



Points East

By: Ike Adams

Some things about human behavior simply never cease to amaze me. For example, I know many two hundred folks on a first name basis who don't think twice about driving several hundred miles to attend a Bluegrass Music Festival and spending \$25 a night to get onto the grounds.

Doesn't matter if its raining and their cars get stuck in the mud. Doesn't matter that a hot dog worth 75 cents costs 2 bucks. Doesn't even matter that they have to hunker up under a tent so far back from the musicians that they can't make out a single word of the singer's lyrics.

They'll still come home and brag. "Man, you should have been there," and they'll talk all night about the bands they saw and how good they were when the truth of the matter is that they didn't hear much more than a dull roar and they can't even tell you what brand names of instruments the band was playing because they were way too far back from the stage to read that kind of detail on the neckpiece.

So my buddy, Colonel Matt Paul, who is the MC at most of those national and international festivals, decided that the thing to do was create a place where, during the cold weather months, bluegrass music fans could congregate, hear the best bands in the business, park on asphalt, get a burger, and a better one at that, for about half what they cost at a fast food place, and sit down indoors with auditorium seating with a sound system that enabled them to hear every word and every note of every song. He figured that free camping for RVs would help out too even though he didn't have hookups for water and electric.

Matt also figured that \$10.00 or \$12 (usually \$10) to get inside the building where you could rub elbows with the band and get a good up-close-and-personal seat was a more-than-fair-price to listen to top quality, best-in-the-business bluegrass for 4 and a half or five hours.

So last Friday night I had the

middle seat of the front row and my truck was parked two spaces away from the front door. The front half of Matt's auditorium, maybe 200 people, do not think of non-smokers but I had the entire section to myself. I smoke but I can do without one for a 45 minute set for a perfect seat. The balcony, where the acoustics are darn near perfect, seats maybe 50 on a first come, first served basis and it was empty. Fifty or so folks hung out in the back of the room and fanned away smoke and the band was Southern Harvest!

Let me say right up front that if Ralph Stanley was on one corner of the square, the Osborne Brothers on another, name your favorite hot shot band, on yet another, and Southern Harvest was on the last quadrant, I'd be on that last one.

Southern Harvest has been around since about 1990. It consists of John Mines who plays the mandolin directly from his soul and every time he puts the sound board up to the mike and hits the strings, cold shivers go up and down your arms.

It's not fancy most of the time but its real and the instrument is as much a part of him as his big toe. John runs a radio show out of Stanton, KY, and he has been a professional musician/singer since way back in the 70's. John Mines is as famous in Louisville bluegrass circles as Ralph Stanley is in the mountains of Kentucky and Virginia and the quality of his voice and—we already told you about those cold shivers.

And then there's Dave Maggard who has been in the business since I was a teenager and who's former band, "Coal Country Grass" was the mainstay of mountain television live broadcasts back in the seventies. Maggard plays bass and sings lead and harmony with the band. He also writes most of the band's new songs.

A few weeks ago J. D. Crowe sang "Lefty's Old Guitar" on a national broadcast of the Grand Ole Opry. Dave wrote that song and admits that it gave him a thrill or two but he is happiest playing and singing in front of a live audience on weekends or

wherever a crowd comes round to listen. When he steps up to the mike, you close your eyes and listen and the sound seeps into your bones.

Dave lives in Ravenna now but he was born and raised in Leslie County and his voice is as pure and clean as any unspoiled trickling out of Pine Mountain.

We go fishing sometimes and I love Mr. Maggard like a father/brother. Southern Harvest is rounded out by relative newcomers to the band. Greg Wilson sings a bit of harmony but mostly he plays banjo the way it was meant to be played. In 1985 he was named Maryland Banjo picker of the year and he's only been getting better ever since.

Mike Meehan plays lead guitar as good as anybody in the business and sings a lot of lead on old traditional songs and he, too, has spent many an hour on stage.

