

Mt. Vernon Message

Welcome back to school. Upcoming events: Regina Rice, will be competing in our District Spelling Bee on Thursday, February 6th. Best of luck to Regina.

Special Projects: Our 4th and 5th grade students participated in a spelling bee. Each classroom winner competed for the opportunity to represent our school at a District Spelling Bee at our central office. Winners are pictured. Regina Rice was our school winner. Congratulations to all.

Breanna Johnson was our art prize winner for the last arts block. She chose pencil grips as her prize. Con-

gratulations Breanna!

Project Wisdom readers for the last week of school before Christmas are as follows: Brandon Baker, student; Quentin Bishop, student; Holly Ham, student; Jordan Whitaker, student; Faith Spires, instructional assistant; was our mystery reader. Thanks to all who have participated in this project.

Our quote for this week is "Our goals are our possibilities."



Breanna Johnson
MVES Art Prize Winner



Regina Rice
School Winner - Spelling Bee



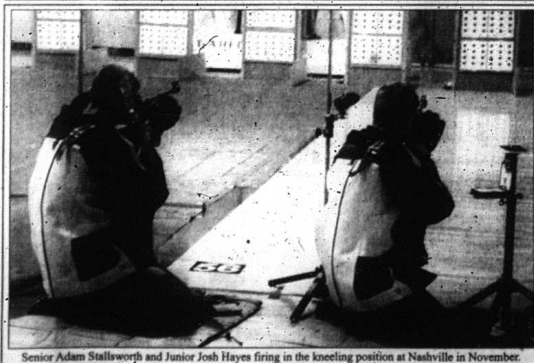
5th grade spelling winners, from left: Regina Rice, Stephen Bond, Megan Cromer, Casey Sturgill and Amber Whitaker.



4th grade spelling winners, from left: Mason Phillips, Sydney Arvin, Beth Guinn, Elliot Jackson and Brandon Burdette. Not pictured is Samantha Cromer.



Seniors Melissa Jones and Cory Canterbury shooting standing position at Ft. Benning, Georgia in November



Senior Adam Stallsworth and Junior Josh Hayes firing in the kneeling position at Nashville in November.

Mullins earns CIA degree

Cliff Mullins, of Rembo Valley, earned his Associate Degree in Culinary Arts from The Culinary Institute of America (CIA) on November 8, 2002. While enrolled at the CIA, Cliff was the recipient of a merit scholarship and a High Impact Leader scholarship from the college.

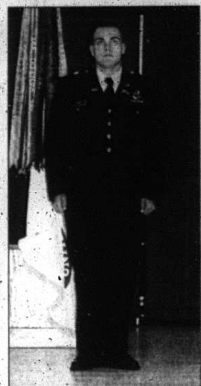
The son of Clark and Sandra Mullins, Cliff also holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Hospitality Management from the University of Kentucky. He is a 1995 graduate of Rockcastle County High School.

Founded in 1946, The Culinary Institute of America is the only residential college in the world devoted entirely to culinary and baking and pastry arts education. An independent, not-for-profit college offering bachelor's and associate degrees, the CIA overlooks the Hudson River in historic Hyde Park, NY. The CIA has an enrollment of 7,100 students and a network of 35,000 alumni in the foodservice and hospitality industry who have helped the college earn its reputation as the world's premier culinary college. The CIA is on the World Wide Web at www.ciachef.edu.



Kyle Kirby graduates from ECU

Coy and Hazel Kirby of Livingston, would like to congratulate their son Kyle Kirby on his graduation from Eastern Kentucky University on the 14th day of December. Kyle graduated with a BA in Chemistry, and a minor in Military Science. He also has completed the senior ROTC program at ECU, and was commissioned as an infantry officer into the United States Army with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant on the 13th day of December. Kyle is a Distinguished Military Graduate, meaning he graduated in the top 20% of all officers commissioning across the country. Kyle is also a 1997 graduate of Rockcastle County High School and is the first commissioned officer ever to participate in the Junior ROTC program at RCHS. He will be attending the Infantry Officers Basic Course at Ft. Benning, Georgia in January.



