

Mount Vernon Signal

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Rockets win Region



Top left, Rockcastle County School Board Chairman Dr. G.W. Griffith presented the first diploma to Chad Carpenter, during graduation ceremonies at the Rockcastle County High School on Sunday. Top right, keynote speaker Loretta Powell and daughter Katy Powell, a 2001 graduate share a hug. At right, Jamie McFerron holds an orange she and the other 168 graduates gave retiring principal Ruth Allen, who is moving to Florida.



Worker falls to his death while painting tank

A man working on a water tower on KY 39 at Dog Walk died Sunday when he fell from a ladder inside the tank and plunged 100 feet through the stem of the tank.

James Grider, 34, of Louisville, died Sunday afternoon at the scene at the intersection of KY 39 and KY 618. Grider and fellow workers from Select Coatings of Louisville were painting the inside of the tank.

Lincoln County Coroner Bill Demrow said that Grider was working atop a ladder inside the bowl of the water tank. The ladder base was against a lip formed inside the tower where the large pipe enters the center of the tank.

The coroner said Grider unhooked his safety harness to get down off the ladder and lost his footing on the way down. He slipped to the bottom of the ladder and into the center pipe, a 42-inch diameter cylinder that is full of water when the tank is in use.

With no water in the cylinder, there was nothing to break his fall and

Grider plunged the full height of the pipe, more than 100 feet, according to Demrow.

He died from massive injuries suffered when he hit the ground.

The tank is part of the Western Rockcastle Water Association system, which serves parts of eastern Lincoln County and thousands of customers in Rockcastle County.

Davidson is choice at Mt. Vernon

The Site Based Council at Mt. Vernon Elementary School chose fifth grade teacher Leon Davidson as the new principal.

Davidson, who has been in the education field for the past 21 years, has taught nine years in the focal school system.

Before that, he taught seven years in the Jackson County School system and before that he taught five years in Georgia.

Davidson is replacing Rose, Brown, who has taken a job at the Central office.

Davidson and his wife Janice, who teaches Kindergarten at Mt. Vernon, have two children Drew, a seventh grader and Devin, a fourth grader.

Mrs. Davidson will be relocated to another position in the school system because under the guidelines of the Kentucky Education Reform Act, Mrs. Davidson cannot work at school where her husband is principal.

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Hammond gets raise from board

Tuesday, members of the Rockcastle County Board of Education toured the new Broadhead Elementary School with the school's architect before the board's regular monthly meeting.

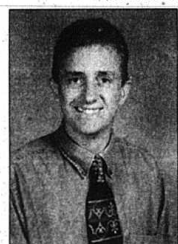
Rockcastle County School Superintendent Larry Hammond said that board members were told the school would be ready for occupancy when school starts in August, although not every item will be completed.

Workers are already taking the asbestos out of the old school and demolition is scheduled to begin next week.

Hammond said that everyone has been assured that the building will be in such condition that a certificate of occupancy can be obtained from the state, something the school system must have before children can go into the building.

During their meeting after the tour, the board voted to give Hammond a \$2,000 a year raise, bringing his total annual salary to \$88,000.

The only dissenting vote was from newly elected board member Mike Burdette.



Leon Davidson

Graduation 2001

Retiring Director of Student Services of the Rockcastle County School System, Mrs. Loretta Powell, delivered the keynote address to the 169 graduates of the Rockcastle County High School class of 2001 on Sunday.

Mrs. Powell told the graduates that never before have students had the opportunities that are available to seniors today in a growing age of technology and information.

Mrs. Powell also told the graduates that when someone does something good for them, they should pass on the good deed to others, which would make schools, the community and the nation a much better place for all.

Mrs. Powell told the group to believe in their destiny and the star from which it shines and she told parents to encourage their children to open their minds to further learning.

"Victory belongs to those who believe the most and to those who believe the longest," Mrs. Powell said.



Girls' track and field finish as Class 2A state runners-up



The RCHS girls finished as the 2001 Class 2A Track and Field Championship State Runners-up. The team scored a total of 65 points at the state level and finished the season with a combined meet record of 165-2, their best season ever. Team members are pictured above, front row from left: Mindy Bullock, Tara Abney, Theresa Chisum, and Jessica Asher. Back row from left: Asst. coach Linda Howard, Asst. coach Katy Fritz, Rachelle Hammond, Heather Hammond, Chere' Embs, Sheena Swinney, Clarissa Hubbard, Cheyenne Carmack, Kayla Hayes, Danielle Arnold, Johnny Abney and head coach Mark Brunnett.

Former Livingston man charged with murder

Tuesday the Kentucky State Police arrested Jeffery L. "Birdseed" Allen, 38, formerly of Livingston and Madeline M. Hannaford, age 34 at their residence in the Rockholds Community approximately six miles north of Williamsburg in Whitley County.

Both have been charged with the murder and robbery of Larry Goins, 39, of Rockholds who had been missing since May 9th.

Police say Allen had lived in Whitley County for only a few months.

Larry Goins was reported missing to the Kentucky State Police in May by family members. On Tuesday, June 5, the Kentucky State Police were able to obtain information as to a possible location of the body. Upon receiving the information the Kentucky State Police began searching the Colonel Hollow area in

Rockholds. The search of the area has located the remains of the body, which has tentatively been identified as Larry Goins. The remains will be taken to the Kentucky State Medical Examiners office in Frankfort for positive identification and further investigation as to the cause of death.

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Mahaffey indicted

Rockcastle Circuit Judge William Cain has unsealed an indictment against a local woman, who prosecutors thought might be a risk flight.

Doris L. Mahaffey, 28, of Livingston was indicted on four counts of possession of narcotics, methamphetamine, Xanax, marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

She was also indicted on one count of trafficking in narcotics while in possession of a handgun.

Prosecutors say the case also involves a large amount of cash that would have given Mahaffey the ability to flee.

She is currently free on bond.

Don Williams at Renfro June 9th for two shows

There are few American classic these days, but Don Williams is certainly one of them. With a warm hickory baritone that balances strength with a gentle concern, he draws his listener into the intimate world of an old friend, someone who cares deeply about you and the quality of life, and who will always offer a hand when you need it. The legendary Williams brings this and more to the Renfro Valley stage when

he returns on Saturday, June 9.

Without a doubt, Williams, whose hits with the likes of "Good Ole Boys Like Me," "I Believe in You," "Amanda," and "Tulsa Time," has always had a knack for finding songs that speak directly to people's hearts. And Williams' new "I Turn The Page" is no exception. Simple. Direct. To the point. Exactly the things that have

(Cont. to A10)