

Agricultural News

By Warden Alexander, FSA Director

County Committee (COC) Election

The 2001 County Committee held the first monthly COC meeting of the year on January 4th. The members voted and elected officers as follows: Darrell Wayne Whitaker, Chairman; Joe C. Bullen, Vice Chairman; Clarence Raymond Brown, member. The committee meets the first Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m. in the Rockcastle County FSA Office, Hwy. 150 and Freedom School Road and is open to the public.

Marketing Cards

Producers who have sold the current year's crop of tobacco are encouraged to return their marketing card to the FSA as soon as possible. Marketing cards are then compared to sales records for accuracy. Failure to return marketing cards promptly delay correct information for the 2001 data.

2001 Burley Tobacco Quotas

Producers have been questioning our office concerning the 2001 burley tobacco quotas. The Secretary of Agriculture has until February 1st to announce the quota. Therefore, any "quotas" you now hear of the 2001 quota being increased 30% is only hear say. Remember: February 1st is the date! Notice to producers of the 2001 quotas will be mailed after the announcement.

Quota Referendum

Questions have been asked about the upcoming vote on the continuation of the quotas. To date we do not have the final date for voting, however this is the year to vote on the program. Watch for upcoming details.

Dairy Market Loss (DML) Payments
Rockcastle FSA Office recently

issued over \$58,000 in DML-ATII payments. These payments were used to help dairy farmers cope with the low milk prices, which have declined for three consecutive years, and are now at the lowest level since 1991.

Payment Eligibility and Limitations

A limitation on the total annual payments that a "person" may receive under agriculture programs has been in effect since enactment of the Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, modified the provisions that define a "person" and the rules for payment limitation and payment eligibility.

The basic regulations apply to payments and benefits made under a variety of programs, including produc-

tion flexibility contract payments, loan deficiency payments, and the Conservation Reserve Program payments.

The status of an individual or entity on April 1st of the applicable program year or fiscal year is the basis for determining the number of persons for payment limitation purposes.

Conservation District Cost Share announced

The Rockcastle County Conservation District will be accepting requests for cost share funding under the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program beginning February 1, 2001 and extending through February 28, 2001. The Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program was created to assist agriculture operators protect the soil and water resources in Kentucky. The program was created in 1994 and received its first appropriation of \$650,000 from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Over the past six years the program has now grown to an annual appropriation of \$1,150,000 coming from general fund appropriations from the General Assembly, dollars transferred from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and now from Phase I tobacco settlement agreement funds. With the passage of the biennial bud-

get to be eligible for payments and benefits under some programs, a producer must be considered "actively engaged in farming." Generally, in order to be considered "actively engaged in farming," the producer must provide significant contributions to the farming operation which are commensurate to the claimed share of the farming operation and at risk.

and likewise changing the cost share rate for this practice from 65 percent to 75 percent. Funding for practices will be approved by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission at the Kentucky Division of Conservation located in Frankfort as funds are available. Cost share rates are a maximum of 75 percent of the actual cost not to exceed \$7,000 for agronomic practices and \$20,000 for animal waste concerns.

For more information stop by the local conservation district office located at USDA Service Center on Hwy. 150. Office hours are Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Telephone number (606) 256-2525 ext. 3.

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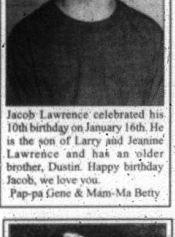
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Hi! My name is Levi Tucker Gentry and I celebrated my first birthday at home with a Blue's Clues party on Friday, December 15, 2000. Those helping me celebrate were my Mommy and Daddy, Stacy and Gary Gentry, big brother Lucas, Mamma and Papa Henderson, Granny and Granddad Gentry and Zach, and Ann and Ben Taylor. Thanks to everyone for a special day!



