

Citizens urged to test homes for Radon

Rockcastle County Health Department announces campaign to protect families from Radon

The Rockcastle County Health Department is aligned with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in a major campaign to educate Americans about the dangers of radon exposure and to encourage them to take action to identify and fix radon problems in their homes.

To this end, the health department is offering free radon test kits to the citizens of Rockcastle County. The purpose of this offer is to draw attention to radon as a serious public health issue and, more importantly, to motivate Americans to take action to protect themselves from radon health effects. It is a health hazard that is present in elevated levels in over 6% of homes across all of America.

Radon is naturally occurring, invisible, odorless gas that is harmlessly dispersed in outdoor air, but when trapped in buildings, can be harmful at elevated levels. The science on radon has been formidable over the years, but never before have we had such overwhelming scientific consensus and robust data to support that exposure to elevated levels of radon causes lung cancer in humans.

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in February, 1998, presented the findings of their Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation (BEIR) VI Report: "The Health Effects of Exposure to Indoor Radon." This report by the NAS is the most definitive accumulation of scientific data on indoor radon. The report confirms that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. and that it is a serious public health problem. The NAS concluded that radon causes between 15,000 and 22,000 lung cancer deaths each year. "However," said Danny Davis of the Cumberland Valley District Health Department, "because you can't see or smell radon, people tend to minimize the health effects and ignore the possibility that it might exist in elevated levels in their homes."

Testing homes for elevated levels of radon is simple and inexpensive. And, if discovered, radon problems can be fixed by qualified contractors for a cost similar to that for many common home repairs, such as painting or having a new water heater installed.

The Rockcastle County Health Department urges all Rockcastle County residents to take action by testing their homes for elevated levels of radon. Radon test kits that meet EPA guidelines are available free of charge at the health department during the month of June. Health Department hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information on radon and radon testing, call the Rockcastle County Health Department at 606-256-2242 or visit the EPA website at www.epa.gov/radon.

Be an Angel.

Become a Keltucky organ & tissue donor.
For information contact:
1-800-525-3456, or
www.trustforlife.org



Livingston High School's Class of 1959 had their annual reunion May 17, 2003 at Kastle Inn. Those attending from the class seated from left: Jean Rigby Southerland, Louise Drew Koedel, Sara Moore Taylor, Elva Jean Fells Brown. Standing from left: Beulah Pittman Lockhart, Paul Ponder, William Lloyd Smith, Wilbur Clark, Jerry Mullins, Estill Philbeck, Walter Ballinger and Leola Allen Huffman.

New Arrivals



Jerry and Cindy Lawson would like to announce the birth of their second child, Timothy Nathaniel "Nate" Lawson. He was born at Rockcastle Hospital and weighed 5 lbs. 8 ozs. and was 18 3/4" long. He has a very special brother, Samuel James Lawson. Grandmothers and grandfathers are Theresia Smith of Pineville, Carol Lawson of Berea, Sam and Linda Lawson of Mt. Vernon and Tony and Willa Mae Smith of Middlesboro. We would like to thank Rockcastle Hospital staff for doing such a great job and a special thanks to Dr. Karen Saylor for doing an outstanding job and for bringing our precious baby into this world.

Thanks, Jerry and Cindy Lawson



Olivia Cucielle Robinson was born May 2, 2003 at Marymount Hospital. She weighed 8 lbs. 3 ozs. and was 22 in. long. She is the daughter of Clarissa Hubbard and Mark Robinson of London. Grandparents are: Katherine Johnson Hubbard of Brodhead, Larry Hubbard of Livingston, Jerry Robinson of Knox Co. and Brenda Wagers of Ohio. Great grandparents are: Ester Johnson of Richmond, Hiram Johnson of London, Glessie and Frank Hubbard of Livingston and Ed and Thelma Wagers of Knox Co.



Hey, I'm finally here and my name is Makayla Korin Dees. My proud parents are Michael and Amanda Dees of Frankfort. I came into this world on March 3, 2003 at Frankfort Regional Medical Center. I weighed 8 lbs. 7 ozs. and was 21 inches long. I am the first grandchild of Joe and Lois Dees of Scaffold Cane Rd., Mt. Vernon and Willard and Karen Meade, Jr. of Frankfort. My uncles and aunts are Logan, Samantha and Tabitha Dees of Mt. Vernon and Lindsey and Bill Jackson of Frankfort. My great grandparents are Roy and Christeen Anglin of Dreyfus Rd., Jim and Fabra dees of Disputanta, Gladis Meade of Berea and Sidney and Martha Clements of Lockport, Ky.

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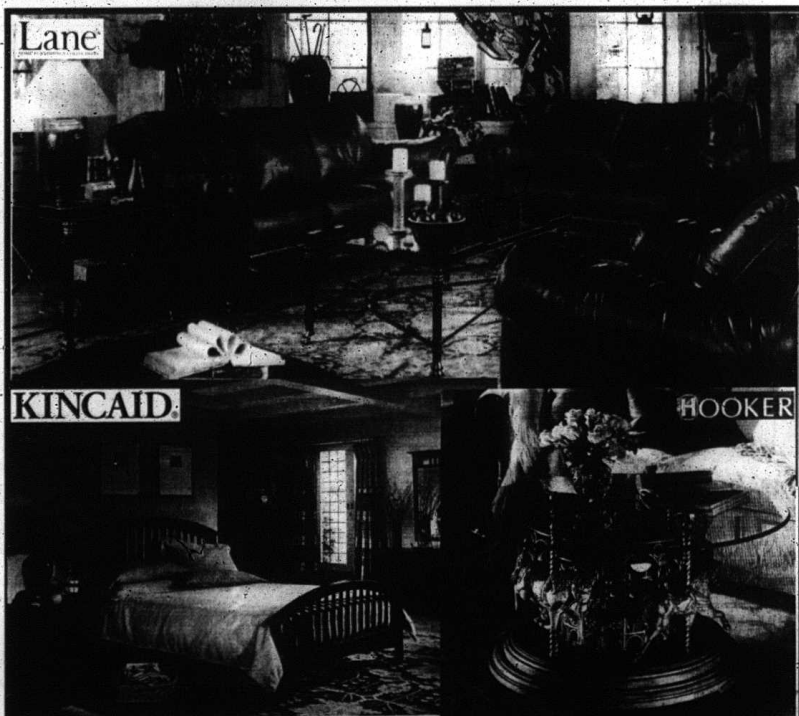
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