Members of the tour are pictured above, first row from left: Bruce Blanton, Michelle Blanton, Mary-Lee Craig, Chris Craig, Brandon Warren, Lawrence Warren, Clara Proctor, Bobby Proctor, Pearl Burdette, Dollie Roberts, Ruth Brown and Patty Carrender. Second row from left: Delmar Blevins, Doris Blevins, William Burkhart, Nina Burkhart, Anna McKee, Walker Barker, Bernice Sowder, Doris Cash, Pauline Compton, William Compton, Jean Price, Joyce Lark, Mercedes Burdette, Virginia Brown, Mildred Buis, Lora Lee Mink, Wanda Craig and Gatliff Craig. Third row from left: Hugh Hurst, Tommy H. Mink, Robin Brown, Janice Dodson, Bobby Lawrence, Lenial Brown, Leslie Brown, Dorene Barker, Bo White, Bill Cash, Carolyn White, Ed Sowder, Lorene Lawrence, Barbara Hurst, Vernon Price, Roy Parriman, Dale Lark and Baker Brown. Not pictured were bus driver Hollis Walker, Sandy Wilson, Judy Parriman, directors Johnny and Louise Craig. (Names may not necessarily be in order.)

Rockcastle 2002 Agri-Business tour

By Dollie Roberts

The Rockcastle Agri-Business Tour of 2002 left Mt. Vernon on July 8th at 7:00 a.m. under the direction of Louise and Johnny Craig.

Some places of interest visited were Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, Georgia. The gardens were in three phases 1. The Chapel, 2. Agriculture Center and 3. The Butterfly Center.

Next Former President Carter's hometown (Plains, Georgia). This tour included his home church, a peanut farm, his mother's home (now a nursing home), his brother, Billy's home (Billy's wife still lives there), Billy's Filling Station. Our guide was Carter's governess, Roselyn's secretary and Amy's baby sitter. The former president was in Yugoslovia at the time we were there.

On to Pensocola Beach, Florida. We saw an air show by the Blue Angels. Then we ate at Lambert's Restaurant in Foley, Alabama, famous for roll throwing.

Next the French Quarters at New Orleans, Louisiana was toured. Some things and places visited there were the aboveground graves, because of so much underground water, people are buried above ground, Bourbon Street and a sugar plantation, Oak Alley, a southern home in Louisiana.

Emu Farm of Meridian, Mississippi, was next on the tour. The owner made each of us Emu burgers and Emu cake from Emu eggs. For more information on Emus go to www.Emuweb.com

Elvis Presley's birthplace in Tupelo, Mississippi and his home in Memphis, Tennessee "Graceland" was toured next.

A pearl farm at Camden, Tennessee, where small pieces of pearl are transplanted in mussels. It takes about two or three years to produce a pearl. For more information on this stop go to www.TennesseeRiverPearl.com

Everyone had a wonderful time. We arrived back in Mt. Vernon on July 13 at 8:00 p.m.

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Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, FSA Director

Training for FSA

Rockcastle County FSA office employees will be out of the office this Thursday, July 18th to attend training in Somerset. Natural Resource Conservation will be open for FSA customer concerns.

Graze-Out Payment Program for Crop Years 2001 through 2007

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 provides for GRAZE-OUT payments instead of loan deficiency payments (LDP's) for 2002 through 2007 crop years to eligible producers who:

- Elect to use acreage planted to wheat, barley, oats, or triticale, for the grazing by livestock.
- Agree to forgo any other harvesting of the commodity on this acreage during the applicable crop year.

The application period for Graze-Out:

- Begins on the first day of mechanical harvest as determined by the local FSA County Committee.
- Ends on March 31 of the calendar year following the year the crop is normal harvested.

Producers may file an application for GRAZE-OUT anytime during this application period. Producers may not cancel or withdraw an application once requested.

Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) Eligibility

In accordance with the provisions of the new farm bill, FSA has recently issued LDP provisions to extend eligibility to commodities grown in 2001 on non-Production Flexibility Contract (PFC) farms. In addition a special beneficial interest waiver will be available to producers who marketed 2001 crop year eligibility commodities before applying for their LDP payment.

Because the Act provided authority to accept LDP requests on commodities produced on non-PFC farms beyond the final loan availability date, the provision was extended to include PFC farms to ensure program equity among all producers of eligible contract commodities.

The ending date for application will be announced by FSA as soon as regulations are published. Producers who previously requested LDP's, but were disapproved based on lost beneficial interest, will be able to apply for their LDP on that 2001 production.

If you have questions concerning this provision, please contact the Rockcastle County FSA Office, Mt. Vernon or call (606)256-2525.

