

# Mt. Vernon Message

**Special Events:** We will have a school-wide spring art show beginning on Monday, March 12. All students will have an art piece on display.

There will be a PTF meeting on Monday, March 12 at 6:00 p.m. Come and see P2 students perform.

Thursday, March 8 is the end of the 12 week grading period. Report Cards will go home on Thursday, March 15.

March is Music In Our Schools Month. Activities for the month are as follows:

Classroom Music Display contest (begin the 1st of March and remains throughout the month).

Musical Dress-up Day on Friday, March 23rd.

The Fourth Annual All-School Sing on Friday, March 23rd at 1:30.

"Dinner Music" during lunch (faculty, students, etc.).

World's Largest Concert (Broadcast on PBS on Thursday, March 8 at 1:00).

Possible poetry, art contest.

Guest musicians throughout the month.

**Artist of the Month:** The artist of the month for March is Bethany French from Mrs. Sheila McQuay's fifth grade classroom. Bethany is pictured with her abstract painting entitled "Rainbows Round Red." The process used in this artwork is painting. Students were given the primary colors of paint (red, yellow, blue) and instructed to mix their own secondary colors (orange, green, violet). Students were asked to create an abstract painting using the pattern of colors found in a rainbow. The pattern of color is an artist's "color wheel" is based on the sequence of colors in a rainbow or spectrum of light. Bethany painted rainbows in each corner, leaving an arc in the middle as her focal point. Artists of the Month are now featured on the MVES website.

G6 J to www.mves@rockcastle.k12.ky.us and click on Humanities - then Art.

Art Prize: Last week's art prize winner was Juanita Barron from Mrs. Clark's fourth grade classroom. Congratulations Juanita!



Art Prize Winner - Juanita Barron



Artist of the Month - Bethany French

## Four Kentucky schools recognized nationally

Four Kentucky schools have been named National Title Distinguished Schools, the Department of Education announced today.

The four are: Johnson Elementary, Fayette County; Mary Todd Elementary, Fayette County; Mildred Dean Elementary, Newport Independent; Roundstone Elementary, Rockcastle County.

These four, along with six others, were named State Title I Distinguished Schools by the department. The other six are: East View Elementary, Daviess County; Livemore Elementary, McLean County; Padubst Tilghman, Paducah Independent; Sacramento Elementary, McLean County; Summer Shade Elementary, Metcalfe County; Trapp Elementary, Clark County.

"Title I schools selected are outstanding examples of flexibility and school-based planning encouraged by Title I and Kentucky's educational system," said Diane Robertson, director of the department's Division of Federal Program Resources. "Congratulations to these schools for their outstanding work and for receiving the Title I Distinguished Schools status."

The purpose of the Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program is to identify schools that are ensuring that all children have access to effective instructional strategies and challenging academic content and demonstrating success in ensuring that all children, particularly educationally deprived children, make significant progress towards learning that content.

Eligibility for the program is based on stringent criteria. To be considered, the school must meet both of the following achievement measures:

\* an accountability status of Reward 2 for Cycle 3 of KJRIS (ending 1997-98). The schools' combined growth index for 1996-98 must have exceeded its improvement goal.

\* an interim accountability status of Meets Goal (Reward) for Cycle 1 of CATS (ending 1999-2000). The school's combined index for 1998-2000 must have met or exceeded its improvement goal.

Schools also must have demonstrated the following attributes:

\* opportunities for all children to meet proficient and advanced levels of performance.

\* professional development

\* coordination with other programs

\* curriculum and instruction to support achievement of high standards

\* partnerships among schools, parents and communities

Kentucky's four National Title I Distinguished Schools will be honored during the International Reading Association Conference in New Orleans on May 1.

Title I is the largest federal aid program for K-12 education and has served more than 150 million children across the nation since 1965. The program emphasizes mathematics and science education in high-poverty schools.

In Kentucky, 472 schools operate Title I programs, serving nearly 300,000 students.

