



Mount Vernon Signal

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Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40455 - Volume 111 Number 10 Thursday, February 5, 2003

Renfro releases portion of 2003 concert series

Renfro Valley Entertainment Center is gearing up for another great year, with numerous headliners scheduled.

The concert season kicks off with Ronnie Bowman and Lonesome Blue on March 8th, followed by Illrd Tyne Out w/The Moron Brothers on the 15th, Charlie Walter (Country Gentleman) on March 22 and the Osborne Brothers and Dean Osborne on March 29th complete the March line-up.

Charlie Pride kicks off April on the 5th, followed by Mike Snider (April 12), The McKameys (April 19) and the ever-popular Carl Hurley on April 25 and 26.

Michael Combs introduces the line-up on May 10th, followed by Eddie Miles "Salute to Elvis" on May 24.

In June, The Oak Ridge Boys will perform on June 7, followed by The Inspirations on June 13.

The Old Joe Clark Festival will be held the July 4th weekend in the festival field. "Achy Breaky Heart-breaker" Billy Ray Cyrus will be here on July 12 and Don Williams will perform on July 19.

Charlie Fride will return to the Valley on August 9, followed by Ray Price on August 16; the "Painting the Town Tour" will be here on August 23 with John Berry, Lee Roy Parnell and David Lee Murphy and, on August 30, Ronnie McDowell will perform.

On September 13, Gene Watson will be at Renfro and George "Possum" Jones will perform September 26 and 27.

The Appalachian Harvest Festival will be held again in October, along with a return performance by Mike Snider on October 4th and the Fiddler's Festival.

Carl Hurley will make a return to the Valley on October 31 and Nov. 1 and The Chuckwagon Gang will also perform on November 1.

Renfro's Gospel Music Celebration includes performances by The Primitives on October 16; Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver on the 17th; and The Perry's and The Golden Covenant on Oct. 18th.

This is not a complete listing of all the concert performers.

For ticket information, call Renfro Valley Ticket Office at 1-800-765-SING.



Kentucky State Police Detective John Yates and Sheila Barron of Mt. Vernon escaped serious injury Friday afternoon after they were involved in a two-car accident. According to police, Mr. Barron turned her Cutlass into the path of Yates' state police car as he was traveling toward Mt. Vernon.



The most successful football class ever at the Rockcastle County High School was honored Thursday night during their annual banquet. The eleven seniors are shown above, front row from left: J.T. Lovell, Marty Reagan, Benny Norther, Michael Brummett and James Michael Russell. Back row from left: Michael Hayes, Jarred Rice, Aaron Anderson, Stephen Bortling, Tanner Abney and Doug French. As a group, the class had a record of 50-7 and two state runners-up titles.

Meeting on new road is next Tuesday

A public meeting on the next phase of the U.S. 150 reconstruction in Rockcastle and Lincoln counties is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 11 near Crab Orchard.

State Highway Department engineers and right of way specialists will meet informally with the public at Watts Chapel Baptist Church to show the planned route for a 6.8-mile section of new highway that the state plans to begin building in the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2005.

Joe Cox, project manager for the road work for the Highway Department's Somerset district office, said that the informal meeting will include maps and literature on the proposed route for the highway that will bypass Crab Orchard to the south.

The meeting will be conducted like an open house and interested residents of Lincoln and Rockcastle counties can drop by anytime between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Watts Chapel Baptist Church to learn about the project. The church is located at 11825 U.S. Highway 150 E, Crab Orchard.

The planned highway route extends from the end of the newest portion of the road at Deep Well Woods Road west of Crab Orchard to George Jones Road, about a mile west of Brodhead. The route takes a relocated U.S. 150 south of Crab Orchard and, generally, follows the route of the abandoned L&N railroad tracks.

Maps, and other information available at the public informational meeting next Tuesday, will pinpoint exactly which properties lie in the

path of the road relocation project.

Cox said that the proposed route doesn't exactly follow the old rail bed because the tracks passed through wetlands that won't accommodate a highway. The railroad right of way also is too narrow for a modern highway, he said.

Current plans call for the state to begin appraising property, that it will need to relocate the highway, in the spring and probably begin buying land this summer.

Cox said land acquisition likely will take a year and cost \$7.5 million.

Once land is acquired, utility relocation will take place in the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2004 and road construction is scheduled to begin a year after that, Cox said.

The Highway Department estimates that it will cost \$18.6-million to build the road, bringing the total project to \$26.1 million or \$3.83 million per mile.

The road project from Crab Orchard nearly to Brodhead is part of a long range plan to reconstruct U.S. 150 from Stanford to Interstate 75 at Mount Vernon. The first nine miles of the 25-mile project is finished, extending from Stanford to Deep Well Woods Road near Crab Orchard.

