

Whether we agree or not We should think of our soldiers, families



**Richard
Anderkin**
Editor
Mount Vernon
Signal

Last week I wrote a story about Rockcastle County High School graduate Dallas Ripley who is a Corporal in the United States Marine Corp.

Dallas's story was like that of many other American soldiers who were told they would have to stay in longer than the time they had agreed to serve because of the war in Iraq.

I hope that I did not offend other Rockcastle County families who have loved ones serving our country, either in Iraq, Afghanistan or other parts of the world, because I certainly admire them for their courage in protecting the freedoms that Americans enjoy.

I know other local families who worry about their loved ones each and every day and I can only imag-

ine when news reports tell of another soldier killed in battle what they go through.

I'm satisfied our government notifies the families first, but it doesn't make it any easier for families in the states to know they could lose a loved one at any time.

It is my understanding that we still have several Rockcastle

counties in battle in Iraq and in other places of the world.

We have at least one Marine, who is a Kentucky State Police officer, but

who was deployed to Iraq. He was called up in February because he is a reserve in the Marine Corp.

36-year-old Ryan Londermilk has two children and his wife Kelly of many years. He has helped with the local Toys for Tots program and what little I know about him he is someone that stands for all that Americans believe in and someone that makes a great Marine.

His parents Bobby and Alma and brother Mark, and certainly his own family you know worry about his safety every day. Just think about the fact that he doesn't know from day to day about his actual safety.

There are many Americans who have questioned our invasion of Iraq and in the end we may be wrong, but it is my humble opinion, after talking with Dallas for several hours and others that we probably aren't wrong.

Many believe we are in Iraq for the oil resources, but we also have gotten rid of a ruthless dictator who killed his own people.

Whether Americans like it or not, we are basically the world's keeper and we enjoy our freedoms because we are the greatest nation in the world who have men and women such as Ryan and Dallas who are willing to serve their country.

God be with all our soldiers.

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Points East

By:
Ike Adams

"A long, long time ago, I can still remember," went the opening words of the song, to which I can remember for we were reasonably young and tuned into a rock & roll radio station in 1971 or 72. Called "American Pie," written and sung by Don McLean, it was the most widely discussed and probably misinterpreted song of its age and one of these days we may even write our own interpretation in these pages.

But not now. A long time ago, at least 25 years is a long time in my book. I was working for Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation (KHIC) in London and a significant part of my job consisted of calling up media types in the big cities anytime anything was happening in southeastern Kentucky that might make the region look a bit more appealing than the latest politician headed for jail.

In that process, I became acquainted with a host of writers and reporters at the big papers and the television network affiliates, and it got to the point that when I called them up, they showed up, because I did my homework, knew the facts and besides that, it was pretty big news if a new plant was opening in McKee or Mount Vernon or wherever back in those days. Manufacturing jobs were scarce as hens' teeth and you couldn't even calculate unemployment because nobody had a job who might apply for a job if one opened up.

Suffice to say that anytime a new manufacturing plant located in the Cumberland Valley, getting the news out was not a hard sell if I knew how to do it.

For example, when fashion designer, Laura Ashley, decided to locate a sewing operation in McKee, I simply got on the phone and asked reporters to guess who was gonna be sewing sexy underwear in Jackson County. They didn't even want to see a news release and as far as I know none of them wrecked on the way to McKee.

But my favorite place to sell was Rockcastle County.

I'm not sure why, but I fell in love with Rockcastle County when I first moved to this part of the country in the early seventies. Part of it was the lay of the land but a bigger part was the local leaders who took me in like family. The late Wayne Stewart became a father figure to me. William McClure, Roy Brown, Clay Colson, Hugh Durham, Sammy Ford, Bill

James and a host of others formed the Rockcastle Improvement Council, which, to this day, I believe to have been the most effective community-funded change agent ever to exist in rural Kentucky.

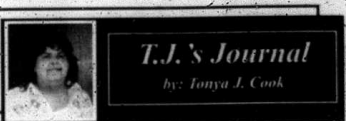
They made me a voting member even though I didn't even live in the county and I am reasonably sure that I never missed a monthly meeting over the course of some 20 years. I know for sure that I have never been associated with any other civic organization that gave me so much personal satisfaction.