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## RCMS Touring Theatre wins awards

On Saturday, March 3rd, the Rockcastle County High School Touring Theatre participated in the Somerset Community College Theatre Arts Festival Regional Competition in Somerset. The RCMS production of "The Courtes" received two "Outstanding Merit" awards presented to Josh Hale and Kyle Parsons. Josh Hale also received the "Best Actor" award. According to RCMS Touring Theatre Director, H. Allen Penol, "We are very excited with our showing at the Festival. This is the third year for the Touring Theatre, but the first time for competition. With over 300 students at the festival representing eight different school districts, our students performed at a level unsurpassed." The production was performed at the local elementary schools on Thursday and Friday.

"The Courtes" is based on the Commedia dell'Arte, an Italian comedy form that flourished in the 16th century. The theatre in which such comedies were performed was much like a modern circus. The actors of the Commedia dell'Arte, were trained to hold the attention of an active, fun-loving audience. The cast for "The Courtes" included Josh Hale as Arlecchino, Josh Taylor as Brighella, Kane Holbrook as Pantalone, Kyle Parsons as Dottore and Jeremy Dawson as Flauto.

The Somerset Community College Theatre Festival was sponsored in part by the Kentucky Arts Council and included areas of competition in Monologue, Scene Performance and Short Play.

Pictured above, kneeling are Josh Hale and Jeremy Dawson. Standing, from left are Kane Holbrook, Josh Taylor and Kyle Parsons.

## Minds in the Middle

Congratulations to members of the RCMS 8th grade band who participated in the KMEA State Solo and Ensemble Festival this weekend at Eastern Kentucky University. The group walked away with high ratings including five distinguished scores and four proficient. The musicians participating were: Mary Brinson, Jackson Bray, Cody Moore, Harold Burdette, Randy Bussell, Amanda Lamb, Courtney Rose, Brandi Hasty, Toddy Stallworth, Kara Martin, and Nikki Mullins.

Members of our Y-Club made us proud again this year with their participation at the Kentucky United Nations Assembly. The group had three bills to pass. Heather Hammond was elected as Summit President.

Congratulations to Mrs. Angie Hunt's class for having five days of perfect attendance. Enjoy your pizza! Our overall attendance has been improving. Mr. Ken Abney's homeroom had the best attendance for our sixth month of school with 96.3%. Mr. Melissa Singleton's homeroom came in second place with 95.83% and Mr. Richard Cope's group was third with 95.67%.

Next Tuesday will be the Annual

RCMS Reality Store for the 8th graders. We look forward to this all day event each year and appreciate all the community involvement.

The 21st Century Community Learning Center, in cooperation with the County Extension office, will be having a hunter education course this Thursday and Friday beginning at 6:00 p.m. each evening and Saturday morning beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Next Thursday, March 15, will be the County 4-H Variety Show. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon Elementary School. Any students who are going to participate need to register by this Monday. Call the extension office at 256-2403 to sign up.

Congratulations to those students who make the baseball team for this season: Kent Mullins, Randy Bussell, Daniel Bustle, Josh Cameron, Derek Adams, Russell Wiley, Ben Graves, Blake Roberts, Jackson Bray, Max Taylor, Philip Boring, Ricky Sandusky, Ronny McClure, Robbie Mink, Gabe Stallworth, Jared Brown, Mikey Denney, Jesse Wright, Jeremy Cook, Andrew Bray, Ty Bottoms, Justin Albright, Dustin Albright, and Colby Brown.

