

# Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Y-Club attends KUNA - Pg. B1

## No calamity days

### School will be out June 6

The Rockcastle County Board of Education will not apply for the five calamity days offered by the Kentucky General Assembly, according to School Superintendent Larry Hammond.

Hammond said, this week, the local school administration had agreed that those five days would be beneficial for students if they were in the classroom.

"There is nothing we can do about the weather, but there is something we can do when it comes to going to school during good weather and we think those five days will be beneficial to our students," Hammond said.

"Teachers are going to have to be there and students should also be there," Hammond said. "If one student gets something out of being in the classroom, it is worth it."

School for the 2002-03 school year will be closed Friday, June 6th when students will go a half day.

For the Spring break, students and staff will have two more days off - Election Day May 20th and Memorial Day, May 26th.

At last week's regular monthly meeting, the board did approve three and a half new special education teaching positions.

Finance officer Richard Bray said that more students in the system had been identified as special needs students and the new positions were needed to properly administer instruction to these students.

## Service photos solicited

In an effort to honor all service men and women from Rockcastle County currently serving in our country's armed forces, we are asking you to bring us a photo of any family member in the service and information about their station.

The photos will be published weekly.

## Three arrested on "Bootlegging" charges

Two search warrants, obtained by the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department last week, and a traffic stop resulted in three arrests for illegal sale of alcohol in a local option territory and illegal transportation of alcoholic beverages in a local option territory.

Jack McCormack, 64, of Pine Hill, and Arvill Brantner, 62, of Three Links were both arrested after searches of their homes turned up several cases of beer and several bottles of assorted liquors.

The investigation was led by Deputy William Harris, along with Deputy Joe Quirk and they were assisted by Kentucky State Trooper



Mike Gates, Director of Christ's Outreach, cuts the ribbon for a new greenhouse constructed with a PRIDE education grant. Helping out from left are: Field Rep. Bob Mitchell, State Representative Danny Ford, Gates, Mrs. Vernon Mayor Charles Kirby, Rockcastle Judge/Executive Buzz Carlotta and representatives from Congressman Rogers' office.

## Court approves sale of Poplar Street property for \$6,100

Beverly King of Mt. Vernon was the successful bidder on the county-owned Poplar Street property in Mt. Vernon which was sold at public auction Tuesday morning.

The court voted to accept Mr. King's bid of \$6,100 at their regular monthly meeting Tuesday afternoon. The property became surplus property when the election commission no longer required the location as a voting site.

County Judge/Executive Buzz Carlotta noted that the county paid \$40,000 for the property several years ago.

Two bills for medical treatment for inmates were also discussed at the afternoon meeting, one for the delivery of a child to a female inmate and the other for injuries sustained by an inmate while in the detention center.

County Treasurer Joe Clontz told the court that, per their instructions, he had offered the Lexington hospital a settlement of one-half of the charge or about \$5,000 as a counter-offer to the hospital's offer of a 25% discount of the \$10,000 bill. However, the court's offer has not been accepted by the hospital as a final settlement.

The county also received a bill from UK Medical Center for \$5,797 for the delivery of a child to a female inmate in October of 2001. The court instructed Mr. Clontz to make a settlement offer on this bill.

The court also accepted a report from James Renner and Billy R. Sowder, solid waste clean up-work release supervisor.

The report showed that during the month of March, clean-up crews picked up 921 bags of trash, 8 truck loads of trash, including tires and appliances, 137 tires, 3900 lbs. of appliances and other miscellaneous items including box springs and mattresses and gas cans.

On a related note, Judge Carlotta asked the Signal to remind citizens that the Tire Amnesty Program will be held the first week end in May.

Carlotta said that tires were already being taken to the county high-

way garage. The drop off site for the tires, the first weekend in May, will be the state highway garage and tires are not to be brought to the county highway department at any time. The state highway garage is located on U.S. 25 south of Mt. Vernon behind Central Baptist Church.

A White Goods disposal program is also being coordinated by the Soil Conservation Service and will take place May 12 and 13 and May 19 and 20. At that time, large appliances can be taken to Gary Miracle's Scrap Yard on Highway 25, just south of Mt. Vernon.

Carlotta related to the court the incident of a truck load of roofing, concrete, etc. being dumped on U.S. 25, south of Livingston by a contractor from Laurel County who had been working in Madison County. From a car hood included in the trash load, County Clerk Anna Rose Mullins obtained the VIN number giving the county the owner's name, a resident of Madison County, and traced the dumping back to a contractor who had been working for them.

The site contractor, Estill Rose of Laurel County, illegally dumped on was within the Rockcastle River Corridor which is a state protected wild river and, the particular stretch of U.S. 25 used, is a state-designated scenic highway.

The county is in the process of holding the contractor liable for the illegal dumping.

Carlotta also made the court aware that the final payment was made Tuesday on the Henderson property which the county bought in 1988 and has been paying for ever since at the rate of \$12,000 a year plus interest.

A report issued by the Animal Shelter to the court for the month of March showed an average of 30 animals housed per day; 22 adoptions for the month; 2 reclaimed; 69 euthanized and receipts and donations of \$390 for the month.