It doesn't bother the guys in the Southern Harvest Band that they are using holes. They do it for the love of the game, but they are as proficient as any of the bands that have reached national acclaim. They've cut a few albums and the first thing I do when I head out to work in the morning is pop a Southern Harvest tape in the deck. And I pull it from among a stack that includes just about every bluegrass band that ever sold one anywhere.

So last Friday night I listened to Southern Harvest through the big sound system at Matt's and I was as close to heaven as I may ever get. The sound was as good as it gets anywhere in Nashville, including the Opry, and better than I am used to at the festivals, and I had the place to myself.

Folks, let me assure you yet again that nobody has a keener appreciation of bluegrass music talent than Matt Paul. Nobody, absolutely nobody, has more respect within the industry. Please come out and join us for the weekend shows. I can't be there for every single one because I have a travel schedule that keeps me out of town too often. But Matt will be there and so will the best bands in bluegrass. I'm telling you that this is as good as live bluegrass music gets.

If you have Internet access go to: www.mattandpaul.com for the schedule, not that it matters, because the show is always a bargain. Matt Paul's Music Hall is located just 2 and a half miles outside Berea on highway 1016. Call the Berea Tourism Center at 859-966-2550 for better directions if you can't read a map or call Matt up directly at home. That number is 859-966-2523.

The bottom line is get out here. You have no idea what you are missing.

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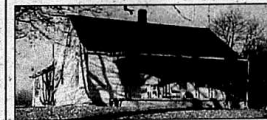
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Auction
of the late Mr. Curtis Bradley's

21 Acre Farm M/L in Tracts & Tobacco Allotment
Farm Equipment and Personal Property
Saturday, December 1, 2001 • 1:30 p.m.
Ottawa Section of Rockcastle County



Location: From Mt. Vernon, proceed 4.4 miles on US 150 to Highway 70. Turn onto Highway 70 near Adams Feed and Supply. Follow Highway 70 approximately 2.6 miles to the property. Auction signs are posted.

In order to settle the estate of the late Mr. Bradley, our firm has been authorized to offer this farm and personal property for the absolute high dollar.

- Tracts 1 and 2: Each contains 0.84 acres with approx. 172.8 feet of frontage on Highway 70.
- Tract 3: Contains 1.42 acres with approx. 156.8 feet of frontage on the existing gravel road.
- Tract 4: Contains 1.56 acres with approx. 156.8 feet of frontage on the existing gravel road.
- Tract 5: Contains 1.40 acres with approx. 241.77 feet of frontage on Highway 70 and approx. 265.5 feet of frontage of the existing gravel road.
- Tract 6: Contains 1.293 acres with approx. 264 feet of frontage on Highway 70.
- Tract 7: This tract contains 2.9 acres and is improved with a pond. This tract has approx. 257.3 feet of frontage on the existing gravel road.
- Tract 8: This tract has 10,036.8 acres and is improved with a house, garage, barn and two ponds.

The above pictured aluminum sided house offers 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, living room and a kitchen downstairs, a large multi-purpose room upstairs, and a full basement. Added features include: storm doors and windows, fuel oil heat and front and back porches. City water is available on the road and water to the house supplied by a spring.

In addition, there is a 28x30 detached concrete block garage, 48x66 barn and 2 ponds.

When combined, there is a total of 21.81 acres. The terrain is level to gently rolling. The farm will be offered in tracts, grouped and as a whole in the manner which reflects the best results for the sellers.

Tobacco Allotment: The tobacco allotment of 1,044 lbs. will sell separately from the real estate.

Farm Machinery: Farmall 140 Tractor • mowing machine • single plow • utility trailer • hillside plow • pull-type disc • quick-hitch disc • grader blade • cultivators for Farmall 140 tractor • layoff plow • corn planter for a quick-hitch • 2 round bale feeders • low-boy trailer • wheel barrel • aluminum ladder • sprays • garden layoff plow • fence posts • push mower 22 inch cut • Raleigh 11 hp riding mower • Stihl weed eater • 9 gallon air tank • Montgomery Ward rotary tiller.

