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Rockets win opener in big way 48-0

# Mount Vernon Signal

*Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887*

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 114 - Number 47 - Ph. (606) 256-2244 - .50 a copy - Thursday, August 23, 2001

**Kentucky Governor Paul Patton was in Rockcastle County last Wednesday. A large crowd turned out for the brief meeting at the Rockcastle County Courthouse. Above Patton greets Jan Stevens and Howard Saylor. Also in the photo are Talona King and Lee Keene. Shown at left listening to the Governor are: Judy Duerson, Martha Cox, Willetta Owens, Verla Scott, Margaret Offutt, Fred Mullins, Jr., Dell Ponder, John Holbrook, Ruth Spears, James Miller, Steve Estes, Doug Hamm and Teresa Vanzant.**

*State inspectors give approval*

## Brodhead students will go to school on Monday morning

Rockcastle County School officials announced Wednesday afternoon, that school would start at the county's newest elementary school on Monday.

Finance officer Richard Bray said that state building inspectors had given the school system a temporary certificate of occupancy, after an inspection of the new building on Wednesday morning.

School was delayed eight school days at Brodhead because construction on the $6 million facility was not completed.

Students will begin classes on Monday morning.

Teachers and other personnel have been working in the facility since school began for the rest of the system last week.

"We've still got a lot of work to do before Sunday when parents and students are invited to the school - but we will be ready for school at Brodhead on Monday," Bray said.

Brodhead Principal Caroline Graves cautioned Brodhead area residents that Sunday was not an open house.

"It is simply an event for parents, students and teachers," she said.

Mrs. Graves said an open house at the school would be held later in the school year - when the building was completely finished.

"Just about everything, except for the gymnasium is already completed at the school," Bray said.

"We've mainly just got some loose ends to finish before Sunday," he said.

Superintendent Larry Hammond said that Brodhead students would not be required to go eight days longer than other students in the system, because Brodhead already goes a longer school day than they are required to by law.

The extra time in Brodhead's daily schedule will allow for them to make up their eight days during the school year and get out next Spring when everyone else does.

## Livingston Homecoming

Grand Marshals for this year's Livingston Homecoming Parade will be the former faculty and staff of the Old Livingston School. If you worked at Livingston School, please contact Dell Ponder at 453-4341 or Billy Bryant at 453-2275 or 256-8601 so that adequate facilities can be provided. Even if you are disabled,

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## Apply now for free septic systems

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court has received federal grant applicants for a new program that will pay 100 percent of the cost of installing and replacing septic systems in the county.

Rockcastle Judge-Executive Buzz Carloftis said the program is part of the PRIDE program, which is headed by U.S. Congressman Harold Rogers of Somerset.

The goal of the new program is to replace inadequate systems and to build new systems to replace straight line pipes which allow raw sewage to run into the ground.

The Rockcastle Fiscal Court must have a assessment of the number of homes wanting the free septic systems by October 5.

Carloftis said priority would be given to homes that are grouped closely together in the first round of funding.

The determination of who will be picked and who will not will be made by the PRIDE office in Somerset.

$9 million has been set aside for the first round of funding.

Those not selected will be considered in the next round of funding.

To be considered for a free septic system, Carloftis said it is imperative that his office or the local PRIDE office be contacted as soon as possible.

The Judge's number is (606) 256-2856 and the PRIDE office can be reached by calling (256-1902)

## Mt. Vernon receives state grant

The City of Mt. Vernon was one of 72 communities in the state receiving Renaissance Kentucky funding at a ceremony on July 27, at Constitution Square in Danville.

The goal of Renaissance Kentucky is to recognize and honor communities that have maintained or restored their central downtown areas as safe, efficient and functional urban cores. Additionally, the program provides support and technical assistance with the development of strategies for those communities that want to improve their downtowns.

Renaissance Kentucky was launched by Governor Paul Patton in 1997 and since that time 72 communities have applied for and received Renaissance Kentucky designations. Many of these communities have received funds for infrastructure planning, streetscape and facade im-

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**Miss Kaleisa Robinson, daughter of Kenny and Sherry Robinson of Mt. Vernon was crowned Bowl Queen of the Bob Allen Pigskin Classic held in Danville on Saturday. Kaleisa is a senior at Rockcastle County High School. Miss Robinson is shown above with Bob Allen.**

## Blood Drive

There are few of us who would hesitate to save the life of another human being if we were given the opportunity to do so. However, heroism isn't always displayed in the midst of flashing lights and sirens; there is another act we perform to save a life...donating blood. It's a quiet, simple act of heroism that gives life and new hope to the patient who receives your donation, but a real hero needs no praise - just the quiet knowledge that they made a difference.