The last portion of the road finished included a dam that impounds the rapidly-filling Cedar Creek Lake. When full, the lake will cover 774 acres of surface and provide a fishing and boating recreation area just west of Crab Orchard.

State cost share program sign-ups announced

The Kentucky County Conservation District will be accepting requests for financial and technical assistance under the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program continues through February 28, 2003.

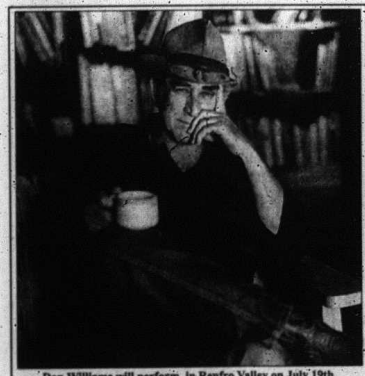
The Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program was created to help agricultural operations protect the soil and water resources of Kentucky and to implement their agriculture water quality plans. This program was established to assist landowners address existing soil erosion, water quality and other environmental problems associated with their farming or woodland operation.

The 1994 Kentucky General Assembly established this financial and

technical assistance program. Kentucky Revised Statutes 262.115, establishes that the program's funds be administered by local conservation districts and the Kentucky Soil & Water Conservation Commission with priority given to annual waste related problems, agricultural district participants and to producers who have their Agriculture Water Quality plans on file with their local conservation districts. Funding for the program comes from the Kentucky General Assembly through the direct appropriations to the program from Phase I Tobacco Settlement Funds and from funds provided by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

Practices eligible for cost share are

(Cont. to A8)



Don Williams will perform in Renfro Valley on July 19th.

Homecoming Festivities

The Rockcastle County High School Basketball Homecoming will be held before the doubleheader with North Laurel next Friday night, February 14. Festivities will begin at 5:45 p.m. with the presentation of the King and Queen candidates and the crowning ceremony.

Parents, family and friends wishing to observe the ceremony should plan to be in the gym no later than 5:45 p.m.

Well-known Rockcastle resident dies Sunday



James Lambert

James W. Lambert, Rockcastle County lawyer and business leader, died Sunday evening, February 2, 2003, after a brief illness. He was 87.

Mr. Lambert was born in Rockcastle County on April 6, 1915, the son of Judge James H. and Mary Wheeler Lambert. He attended Berea Foundation School and Berea College. A 1940 graduate of the UK School of Law, he served in the U.S. Navy during WWII where he achieved the rank of

Lieutenant junior grade. He served in the Pacific as a member of the staff of Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz.

In 1950, he was elected State Representative from Rockcastle County and continued in the House of Representatives for four terms. In 1952 and 1954, he was elected by his colleagues as Republican Leader of the Kentucky House. In 1956, he was appointed, and later elected, County Attorney of Rockcastle County, an office he held for 25 years. In 1966, he served on the Kentucky Constitution Revision Assembly for which he received the Governor's Award of Merit.

During his career, Mr. Lambert served for many years as a director of the Bank of Mt. Vernon and as a director of the Berea National Bank. For more than thirty years, he was a director of the Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center and worked tirelessly for its growth and improvement. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Mt. Vernon, the Mt. Vernon Lions Club and was a thirty-second degree Mason. He was also a world traveler and a renowned story teller.

Mr. Lambert is survived by two sons, Mr. Vernon attorney James H. Lambert and wife, Brenda, and Ken-

tucky Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert and wife, Debra. He is also survived by a granddaughter, Lora Lee Todd; two grandsons, Joseph Patrick Lambert and John Ryan Lambert and by two sisters, Nancy J. Williams of Berea and Dorothy Lambert of Augusta, GA. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth Hilson Lambert.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday (today), February 6 at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Mt. Vernon by Rev. Wendell Romans. Dr. Maynard Head and Rev.

Eddie Nation with burial in the Elmwood Cemetery with military honors.

Pallbearers will be: Bill Bailey, Steve James, Biggie Lowery, Buzz Carlisle, Charlie King, Joseph Patrick Lambert, Bob Stewart and Adam Coleman.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of donations to the First Baptist Church of Mt. Vernon Building fund.

Dowell & Martin Funeral home is in charge of arrangements.

At special meeting Friday

Fiscal Court leaves insurance tax rate at 4%

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court voted at a special meeting Friday to leave their insurance tax rate at the same 4%. It is estimated the county will generate about \$360,000 this year from the tax, which is used in the general fund, because of an increase in insurance premiums caused by the 9/11 tragedy.

In other action, the Court authorized a payoff to Citizens Bank of \$47,138.42, utilizing leased funds from KACO leasing trust for the Brodhead Rural Fed. Dept. authorized the payment of \$750 to the Ky. County Attorney's Assoc. for 2003 dues and paid \$7,672.80 to Tiger Direct for library automation project.