

Lucky to live in America



Richard Anderkin
Editor
Mount Vernon
Signal

Thursday, this country will celebrate our 226th year of independence and freedom.

Although it probably shouldn't be any different than in years past, this year is extremely special. The events of September 11th have made many of us step back and take a closer look at what this country is really about.

Religious and political freedoms are at the top of the list. There is also the freedom of speech and the right to bare arms to protect ourselves.

We have the right to vote or not, the right to assemble publicly and

privately and to criticize the government.

Basically we can do whatever we so desire within reason.

So many of us, myself included, take our freedoms for granted. But our freedoms haven't come without cost.

Just ask a family whose had to bury a loved one who died protecting our basic freedoms.

There are several generations of

Americans, I think mine is one of them, that are basically spoiled.

We weren't old enough to be involved in the Vietnam War and shortly thereafter the mandatory draft was stopped.

Our all volunteer armed services has continued to serve this country and although at times they may get criticized for a mistake, such as the case this week, they are the most powerful armed services in the world, protecting everyone from every as-

pect of life, while attempting at all times to be totally human.

Last week's ruling by a California Court that it is unconstitutional for children in public schools to say the pledge of allegiance has stirred a lot of controversy.

I am not real sure how I feel about the ruling. I don't think it will do any harm for school children to recite the pledge of allegiance and as a newspaper editor (who is very liberal), said, "it all seems kind of silly."

The words under God were inserted in the pledge under President Dwight Eisenhower's administration fifty years ago, as an anti-communist statement.

If the child of atheists or members of another religion are not required to say the pledge, then if the majority of the people think it is okay, then it should be okay for the rest of school children to voluntarily recite the pledge.

Happy 4th of July!

"Festival"

(Cont. from Front)

The Old Joe Clark Bluegrass Festival kicks off on Thursday in the Valley's Festival Field, which will be filled with the sounds of some of the finest and favorite musicians in bluegrass.

Scheduled to perform are: III Tyne Out, Dale Ann Bradley & Coon Creek, Lonesome River Band, New Time Bluegrass Band, Melvin Goins & Windy Mountain, Lewis Family, Osborne Brothers and many more.

In case of rain, the shows will move inside the New Barn Theater until the weather clears. "We are really excited about this weekend's line-up, I think it is one of the best we have ever assembled," said Entertainment CEO Connie Hunt Peterson. Join the fun with open stage or backyard pickin' in true Bluegrass Festival fashion. Primitive camping is available all three days. Tickets range in price from \$18.00 to \$45.00.

At the festival there will be food concessions, craft and retail vendors.

Tents will be provided for shade and guests should bring their own lawn chairs.

Renfro Valley's Festival Grove is adjacent to the Renfro Valley

Entertainment Center Complex just off I-75, exit 62. For more information about the Old Joe Clark Bluegrass Festival call 800-765-7464 or (606)256-2638. Visit the website at www.renfrovalley.com

"Budget"

(Cont. from Front)

includes the Mayor's salary of \$3,000 per month, beginning in January and salaries for Rader and other employees at \$1 million dollars to operate the water department and \$475,000 to operate the sewer department, which is projected to be \$60,000 more than the city will take in sewer user fees.

The budget also indicates the city is expecting a shortfall of \$40,000 in the water department. Mrs. Kirby also said that it was her understanding that the city spent \$180,000 more last year than they had budgeted and had had to borrow some money from the water and sewer funds to make ends meet.

By law, the city is required to

have their budget passed and in place by July 1. That obviously is not the case.

The Signal will take a more in-depth look at the proposed budget in next week's Signal, after an interview with Mayor King, scheduled for next Monday.

"Meth"

(Cont. from Front)

unlawful taking over \$300 and two counts of criminal mischief, first degree. Newcomb admitted that he tested positive for Xanax and was convicted in Madison District Court of the offenses of theft by unlawful taking under \$300, reckless driving, and wanton endangerment, second degree, while on probation. Newcomb's original sentence of six years imprisonment was imposed.

Montgomery further stated that James Steven Bradley, 38, of Mt. Vernon, was sentenced on February 9, 2001, to a period of two years imprisonment probated for a period of two years for the offenses of two counts of theft by

unlawful taking over \$300. Bradley admitted that he failed to report to his probation officer, failed to refrain from the use of alcohol, failed to refrain from the use of a controlled substance and failed to attend substance abuse treatment, while on probation. Bradley's original sentence of two years imprisonment was imposed.

