



I marked a few weeks back that you suggest your calendar for May 17, 18 & 19 and I know that quest of you didn't do it so go get it right now because I ain't writing another lick until you do.

Thank you. Now pull out that old ball point pen and make sure it ain't dried up. It's kicking the end with the dust of your tongue if it won't write. If that didn't work, pull the elastic band of your underwear up and scratch the end of your pen against the grain of it. If that didn't work, throw the thing away because it's useless. We'll wait until you find something to write with.

Here's what you need to be writing down for starters.

DALE ANN BRADLEY PRESENTS THE 2ND ANNUAL COON CREEK MUSIC FEST. It runs all three dates mentioned in the first sentence. It will be the first major bluegrass music festival in Kentucky this year and as far as I'm concerned, it will be the best. I'm qualified to make this appraisal because I spend a large percentage of my annual income on bluegrass music and I know what I'm talking about.

Dale Ann and Coon Creek are, sure, the best act in bluegrass music right now. They have a line up of guests that can all come close to making the same claim. See Larry Sparks, Ralph Stanley, Tina Adair, Larry Cordell, Bluegrass Stringers, John Cowley & the Bluegrass Drifters, Southern Harvest, Jeanette Williams, Unlimited Grass, The Moron Brothers, Sarah Pinkle & Jeff Barbee, Don Stanley & Middle Creek, and that's just the ones I know about off the top of my head.

The best action may even occur on Thursday, the 17th when selected, pre-auditioned new bands from all over the country will be showing up for a prestigious new-entrant contest. No, I will not be an entry. They paid me handsomely not to.

Not only is this festival tented, but it will be held at Off-Kentucky Campground just outside Berea which is owned by my good friend and favorite business prospect, Jim Bowman, who will be glad to sell you an assortment of hardware, groceries, swimwear, pools, carved combs, lottery tickets etc. in establishments he has next to the campground and concert site. Jim also has the cheapest gasoline in Madison County most of the time because he gets out at 5 in the morning and drives all over the place then comes back and lowers his pump prices to a penny less than what anybody else is charging.

Unfortunately, if you plan on camping, you'll need to stay straight across the road, about a five minute walk, at Walnut Meadow Camp Ground. Jim has been rented up ever since we mentioned the festival several weeks ago.

Get the pen out again and write down 859-496-6180 and tell 'em I sent you. If that doesn't work, there are any number of motels in Berea that will put you up and it's only 12 miles in either direction to Renfro Valley or Richmond.

Don't be calling me and saying you couldn't find a place to stay.

*Colonel Mat Paul, radio host and Internet host of Bluegrass Express, every Sunday night from 7 to 11 will be the first and that's a show right there. If you live within 10 miles of Irvine town in 100.7 on your FM dial for Mat's show. If you are some-

where else in the world go to www.colonelmatt.com on your favorite Internet browser.

Let me also mention that the Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen will also be holding their Big Spring Fair starting on the 18th in case you are tired of Bluegrass, and maybe you'd better be thinking about checking for lodging in Richmond, Mt. Vernon or Renfro Valley after all. Berea is going to be a popular place the third week end in May.

In any event, the festival will be super easy to find. You don't have to drive through town and it's within earshot and almost within eyeshot of exit 76 off I-75. Otherwise, come to Paint Lick on 52 and go east on 21. I'll invite you to take the night with me and actually you can do that if you want because I'll be hanging around the festival all night from start to finish; come rain or shine.

Listen folks, a three day ticket to this festival is only \$35.00 at the gate. You may be able to save a couple of bucks by calling 859-986-1194 or 986-2323 for advance tickets, but I recommend paying the gate admission and saving yourself the time and trouble. Not only does it stand to be the best event of the year, it may well be the most affordable. If you've never been to a Bluegrass festival, this the best one to start with. If you have, I guarantee you'll be back next year too. See you there.

Our Readers Write

Dear Editor,
The treasurous dealings with the Red Chinese over the Clinton years have come home to roost. A Chinese intercepter aircraft has collided with one of our surveillance aircraft over international waters causing our EP3 aircraft to have to make an emergency landing at a Chinese base. Since they have released our 24 crewmen, no doubt they have entered the air base to take possession of its highly sensitive and secret equipment, an intelligence coup which would be of immense harm to our national security, and keep the aircraft as well.

