

More suits filed over 2011 delinquent taxes

20 more suits have been filed in Rockcastle District Court over delinquent property taxes for 2011. The suits seek to collect \$3,361 in delinquent 2011 taxes.

The suits were filed by County Attorney Billy Reynolds on behalf of the state finance and administration cabinet.

The latest filings bring the total to 54 and the total

amount to \$8,113. The tax bills range from a low of \$26.61 to \$859.44 and average \$168 per bill.

Property owners have 120 days to file an answer (refuting the claim of taxes due). If an answer is not filed, a default judgment will be sought and suit could be filed in circuit court, asking that the property be sold at a commissioner's sale to satisfy the lien.

Species is off-limits to hunting

Six whooping cranes reported in Kentucky

Wildlife biologists have confirmed the presence of five federally protected whooping cranes in Hopkins County and received a report of a sixth in Barren County.

The whooping crane is a federally endangered bird that may not be hunted.

Whooping cranes are solid white with black wingtips. They have a red crown. Adults may have a wingspan of 7 1/2 feet and stand up to 5 feet tall on stilted legs.

Whooping cranes are similar in silhouette to a sandhill crane. However, sandhill cranes have gray bodies and are smaller than whooping cranes. Kentucky's sandhill crane hunting season begins Dec. 14 and continues through Jan. 12, or until 400 birds are taken.

People drawn for a sandhill crane quota hunt must pass an online bird identification test before they may receive a permit. As part of its policy, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources provides the public with notification about the presence of whooping cranes in the state when sandhill crane season is open or about to begin.

Wildlife biologists counted 9,200 sandhill cranes in Barren County on Monday. Officials were not able to confirm the report Saturday of a whooping crane in the area, however.

Hunters should be aware of other large-bodied birds currently in the state.

Sloughs Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Henderson County holds approximately 8,000 snow geese. Another 5,000 snow geese also are present at Ballard WMA in Ballard County. Snow geese are white-bodied birds with black wingtips. They do not have stilted legs.

Wildlife biologists also have received reports of tundra swans in central Hardin County. Sloughs WMA, Lake Cumberland and Barren River. Tundra swans are large, solid white birds with wingspans approaching 7 feet. They do not have stilted legs. Tundra swans

may not be hunted in Kentucky.

Hunters should always be sure of their target before firing a gun, regardless of the species being hunted.

“Hospital”

(Cont. from front)

they want from a hospital. Hospitals are awarded in four categories, with a total of 400 hospitals recognized nationwide.

“Our team works hard every day to make the patient experience exceptional for women as well as all of our patients,” said Stephen A. Estes, president and CEO of Rockcastle Regional Hospital. “We are honored and proud to be recognized with this award as it reflects our continued commitment to excellence.”

Women make or influence more than 90 percent of health care decisions for themselves and their families, according to a study published by the American Academy of Family Physicians. The award signals that a hospital meets high standards regarding a woman's preferences, and the distinction allows women to make an informed decision about where to go for care for themselves or their family.

The Women's Choice Award is the first national award based on the recommendations and preferences of women. Hospitals qualify for this highly selective annual list of America's 100 Best Hospitals for Patient Experience based on a proprietary scoring process that incorporates a national, standardized survey of patients' perspectives of hospital care reported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems), as well as an analysis that weighs criteria identified as the most important to women for patient satisfaction. Additionally, the scoring incorporates in-depth research on customer satisfaction among women, including a joint study on customer satisfaction by



Blast from the Past!!!

This week's photograph is of the Bryant Brothers Building in Mt. Vernon. This is the present RTEC location. Notice the gas pumps in front. If you have a photo for Blast From The Past contact David Owens 606-256-9870 or scoopowens24@yahoo.com.

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gender conducted with the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Rockcastle Regional Hospital, established in 1956, is a not-for-profit healthcare provider that is accredited by the Joint Commission. Located in Mt. Vernon, it serves Rockcastle and surrounding counties. Six hundred employees staff the facility, which has 26 acute care beds and 93 ventilator-dependent beds.

“Coroner”

(Cont. from front)

dacy papers last week.

Also filing as a candidate were: Shannon Bishop (R) for 1st District Magistrate; incumbent Brodhead Mayor Walter Lee Cash; Ralph Carpenter (R) for 4th District Magistrate; Donnie Cope (R) for 4th District Constable and incumbent 1st District Magistrate Lee Earl Adams (R).

Correction

In an article last week about Rockcastle Association of Kentucky Baptists Community Mission Team's "Love in a Box" program, the program was incorrectly identified by the *Signal* as a part of the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child program.

The Love in a Box program is not affiliated with Samaritan's Purse or Operation Christmas Child. The *Signal* regrets this error.

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