Thank You

Thanks to all the participants in the Crab Orchard Fourth of July parade. Thank to all the counties that participated in the parade: Lincoln, Rockcastle, Boyle, Garrard, Pulaski, Laurel and surrounding counties. Without your participation the parade would not be successful each year. Special thanks to the Lincoln County Law Enforcement, Clyde Bertrum, Crab Orchard Police Dept., Kenny Hodge (constable) and Lincoln Co. Sheriff Dept. And, all whom helped with traffic. Thanks to Jackie and Danny McKinney for their expert help each year. May God Bless each of you! May 2003 parade be as successful as 2002 was. See you next year.

Victoria Dunn
Parade Coordinator

\$500 Reward

For information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for breaking into car's vehicles along Mullins Station Road, Pine Hill, and other parts of Rockcastle County.

Reply to PO Box 1406, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

Kathy Richardson promoted to McDonald's Restaurants Operations Supervisor in Berea and Mt. Vernon, KY.

Brad and Sundae Park owners, are pleased to announce that Kathy Richardson has been promoted to McDonald's Operations Supervisor for the Park Organization.

Kathy's McDonald's career spans nearly 10 years. She began her career in April 1993 as a member of the crew, rising to the rank of Swing Manager in April 1993. Her continued management development resulted in her being promoted to Restaurant Manager in 1999. She has managed the McDonald's in Berea for nearly 3 years.



She has completed 4 of the McDonald's Corporations Management Development Classes including: Basic Operations Course, Serve Safe, Basic Management Course and Intermediate Operations Course.

Kathy is married to Mark Richardson. They have 4 children, Melissa, Aaron, Steven and Macy.



JOB QUEST



- Need to get your GED?
- Need a job?
- Need technical training?
- Need assistance with transportation or childcare?
- Are you 14-21 years of age?

Let Job Quest Help!

Call Kyle Rader, Coordinator at (606)256-4816 or Jenny Sweet, Project Director at (606)256-2125.

Funding provided by the U.S. Department of Labor through the Cumberland workforce investment fund, administered by the Lake Cumberland Area Development District, Inc. with Workforce Investment Act Title I funding. An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program and auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



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Auto, air, tilt, cruise, cash, power windows, power locks, power seats, leather!
WAS: \$22,999
NOW: \$18,999
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\$179⁰⁰ per month



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Auto, air, tilt, cruise, cash, power windows, power locks, 4 wheel drive!
WAS: \$23,999
NOW: \$18,999
\$219⁰⁰ per month



1997 CHEVROLET LUMINA
Auto, air, tilt, cruise, cash, power windows, power locks, 28,000 miles!
WAS: \$15,999
NOW: \$12,999
\$179⁰⁰ per month



2001 LANOS SPORT
Auto, air, tilt, cruise, cash, power windows, power locks, 18,000 miles!
WAS: \$15,999
NOW: \$12,999
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1999 TOYOTA CAMRY LE
Auto, air, tilt, cruise, cash, power windows, power locks, power seat, 38,000 miles!
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NOW: \$12,999
\$259⁰⁰ per month



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Auto, air, tilt, cruise, cash, power windows, power locks, leather, low miles, factory warranty!
WAS: \$22,999
NOW: \$18,999
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1999 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA
Auto, air, tilt, cruise, cash, power windows, power locks, 4 wheel drive!
WAS: \$22,999
NOW: \$18,999
\$219⁰⁰ per month



1999 NISSAN X-BOX 4x4
5-speed, air, cash, alloy wheels, 4-4 engine, bed liner, sharp!
WAS: \$18,999
NOW: \$12,999
\$259⁰⁰ per month



1995 CHEVROLET LUMINA
Auto, air, tilt, cruise, cash, power windows, power locks, local trade, ex. conditional!
WAS: \$15,999
NOW: \$12,999
\$169⁰⁰ per month



2001 GMC SONOMA SLE
Air, cash, alloy wheels, bed liner, 8,000 miles, remaining factory warranty!
WAS: \$22,999
NOW: \$18,999
\$199⁰⁰ per month

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