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Alumni Banquet held
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Mount Vernon Signal

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Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 114 - Number 38 Ph. (606) 256-2244 - .50 a copy - Thursday, June 21, 2001

The new Brodhead Elementary School is scheduled to be completed by the beginning of school in August. Last week demolition of the old school began and by Wednesday of this week, only part of the old gym was still standing. At left is the old gym and in the bottom picture is the entrance to the new school. The new 60,000 square foot facility is all on one floor and has 28 classrooms.

Photos By:
Richard Anderkin

New school construction at Brodhead on schedule

By: Richard Anderkin

The only portion of the old Brodhead School building still standing as of press time Wednesday was the gymnasium.

But it was coming down quickly.

Where the old school stood will be mostly parking for the new 60,000 square foot facility, which is being built at a cost of approximately $6 million.

The $6 million dollar figure includes everything from construction to new equipment.

Doug Mullins, Director of Buildings and Grounds for the Rockcastle County School system said the project is basically on schedule.

"They are laying tile right now, and as soon as a classroom becomes available, it is going to be set up for the coming school year," Mullins said.

Mullins said that school officials are hoping that they can get a certificate of occupancy from the state around the first of August, which would allow students to enter the building.

"If we have classrooms, bathrooms and the cafeteria ready, we shouldn't have any problem getting what we need from the state," he said.

"There will no doubt be some small items still not finished when school starts, but it shouldn't present any problem," he said.

The new facility will have 28 classrooms, a gymnasium, cafeteria, media center and administrative offices.

Currently approximately 400 students attend the school.

Much of the equipment and furniture in the old school building will be used in the new facility.

Mullins said that the majority of those things are being stored in a warehouse on the Taylor's Produce property near the school.

"The Taylor family has been very helpful and we really appreciate it," Mullins said.

The school system has set up a make shift office in a trailer at the home of Brodhead Principal Caroline Graves to assist parents and students during the summer months.

Mrs. Graves' office is located on West Street approximately one block from the school.

The school's phone number is also still the same, (606) 758-8512.

Brodhead High School was actually the first public high school to open in Rockcastle County.

It opened in 1909.

Many students from Scaffold Cane to Copper Creek have graduated from Brodhead School over the years.

At one point, Brodhead had an enrollment of 1,150 students in grades one through twelve.

The late Mr. D.A. Robbins is probably the best known former principal of the school.

Mr. Robbins began his tenure as head of the school in 1936 and served until 1943, when he was drafted into World War II for two years.

After World War II he returned to the school as principal and held that position until 1974.

Mr. Robbins served longer than any other principal at Brodhead, a total of 36 years.

After Robbins there was Bige Towery Jr., Garland Cummins, Tom Payne, Mark McKinney and now Caroline Graves.

Ray Price in Renfro Valley for two shows on Saturday

Country Music Legend, Ray Price will perform two shows in the New Barn Theater on Saturday at Renfro Valley Entertainment Center.

Price a protege of Hank Williams, is one of the most significant artists in Country Music.

Ray's Band, The Cherokee Cowboys, has been a training ground for legendary artists and musicians.

Ray is credited with producing the most emotional honky tonk music ever made and lushly arranged Country-Pop Ballets which have become standards. His different styles have continually attracted large audiences. Price hits includes the likes of "For the Good Time," "Heart Aches by the Number," "Crazy Arms" and "Release Me."

Ray Price will perform two shows at 7:00 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. in the New Barn Theater on Saturday.

Tickets are $20 and $22 plus tax and handling. For reservations and information call 256-2638 or 800-765-7464.

Blood Drive this Friday

Every day, thousands of patients nationwide receive the gift of blood to help them survive. The Rockcastle County Extension Homemakers realize the continuous need for donors and in conjunction with Central Kentucky Blood Center is sponsoring the next Rockcastle County blood drive. The drive will be held Friday, June 22nd from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Rockcastle Co. Hospital on the bloodmobile. Community encouraged to attend.

Many say, "I'll wait until a member of my family needs blood and then I'll donate." Unfortunately, if a person waits until a need arises, it may be too late. It takes 24 to 48 hours for Central Kentucky Blood Center to test each unit of blood and deliver it to Rockcastle County Hospital.

The Rockcastle Hospital urges you to give blood now-before an emergency occurs. Nearly 250 donors are needed daily to supply blood for patients in the 69 hospitals and clinics served by CKBC. Giving blood is a unique way to show you care for others. Persons at least 17 years old, who are in good health and weigh a minimum of 100 pounds are able to donate blood. Your blood is essential in saving lives. Please give on Friday, June 22nd. For more information contact Loretta Robinson at (606)679-7413.

Mt. Vernon approves $2.2 million city budget

The Mt. Vernon City Council approved their final budget for the coming fiscal year at a called meeting on Monday night.

The city's budget for 2001-2002 is approximately $2.2 million.

Just less than $1.35 million will be spent out of the water and sewer fund and the city plans to expend $380,000 in the police department fund.

$307,500 of the police department budget is going to be spent on salaries and health insurance for the department's eighth full-time officers and two part-time officers.

The city says they plan to take in approximately $193,000 from their payroll tax, which went into affect last year.

The city's budget for the coming year also includes a ten percent across the board raise for the city's 28 employees.

Cost to hold juvenile may exceed $36,000

Juvenile crimes cost - if you don't think so just ask the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court.

An eighth grader at the Rockcastle County Middle School, who has been charged with murder is being held in the Boyle County Juvenile Detention Center, while he awaits court proceedings.

Every day the young man is locked-up it cost the county $100 plus his medical expenses.

Before the eighth grader was charged earlier this year, the county had budgeted $8,000 from the jail fund for juvenile detention.

The county has now budgeted $30,000 for juvenile detention costs, because of the eighth grader, but even the $30,000 will not cover the cost of keeping him in a juvenile detention center for a year, which will cost the county $36,500.

The juvenile is currently under going a psychiatric evaluation, which may determine whether he is certified to stand trial as an adult in the crime.

The 14-year-old is accused of beating James Phillips, 50, of Conway Road, to death during an altercation on April 30.

Phillips died on May 3rd at the University of Kentucky Medical Center.

Meadows named to assessment board of appeals

Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carloftis announced this week that William Denny had been replaced on the County Assessment Board of Appeals, by Mrs. Nancy Meadows.

Carloftis said that Denny's three year term had expired and that state law does not allow board members to succeed themselves.

Mrs. Meadows joins Dr. John Parsons and Charles Saylor on the board.

The board of appeals decides whether or not a person's property tax assessment is fair or not.

The board reviews only matters brought before them by a landowner.

If you have questions call Carloftis at (606) 256-2856.

Two local residents assigned by state police

On Monday, the Kentucky State Police at London received three new Troopers, which graduated on Friday from the State Police Academy in Frankfort. They will begin their field training by riding with a field officer for approximately two months before receiving their permanent assignments in Clay County.

Tommy Cromer, of Berea, is the son of Freddie and Rosie Cromer of Mt. Vernon. He is a graduate of Rockcastle County High School and is employed as a police officer with the Berea City Police and as a Para-

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