To put this in perspective: All major powers collect intelligence information on potential adversaries. Our EP-3 aircraft was over international waters. When a fighter aircraft collided with a heavy aircraft such as the EP-3, it is the fighter which has caused the accident.

Red China was given permission by Bill Clinton to inspect American security installations and in his "open skies" policy, to fly over American territories and the US. He defined them as our strategic ally, although they have threatened twice since 1996 to target the US with nuclear weapons, and their senior intelligence personnel take in their service schools that war with the US is inevitable. Additionally, Clinton tried to give the Red Chinese the closed Long Beach Naval Base in California; he made American supercomputers (which immensely accelerate the de-

velopment of nuclear weapons) and much other formerly strategically embargoed technology available to the Chinese (including guidance technology which has million dollar campaign contractors, Bernard Schwartz of Lorar Aerospace Corp. gave to the Chinese, resulting in the virtual elimination of their 40% launch rocket failure rate); he turned the Panama Canal over to a company controlled by the Chinese Army, based on an invalid treaty negotiated by Jimmy Carter (invalid because the treaty Panama signed was not the same as the US signed it); he ratified, during his term in office, the Red Chinese stole the plans to every nuclear weapon in our inventory (and they now have at least 20 ICBMs mostly targeted on the US) for all the Chinese paid millions in campaign cash.

Congress should hold hearings on canceling China's Permanent Normal Trade Relations status. Their favorable trade balance with us is closing in on \$100 billion a year. They have been using this money to develop powerful modern military forces, and they are not going to want to lose it. For openness, communists only understand forced action, and they all believe, as Lenin said in the 1920's, "The capitalists will sell us the rope with which we will hang them."

Bruci Chestnut
Louisville, KY

National Safe KIDS Week is May 5-12th

Americans have made great progress over the decades in protecting children when they travel by car. Parents who did not know how to use a child safety seat - and perhaps not even a car seat - now understand that these protections can save their children's lives. Preliminary results from a recent survey, conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), showed that by 1998 the use of passenger restraints for children is increasing for all age groups.

* Restraint use among infants less than one-year-old had reached 97 percent (up 14 percent from 1996);
* Restraint use among toddlers among 1-4 increased to 91 percent (a dramatic increase of 51 percent from 1996);
* Restraint use among young ages 5-15 increased to 71.8 percent (up 7 percent from 1996).

Other NHTSA research shows that more than 1,000 children died in traffic fatalities for children birth through 4 years old were down 4 percent in 1998.

But those vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of death for all children ages 5-15, as well as for older children and young adults. In 1998, there were 575 motor vehicle occupant fatalities among children under five years of age. About half of the children under five who died were severely injured. In that same year, child safety seats or car seats saved the lives of an estimated 299 children. NHTSA estimates that 175 more lives could have been saved if all motor vehicle occupants under five years old had been correctly restrained in child safety seats.

To emphasize the importance of

the issue of child passenger safety, the Richmonds County Health Department will be observing National Safe Kids Week from May 5-12, 2001.

For Sale

Washer/dryer,
dishwasher,
compactor,
15,000 BTU
air conditioner-110 volt
18,000 BTU
air conditioner-220 volt
12 ft. 2 man bass buggy with
trolling motor and 2 seats.
Call 758-8445 after 5 p.m.
or all day Saturday

• AUCTION •

J&J Auction

Every Friday Night at 6:30 p.m.

Located on Highway 150 just past the traffic light going toward Brodhead, Big Red Roof Building.

We will have the following items for auction this Friday night: Table and Chairs, Antique China Cabinet Chest of Drawers, Dressers, Beds, Living Room Suites, Gun Case and Antique Glassware left from last week's sale. We also have box lots that we sell that has something for everyone. Other items, too numerous to mention.

For More information, or wanting to sell, please call

Jeff Bullock at 606-256-9874 or Jeff Smithern 606-256-3343

We can have that Estate Sale for you!!

Auctioneer: Jerry Ham

Auction House Operator: Jeff Smithern

Rockcastle County High School Principal Criteria Survey

Please check only one:

- ☐ Student
- ☐ Teacher
- ☐ Parent
- ☐ Community Member

Please return the survey to JCHS or mail to:

Rockcastle County High School
ATTENTION: SBDM Council—Adam Coleman
P.O. Box 1410
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

The survey must be received or postmarked by Monday, May 7, 2001

The Rockcastle County High School SBDM Council is seeking your input on criteria you would consider important for our principal.