Reynolds receives Achievement award

Kristi Reynolds, Administrative Secretary at Ky. Tech-Rockcastle County Area Technology Center recently received the State Outstanding Staff Achievement Award in the technical education system.

Mrs. Reynolds attended a special awards program in Frankfort on December 11, 2002 where she received state recognition for this outstanding achievement.

After spending four years with the Cabinet for Families and Children, Mrs. Reynolds has been with the Ky. Tech system for fourteen years. She currently is the administrative secretary at the Rockcastle co. ATC. Her duties include administrative, personnel support and student services, as well as financial management, technology functions, marketing and public relations.

Her principal, Donna Hopkins, says she exemplifies every school principal's idea of the perfect secretary. "Kristi keeps the technical, academic, social and career needs of students a number one priority."

Mrs. Reynolds participates in the Community Learning Center after school classes. She also serves on the site-based decision making council, the PTA and teaches community education classes in Access, PowerPoint and the Internet.

"There is always great satisfaction in seeing a student trying to better him or herself," says Mrs. Reynolds. "I have seen many students struggle to overcome family trials and disappointment, but their technical education opportunity provided them growth and confidence to succeed."

As Coca-Cola Scholar

Cummins picked as semi-finalist

Amanda Cummins, a senior at Rockcastle County High School, has been selected from over 100,000 applicants nationwide as a semifinalist in the 2002-2003 Coca-Cola Scholars Program. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, a joint effort of Coca-Cola bottlers across America and the Coca-Cola Company, is one of the largest corporate-sponsored, merit scholarship programs of its kind in the United States. The program recognizes a diverse group of extraordinary high school seniors who have demonstrated academic and civic excellence in their schools and communities.

Amanda ranks with over 2,000 seniors who are in the running for \$41.8 million in college scholarships being awarded by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. Students are selected to advance to the next phase, based on the level of excellence, leadership and achievement demonstrated in school and community activities. This year marks the fifteenth year Coca-Cola will be awarding these scholarships, providing a total of \$23 million to assist young scholars nationwide in the pursuit of their educational goals.

As semifinalists, students must submit additional information that will be reviewed in February by a committee comprised of 27 educators from high schools and universities throughout the United States. If ad-

vanced, Amanda will be among a total of 252 finalists who will travel to Atlanta April 24-27, 2003 to attend the Coca-Cola Scholars Weekend. During their visit, they will attend a final interview process which will determine whether they are designated as either a National or Regional Scholar. The 52 National Scholars will each receive a \$20,000 renewable scholarship.

The program was created in 1986 by the Coca-Cola Bottlers and The Coca-Cola Company to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Coca-Cola and to establish a legacy for the education of tomorrow's leader through college scholarships.

Previous Rockcastle County High School recipients were Josh Hale, Tracy Todd and Brandy Reynolds.



Amanda Cummins



From left: DTE Commissioner Emil S. Jezik, WFD Cabinet Secretary Allen D. Rose, 2002 Outstanding Staff Achievement Award Winner Kristi Reynolds and DTE Deputy Commissioner Mary A. Stratton.



RCHS Rifle Team at Fort Benning, Georgia in November



Twenty-eight members of Rockcastle County High School's JROTC held a lock-in at the school on December 14th for a great night of fun as an award for their support and hard work. They played basketball, volleyball, floor hockey, watched movies, played board games and video games, ate pizza and lots of snacks until early Sunday morning. Pictured above, front row from left: Shane Foster, Josh Page, Josh Bell, Larry Mink, Chrysal Valerio, Chris Miller, Sam Isaacs, Erika Toothman, Dustin Emerson, Karen Barber, Michael Taylor and James Adams. Second row from left: Derrick Hensley, James Weaver, Jesse McCollum, Jessica Toothman, Erik Stallsworth, Justin Richards, Chad Glovack, Joe Alcorn and Jason Daniels. Standing, from left: Cory Canterbury, Sarah Steele, Melissa Jones, Ross McClure, Justin Cornelius and Adam Stallsworth. Not pictured were Joe Hubbard and chaperones Sergeant Major Keith Taylor and Mrs. Jenny Taylor.