



Hwy. 150 project may be on hold

By: Aaron Anderlin
The Highway 150 reconstruction in Rockcastle County could be in jeopardy. Some \$3 million dollars is an obvious question mark if additional state revenue for highways is not appropriated.

The endangered project is right of way and utilities for Highway 150 from Brodhead to Mt. Vernon.

According to a press release from Kenuckians for Better Transportation, if more revenue isn't allotted for state funded work ranging all across the commonwealth, more than 50% of planned projects and work will have to be put on hold.

The estimated cost of these projects from the fiscal years 2003-2006 is about \$23 billion. The estimated revenue available to do these projects totals less than \$900 million.

Addressing the issue, Jack Fish, president of Kenuckians for Better Transportation said, "We know that local leaders share our concerns. Projects across the state that are being stopped are important for improved safety, travel efficiency, and in many cases will help facilitate economic development."

State Representative Danny R. Ford said this week that it wasn't unusual that the for the circulation of talk of highway projects being stopped or delayed.

"There is always a plan that requires more money than what you have to spend at the time. A project being delayed could go back several years and projects," Ford said.

"From every indication I've received in the past few weeks, I do not think the Highway 150 reconstruction is in danger of being stopped," Ford went on to say.

One avenue that could be explored as a solution is the raising of automobile registration fees and the gasoline tax. Kentucky's automobile registration fees are less than any border state. Kentucky's user fee of 16.4 cents per gallon is also lower than any border state. Forty-five states have higher taxes on gasoline than does

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Summertime has finally arrived in Rockcastle County with temperatures climbing near the 90 degree mark and the rainfall ceasing. Former Rockcastle County Magistrate John Hallbrook is shown Tuesday working in his flower garden where he has already put out over four thousand flowers this year.

Carloftis warns that funds may not be available for any blacktopping in county

By: Aaron Anderlin
Rockcastle County Judge/Executive Buzz Carloftis announced Tuesday that the county could be facing some reductions in spending.

While Rockcastle County expects to receive an allotted \$640,000 per year from the state, Judge Carloftis said that dollar figure can be changed by the Transportation Cabinet if the economy slows down.

When the road fund is divided by the number of miles, only \$1,280 per mile can be spent each year. This includes employee's salaries, state and federal required burdens, liability insurance, vehicle maintenance, and materials. Carloftis said that anything left after these primary expenses can be spent on the roads.

"While this year's expected budget for the road department really isn't that much different, I do recall that, some year's back, the transportation cabinet told us that we might not receive the entire amount budgeted. And that was during very good economic times. With the obvious

sluggish economy, we are very hesitant to commit any of our county funds this year to blacktop," Carloftis said.

Carloftis went on to say this didn't mean there would not be any resurfacing or new surfacing added to the county's system. "Our county has survived and improved the roads over the years by having very good working relations with the state," he said.

According to Carloftis, the deci-

sion he did say that counties that have very few local taxes that require state support was of first priority.

In summation, the commissioner said - the reduction in spending from the federal level to the state level would eventually be heavily felt by the counties.

"There are some county projects that we had planned this year that will be put on hold," Carloftis said.

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Wildie Road name changed in honor of Ballard Parsons

A dedication will be held Saturday, June 28th by Representative Danny Ford renaming the road (KY 1786) that runs in front of Ballard Parsons' store at Wildie, to "The Ballard Parsons Highway".

The dedication will be part of the 14th Annual Ballard Parsons' Day.

Wildie Homecoming which will be held next to the store Mr. Parsons operated for many years in Wildie.

"We suspect Ballard would have wanted us to continue with this annual get-together," commented Dr. John Parsons, Mr. Parsons' cousin and event organizer. "We will start around 6 p.m. with a pitch-in meal."

"Ballard was an inspiration to everyone who knew him. When he passed away earlier this year, a large void was left in Wildie and in our hearts. A good man with tons of compassion, a wealth of knowledge and a tremendous sense of humor was lost," Dr. Parsons further said.

Everyone is welcome to attend this annual event in Wildie. Bring a dish and enjoy the company of old friends or come and make new friends.



Joseph Lambert, Chairman of Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc. Board of Directors, stands as Ruby Stewart, widow of Wayne Stewart, cuts a ribbon. James Lambert and Linda Morrissey also cut ribbons representing the Lambert family and families of hospital residents and patients respectively.

Ribbon-cutting marks official opening of Lambert Walk at Stewart Gardens

The plot of land where families once trooped through snow to select the perfect Christmas tree has been transformed into a special woodland walk for the patients and visitors of Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc.

The Lambert Walk at Stewart Gardens was dedicated June 8th with a ribbon cutting ceremony. It was named for the late Wayne Stewart, who once owned the former tree farm property, and the late James Lambert, among whose favorite pastimes was taking nature walks.

