

PRIDE to reimburse Rockcastle up to \$3,350

Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc. recently announced that it will reimburse Rockcastle County, Mt. Vernon, Livingston and Brodhead up to \$3,350 for leading the local PRIDE Spring Cleanup Month in April.

Rockcastle County is eligible for \$2,750. Each city is eligible for \$200. The funding levels are based on the number of road miles in the county and cities.

PRIDE also will give the county and cities T-shirts and cleanup supplies to distribute to Spring Cleanup volunteers.

"The Spring Cleanup is an annual tradition in our region, with thousands of volunteers taking advantage of the chance to serve their community while getting outside and enjoying," said Tammie Wilson of Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc., the nonprofit organization that sponsors Spring Cleanup Month in 42 counties of southern and eastern Kentucky.

"We appreciate the local government officials who lead the Spring Cleanup in their communities, and we're pleased that PRIDE can support their efforts by offering this funding, as well as providing cleanup supplies and T-shirts for their volunteers," Wilson said.

"The Spring Cleanup is a great way for officials to promote civic pride, and it's a cost-effective way to tackle roadside litter, which is one of their top concerns if they want to attract tourists," Wilson added.

During the Spring Cleanup, local governments recruit volunteers, who pick

up litter at no charge. Volunteers receive T-shirts, while supplies last, and may enjoy a meal together or door prizes.

Local governments pay fees to dispose of the litter collected by the volunteers. They also may offer free trash disposal events to encourage citizens to conduct "spring cleaning" on their properties. Local governments also may pay contractors to remove dumps.

PRIDE offers Spring Cleanup funds to offset all those expenses. All local governments in PRIDE's 42-county service area are eligible for Spring Cleanup funds. The amount available to each county and city is based on its number of road miles. To qualify for its available funds, each local government must attend PRIDE training and comply with funding guidelines.

The region-wide 2013 PRIDE Spring Cleanup is made possible in part by a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the following sponsors: Waste Connections of Kentucky (Gold Sponsor), Outdoor Venture Corporation (Silver Sponsor), Walmart (Silver Sponsor), Hacker Brothers, Inc. (Bronze Sponsor), Lightyear Network Solutions (Bronze Sponsor) and Owens Auto & Truck Parts (Bronze Sponsor).

To volunteer to pick up litter during PRIDE Spring Cleanup Month, please call your local PRIDE Coordinator. PRIDE Coordinators' names and phone numbers are available by calling PRIDE, toll free, at 888-577-4339 or by visiting www.kypride.org/service-area.

RCMS competes in Governor's Cup finals

Rockcastle County Middle School seventh-graders Joy Frith and Mahala King and sixth-grader Katie Vance competed at the Governor's Cup State Finals this past weekend at the Galt House in Louisville.

King and Vance competed in Arts and Humanities while Frith competed in Written Composition and Language Arts.

The team would like to thank their sponsors who made their entire season possible including their trip to the State Finals in Louisville.

Sponsors are: Citizens Bank, Rite Aid, Rock Peds, Peacecraft, EST, Attorney Charles F. Hoffman, Dowell & Martin Funeral

Home, Rockcastle Health & Rehabilitation, Lonestar Farm & Home, Lumberking, Main Street Pharmacy, Shinko Ugokasu Yama Karate Club, Precision Automotive, Cox Funeral Home, Judge Katie Wood, Jailer James E. Miller, State Farm, Livingstone Fire Department, Karen King Tax Service, James Cromer Woodworking, Bishop Tire, KMHFEM John Lair House & Aunt Polly House, Clerk Teresa Vanzant, Town & Country Chevron, Clerk Eliza York, McKinney's Tire, Touch of Class Hair Design, Clerk Danetta Ford Allen, Rockcastle Regional Pharmacy, Community Trust Bank and IGA.



Representing RCMS at the Governor's Cup State Finals were, from left: Joy Frith, Mahala King and Katie Vance.



Blast from the Past!!!

This week's photograph is of the 1930 Girls 50th District Champion Mt. Vernon Red Devils. Dorothy Miller Craig is shown in the individual photograph. Can anyone identify her teammates? This photograph is from the forth coming book, "Before Consolidation-The Golden Age of Rockcastle County Basketball." If you have a photo for Blast from the Past contact David Owens at scoopowens24@yahoo.com or (606)256-9870.