Listed below are 5 items. The SBDM Council would like you to rate these items on their importance to you.

You have 10 points, and you can use those to indicate the importance of the criteria items. For example, if you consider one item to be the most important factor, you could give that item 10 points and give no points to the remaining four items. If you consider all items equally important, you may want to give each of the five items 2 points. Remember you have only 10 points to use. When you total your points, you should have no more than 10.

Points	Criteria Item
_____	Instructional Leader
_____	Effective Disciplinarian
_____	Team Building Skills
_____	Communication Skills
_____	Emphasis on Extracurricular Activities (Clubs, Sports, Community Service, Competitive Teams)
_____	Total Points (No more than 10)

If you consider any other item important, please list below. You may use this space for additional comments.

Lake Cumberland Regional Medical Center approved for Open Heart Services

Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital (LCRH), Somerset, has received notification that the Cabinet for Health Services approved their Certification of Need Application to provide Adult, Open Heart, and Therapeutic Catheterization Services.

"This good news is the culmination of a fairly long and involved process to bring this vital service to the people of the Lake Cumberland Area Development District," stated Ryan Smith, Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital COO. "We would like to thank the physicians and community leaders from throughout the Lake Cumberland area for their many expressions of encouragement for this project," continued Smith. "Their letters of support were an extremely important component of our successful application."

The need for open-heart surgery services in the Lake Cumberland area was the driving force behind the hospital's application to provide the services. During the year 2000, 364 people had to be transferred out of the district for open-heart surgery. During the same time period, an additional 1274 people found it necessary to go out of the district for therapeutic cath procedures. The long distance from home not only made the coordination of treatment with local physicians more difficult, it also was a hardship on family members. The addition of the program in Somerset will make this procedure an easy drive for family members and friends, and will help eliminate the need and the expense associated with having to travel long distances.

The new program will not only be a benefit to the community of providing life-saving services to people in the region, but will also bring new opportunities to the Lake Cumberland area. In addition to the

35-40 employees who will be employed by the hospital to support the program, there will be a number of health-related jobs associated with the new physicians coming to the area.

In preparation for the new service, LCRH has already signed three new interventional cardiologists who will be establishing their practice in Somerset during the next three to six months, according to "Clay Holdeman, LCRH Director of Physician Relations. In addition, over 35 cardiovascular surgeons have applied to help establish the program. Only surgeons with three to five years of experience with proven positive outcomes, from well-respected and established cardiac programs will be considered for the Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital program. A well-known physician from Lexington's Cardiovascular and Thoracic Associates, Dr. Steve Saba, will lend his expertise by assisting LCRH with education, development and surgical recruitment for their new program.

"We believe this Open-Heart program will complement our recent service line expansions created to make healthcare services more convenient and easily accessible for the people of the area," stated Smith. "The new outpatient Imaging Center, Sports Medicine and Wellness Center, as well as the Ambulatory Surgical Center, which is under construction, have enhanced our ability to deliver the kind of healthcare services our patients want and deserve."

Start-up costs for the Open-Heart Surgery Services at LCRH will include a capital expenditure of some \$3 million dollars. \$2.5 million of which will be allocated to new equipment - including a second cardiac catheterization lab. The hospital is currently in the process of contracting for the new equipment, as well as completing a facility and site master plan project to facilitate this and future hospital developments.

Anticipated opening of the new Open-Heart Surgery Program will be during the first quarter of 2002.

No Closing Costs HOME EQUITY LINE

6.49%

7.50%

Community Trust Bank

Member FDIC. Subject to normal credit review. After the debt payment rights, the bank will be subject to a credit review. Annual Percentage Rate is based on the Year 1 Annual Percentage Rate as of 04/01/01. Other rates may vary. 7.50% to 8.50% on loans with a 0.50% to 1.00% on loans with 0.75% to 1.00% and 9.00% to 10.00% on loans with 1.00% to 1.25%. Annual Percentage Rate may vary. (1) depends on loan value. Minimum interest rate cannot exceed 14.99%. Repayment schedule required.