Personal Property: 3 pc. Maple bedroom suite • chifferobe • blanket chest • Early American style living room suite • 3 pc. blonde bedroom suite • 2 iron beds • bank of drawers • library table • Singer electric sewing machine • child's rocking chair • ottoman • table • rectangular mirror • chair • recliner • gossip bench • old oak stand table • Don Enser Print "That Hat" • Kimball breakfast set with four chairs • oak rocking chairs • dresser with bevel-edged mirror • bookcase type full size bed • 5 drawer chest of drawers • desk and chair.

Kelvinator electric range • Hotpoint no-frost Refrigerator • white GE automatic washer • white Kenmore heavy duty dryer • Sears chest-type deep freeze • kitchen utility cabinet with glass doors • kitchen utility table • Sharp Microwave • electric toaster • new microwave oven (still in the box) • granite pieces • several kerosene lanterns • kerosene heater • stoneware pitcher • Sinclair oil advertising sign (1 ft. diameter) • milk glass milk jugs • 2 Carnival footed bowls • glass pitcher • vinegar cruet • hen on nest • Corningware bowls • Carnival bowl • 2 Carnival candy dish • 7 silver dollars • 11 old quarters • 10 Kennedy Half Dollars • 60 1964 Kennedy Half Dollars • silver certificates (\$1.00 and \$5.00) • Buffalo nickels • Wheat pennies • Mercury dimes • 75 old dimes • 10 old knives

GUNS: Stevens 12 gauge single shot shotgun • Champion 16 gauge single shot shotgun • Winchester model 74 22 cal. automatic rifle • R-G 22 cal. in a 38 frame (snub nosed) • Smith & Wesson 38 special magazine rack • metal bookshelf • electric fans • record player • floor type ash tray • electric heater • electric clock • dishes • cookware • pots and pans • gas stove • old kitchen cabinet (needs work) • several old quilts • small railroad lanterns • lawn chairs • saws • levels • drills • hand tools of all descriptions • 2 old head lights • machinist tools • 2 car ramps • cords • grease guns • extension ladders • plus much more

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: If you're looking for a great location in a wonderful community, then you need to inspect this property before the auction. This is an absolute auction, so bid last and buy on Saturday, December 1st at 1:30 p.m.

NOTE: The purchaser of a single family residence, built before 1978, has a maximum of 10 days to inspect the property for the presence of lead base paint. The period for inspection begins November 21st through November 30th, 2001. All bidders must sign a waiver of the 10 day post sale inspection period.

TERMS: Real Estate: 20% down day of sale, balance in 30 days.

Personal property: cash or check day of sale.

Executor of the Estate: Frank Bradley

Announcements day of sale take precedence over printed matter.

For additional information, contact the selling agents.

www.fordbrothersinc.com

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2001

City of Mt. Vernon

Annual

Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 8th at 2:00 p.m.

We will meet at the Mt. Vernon Elementary School at 1:00 to 1:30 for lineup

The theme of this year's parade is:

"Celebrating His Birth as God Blesses America"

We could use red, white and blue, if you need to decided on a color, of course, you don't have to use these colors.

Participation in the "Spirit of Christmas" will be great

If some elves show up to walk with Santa, this will be great. Santa will have treats and stay in town after the parade to greet the children. All participation is needed and will be appreciated and will be by the community.

The United States Flag will lead our parade this year, carried by the Rockcastle Co. Army JROTC program

12"x18" flags are available at City Hall

We are trying to get \$5.00 each for the flags. The City of Mt. Vernon purchased the flags and all proceeds go to the American Red Cross disaster victims in New York.

Contact Phyllis Deatherage at City Hall at 606-256-3437 to participate

Thank You So Much and Merry Christmas from

Mayor Karen K. King and staff at the City of Mt. Vernon