NRCS announces Healthy Forests Reserve Program

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Kentucky, in cooperation with our partners, announces application cutoff dates for the implementation of the Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP). Applications are currently being accepted, with the next scheduled ranking cutoff date of April 19, 2013. Applications not making the cutoff will be evaluated for the next funding cycle.

The purpose of HFRP is to assist landowners, on a voluntary basis, in restoring, enhancing and protecting forestland resources on private lands through permanent and 30-year easements. The objectives of HFRP are to:

1. Promote the recovery of endangered and threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), including the Indiana Bat;

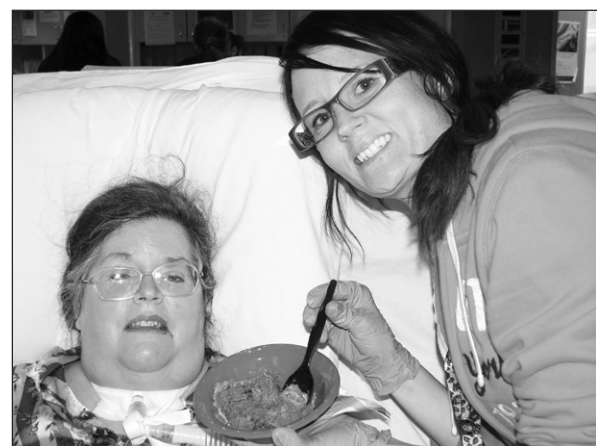
2. Improve plant and animal biodiversity; and
3. Enhance carbon sequestration.

Under this working forestland program, landowners will be compensated for their 30-year or permanent easement with a lumpsum easement payment. Landowners must agree to implement a forest management plan that maintains and improves biodiversity and habitat for target species during harvest or management activities on the enrolled land.

Eligible areas include parts of the Upper Cumberland Watershed. Eligible land must be located within those parts of the Upper Cumberland River, Rockcastle River, South Fork of Cumberland River, Upper Buck Creek, and Lower Buck Creek that

lie within Lincoln, Rockcastle, Jackson, Laurel, Pulaski, Wayne, McCreary, Clay, Knox, Whitley, Bell, Harlan, and Letcher Counties.

Visit or submit an application to your local USDA Service Center, or contact your local district conservationist to determine if your land qualifies.



Residents at the Respiratory Care Center at Rockcastle Regional Hospital enjoyed an ice cream sundae at the Ice Cream Extravaganza. The Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and Aunt Polly's House donated a supply of ice cream allowing the residents a spring and summer filled with ice cream sundaes and banana splits. Pictured above are Gina Merrick, left, and Kim Shaffer, Activity Assistant. Pictured below are Jason Amyx, Activity Assistant, left, and resident Edie Seagraves.



NAP coverage deadlines

The Farm Service Agency's Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory or prevented planting occur due to a natural disaster. The upcoming deadlines to file an application for natural disaster protection under the NAP are March 15 and May 1.

The crops for March 15 deadline are: Beans, Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cantaloupe, Carrots, Cauliflower, Corn, Corn-Hybrid Seed, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Gourds, Greens, Herbs, Lettuce, Onions, Peas, Peppers, Popcorn, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Radish, Sorghum, Sorghum-Grain, Soybeans, Squash, Strawberries, Sunflowers, Sweet Potatoes, Tobacco-Burley, Tobacco-Dark Air, Tobacco-Fire Cured, Tomatoes, Turnips, and Watermelons.

The crops for May 1 deadline are: Nursery. Eligible producers must apply for coverage of non-insurable crops using Form CCC-471, and pay the applicable service fee at the FSA office where their farm records are maintained. The application and service fee must be filed by the application closing dates.

An eligible producer is a landowner, tenant or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop and is entitled to an ownership share of that crop. As authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Act), an individual's or entity's average nonfarm adjusted gross income (AGI) limitation cannot exceed \$500,000 to be eligible for

NAP. The service fee is the lesser of \$250 per crop or \$750 per producer per administrative county, not to exceed a total of \$1,875 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties.

Limited resource producers may request a waiver of the service fee. To qualify for an administrative service fee waiver, the producer must meet established criteria. For more information contact your local FSA office.



Renfro Valley was a sea of green on Sunday, March 17th at the first ever St. Patrick's Day 5K organized by Rockcastle Regional Hospital. The event attracted 286 participants and raised \$1,900 for March of Dimes. Pictured at right is local athlete, Alyssa Cox, who was the overall fastest female.

