna Williams, Liberty; Christin Terry, Liberty; Kristina Sutton, Rockholds; Faith Steely, Corbin; Jamie Rose, Bryant's Store; Hannah Prewitt, Mount Vernon; Maryann Pahl-Edmonds, London; and Allison Napier, Hyden. Not pictured: April Glover, Somerset, and Kelly Jara, Corbin.

## An encouraging word:

### A Better Way By Howard Coop



In the past few days, how often have you heard someone use, or you have used, the terms "politically correct" or "political correctness" in every-day conversation? Before 1990, those terms were seldom used, but in the past twenty-five years, they have become a normal part of American speech, and we either hear them or use them almost every day.

These popular terms have been defined as "the avoidance, often considered as taken to the extreme, of forms of expression and action that are perceived to exclude, marginalize, or insult groups of people who are socially disadvantaged or discriminated against." On some rare occasions, that may have happened, and on other occasions, language may have been misunderstood. But most folk, I believe, do not wish to use intentionally hurtful language that excludes, marginalizes, or insults the people they encounter on a regular basis in everyday life.

Long before 1990 when political correctness began to be popular, there was a better way. For almost two thousand years, it was a basic principle of everyday life that it is better, much better, to "Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody" than it is to be politically correct. Then, that old axiom went one step beyond that: "As far as it depends on you, live at peace with everybody." In other words,

just get along.

When that has been done, there is no need to pussyfoot through everyday speech, that is, "to move with stealth or caution, as a cat does, to avoid committing oneself or making one's position clear." Then, when it becomes necessary to speak, just follow one simple rule, and always speak "the truth in love." In everyday conversation, that is sufficient. When we have done that, we don't have to worry about speech being political correct; that just isn't necessary.

That, indeed, is a better way that would go a long way toward solving so many everyday problems, and it is more productive than political correctness about which we hear so much.

## Free smoking cessation program

If you would like to quit smoking, Rockcastle Regional Hospital can help. Using an innovative smoking-cessation program called Freedom From Smoking, we can help you become a non-smoker.

Join us Tuesday, January 17, 2017 to start the 8-week program sponsored by Rockcastle Regional Hospital. Classes are Tuesdays at 5 p.m. in the hospital's large conference room.

Interested in participating? Contact Morgan Bray 256-7704 or m.bray@rhcc.org.

## Pinning ceremony held for recent graduates at SCC

Hannah Prewitt and Lesley Broaddus, both of Mt. Vernon, were among 19 students to recently graduate from the Somerset Community College (SCC) Medical Assisting Program, located at the SCC Laurel North campus. To celebrate the conclusion of their studies, program leaders held a pinning ceremony and reception with more than 100 family and friends attending.

Students in the Medical Assisting program completed three semesters of Medical Assisting training including laboratory skills, clinical procedures skills, medical administrative skills and insurance billing and coding. Several of the graduates are already working in area out-patient care facilities, said program coordinator Karen Webb.

After taking and passing the American Medical Technologist Registered Medical Assisting (RMA) National Certification Exam, students earn the credential of

Registered Medical Assistant and are "pinned" with the RMA pin. Students were pinned by their loved ones while the program instructors read their "thank you" notes to family and friends who assisted them while in college.

Awards were also given during the ceremony. Courtney Allen-Freeman was presented with the Medical Assisting Academic Excellence Award, Maryann Pahl-Edmonds was chosen by the class for the Leadership Award and Christin Terry received the "Most Professional" award. The Registered Medical Assisting award, given to the two highest scoring students on the RMA exam, was presented to Courtney Allen-Freeman and Lesley Broaddus.

To find out more about the SCC Medical Assisting program, contact Karen Webb, program coordinator, at (606) 878-4738 or karen.webb@kctcs.edu.

## Mamaw's Kitchen

By Regina Poynter Hoskins

### CHICKEN PARMESAN MEATBALLS

2 tablespoons of your favorite marinara sauce  
1 egg, beaten  
1/2 cup Italian bread crumbs or Gluten-free breadcrumbs  
1 package (1 pound) ground chicken  
1 cup grated parmesan cheese  
2 teaspoons Italian seasoning  
Preheat oven to 400°. Spray baking sheet with non-stick spray  
Place two tablespoons of marinara sauce in mixing bowl. Add egg, and breadcrumbs. Stir to moisten all. Add chicken, cheese, and Italian seasoning. Mix until all ingredients are incorporated.  
Roll into 1-inch balls and place on prepared baking sheet. Bake for about 25 to 30 minutes until fully cooked.  
Serve as appetizer with toothpicks or mix with marinara sauce and serve with spaghetti.

NOTES: After rolling the 1-inch balls, you can insert a small amount of mozzarella cheese or asiago cheese. Make sure to roll the ball again so the cheese is in the middle.  
I used gluten free pretzels as bread crumbs.  
CHICKEN ALFREDO DIP  
1 package (8 ounce) cream cheese, softened

1/2 cup Alfredo sauce—Clasico® is gluten free  
1 cup mozzarella cheese  
2 cup shredded chicken  
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese

In a medium mixing bowl combine cream cheese, Alfredo sauce, and half of the mozzarella cheese; stir in chicken until all ingredients are thoroughly combined.  
Spoon into oven-safe casserole dish or baking pan. Top with Parmesan cheese and remaining mozzarella cheese.  
Bake at 350° for 25 minutes; then broil 3 to 5 minutes until cheese is golden brown and bubbly.  
Serve with a selection of gluten-free crackers or bread.

