



State Representative Danny Ford, second from left, presented Rockcastle County's first checks from Kentucky's Phase I Cost-Share Program at Rockcastle County Cattlemen's Annual Banquet. Phase I funds provided by the Kentucky legislature are being invested locally in forage improvement, genetic improvement and cattle handling facilities. The first to complete programs in each area and receiving checks were Rick Wolfe, Jr., forage improvement, William Taylor, cattle handling facility and Joe Bullen, genetic improvement.

Phase I funds made available

Phase I tobacco settlement funds totaling \$435,000 are being invested in local agriculture cost-share programs. Funds were made available by the 2000 Kentucky legislative session, which provided each Kentucky county with funds based on their dependence on tobacco.

Rockcastle County farmers serving on the Agriculture Development Council, along with the Rockcastle Cattlemen's Association, have helped lead this program locally. Three areas of state-approved projects were identified for local programs, those being: forage improvement, genetic improvement, and improving cattle handling facilities.

Forage improvement involves seeding alfalfa, renovating hay fields with red clover, or renovating pastures with white clover. Cost-share includes certified seed varieties, plus lime and fertilizer according to U.K. soil test results. A total of 214 applications were taken during January and all will be funded. Over 3000 acres will be improved with \$200,000 of the cost-share funds.

Genetic improvement involves purchasing bulls or semen with production records from the top of each breed. Expected Progeny Differences (EPD)'s guidelines help farmers select better bulls based on weaning weights, birth weights and milk production. Sixty-two applications were taken by the February 15th deadline and all will be funded through \$100,000 of cost-share funds.

Improving cattle handling facilities promotes herd health practices for the cow herd as well as feeder calves. Eighty-four applications were taken during the sign-up period. Cost-share funds totaling \$125,000 will be invested in head gates, alley ways and holding pens.

Currently all application deadlines have passed. Any new programs will be announced in the fall and will depend on funds remaining in current programs or new funds available through the current legislature.

Not the one

Not the same David Mason! David Mason from Pine Hill is not the David Mason who was listed in last week's paper as being deceased, from Laurel County.

Although I have been sick and in

the hospital for the last two months, I am not the one.

My condolences to the late David Mason family for their recent loss.

My thanks for all the prayers, cards, calls and visits I received while I was in Saint Joseph Hospital.

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Our Readers Write

Dear Editor,

I wish to correct some inaccurate statements recently made about the unpublicized rise incident ("Mt. Vernon man, sues 911," Thursday, March 21st, 2002) on your front page. This incident involved me being repeatedly threatened with arrest for various legal activities, detained, offered a night in the Mt. Vernon jail, told the FBI would hold me for seven (7) days, and purposely stared down from about six inches away by Mt. Vernon police officers Brian Doan, an officer I believe but am not positive was Eddie Delaney and Barry Adams.

First, I do not feel the issue involved that I was "unfairly singled out by the Mt. Vernon police." Rather it is their reprehensible conduct while I was stopped that is the core of the problem. And, most unfortunately, judging from the various letters to this paper, as well as what I hear from many others in town, their conduct in this case did not single me out. Instead being bullied and purposely intimidated by Officers Doan, Delaney and Adams includes me in a large class of people who have been subject to similar treatment.

Second, let me address County Attorney Jeff Burdette's often repeated claim that my "request is to determine the identity of the caller," as well as your paper's statement that I am "making an act of effort to obtain the name or names of those who may have called" 911.

To begin with this claim is simply untrue. Mr. Burdette features this claim in just about every one of his filings, but unless he's heard this from Cleo of the psychic hotline he has no way of supporting this statement. The issue here is the embarrassing conduct of the Mt. Vernon police, not the name of the caller. Furthermore, why the tape is wanted is not relevant. As noted in the Michie's official version of Kentucky law, KRS 61.870, p. 223: "The purpose for which a person seeks access to a public record is not relevant." (OAG 89-234). Finally, I already know who called the police that night (a call was made directly to a police officer, 911 recorded subsequent police conversations about it). I have spoken with more than one person familiar with the conversation from it being broadcast over a public scanner, and the police identified the call as coming from Candy Riecke's residence.

denise: If Mr. Burdette is concerned about the identity of those calling 911 being known, he should instruct Officers Doan, Delaney and Adams not

to broadcast it over a public scanner, instead of denying me access to all of the tape.

Third, while I very much like and respect the County Attorney, Mr. Burdette, I would like to address his role in this matter. I can understand Mr. Burdette's desire to withhold the name of the caller, however, Mr. Burdette's refusal to separate and turn over the rest of the tape has led to many hours of work for myself, the Attorney General's office and the circuit court, not to mention Mr. Burdette himself.

I have repeatedly noted that Section 1878 (4) clearly provides that "the public agency shall separate the exempted and make the non-exempted material available for examination." I asked for separable material in my original request of Nov. 1st, as well as my informal appeal of Nov. 20th. Furthermore, I filed a separate request on Nov. 30th specifically designed to withhold the identity of the caller while still providing the content of the call. It was also refused. In the Nov. 20th appeal I even noted that I wished to "minimize the work involved for all parties, including the Attorney General and the court." Instead we've all spent innumerable hours writing court briefs.

This, along with the claim that the case is still under active investigation, which is refuted by the MYPD's letter of October 30th, and the claim that the separable and non-separable information are all intermingled, which is refuted by the separated transcript of the tape finally provided, and the claim that personal information about me is relevant, which is refuted by the registrar's office in graduate school, are all reasons we are now in court arguing over whether I will receive compensation of up to \$25 a day of public money for the approximately 90 days I was denied access to the tape, as provided by Section 61.882 (5).

Michael Shiliga
Mt. Vernon, KY

Dear Editor,

Being lifelong residents of Rockcastle County I would like for the citizens of the county to recognize what an Outstanding Job Darrell Doan has done for our family.

He has worked long hours, weekends and even off duty to help solve a murder of a family member. Calling and meeting with the family to keep us up to date on the progress.

I really eased up knowing that we had someone checking and searching for answers trying to bring someone to justice.

Family is the most important thing in people's lives and when a tragedy in this happens it's good to know that we can have a Sheriff that puts his community first.

I would like to ask the citizens of Rockcastle County to strongly endorse Darrell Doan as the next Sheriff.

Thank you,
HB & Kathleen Miller
Rick & Sheila Nicely
Rick & Brenda Miller
Mt. Vernon, KY

Dear Editor,

I would like to commend the sister of Darrell Doan for letting the people of our county know what caliber of a person he is. Our county needs a honest man in office. We all know that Darrell Doan has always been fair and the best deputy we have had to serve us. He has always come whenever he was called, no matter how early or how late it was.

If memory serves me, in every week's *Signal* there was always pictures of him working wrecks, murder scenes, making court arrests and trying to help people get back what someone has stolen. These are just a few of all the things he has done to help us. I know it was his job, but he always went beyond that because he is a caring person.

We need more Christian people like him in the world and it would be a better place to live.

Sincerely,
Mike & Dorothy Bradley
Livingston, KY

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