FY 2002 PFC Reminder

Producers with Production Flexibility contracts (PFCs) authorized under AMTA in the 1996 farm bill must continue to follow contract requirements for the 2002 crop year. The deadline to sign or revise a PFC for FY2002 is August 1, 2002. PFC payments for the 2002 crop year will continue to be issued, as requested, until September 30, 2002, provided all eligibility requirements have been met.

Producers who wish to receive their 2002 PFC (Production Flexibility Contract) payments early must sign a form for what month you wish to receive your 2002 payment.

Producers are encouraged not to request a payment for the farm if they are considering selling a portion of the entire farm as payment received must be refunded. Changes in your farming operation must be reported timely in order to reflect PFC payments to the current crop year producer. All changes reflected on the CCC-478, Application for PFC Payment, must be signed by August 1st.

Disaster Leasing

Farmers who suffer a burley tobacco disaster loss must file a report with FSA prior to harvest to retain eligibility to lease quota away under the disaster lease provisions. The disaster lease provision was implemented to provide relief to producers that suffer a disaster loss and are unable to produce and market the farm's effective quota. To be eligible to disaster lease and transfer must: file a crop report with FSA, file the FSA 574, Disaster Credit Request, have planted sufficient acreage to produce the farm's effective quota, provide a workman like manner for the crop production, suffer more than a 20% crop loss, pay a measurement fee and meet all price support eligibility:

Remember: If you are a farmer whose tobacco is suffering from poor weather conditions, black shank, blue mold, root disease, etc., please come to the FSA office and file under the disaster provisions PRIOR TO HARVEST!!

Warehouse Designation

As a condition of price support beginning with the 2001 crop year for tobacco, producers were required to inform FSA of the warehouse where they would market tobacco. This is acquired by completing the form FSA 808, Warehouse Designation, to indicate where the tobacco will be sold. Initial designation will end August 1, 2003. Producers are encouraged to complete this form after all lease and transfers have been updated. After the initial designation period ends producers will be limited to designate for the farm to any one day during the following regular redesignation periods:

- September 30-October 4, 2002, with card effective October 14, 2002.
- October 28-November 1, 2002, with card effective November 11, 2002.
- December 02-December 06, 2002, with card effective December 16, 2002.
- December 27-January 3, 2003, with card effective January 13, 2003.

The warehouse will be indicated with a number on the market card. Therefore, if you decide to market at a warehouse other than the one specified on the card, you must return that card to the FSA office in specific time periods to request another marketing card.

FSA has a listing for public notice of warehouses, receiving stations and dealers posted on the bulletin board in the county office available through March 31, 2003.

Continuous CRP Sign-Up

Eligible acreage devoted to certain special conservation practices such as riparian buffers, filter strips, grassed waterways, shelter belts, living snow fences, contour grass strips, salt tolerance vegetation, and shallow water areas for wildlife may be enrolled at any time under CCC's continuous CRP sign-up. These practices are not subject to competitive bidding. For more information, contact your local FSA office.

Important Dates to Remember

August 1, 2002 - Deadline to sign Warehouse Designation.

Downtown Detailing Center
Hwy. 150 - Brodhead •Mark Lawson
758-0124 (leave message)
Complete Detail Service
(handwash, wax, interior shampooed, engine, tires)
$50-$65
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3.9L, V-6 Engine, Cloth Bucket Seats, Tilt Steering Wheel, #21518
List Price: $17,005 Sale Price: $12,490

2002 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER
BRAND NEW 12 TO CHOOSE FROM, #21475
Starting At: $14,990

2002 NISSAN SENTRA GXE
AM/FM/CD, Power Package, Remote Entry
STARTING AS LOW AS $12,490*

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255 HP, Bose 6 Disk, Leather, Sunroof
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4.7L, V-8, Engine, Tow Package, Cruise/Tilt, Chrome Wheels, #2141
List Price: $29,185 Sale Price: $22,990

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2002 NISSAN QUEST GXE
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2002 DODGE DURANGO 4x4
4.7L, V-8 Engine, Two Package, AM/FM/CD Player, Anti-Spin Axle, Fog Lamps, #214878
List Price: $31,135 Sale Price: $23,990

2002 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4x4
Laredo Convenience Group, Tow Package, Aluminum Wheels, #21383
List Price: $29,605 Sale Price: $23,490

2002 NISSAN XTERRA 4X4
Power Package, Utility Package, Running Bds
STARTING AS LOW AS $22,995*

2002 NISSAN FRONTIER 4X4
V6, Auto, Power Package, AM/FM/CD
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