## RCMS Honor Roll

**RCMS 3rd Grading Period:**

Enterprisers Team: Megan Akorn, Amy Anderkin, Hollie Barnett, Kayla Bishop, Mercedes Burdette, Curtis Burton, Ainsley Bustell, Victoria Clinton, Kimberly Cottrell, Tiffany Cox, Drew Davidson, Ashley Dollins, Steven Eversoll, Brittany French, Josh Harrison, Meagan Griffin, Lakin Halcomb, Jacob Harding, Brandi Harris, Josh Howard, Chandler Hunter, Chris Hunt, Morgan Kinney, Jesse McCauley, Shane McClure, Izak McQuay, Mackenzie Marrie, Kelli Martin, Amanda Miller, Veronica Miller, Adam Mink, Leanna Mink, Lynn Miracle, J.L. Polly, Megh Rand, Brandy Scaff, Keley Siewp, Heather Spirel, Ashley Stewart, Kayla Stewart, Bethany Taylor, Emily Whitaker, Robyn Wilson.

**Voyagers Team:** Danielle Alexander, Jamie Alexander, Lance Baldwin, Tasha Blanton, Megan-Brady, Amanda Bray, April Bullock, Derrick Capper, Lura Cash, Cody Childers, Danny Clark, Rebecca Coleman, Brandon DeBorde, Linda Dekauwe, Matthew Durham, Justin Hensley, Leanne Holden, Aaron Hughes, Alicia Jackson, Sabrina Kelley, Matt Martin, Stephanie Mason, Emily Mink, Gary McClure, Lisa Northern, Jill Owens, Jessica Paynter, Becky Prewitt, Hillary

Brock, Christina Bryant, Sarah Bullock, Tasha Burton, Michael Campbell, Allison Carter, Robbie Sue Chandler, Glenn Click, Angela Coffey, Aron Cramer, Charles Cunningham, Brandon Durham, Kayla Felner, Steve Frederick, Stacie Gabbard, Rebecca Graves, Ashley Harrison, Allison Hedrick, Neshay Helton, Heather Hopkins, Ashley Kimbrel, Rebecca Lawrence, Melinda Lindsey, Cody Lester, Michael Lovell, Cassin McGuire, Wesley McHargue, Sasha McHargue, Justin Miller, Lori Miller, Stephanie Perez, Andrea Reynolds, Heather Rice, Jessica Robinson, Michael Sano, Elizabeth Scarborough, Tyler Shearer, Ashley Smith, Shawnette Smith, Wendy Stewart, Matthew Taylor, Renee Taylor, Dustin Thomas, Andrea Witt.

**Challengers Team:** Tim Albright, Brittany Anderson, Ashley Bell, Jackson Bray, Mary Brinson, Bill Burdett, Dustin Burdette, Hannah Burdette, Harold Burdette, Leigh Ann Caldwell, Aaron Cash, Andy Coffey, Brandon Cole, Beth Coleman, Sam Cox, Scott Cramer, George Cummings, Rachel Deane, Chere Emba, Tasha Farris, Kelli Frederick, Scarlet Frederick, Jordan Hall, Brandi Hasty, Derrick Hensley, Ashley Himes, Ashley Jasper, Latoya Lamb, James Legar, Kara Martin,

Keri Maurek, Jesse McCollum, Gina McClure, Myranda McClure, Phillip McFerrer, Mary Miller, Allison Mink, Cody Moore, Nikki Mullins, Katie Parsons, Sarah Parsons, Justin Perrell, Stephanie Proctor, Stacey Parrell, Courtney Rose, Tara Rowe, Tim Simpson, Josh Smith, Brittany Stearns, Justin Taylor.

**Concets Team:** Johnna Abney, Vanessa Adams, Jessica Akorn, Matthew Allen, Tiffany Anglin,

Amanda Ballow, Phil Boring, Brooke Bradley, Kayla Bryant, Daniel Bustle, Josh Burks, Courtney Cash, Brent Clontz, Holly Ann Colson, Mark Dyebush, Jamie Ellison, Graham Fay, Kayla French, Ryan Grapah, Ben Graves, Dejon Graves, Gabe Guilfoil, Heather Hammond, Russell Jackson, Brady Kirby, Ashley Mink, Ada McClure, Ronny McClure, Emily McKimney, Heather Miller, Rick Mullins, Brittany Offutt, Amy Parsons, Zac Penol, Brittany Perkins, Rose Prewitt, Dee Dree Rouse, Rick Sandusky, Max Taylor, Kacey Scoggins, Donnie Sowder, Erik Stallworth, Surprise Stallworth, Casey Taylor, Matthew Whitaker, Russell Wiley, Amanda Wright, Jessica Zupanic.