Central Kentucky Blood Center urges you to be a quiet hero by donating blood at the Rockcastle County blood drive, Tuesday, September 11th from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Extension Office basement. Sponsored by the Rockcastle Extension Homemakers. In order to donate you must be at least 17 years of age and weigh at least 100 pounds.

Each donor will receive a free gift in appreciation for your heroism. For more information contact Loretta Robinson at (606)679-7413.

## *Renfro Valley is "Ky's Best Kept Secret"*

**By: Richard Anderkin**

When the world famous Statler Brothers take the stage at Renfro Valley on Thursday night - they will be one of many big name acts who have entertained there this year.

But Renfro Valley has much more to offer than just big name acts such as the Statler Brothers, George Jones and Loretta Lynn.

They also provide a stage for area artists, who show off their talents in the historic Barn Dance and Jamboree shows held each week in the Valley.

The two shows are the best known by far to visitors in the valley and to the many local residents who go to the valley on a regular basis, but over the years the Renfro Valley staff has also developed other entertaining shows.

From May to October, MASAL, (Music, Singing and Laughter) is held on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m.

April through October the CLASSIC Country Show is held on Thursday night's at 7 p.m. and, of course, March through November the Barn Dance and Jamboree Shows are held.

Gospel music is also a big attraction in the valley with the Saturday Mountain Jubilee being held March through December. There are also numerous special gospel concerts held each year, with the biggest frames in Gospel Music showing off their talents in the Valley.

"We like to say we are Kentucky's best kept secret," said Jane Thorne, General Manager in the Valley for the past several years.

"We have a lot to offer the public, entertainment wise - but we also have a lot of other things to be proud of as well," she said.

Renfro is in its 62nd year and crowds are better than ever.

Besides the weekly entertainment, Renfro Valley also offers historical tours, shopping, a full-service RV Park, facilities for picnics, meetings and even a wedding chapel.

Tours of the Bittersweet Historical Cabins are also available. The authentic Kentucky Log Cabins recapture the charm of Appalachia and give visitors a first hand look at the lifestyles of early settlers.

Renfro Valley is in its first year of new management and Thorne believes the Hall of Fame board, which now operates the Valley, has done a very good job of continuing to move the Valley in a positive direction.

Thorne is also proud of the number of quality shops that are located in the Village.

The General Store offers Boyd's Bear Products, Fenton Glassware, moccasins, shoes and Emerald Collection Dolls, among other things.

The Gristmill carries a vareity of products, including country ham, bean mix, Ky. sorghum, jams, jellies, hand dipped ice cream and stone ground corn meal and grits.

The Candy Land store is famous for its hand made fudge, made in the store and for the pecan rolls, pecan puggs, turtles, jelly bellys and taffy.

The Christian Book Store has a full line of inspiration books and reading materials.

They also carry a great selection of traditional, gospel, contemporary, southern and mountain gospel and children's music.

They have church supplies and offer mail orders.

The Country Music Store has a large selection of traditional, bluegrass and gospel music.

They also carry music and videos of Renfro Valley's own entertainers and specialize in hard to find traditional music.

The Country Corner offers a great selection of gifts, including country home decor, chimes and country crafts.

The Village shops are open at different times, but some of the stores are open seven days a week.

The Valley also has the famous Lodge Restaurant and Old Joe's place for dining.

Thorne said that Renfro Valley's

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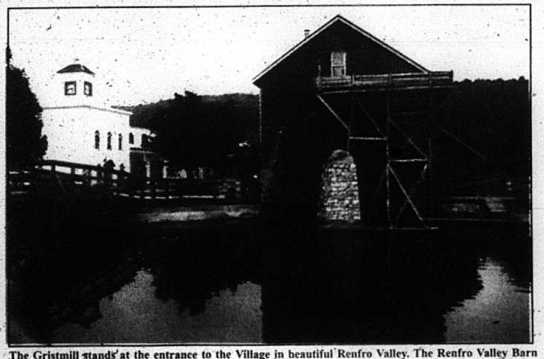

**The Gristmill stands at the entrance to the Village in beautiful Renfro Valley. The Renfro Valley Barn Dance is currently in its 62nd year.**