

Rockcastle awarded federal funds for emergency food and shelter

Rockcastle County has been chosen to receive \$5,540 to supplement food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a national board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, United Jewish Communities, Catholic Charities, USA and National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA and, United Way of America, which will provide the administrative staff and function as fiscal agent. The board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A local board, made up of Rockcastle County Judge Executive Bruce Carlisle and local Community Action Agency, etc., will determine how the funds awarded to Rockcastle County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by the local service organizations in the area. The local board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these

funds and any additional funds available under this phase of the program. Under the terms of the grant from the national board, local organizations chosen to receive funds must 1) be private voluntary nonprofit or units of government, 2) have an accounting system, 3) practice nondiscrimination, 4) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs and 5) if they are a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying organizations are urged to apply.

Rockcastle county has distributed emergency food and shelter funds previously with Daniel Boone Development Council. This agency was responsible for providing 724 nights lodging and providing utilities for more than 31 families.

Public or private voluntary organizations interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact Betty Carter Russell. The deadline for applications is January 24, 2003. For more information, call Betty Carter Russell at 606-256-5325 or 606-256-4633.

Relay for Life Meeting

No matter who you are -- there's a place for you at Relay For Life. The next planning meeting will be on Thursday, January 16 (today) at 6 p.m. in the Community Room at Cumberland Valley Home Health.

Contact Kelly McClure at 256-4122 or Danielle Hinton at 256-4916.

Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's signature activity and it is the largest community fund raiser in the world. It is a unique event that offers everyone in a community the opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer. Relay For Life represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten; that those who face cancer will be supported and that one day cancer will be eliminated.

Relay For Life events are 12 to 24 hours in length and go overnight. One of the event's highlights is the opening ceremony, which brings cancer

survivors together to walk the first lap. Cancer survivors, as well as those who lost their battle with the disease, are also honored and remembered during the luminaria ceremony, which takes place after dark. Both of these ceremonies provide inspiration and motivation for all of the participants of Relay For Life.

Because Relay For Life is a community gathering, rather than an athletic event, anyone and everyone can participate. Being part of a Relay team is a great way to get involved. Teams of eight to 15 people camp out and take turns walking around a track. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event. Teams come from businesses, clubs, families, friends, hospitals, churches, schools and service organizations. These individuals all share a common purpose -- their support of the American Cancer Society's mission.

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Yards to Paradise

Avoid these problems at planting time

Bi-Weekly column by Max Phelps

FAQ: What do you think caused my tree to die? This is a common question. Some causes of such problems are we are fixing to cover.

I hear things like "I've never had any luck with...rhododendrons, azaleas, roses, etc." My inclination, though I agree some plants require more effort to grow successfully than other plants do, is to ask "what did you do wrong?"

Or, "I watered my plants every day all summer. I did my part, so there must have been something wrong with the plants!"

OK, those are a few problems I hear. Since I seldom have a tree or shrub die which I plant, what are the above-mentioned good folks doing that we can correct or avoid? Hopefully, here are some helpful answers and solutions.

For members of the Ericaceae plant family, you need acidic soil with lots of organic matter and never too dry nor too wet. Avoid planting this group of plants in the hottest, sunniest places. OK, blueberries need full sun. Like a mixture of sand, peat, pine fines to replace about 50% of existing soil and mix with the other 50%. But, if clay or hardpan subsoil is all you have to work with, a raised bed may be the only way to grow these plants successfully. They also need loose soil, and no disturbing their fine little roots!

Rhododendrons; azaleas; mountain laurel; blueberries; lingonberries; heather, peris japonica, enkianthus are all members of the Ericaceae family.

For rose gardens, mulch, organic fertilizer, frequent watering (morning not evening), pruning and winter protection of the graft union are important. Standing water can kill lots of plants.

For acid loving plants, the drip of the house may pose a problem. You see, mortar from the bricks or stone may be in excess just under a skimpily layer of added topsoil, along the sides of your house. To grow azaleas, camellias, or many other plants needing an acidic soil in this situation, will mean removing the waste concrete and mortar and replacing with high-organic-matter soil. An acid fertilizer may also be needed.

A few other plants may need lime to do as well as they might. Legumes need a sweet soil usually. Western cedars, yellowwood, iris, are plants that come to mind that like a higher pH.