The Council didn't do much on its own as a stand alone organization, but served instead, as a forum where people got together and shared the nitty-gritty of what was going on in other organizations. If somebody was stepping on somebody's toes it got worked out then and there. If somebody had a project and needed help, arrangements got made. If an industrial prospect was coming to town or a potential new doctor was visiting, (at one time Rockcastle had one doctor for 13,000 residents) assignments and tour arrangements got made.

There's a bypass around town (Mount Vernon) now with a bunch of fast food places on the outskirts of town. But the old Rockcastle Steakhouse is still right there on the hill and still has the best tenderloin sandwich for the money in the world. There's an industrial park (actually there's two now) containing something like 2,000 jobs and Renfro Valley is the largest country music venue this side of Nashville. (They don't even know how many people they employ. I've asked.) Big new chain hotels if you want to visit and live the high-life even though I prefer the Mom & Pops where you drive right up to the room and see your car out the window some three feet away. Still a couple of the latter left.

The old high school is now a middle school and the new high school is right out there on the bypass across from the industrial park and looking wonderful even though I thought the old school was the prettiest in the state. But now the Rocks are content in the state finals in both academic and athletic competition. During the seventies we felt good about the Rocks if they made a dog.

(Cont. to A9)



T.J.'s Journal

by: Tanya J. Cook

I must admit, it has crept in my way into our lives ever so quietly but steadily over the past three to five years. It is now at such a catastrophic proportion that it almost dominates the news on every channel. As the past few years have unfolded, the horror and shock of it has multiplied. At this rate, I shudder to even imagine what the next few years will bring.

You may be wondering what "it" is by now. Stop and think for just a minute. What topic has dominated the local news for months and even years?" It is the "crimes of passion," just to sum it up and give "it" a name.

I guess "it" should be, in reality, misguided passion. The six o'clock news should have a PG or R rating due to what is being discussed. Don't forget "inquiring minds want to know," to borrow a line from the National Enquirer. Younger children not only ask what sex is, but what is rape, sexual assault, inappropriate touching, sodomy, gays, lesbians, homosexuals, and alternative lifestyles? I can remember the days when a five-year old child would look innocently into its mother's eyes and ask, "Where do babies come from?" Are we prepared for the question: "Mommy, what is sodomy?" After all, these are the subjects that are ad-

ressed on the six o'clock news while we are sitting down to our supper.

It is no wonder society is in the immoral state that it is. The moral fabric of America is being cut to shreds by the immorality of its leaders and the media. You can go through supermarket checkout lines and see articles in teen magazines telling young girls how to become more sexual. Then, a few months later, she is pregnant. What a surprise. I wonder why I'll not even get started on TV, movies, and "today's music." (That term is used very lightly.)

America's leaders aren't setting a good example either. We're living in a country where television evangelists frequent prostitutes; openly gay people demand a position in the clergy (and to be married); presidents are involved in sexual acts in the oval office, and let's not forget the Catholic priests. Due to the sexual misconduct of these priests and the help of their bishops, many decades of crimes against young boys have occurred to the point that it is costing the church millions of dollars in lawsuits.

It seems the whole fascination

(Cont. to A9)

Acetaminophen Poisoning

Presented by Dr. Kimberly Cornelius

Acetaminophen has become the main medicine used for pain and fever in children, particularly since the risk of Reye's Syndrome with aspirin has become known.

Though normally very safe, acetaminophen should still be locked up like all other medicines used in the home. Accidental acetaminophen poisonings are increasing and have become one of the most common overdoses in children. The danger occurs when infants and young children discover the pleasant tasting tablets. As few as twenty seven strength tablets in a toddler can be harmful.

Symptoms do not occur for nearly a day after the ingestion and then they are often vague, such as nausea or malaise. Within 24-36 hours, the main toxic effect is taking place—liver damage. When the overdose is discovered early, it can be treated by emptying the stomach and using an antidote called N-acetylcysteine. By the time damage to the liver occurs, the antidote has little effect. There is very little help for the damaged liver other than the body's ability to heal itself.

