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Track team excels - A10

5-year-old calls 911, gets help

One courageous five-year-old girl may have possibly saved her mother's life Monday, when she called the local 911 dispatch.

Little Miranda Didonato told 911 dispatcher Tim Cameron, that her mother Sherry Didonato, 28, was having seizures.

"She was pretty cool about the whole thing, but she did not know where she lived for sure - she just said in Brodhead," Cameron.

Cameron solicited the help of Rockcastle Deputy Sheriffs Sonya Parker and Darrell Down, while he traced the call.

While Cameron was tracing the call and paging out an ambulance, Down realized that Sherry Didonato, was the daughter of Betty Estes, who lives in the same area of Bowling Ridge.

Between the three of them, and with the help of the little girl, who told Cameron her mom told her to call 911, ambulance attendants found Didonato's home on Philadelphia Church Road.

Sherry Didonato was taken to Rockcastle Hospital for treatment and on Tuesday, she was transferred to the University of Kentucky.

Parents really should help their children learn where they live and what their phone number is - this little girl may have saved her mom's life," Cameron said.

SBDM elections continue locally

All three incumbent teacher members on the site based council at the Rockcastle County Middle School were re-elected on Monday night.

Charles Bullock, Tammy Miller and Terry Parkey were all re-elected. Two new parent members: Barbara Click and Ray Hensley were also elected to the council by members of the school's P.T.A.

At Mt. Vernon Elementary School on Monday night, Dr. Tony Arvin and Roy Martin were elected as parent members to the council. Teacher elections were held on Wednesday.

The parent election at Rockcastle County High School will be held Tuesday, May 16.

SBDM elections for teachers and parents will be held at Roundstone and Brodhead schools on Thursday, May 18.

Lexington man pleads guilty

Eddy F. Montgomery, Acting Commonwealth Attorney for Lincoln, Rockcastle and Pulaski counties, announced last week that C.H. Brown, 39, of Lexington, pleaded guilty to the offenses of Operating a Motor Vehicle while Under Influence of Alcohol, Fleeting or Evading a Police Officer and Persistent Felony Offender, Second Degree in Rockcastle County Circuit Court.

According to Montgomery, the charges stem from an incident that occurred on June 5, in which Brown drove off in his vehicle while Rockcastle Deputy Sheriff Charles Gray was attempting to cite him for speeding and DUI. Brown led police on a high speed chase for 38 miles before being stopped in Corbin.

Montgomery added that his office has recommended a sentence of eight years imprisonment. Formal sentencing has been scheduled for May 26.

Bank no longer will take water payments

The City of Brodhead's \$20 water customers will no longer be able to pay their bill at Citizens Bank in Brodhead.

City Clerk Becky Busell said that as of May 15, customers must either mail in their bill to P.O. Box 556, Brodhead, or pay it at City Hall.

City Hall hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. They are closed 12 noon to 1 p.m. for lunch and they are closed on Saturday.

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The annual Brodhead Alumni Banquet was held on Easter weekend with over 240 in attendance. Above, C.B. Owens of Brodhead and Dallas McWilliams of Lexington were honored as part of the class of 1935. Below, Gerald Miracle, class of 1960, of Pleasant Valley, New York, receives the prize for traveling the farthest. At left, is Big Towery, Jr., former Brodhead principal and master of ceremonies and center is Shirley Martin, banquet organizer and former Brodhead teacher and graduate.



After 56 years, WWII Veterans reunite

By: Richard Anderkin
It may have been 56 years but two World War II Veterans still remember the last time they saw each other - at least the last time until Monday morning.

Two young army privates, who had gotten to know each other after both of them were assigned to the 329th Infantry, last saw each other in July of 1944, several days after allied forces invaded Normandy, France. G.D. Leese, 76, who lives at Copper Creek with his wife Hester and Harold Imler, 75, of Tenino, Washington got to know each other in Liverpool, England, while they trained for combat in World War II. The two men, 19 and 20 at the time, were reunited thanks to the Internet.

Harold Imler did a name search and found two pages of G.D. Leese's listed in the country, but only three in Kentucky.

Imler knew his friend and fellow soldier lived in Kentucky and in March of 1999, he called Mr. Leese on the phone.

From that point, with the help of Leese's daughter, Pat Chasteen, the two survivors of the Normandy invasion began communicating through e-mail and exchanged pictures of their families and friends.

Imler and his wife, Janet, decided to visit the Leeses on Monday, while on a tour of this part of the country. The Imlers flew to Nashville where their tour began and on Mon-

day morning at 2 a.m. they drove to Copper Creek.