Eric and Mickie Gibbs are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Bailee Elizabeth Baile who was born October 21, 2000 at Marymount Hospital in London weighing 8 lbs. 13 ozs. and was 20 inches long. Grandparents are Patricia Singleton Pruitt of Broadhead, John Ed Wilder III of West Hills, California and Paul and Georgia Gibbs of Corbin. Bailee is the great-grandchild of the late Mary Singleton McWhorter.



Jacob Lawrence celebrated his 10th birthday on January 16th. He is the son of Larry and Jeanne Lawrence and has an older brother, Dustin. Happy birthday Jacob, we love you. Pap-pa Gene & Mam-Ma Betty



You're Looking Cool Earth! Happy Birthday Jan. 19th Your Sisters

21st CCLC Offerings

Quilting Class

BEGINS: January 22, 2001
WHEN: 4 to 6 p.m. every Monday night
WHERE: R.C.M.S.

Our 21st CCLC will begin a new series of Quilt Making Classes at the Middle School. These classes will last for 10 weeks during which time participants will make a handmade quilt.

During the first class, participants will talk about their expectations for the class and the general schedule will be covered. Some of the items discussed will be:

- Tools
- Fabric types and amounts
- Color Blends
- Sizing of Quilt
- Trip to Hatt's 5&10

Please share the news with your neighbors. This is a fun night out and there is no charge for the class itself, only for the sewing needs incurred in the class. If interested, call R.C.M.S. at 256-5118 and ask for Mrs. Bullock, Mrs. Parkey or Mr. Coffey.

Join us for a Creative Memories Educational Hands-On-Class

Step-by-step you will learn how to turn your boxes of photos and memorabilia into keepsake, photo-safe albums. With instructions from a trained Creative Memories Consultant, you will learn techniques for cropping, layout, mounting, journaling and much more.

You will complete your first page at this class, so bring 6-8 photos relating to one event. The class fee is \$10 and all other materials, as well as educational handouts will be provided.

Location: Rockcastle County High School Library
Saturday, February 10, 2001 • 10 a.m. to noon

or
Saturday, February 17, 2001 • 10 a.m. to noon
Sponsored by 21st CCLC RCHS/RATC and Community Education. For registration, contact Kathy Bobo at 256-2125.

Parenting Classes Sponsored by 21st CCLC RCHS/RATC and Community Education

Jan. 30, 2001 from 6 to 8 p.m.-Dealing With Stress
Feb. 13, 2001 from 6 to 8 p.m.-Anger Management
Cost: \$10 per person for each class
For Registration, contact Kathy Bobo at 256-2125

Prayer for Christian Unity

January 15-19, 2001

To celebrate Jesus, the source of our unity, we invite you to the 5th annual Service for Christian Unity.

This celebration will be held on **Friday, January 19, at 7 p.m.** The service will be held at **Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church on Williams Street.** The church is located across the street from Mt. Vernon Elementary.

The service will feature several local ministers and musicians. If you cannot attend we ask that you pray for the service and the churches of Rockcastle County in order that the lost be saved and the will of the Lord be done in all our lives.

Vote "Yes" for Your Future



For tobacco farmers, the choice is clear: Vote "yes" February 12-16 to retain the Burley Tobacco Price Support Program, a program that assures economic benefits for our farmers and farming families.

- ☒ **Vote "Yes" for ...**
- Fair and Guaranteed Pricing**
- Protection for Family Farms and Rural Communities**
- Independence for You and Your Farm Business**

For over 60 years, the Burley Tobacco Price Support Program has worked well for all of us. The Tobacco Program has provided livelihoods for thousands of farmers and economic stability for thousands of rural communities. Whether you are contracting or not, the Price Support Program is vital to the prosperity of your farming business. Without grading and price supports, only the buyers prosper. Your vote can ensure a prosperous and strong future for you and your fellow farmers.

Your Vote. Your Future.

The Tobacco Referendum Vote will be February 12-16. Vote "yes" to retain the Burley Tobacco Price Support Program.

If you have questions, or would like to give us your comments, please call us at 1-859-252-3561, or visit our web site at www.burleytobacco.com.



www.burleytobacco.com