### PARMESAN POTATOES

10 russet potatoes  
1 and 1/4 cups heavy cream  
1 and 1/2 cups parmesan cheese  
1 tablespoon garlic powder  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon pepper  
Preheat oven to 375°. Slice the potatoes about a quarter inch thick.  
In a large bowl, mix the potatoes, heavy cream, parmesan cheese, garlic powder, salt, and pepper, and stir until all the potato chips are coated. Spray a muffin tin with cooking spray, then stack about 10 to 12 chips in each muffin cup. Place the potato stacks in the oven for about an hour or until they are fully browned. Allow to cool, then serve with sour cream and enjoy!

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Please send donations to Gary M. Reppert, P.O. Box 174, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456

## Bible Talk

Our Study this month is on the evils of alcohol and booze.

In 1 Pet.4:2-3 we read, "That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God. For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:" Peter uses 3 phrases in connection with drinking booze, "excess of wine, revellings, banquetings." Let's discuss each one.

**Excess of Wine** - This describes the person who has drunk so much that they may be nauseated. They are "inebriated" with booze. How many times is drunkenness condemned in the scriptures? Consider Gal.5:19-21, 1 Cor.6:9-10, Rom.13:13. Observe the problems that booze and alcohol causes in the home, in society, in automobile accidents, in homicide, etc. Almost every family has been affected adversely by alcohol abuse by a family member. Most will concede that drunkenness is sinful, yes even drunkards will acknowledge such also.

**Revellings** - This characterizes the fellow that is about half drunk. They may be loud and boisterous. Consider this definition on the word "revellings" from Thayer. "A nocturnal and riotous procession of half drunken and frolicsome fellows who after supper, parade through the streets with torches and music in honor of Bacchus or some other deity, and sing and play before houses of male and female friends; hence used generally of feasts and drinking parties that are protracted till late at night and indulge in revelry." This also is sinful behavior: revellings.

**Drinking Parties** - Finally there are "banquetings" as the NAS translates it: drinking parties. This describes the person that is just drinking a few, a social drinker. Many do not think just drinking one or two is all that bad. Yet, in all 3 categories of drinking booze, it is described as "doing of the will of the Gentiles." The true child of God wants no part of this sinful lifestyle. Our desire is to spend our time in doing God's will for we have wasted enough of life serving the flesh! Listen to the wise man in Proverbs 20:1, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise." May we be people who are wise in our ways, to be sober and clear minded as we are exhorted to do, 1 Pet.4:7, 1 Thess.5:6, "So then let us not sleep, as do the rest, but let us watch and be sober."

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**Mink Apartments - Houses,** Mt. Vernon, Ky. Owners: Gary W. and Gertha Mink. Background check required. Must have: proof of income and references. Call 606-308-3801. 48x7p

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**Accepting applications at Mt. Vernon Housing Authority** on Mondays 4 to 8 p.m. and Wednesdays and Fridays, 4 to 6 p.m. Rent based on income. 256-4185. 14xntf

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## Property For Sale

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## Posted

**Posted:** No hunting or trespassing on property belonging to Debbie Smith and Tasha and Jeremy Smith at 2090 Disputanta Road. Violators will be prosecuted. 50x3p

**Posted:** No hunting, trespassing, 4-wheeling on property belonging to James and Juanita Chasteen, located on Little Hurricane Branch Road in Rockcastle County. Violators will be prosecuted. 44xntf

## Notices

**Notice is hereby given that Melora Wren Baker, 755 Fairview Loop, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456, Jerri Wren Ramsey, 241 Lambert Road, Berea, Ky. 40403 and Benita Susan Jordison, 1504 Little Clear Creek Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 have been appointed co-executrices of the estate of Claudia Navessa Hundley Wren, deceased. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Melora Wren Baker, Jerri Wren Ramsey and Benita Susan Jordison on or before June 19, 2017 at 11 a.m.**

**Notice is hereby given David Coffey, 1254 Maretburg Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 and Brenda Mullins, 331 Gum Sulphur Rd., Crab Orchard, Ky. 40419 have been appointed co-executors of the estate of Carl E. Coffey, deceased. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said David Coffey and Brenda Mullins or to Hon. William Leger, Law office of William D.**

Reynolds, P.O. Box 1250, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before June 21, 2017 at 11 a.m. 52x3

**Notice is hereby given that David A. Collins, P.O. Box 367, Brodhead, Ky. 40409 has been appointed Executor of the estate of Phillip C. Payne on the 19th day of December, 2016. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said David A. Collins or to Hon. John D. Ford, Coffey & Ford, P.S.C., P.O. Box 247, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before June 19, 2017 at 11 a.m.**

**Notice is hereby given that Michael E. Peters, 373 Little Clear Creek Road, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 and Beverly J. Brock, 213 Apache Drive, Paint Lick, Ky. 40461 have been appointed Co-Executors of the Estate of Cletus E. Peters, deceased. Any person having claims against said estate shall present them, according to law, to the said Michael L. Peters and/or Beverly J. Brock or Hon. William A. Leger, 140 West Main St., P.O. Box 1250, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 on or before June 14, 2017 at 11 a.m. 51x3**

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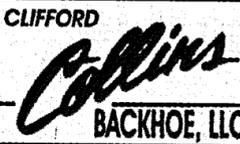
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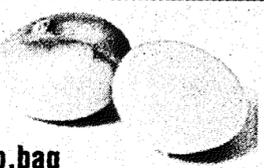
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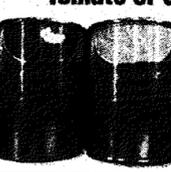
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