

# Mount Vernon Signal

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## The Kentucky Country Music Hall of Fame at Renfro Valley

project was secured from the Kentucky General Assembly by State Representative Danny Ford, with the blessing of Kentucky Governor Paul Patton, who left the money in the 1998 and 2000 budgets. The Hall of Fame is scheduled to open in May of next year. There will be twelve inductees in the first class to enter the Hall of Fame, which is expected to draw thousands of tourists to the county each year. The 15,000 square foot Hall is located at Renfro Valley on some of the former John Lair property. Lair founded the Renfro Valley Barn Dance in 1939 and his daughter Ann Lair Henderson is very involved in the development of the Hall of Fame. The first twelve inductees will be announced in November, during a visit by Kentucky country music legend Loretta Lynn. Above is the former Lair stables, which will serve as a vestibule to the Hall, once renovated. Two other large connections are also being built, one of which will show the time line of country music in Kentucky.

#### Woman with local ties convicted of killing seven in head-on wreck

By: Richard Anderkin
An Indiana woman, who has ites
to Rockcasels County, was sentenced
to 215 years in prison on June 15.
Judy Kirby, 32, of Indianapolis,
was found guilty in May of seven
counts of murder, four Felony counts
of neglect and one count of aggravated battery.
Kirby was charged with murder
tast year after she intentionally drove
her Pontae Firebird head-on into the
path of a Plymonul varion State Roitte
67 near Martinsville in Morgan
County Indiana. inty Indiana.

county Indiana.

According to police reports from the Indiana State Police, Kirby's intentional acts caused the deaths of three of her own children and a nephew, who were passengers in her car and the deaths of three people in the van.

combined speed of 160 miles perhour.

Kirhy's three children, Jordon, 12, Joney, 9, and Jacob, 5, and her nephew, Jeremy Young, 10, died in the wreck.

Thomas Beel, 40 and his two teenage children, Jessen Reel, 14 and Fard Reel, 15 also died in the crash.

During the 13-day trail, prosecutors presented-evidence in the cases portraying. Kirhy as a drug dealer who was affaith ber x-boyfriend had made a deal with federal agents in Kentucky.

made a deal with federal agents in Kentucky.
More specifically prosecutors al-leged that Kirby was trying to co-mit suicide because she finew she would be indicated in federal court, after members of a Rockessde Comity family were arrested in February of 2000, free weeks before the horrific high-speed collision.
Kentucky Sata Police Detective Gary Lane, who testified during the

13-day frial said that the case involved 13-day frail said that the case involved the arrests of several members of the Lovell family, but that Judy Kirby's name never camie up in any discussions or during the investigation by Kentucky State Police, FBI and DEA and that led to the arrest of 15 people on February 15, 2000.

Judy Kirby has a sister living in Mt. Vernon.

Mt. Vernon.

During sentencing on June 13th,

Kirby got three consecutive 65-year

sentences for her murder convictions

on May 10th for the beaths of 40
year-old Tom Reel. 14-year-old Brnd Reel.

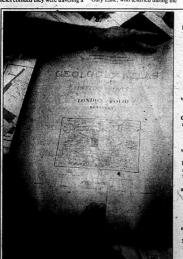
sica Reel and 13-year-old Brnd Reel.

who were in the van Keby's Political

Erichird Formula rammid head-on.

She received an additional 20
year term for her conviction for ag
gravated batter, for commonent into.

ries suffered by 13-year-old Richard Miller, a rider in the Reel van.



A U.S. Geological Atlas dated 1897, which was found in Kansas City, KN earlier this year, has been sent to Rockeastle County, Rockeastle Judge-Executive Buzz Carlofits received the map earlier this year because it includes a detailed map of the Coulty, which was part of the Longings of a deceased surveyor, who was related to some of Carlofits' family. The map shows the Rockeastle County of 1897 and includes sites that wes till know today, such as Livingston, Mt. Vernon and Brodhead. But it also shows places like Woberly Branch, which is now Gauley Branch and White Oak and Satton Nob. Illiance of the County of t

and the L.& N Railroad was the fastest means of transportation. The Railroad split at the Sinks and the Central Division portion (traveled the saine route it does, today, From the Sinks, to Mullins, to Withers, Orlando, Langford, Mullerville, Wilder, Roundstone and Conway, The other line went from the Sinks to Pine Hill, Cook, Mt. Vernon, Marchurg, Brotheed and Gum Sulphur. Copies of the map can be obtained from Carlofts by calling (606) 256-2856.