Since early treatment is important, many doctors recommend that parents keep every scrap at home to induce vomiting as soon as ingestion occurs. Parents should always check with their doctor first since he may recommend activated charcoal and because parents should not be used with certain poisonings. You can also get advice from your regional poison control center.

Always remember to lock up all medicines, even seemingly mild and safe ones, when there are children around.



Auction

of Mrs. Charlotte Hayes

Doublewide Mobile Home & Lot
Fri., Aug. 22, 2003 at 6:30 p.m.

Benton Bullock Subdivision, Mt. Vernon, Ky.

Location: From the intersection of U.S. highways 150 and 461 in Mt. Vernon, take U.S. Hwy. 150 West approx. 1/4 mile and turn onto Freedom School Road. Follow Freedom School Road approx. 1/10 of a mile. Auction signs are posted.

Since Mrs. Hayes is no longer living in this home, she has authorized our firm to offer this property at public auction.

This spacious 1995 model Dutch doublewide mobile home has a great floor plan and contains 1790 square feet. It features 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths (one master bath with garden tub), living room, dining room, kitchen, breakfast room, then and utility room. This home has all the comfort of central heat and air, fireplace, triple pane windows and wall to wall carpet, just to name a few amenities.

There is also a concrete porch and sidewalk improving this home, situated on a nice partially fenced lot containing 810 acres with city water.

Auctioneer's Note: If you're looking for a comfortable home in a quiet setting yet not far from Mt. Vernon or Broadhead, be sure to mark your calendar to attend this auction on Friday, August 22nd at 6:30 p.m.

Terms: 20% down day of sale, balance in 30 days.

AN AUCTIONEER'S COPY OF THIS AD IS PROVIDED. OVER PRINTED MATTER. For additional information, contact the auctioneers.



FORD BROTHERS, INC. AUCTIONEERS - REALTORS		
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Absolute Auction

of Ms. LaDonna Harris

57 Acres, more or less, in Tracts & Timber
Saturday, August 23rd • 10:30 a.m.

Line Creek Section of Pulaski County

Directions: From Somerset, take East Hwy. 80 just past mile marker 36 and turn onto Hawk Road. Follow Hawk Road approximately 1.3 miles and turn right onto Public Road. Proceed 1 9/10 miles on Upper Line Creek. Proceed 2 1/2 miles to Tract #2 and proceed 6/10 miles beyond to Tract #1. Or turn off Hwy. 461 onto Plato-Vanhook Road and proceed approximately 5 miles to the auction. Auction signs are posted.

Due to other business interests, Ms. Harris has authorized our firm to offer this property for the absolute high dollar.

Tract #1 consists of 43.64 acres, by survey, and has approximately 1,450 feet of frontage along the Line Creek Road. This tract has a good stand of mixed hardwood timber. It also offers several sites for building or mobile homes.

Tract #2 is to be sold from the site of Tract #1.

Tract #2 consists of 14 acres, more or less, by the boundary. It also has mixed timber and fronts the Line Creek Road.

Note: The timber will be offered separately from the land on each of the tracts and then combined, selling in whatever manner reflects the best returns for the seller. The tracts themselves will not be combined, as they are not contiguous tracts.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: If you are looking for a good boundary of timber, a place with privacy, hunting retreat, or an investment opportunity - you will want to be sure and mark your calendar now to attend this absolute auction on Saturday, August 23, 2003 at 10:30 a.m.

TERMS: 20% down the day of the auction with the balance due on or before 30 days with delivery of the deed.

Auctioneer/Broker/Seller Disclaimer: There will be a 10% buyer's premium added to the last bid on all personal property items to determine the final sales price.

Auctioneer/Broker/Seller Disclaimer: The information contained herein is believed to be correct to the best of the auctioneer's knowledge. The information is being furnished for the bidder's convenience and it is the responsibility of the bidder to determine the information contained herein is accurate and complete. The property is being sold in its "as is" condition. No warranties expressed or implied.

For additional information, plan of Tract #1, or appointment to see the property contact

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