They were greeted by Leese, his wife, three of their children and other friends, who had gathered to mark the reunion of two army privates, who had stayed in the same fox hole for nearly a week while under enemy fire and who had parted ways from that fox hole, not to speak again for nearly 55 years.

The Leeses had decorated their home with patriotic items, including an American flag table cloth and other items showing the family's patriotism.

Many war Veterans do not like to speak about their time in the service and especially those times while on the battle field.

Both men admitted they were "scared to death" during the invasion, but neither one had problems talking about the week they spent eating K-rations and taking turns sleeping while mortar shells sailed through the air.

During their time on the beach 850 soldiers died and 4,000 were injured.

Both men were among those injured when the same mortar shell hit their fox hole. Both men took shrapnel from the shell.

But both men said they knew they had a job to do and they knew the importance of the war in Europe, so they felt like they should serve their country to the best of their ability.

After the men were removed from their fox hole, they were taken to

different field hospitals. Harold Imler would be given a medical discharge a few months later and sent home.

While healing from his wounds,

G.D. Leese would be diagnosed with battle fatigue and remain in the hospital until the end of the war.

In 1946 he would marry Hester Ellison and over the next 54 years

they would raise four children: Larry, Roger, Pat Chasteen and Judy Harris on their Copper Creek farm.

G.D. worked at a creamery and a

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Only athletes will be tested at high school

During coming school year

By: Richard Anderkin

The Rockcastle County Board of Education discussed their new drug testing policy for athletes at Rockcastle County High School, during their regular monthly meeting Tuesday night.

The board discussed the procedures for administering the test and whether or not other students, who participate in extra curricular activities at the high school should be tested.

Board Chairman Dr. G.W. Griffith said that because of time restraints in getting the policy adopted and in the student handbook by July 1, athletes will be the only students tested at the school this year.

The test will be given at the beginning of each sport and after that athletes in each sport will be randomly tested.

Rockcastle County School Superintendent Larry Hammond told the board that he had talked with a couple of parents who had voiced their concern about athletes being singled out.

One parent at the meeting told the board he thought they were practicing discrimination by not testing all the students at the high school.

Board chairman Griffith said that Kentucky School Attorneys told them that because students are required to go to school, they can't be tested unless they volunteer to participate in an extra curricular activity.

Board member Terry Burton said that he too had had some concerns at first about singling out athletes, but he thought that it was well worth the board's efforts if they were able to catch one student and help them with their problem.

The drug testing procedure was discussed at length, but no action was taken because of some particulars that have to be worked out.

A representative with Forward Edge Associates, based in Lexington will attend the next board meeting to discuss the procedure.

The cost of each test will be approximately \$20 with about 200 athletes being tested.

The test will be a urine test and results will be made available to the school within 24 to 48 hours.

If a student tests positive the test will be administered again and if the result's negative it will be dropped. If not, the student's parent will be noti-

fied and they will be suspended from that sport.

Options for treatment of the student's problem will then be laid out, but all of that will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Hammond said that next school year, no one but athletes will be tested, but that the board would no doubt reconsider testing other students who volunteer for an extra curricular activity in 2001-2002.

The board also approved a contract with a company, which will provide a drug dog for visits to the high school and middle school.

The cost of the 12 visits, eight at the high school and four at the middle school will be \$6,900. According to Mrs. Loretta Powell, the local school system's safe schools coordinator, the dogs used in the search will be able to detect marijuana, cocaine, alcohol, gun powder, illegal drugs and some prescription drugs.

The board also gave their approval to a request by the Rockcastle County High School JROTC program to provide \$13,000 for rifles and equipment for the rifle team at the school.

Sgt. Major Keith Taylor, the coach of the rifle team made the request, which would enable the RCHS rifle team to compete in the Precision Category as well as the Sniper division.

The local team has been highly successful in their competition winning the state championship in the Sporter division in December and winning the right to compete in Atlanta in June, during a competition in March, in which they totally dominated the rest of the teams, which participated.

Although the board will take no formal action until the next meeting, each board member voiced their support of the expenditure and praised the JROTC program at the high school.

Great success

The Rockcastle Soil Conservation District in conjunction with the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court and Mt. Vernon Scrap collected 2000 old appliances last week during a White Goods Collection project at the local scrap yard.

As of noon on Friday, the \$10,000 raised to fund the project was gone.



Mrs. Pat Chasteen baked a cake in honor of the Normandy invasion in France in 1944. G.D. Leese, left of Copper Creek and Harold Imler, right of Washington state, had not seen each other since the invasion, until they were reunited on Monday in Copper Creek.