### **Davy Stewart** found guilty in federal court

guilty in lederal court in Lexington of drug and gun charges. Stewart, who still faces charges of murder, burglary, robbery, assault and wanton endangerment, was con-victed last Wednesday in U.S. Dis-

trict Court.

Stewart faces up to 70 years in prison and \$1 million in fines when he is sentenced on September 7.

The federal drug and gun charges stem from an August 22 incident in Madison County, when Stewart was shot by police, after he tried to steal a webiet.

Federal prosecutors contended that Stewart used a machine gun in the attempted carjacking in Madison County.

the attempted carjacking in Mainson County.

Stewart was arrested on the fed-eral charges on April 13, when he showed up for a court appearance on the murder charge in Rockeastle Cir-cuit Court.

A complaint filed with U.S. Mag-istrate James Todd in Lexington al-

istrate James Todd in Lexington al-leged that Stewart broke in the Madi-son County home on August 22 and tried to take the resident's vehicle as

tried to take the resident's vehicle as well.

Police testified that Stewart was amed with a fully automatic AK-47 rifle, which police testified that he pointed at a Kentucky State Police Officer, who had responded to the 91 distress call, from the Moherly Road residence, about three miles east of Richmond.

According to court records, Sgi. Joey Barnes shot Stewart once in the chest.

Stewart was indicated on murder.

Stewart was indicted on murder Stewart was indicted on murder charges in Rockeastle County last fall, after he allegedly killed Paty Clark, 25, and shot Sally Hoskins, also 25, on August 10, 2000. Hoskinstell police to Clark shadly decomposed body about two weeks after the shooting.

Stewart is accused of shooting Clark after she refused to pray for her life. Hoskins supposedly did pray for hers,

hers.
The incident took place at Cove
Branch near the McNew Cemetery. nich near the McNew Cemetery. Stewart was out on a \$10,000 cash bond and \$50,000 when he was ar-rested by Kentucky State Police De-tective Gary Lane.

for prestigious program John Bray, son of Richard and Jenny, Bray, of Mt. Vernon, Courtney Alexander, daughter of Gerald and Irene Alexander and Joseph Lam-



Terri Mize, right, General Manger of the Country Hearth Inn at Renfro V donation to Mt. Vernon Fire Chief Garry Hansel last Friday. Mize said the of fire department because of their excellent service to the city of Mt. Vernon



The \$10,000 bond had been set by Circuit Judge William Jennings and the \$50,000 property bond had been set by Rockenstle Circuit Judge William Cain.

Stacy Akers, an assistant in Commonwealth Attorney Eddy Montgomery's office, said this week that noriral dates for the murder charge had been set.

Mrs. Akers said that the Commonwealth Akers said the set of the murder charge had been set.

had been set.

Mrs. Akers said that the Commonwealth Attorney's office was awaiting lab results from blood samples before they sought a trial

Stewart is currently being held by federal authorities, until his September 7th sentencing.

#### Interviews for middle school job Thursday

The Site Based Council at the principal's job at the Rockcastle County Middle School on Thursday, although applicants still have until Friday, June 29th to apply.

Fridsy, June 29th to apply.

These to he interviewed on Thursday are all teachers at the middle school.

The three applicants to be interviewed are Anthony Coffey, Jason Coguer and Taininy Miller.

Neither of the two current assistant principals, Bill Jack Parsons or Onna Kaye Owens applied.

Coffey is currently director of the strength of the Miller School.

Coguer is a special education Coguer is a special education

middle school.

Cogier is, a special education teacher at the middle school and assistant boys basketball coach at the high school.

Miller, who is a writing consultant at the middle school, is also a member of the current site based council at the school.

Miller, of course, will be unable to take part in the decision would be the next principal at the middle school and according to the school's by-laws, all four of the site based members left will have to agree