

1941-2003

Wayne Taylor was great inspiration, total family man



Thanksgiving Day, Wayne Taylor was buried.

He left a wonderful family whom our hearts go out to.

Wayne was a man of dignity, stature and love for his family. A religious man with moral values.

Wayne was also the husband of a wonderful woman and three great children. Added to those three children, of whom he was so proud, were eight grandchildren, including the grandchild who helped preach his funeral.

I have always been proud of his oldest grandson, Aaron, (Cindy and mine's son), but on Thanksgiving morning, I know his grandfather would have been more proud of him than any of the other accomplish-

ments he has achieved on the field, court or diamond.

Aaron and his grandfather had a special bond. As with most of his grandchildren, Wayne missed few of Aaron's events.

Because Aaron was Wayne's oldest grandchild they built a relationship of love and respect from the earliest days of Aaron's life.

Wayne obviously loved all of his family and he tried to help in any way he could to make everyone's life around him better. But it was just a little bit different with Aaron.

I have said many times that grandparents are the ruination of all children, because they spoil them rotten and make it hard on the parents to raise them.

I wish I hadn't of made that statement because I know how Wayne felt about his grandchildren and I know how my parents feel about their grandchildren as well.

Most of our readers know of Aaron's accomplishments, which include the most touchdown passes in the state his junior year in high school, defeating state champion

Boyd County in his sophomore year from the hill; shutting out Hazard in the finals of the sectionals to help his team get to Applebee's Park for the final eight, scoring 1,800 points in basketball and helping his team to the sweet sixteen when he was a junior and being elected Governor of the State, through the Kentucky Youth Assembly.

Wayne was so proud of his grandson, but on Thursday morning he would not have been any prouder.

Aaron stood up behind his grandfather's casket and spoke about his grandfather, probably as no one else could have. Aaron was there for his family, and even though he is only 18, he had the courage to honor his grandfather, under the most tragic of circumstances.

One of Wayne's fellow church members, Steve Budine summed it up after Thursday's funeral: "Wayne would have thought he had hit a home run," that is so true.

Again to Christine, Jeff, Cindy, Troy, Brenda, Natalie, Aaron, Megan, Genesis, Lauren, Kerry Beth, Jacob, Logan, Zachery, William, Kenny, his father Edd and the entire family, the Anderkin's hearts go out.

As Aaron said in his final comments about his grandfather, "Wayne should be proud of a life well lived."

Rockcastle is on the road to Revitalization

by Tonya J. Cook

The Rockcastle Development Board and the Main Street Renaissance Committee traveled to various sister cities of the Commonwealth in an attempt to get ideas and input concerning the refurbishing and revitalization of Main Street in Mt. Vernon and the surrounding areas on November 19th. The mayors of Mt. Vernon, Brodhead, and Livingston were also invited to attend.

The group met about 8 a.m. and utilized the RTEC bus for transportation. They traveled to Columbia, Glasgow, and Scottsville, Kentucky, which was about a three hundred-mile round trip. The chief goals were to gather input, negative or positive, in those three towns' revitalization process, to look at the size of these towns, and to note the growth after their revitalization process to see how they dealt with the growth. This had to be done before any plans for such development in Rockcastle County could materialize.

Some of the similarities these

three towns had were that all three had by-passes, and they all had natural gas. Mt. Vernon doesn't have natural gas, but it does have a by-pass, 461. This takes traffic away from downtown. Mt. Vernon must have a vital downtown and enough tourist attractions in the area in order for the tourists to want to stop, according to Jerry Renner, director of the Rockcastle Development board. In a recent interview, he also indicated that with enough revitalization of downtown and tourism, factories would be almost certain to follow.

The next step is funding. Scottsville, KY has received \$400,000 in TEA 21 grants over the past four years. Columbia, KY has recently received a \$100,000 grant, which they used for the refurbishing of their courthouse. Mt. Vernon will be pursuing such grants in the near future.

Another such trip is tentatively planned for December 10th to Liberty, Danville, and Springfield to note their progress after their revitalization.

Extension Notes

Holiday Class at the Extension Office 1-Dec. 5th, 10 a.m. *Mixes for a Jar* Learn some tips and recipes for cookie, bread and drink mixes that are ready-to-prepare gift items. The class is free of charge. Call 256-2403 to register.

Handmade Christmas ornaments are for sale at the Extension Office. These ornaments have been made by Extension Homemakers members to fund county projects. Most ornaments are \$.50 to \$1.00. Stop by the Extension Office to see the selection.

Blood Drive at the Extension Office December 11 - 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Call 256-2403 for more details.

Take a break from the holiday rush to help others. On Dec. 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. come to the Extension Office and help construct quilts and or blankets for local needy families and children. All quilts will be made from donated supplies. If you can't knit, you can help with this project. Call 256-2403 for details.

"Petition"

(Cont. from Front)

The hearing will be held on December 16th, as the first item of business of the county's regular fiscal court meeting, but the ultimate decision will be made by Rockcastle's County Judge/Executive Buzz Carlotis.

Carlotis has said he will allow both departments to submit written remarks and to also speak.

Witt said Kentucky's Fire Commission suggested filing the petition.

Captain Witt also said there would be no additional taxes for residents if the Judge's decision was to give back the city's territory.

"We would also always ask for mutual aid when needed," he stated. "We simply don't want to act like volunteers and not stand up for our beliefs."

Larry Taylor is Chief of the Brodhead Volunteer Fire Department and Johnny Benge is Chief of the Western Brodhead Rural Fire Department.

The meeting will begin at 1 p.m.

"Insurance"

(Cont. from Front)

The city will also realize a substantial savings on life insurance for employees. A \$25,000 policy will now cost \$2.16 a month per employee, as opposed to the current \$9.90 a month the city is now paying for the same coverage amount.

Action on the health insurance coverage was taken at a special meeting Wednesday night, November 26th.

Concerning the change to employee contribution to health insurance premiums, Mayor Clarice Kirby said Monday "The council decided at the first of the year that something had to be done to curb health insurance costs. It has taken us this long to find a company with comparable

coverage to Anthem Blue Cross/Blue shield at a cheaper rate. This had to be done, the city simply could not afford to keep paying 100% of the premiums."

Classified deadline is Noon Tuesday

Fish Fry
North Atlantic Cod
Lil's Place
Mon-Sat (closed Sun)
Saturday, December 6th
Begins at 2 p.m.
Everyone Welcome

'Organizational Meeting
Rockcastle County Middle School will hold an organizational meeting for a Parent-Teacher Group (PTG) on Monday, December 15th at 6:30 p.m. at the school.

CHRISTMAS SALE
J&J Auction
Tuesday, December 9th at 6:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Highway 150, Mt. Vernon, Kentucky, west of Mt. Vernon past the Jct. of Hwy. 150 and 461.
Curio Cabinets, Toys, Dolls, Tools, Scooters -- Something for everyone.
Jerry Ham, Auctioneer
For more information,
all 256-9874 or 256-3343



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- Improve your chances of getting a high score!
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