(Cont. to 6)

## Ribbon-cutting at Christ's Outreach

Bob Mitchell, Field Representative for Congressman Hal Rogers, officiated at a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Christ's Outreach for the Blind in Mt. Vernon on March 31.

The occasion was the opening of a greenhouse that was built with a PRIDE Education Grant. PRIDE also funded construction of an outdoor classroom at Christ's Outreach last year.

"You stepped forward, you could have retreated, but you stood a giant step forward," Mitchell said. "This camp will bring folks from all over the United States to Rockcastle County. They will get to see the beauty of this county and enjoy this wonderful camp that Mike has built," he said.

Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Personal Responsibility in a Desirable Environment, was created in 1997 by Congressman Rogers and the late General James Bickford, the former Kentucky Secretary of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection. PRIDE links citizens with the resources of local, state and federal agencies to clean up the region's waterways, end illegal trash dumps and promote environmental education and awareness.

PRIDE is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Mike and Lori Gates began building the camp in 1999 and plan to open the facility in Spring 2004. Each year, the camp will host 600 campers from ages 14 to 80.

The camp will offer a variety of activities to promote independence

and cooperation, including hunting, swimming, fishing, crafts, outdoor environmental education and horseback riding.

"I commend you for what you

(Cont. to 6)

## BHS Alumni

### Banquet April 19

The annual Brodhead School Alumni Banquet will be held at the school on Saturday, April 19 at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium.

This year's theme for the banquet is "The Best Antiques are Old Friends."

Honored classes will be 1918, 1923, 1928, 1933, 1938, 1943, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963 and 1968.

All graduates, family and friends are welcome. If anyone knows of any graduates or former students not in an honored class, please pass this information on to them.

Any honored class wishing to have a room to gather in before the banquet, needs to contact the school with their request.

Paul Cash, Class of 1958, will be taking pictures of honored classes this year. He will be available, beginning at 6:30 to take group pictures. He will also be taking group pictures after the banquet. Anyone wishing to purchase a picture of their group may do so that night.

For reservations, write: Brodhead School, P.O. Box 187, Brodhead, Ky. 40409 or call 606-758-8512. Cost per person is \$15. Please make checks payable to Brodhead School alumni Association.

## Council discusses run-off from King's Courts on U.S. 25

The Mt. Vernon City Council met in regular session Monday night with mainly routine items of business on the agenda.

A problem with water run-off from King's Courts, a new trailer park owned by Bert King and located on U.S. 25 south behind Carter's Market, was discussed.

Councilman Steve Renfro told the council that the run-off was causing blacktop to wash away. Mayor Janice Kirby told the council later she had contacted Mr. King numerous times but that a promised \$5,000 payment from Mr. King to buy the materials to install a 36" tile had not been forthcoming.

Mayor Kirby said Tuesday that a holding pond behind a laundrymat, which Mr. King built, had not been built to engineer's specifications and was not adequate to contain the run-off. Kirby said the \$5,000 would be used to purchase materials to install a 36" tile and grating which would connect the run-off into a system already installed underground.

However, Mrs. Kirby, said Tuesday that to date nothing had been settled and that the city's only option might be to file suit against Mr. King to force him to contain the runoff from the trailer park.

Councilman Bryan Hansel also brought up to the council the fact that the fire hydrants installed in Mr.

## Courier robbed

Mt. Vernon City Police are investigating an incident which occurred last week in Mt. Vernon.

Brian K. Baker, 19, of Mt. Vernon was arrested after he, and another person, allegedly robbed a courier who was delivering documents for a local bank.

According to a police report given the city council at their regular meeting Monday night by Police Chief Bill Mink, on March 24th, a courier, making a delivery and pick-up at the drop box at Community Trust Bank, located on Main Street, was shoved down and his vehicle stolen with bags inside the vehicle which the thieves evidently thought contained money.

The stolen vehicle was recovered on the Juanita David Road off U.S. 25 south of Mt. Vernon a short time later.

Shortly after the robbery, officers attempted to stop a Chevrolet Blazer on the old loop of U.S. 25 near Valley View Apartments and the operator of the vehicle attempted to elude Mt. Vernon officer Brian Doan. After a short pursuit, the occupants jumped from the vehicle and fled on foot, most of the receipt bags were recovered from the Blazer.

On Monday, March 31, Baker was

(Cont. to 6)



Over 700 members attended the banquet of Todd Fields, 41, last Saturday at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. It was the largest banquet held in the county. Fields, a missionary with Global Outreach International in Honduras, was slain by bandits Friday, March 28 in Guatemala.

Rockcastle County Sheriff's Deputy Joe Quirk, left, and Chief Deputy Nathaniel Price inventory alcohol confiscated during the execution of two search warrants and a traffic stop last week. Two Rockcastle men were arrested and charged with the illegal sale of alcohol in a local option territory. A Leavenworth man was arrested and charged with illegal transportation of alcoholic beverages in a local option territory, following a traffic stop. 80 cases of beer and approximately 40 bottles of assorted liquors were taken in the three cases. On Saturday, Sheriff Duval Brann and Deputy Ken Blain seized 28 cases of beer, a case of whiskey and a case of Vodka in a traffic stop on U.S. 25 south of Mt. Vernon from Kevin Marlow of Brownsville who was also charged with transporting. Sheriff Brann said the alcohol would be stored until a destruction order was issued.