Mr. Stewart and Mr. Lambert were affiliated with the hospital for 30 and 32 years respectively. Families of both former board members were in attendance. Many staff, residents of the respiratory care center and their family members joined in.

The property is nestled in a partially wooded area behind the hospital.

A graceful blacktop path winds along raised flower beds of hostas, azaleas, rhododendrons, impatiens and many other flowering plants. Shade is provided by mature pine trees and two gazebos.

The peaceful spot is the result of many hours of planning and volunteer labor, work hospital CEO Steve Estes described as, "a labor of love."

"We have created a special place for our patients and those who visit them as a means of enhancing the quality of their lives," Estes said. "I want to thank all hospital personnel who so graciously gave of their time and the community volunteers who helped make it a reality, including the Master Gardeners Club, the Kiwanis Club, the Rockcastle High School Band and other friends."

Ruby Stewart, Joe Lambert, Jim Lambert and Linda Morrissey cut the

three ribbons to mark the official opening.

Morrissey, whose son Michael is a resident in the respiratory program, said she plans to spend a lot of time in the garden on her daily visits.

"It's beautiful. We've needed a place to go to read a book, to walk around, and have some peace and quiet. It means a lot," she said.

Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center, Inc. is a not-for-profit community hospital, which is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. It operates inpatient and outpatient acute care programs, 60 long-term beds for ventilator-dependent patients, and a home health care service. The hospital was established in 1956 and treats patients from across Kentucky, Tennessee and several other states.

Poor penmanship thwarts robbery

A Waynesburg man on probation for two prior crimes of violence took a car from two men at gunpoint after wrecking his own Sunday appt went on an unsuccessful robbery spree before police tracked him down.

Michael O. "Or" Hampton, who is either 26 or 27 depending on which of his court files is correct, remains in jail this week under a \$100,000 cash bond on charges that he stole a car at gun point, robbed a passenger in the stolen car of \$200 and later burned the car after two attempts at robbing grocery stores in northeast Pulaski County.

The owner of one of those stores, Mike Brown of S&M Grocery, and Deli on KY 39, said Hampton and another man pulled up to his store just before 6 p.m. Sunday. One remained in the car and the other, believed to be Hampton, came into the store and appeared to be under the influence of drugs.

Brown said Hampton had scrawled a note on a piece of cardboard before he came in and handed it to Janet Patterson, who was working the cash register.

"You couldn't hardly read it," Brown said. "She gave it to me and said, 'I can't read this.'"

Brown said the writing was messy. He knew it was a robbery but played along with Patterson.

"I said I can't read the dad blamed thing," Brown said and Patterson returned the cardboard to Hampton. She handed it back to him and told him to rewrite it.

Patterson gave Hampton a pencil and sheet of paper and he wrote another note, this time in large, plain block letters, saying "Money or I'll

kill," or something to that effect, Brown recalled Monday.

By the time Hampton finished his second note, Patterson had made her way back down one of the grocery

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Red Hill man arrested in shooting

A Red Hill man was arrested Monday night after his daughter called police and reported that he had shot at her with a rifle.

Kentucky State Police officer Jason McCowan arrested Farlin K. Boshers, 47, around 9:30 p.m. after he wrestled him to the ground.

McCowan reported that Boshers pointed his rifle at him and threatened to kill him. However, no shots were exchanged between Boshers and McCowan.

Boshers is being held on a \$10,000 cash bond in the Rockcastle Detention Center.

Gillum appointed Circuit Judge

Somerset attorney Robert F. Gillum has been appointed Circuit Judge for Rockcastle, Pulaski and Lincoln Counties, following the recent resignation of Judge Dan Venters.

Gillum was sworn in by Kentucky Chief Justice Joseph Lambert last week.

Tragically, Judge Gillum's wife, Frances, died just three days after the swearing-in, which she was able to attend.



Archie Bales, right, WWII veteran, receives his high school diploma from Terry Burton, chairperson of the Rockcastle County Board of Education.

Veterans receive high school diplomas from Board of Education

Three military veterans received high school diplomas from the Rockcastle County Board of Education in a brief ceremony on June 10, 2003.

A recent Kentucky law allows school districts to award high school diplomas to veterans who were inducted into military service but did not finish the regular high school course of study during World War I, World War II, Korean War or the

Vietnam War. Archie Bales was a student at Livingston High School in 1941 and 1942. He enlisted in the Army in January 1943. James E. Maybuss, a student at Brodhead High School, was also inducted into the Army in January, 1943. Paul E. Carler had been a student at Mt. Vernon High School before enlisting in the Air Force during the Korean War in June of 1952.



A large group of Rockcastle County fans traveled to Applebee's Park Thursday to watch the Rockets participate in the State Baseball Tournament. The Rockets lost to Louisville Male 12-3 (See story and other photos inside).