When you need to water most trees and plants, water them thoroughly once or twice a week. This is much preferred to a quick wetting of the foliage or the top of the ground on a daily basis. (Add some "wilt proof" to the water if you are going to wet the foliage...at least that will slow down evaporation from the plant leaves).

Often, I see a well shaped tree skeleton. Uh-hun. Deh... Looks like it cost some big bucks. Croaked. Why? Well, too often, the hole you planted it in (you wondered if you would strike oil before you got the hole deep and wide enough) does not drain properly.

You wouldn't plant a \$200 tree in a pond would you? Well you probably did just that when you dug a big hole into clay mud and added water around the root ball of your new tree. Sometimes it seems trees forgive

us all sorts of mistakes and thrive anyway. But, I advise digging a test hole in your yard, pour in a large pail of water, and come back the next day and see how much water is still in the test hole. Hint: If the water is still there, plant a willow, cypress or black or red alder maybe instead. Better yet, plant the tree somewhere else, or see the rootball on top of the existing yard and bring in a big load of good dirt and create a raised bed around your new tree.

Another matter is loss of roots when a B&B (balled and burlapped) tree is dug. To speed up healthy growth of a new tree, remove some limbs to equalize the lost roots. And potted trees and shrubs may be rootbound. Try scratching or untangling a few of the roots as you put it in its planting hole.

It is tragic that most new construction has little topsoil in the yards. Scraped away to level the lot, and sold. A skimpily layer is reapplied to the flat new yard around the new home. Raised beds can be a big help in dealing with such conditions. May your yard be nearer paradise than before.

The author is a freelance writer and landscaper. Visit www.rockcastle.com and leave any messages. Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

In Memory of Edna Westfield Collins
My sister, Edna Westfield Collins, was a wonderful person. As her family all stood around her bed, the angels came for her. She was so pretty. Her face was shining. She was ready to meet her Master. As the gate opened, there were many standing outside, but few entered in. There stood the Master, reaching for her hand. As He spoke, His eyes were shining like gold. As my sister entered, she started to sing. She was the child of a King. There was so much weeping outside the gate. The Master, with his nail-scarred hands, was beautiful. He said in his sweet voice, "You are my child, enter in." Sadly missed by her sister, Lora Hamilton Westfield

Project Graduation Meeting

January 27th • 7 p.m.

RGHS Cafeteria

All senior parents are encouraged to attend this important meeting

Free Personal Finance Class

Come to CAP's personal finance class to learn more about budgeting, savings and checking accounts, CD's, loans, personal credit, credit cards, tax preparation, and financial Internet research. Classes will be held at the Adult Learning Center Tuesdays between January 21st and February 18th from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. For more information or to register, call 606-256-5307 and ask for Russ. Sponsored by the Christian Appalachian Project.

GED Classes

Christian Appalachian Project Adult Learning Center will hold GED classes on Monday and Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Center is located on Hwy. 25, north of Mt. Vernon in the old motel on Greenfish Hill. For info or an appl. call 606-256-5307

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Evening Appointments Available

The following people have not picked up their high school diplomas. They may come by Rockcastle County High School and pick them up in the front office.

1988	Peter Brian Harrison	Shonda L. McClure	
1993	"Angela Michelle Collins	Susan M. Swinney	
1994	Linda Marlene Alcorn	1999	Timothy Puckett
	Joshua Bryan Bullock	2000	Adam Todd Davidson
	Mike A. Pinkerton		Andrea Nicole Horner
	James Bradley Powell	2001	Melissa Renee Miller
	William Earl Shroden		Tasha Renee Sandlin
	Eddie Gilbert Vanwinkle		Sean Steven Smith
	Jason Karl Vanzant	2002	Michael Thomas Cunagin
1995	Sherry Ann Griffin		Dora Eyle Chastrom
1998	Kenneth R. Cozier		Melissa J. Hendley
			Jessica Dawn McClure

8th Annual Prayer Service for Christian Unity

To celebrate Jesus, the source of our unity, we invite you to the 8th annual Service for Christian Unity.

This celebration will be held on Friday, January 24th at 7:00 p.m. The service will be held at Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Catholic Church on Williams Street. The church is located across the street from Mt. Vernon Elementary.

The service will feature several local ministers and musicians. If you cannot attend we ask that you pray for the service and the churches of Rockcastle County in order that the lost be saved and the will of the Lord be done in all our lives.

Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service.