## FFA Alumni says thanks

The Rockcastle County FFA Alumni would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their contribution to the Fourth Annual Alumni Auction.

A Cut Above, Appliance Service Center, Benge's Farm Supply, Bishop's Tire Service, Camille Construction, Church Hill Weaver, Con-Flint, Cummins Lumber Mill, Dabney Feed, Dave's Computers, Farmer's Supply in Somerset, Pat Grady, Hatt's 5 & 10, John Holbrook, Johnny's Music, William Lezer, Long's Automotive, Marsha's Florist, Mt. Vernon Old, Nelson's Import Service Center, Paul's Discount, Ready Mix of Mt. Vernon, Robert's Barber Shop, Rockcastle Farm Supply, Shiloh Equipment, Stewart Bros. Farm Service, University of Kentucky, Teresa Vanzant,

Young's Pharmacy, Adams Feed, Barlow Equipment, Bishop's Sporting Goods, Broadhead Farm Equipment, Collier's Pro Hardware, ConAgri Feeds, Cox's Hardware, D&S Computers, Dairy Mart of Broadhead, Excel Fitness, FoodWorld, Stephanie Hamrick, J&L Equipment, K&N's Pro Hardware, Jones Bros. Farm Equipment, London Farm Service, Lumber King, Mt. Vernon Florist, Mt. Vernon Plumbing, Norris County Peddler, Radio Shack, Renfro Valley Entertainment, Rockcastle County Farm Bureau, Rose's One Stop, Southeastern Farm Supply, Keith & Jenny Taylor, Valley Farm Equipment and Wal-Mart of Berea.

The proceeds from the auction goes to the local FFA Chapter.

## Let me hear ya' say 'K-U-N-A'

By Genia Cummins  
KUNA? K-U-N-A? What is that? Well, 37 students from Rockcastle County Middle School will be answering that question on March 4-6 while in Louisville, Kentucky.

KUNA is the Kentucky United Nations Assembly. The United Nations Assembly is the oldest middle school program in the country and Kentucky is the leading state to participate. KUNA is a three-day experience in diplomacy that provides students with a greater appreciation of our global community through hands-on involvement with international issues.

Each school that attends is assigned a member nation of the United Nations to represent. This year Rockcastle County Middle School has been assigned Monaco (sixth grade), Chile (seventh grade) and Honduras (eighth grade). Two delegates from each country will be expected to present a proposal to different committees and summits. A proposal is a written statement that deals with a problem near and dear to the country's heart.

Monaco is proposing to establish an organization to test all meat before it is sold to prevent the spread of Mad Cow Disease. The proposal authors are Morgan Kinney and Jill Owens. From Chile, Allison Carter and Heather Hopkins are proposing a plan to eliminate child labor worldwide. Kayla Bryant and Amanda Wright from Honduras will propose to improve Honduras' transportation system in an effort to strengthen trade with the world.

This year, RCMS has two candidates running for officer. Jackson Bray is seeking the office of Secretary General-the chief executive of KUNA who will serve next year. Heather Hammond is running for Summit President-the presiding officer of one of six summits. We also have Ty Bottoms on the Executive Committee (he will do any job that needs to be done), J. Genia Cummins, aim the Media Corps. I may write articles, do interviews, or conduct surveys while at KUNA. The Media Corps will also publish a newspaper in three days.

Watch for our follow up article about East Junior KUNA 2001 in an upcoming edition of the Signal.

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## Tobacco Meeting

**Philip Morris Contract Meeting**  
"Open Meeting - Bring a Friend"

**Tuesday, March 20th**

**7 p.m.**

**Rockcastle Co. High School**

**Sponsored by**

**London Tobacco Warehouse**