

Strategic plan moves ahead

Projects Demonstrate Progress
Over one hundred citizens gathered in March, 2002, to initiate the Rockcastle County Strategic Planning process. Since then six task forces have taken on community improvement projects. The projects have formed the core of the planning process. In the weeks ahead, the task forces will be refining strategies for the strategic plan. They are seeking public input into this process. Below is a brief summary of the work to date and the strategies identified for the plan.

Community Clean Up
The Beautification Task Force, led by Corey Craig, has initiated "Operation Clean the Rock and Keep it Clean!" Teams of volunteers have picked up litter along several roadways and in August sponsored a major clean up of the St. Clair house and the surrounding property in Mt. Vernon. Additional strategies will address:

- City and County welcome signs
- Mandatory garbage pick-up
- Planning for land use and growth

Welcome to Mt. Vernon
The Tourism Task Force, led by Judy Deerson, has taken on clean up and beautification of the area at the junction of Highway 25 and the 461 Bypass, where people turn to enter the city of Mt. Vernon. This project will include adding topsoil, landscaping and constructing a welcome sign. Additional strategies will address:

- Driving tours, walking tours and bike trails
- Strengthening the Mt. Vernon Rockcastle County Tourism Commission
- Identifying natural sites (caves, waterfalls, etc.) as tourist attractions
- Coordinating all tourist activities county wide
- Marketing initiatives for tourism attractions
- A public golf course
- Strengthening local festivals

Identifying and preserving historic buildings
Clean up of Lake Linville and improvements to Lake Linville Park
• A civic center/conference center at Reno Valley
• Creation of a large, new park with facilities for local families and visitors

New Business and Industry Council
The Workforce Development Task Force, led by Bigge Towery, is primarily focused on the creation and expansion of good jobs in Rockcastle County. Its short-term project will be to establish a local business/industry council. In July, task force members met with representatives of local industry and the Cabinet for Economic Development to begin the process. Additional strategies will address:

- Expansion of industrial/business park space
- Natural gas service to industrial parks
- Job training opportunities, through schools and on-the-job
- Housing needs assessment
- Utilities needs assessment

A Leadership Development Program
The Leadership Task Force, led by John Clantz, identified leadership as a key to success and the driving component of the entire community development process. The task force is designing a leadership development program for Rockcastle County to be conducted annually. Additional strategies will address:

- Local citizens trained to conduct the leadership development program
- Local participation in state and regional leadership programs
- Identifying "best practices" to include in the local leadership program
- Special leadership enhancement opportunities for local officials
- A New Vocational/Technical Center

The Educational Task Force, led by Shelby Reynolds, identified the need for a new tech center as being the number one priority to address. The task force is developing a plan to leverage funding for a new facility to be built next to the Rockcastle County High School. Additional strategies will address:

- Interaction between business and industry and the educational system
- Communication among providers of service and adult education services
- Access to literacy and educational programs for people in remote areas of the county
- Post-secondary educational opportunities
- Quality childcare for working people

A Community Health/Recreation Facility
The Community Healthcare Task Force, led by Dr. Tony Arvin, has begun to research a health and recreation facility. The task force envisions a "community health center without walls" which would consist of existing facilities, such as schools, as well as new facilities with exercise equipment and an indoor pool for year round use. Additional strategies will address:

- Hospital expansion
- New and enhanced medical services
- Public health services

The strategic planning process is sponsored by the Rockcastle County Development Board. Public input is welcome. Please plan to attend the community meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m., September 19, at the high school. If you cannot attend, please send written comments to: Rockcastle County Development Board, PO Box 592, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456.

Whose Fault Is the Affair?
"He had an affair," Vera announced loudly, "and he doesn't even think he did anything wrong. How can I forgive him and go on when he's not even sorry for what he did?" (All characters are fictitious.)

Norm and Vera were seeking counseling at a very critical time in their marriage. Norm's affair of six months had finally become obvious, and he had confessed. Vera had long suspected something was wrong. Norm would come home late from work and would sometimes disappear for two hours "to run an errand."

It was obvious that Vera was angry, but when I talked to her alone, something else became painfully obvious: the depth of her hurt. She sobbed when the feelings of hurt overcame her. "I don't want to lose him," she said in the midst of her tears. "Norm is my whole life."

Something else also became obvious: Vera blamed herself. "What did I do wrong that drove him to another woman?" If I had been a better wife, maybe he wouldn't have needed her. I guess I am a failure as a wife. I tried to reassure Vera that the affair was not her fault, but this had little effect. She was overwhelmed with guilt.

On the other hand Norm did not seem to be the least bit bothered by guilt. Mostly he blamed Vera. "She never has given me the affection that I need," he told me. "Any man would have done what I did if he were married to a cold fish like her. I needed some love and she wouldn't give it to me."

Norm and Vera both needed to change their beliefs about the affair but in very different ways. Norm needed to take responsibility for his actions, and Vera needed to stop blaming herself.

I called both of them into my office for a talk. "Let me explain to you who is to blame when someone has an affair," I began. "Marriages are built by two people, and both are responsible for the condition of the marriage. You have both told me that your marriage was not going well even before the affair. Whose fault

is that? The blame rests on both of you. Both of you built that marriage and both are responsible for the shape it was in. Vera, you are responsible for your actions that made the marriage worse, and Norm, you are responsible for yours."

Norm smiled confidently at this point and said to Vera, "See, honey, it's just like I told you. The affair was not my fault."

"Wait a minute, Norm," I interrupted. "While both are responsible for the condition of the marriage, you, Norm, are responsible for the affair. You chose to do it." Norm's face fell at this point.

"Vera did not make you have an affair," I continued. "No matter how bad the marriage was, you did not have to do that. You had many other options, including leaving, seeking counseling or having a long talk with Vera. She blamed Vera for the affair, Norm. It is not her fault."

"Oh, sure, it's all my fault," Norm whined, beginning to play Poor Little Me.

"Yes, the affair is your fault, Norm," I agreed. "And when you accept that responsibility, then you and Vera can begin to work on your marriage."

"Court News"
(Cont. from B2)

Ashley J. Stevens: Speeding, paid \$134.50 total fine and costs.
Trenton L. White: Faulty equipment, \$30 and costs.
Melinda R. Williams: Speeding, license suspended.
William R.E. Hall: Contempt of court, 30 days.
Gene A. Gray: Alcohol intoxication, \$25 and costs; Use/Possession of Marijuana, \$150 and 30 days/credit 4 days served; balance conditionally discharged two years.
Timothy A. Puckett: Failure to wear seat belt, \$25 fine; Operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, \$350 and costs, \$150 service fee, \$10 victim compensation fund, 180 days to serve 7/credit 4.

William K. Wiggins: Operating on suspended license, \$200 and costs and 60 days to serve 10/conditionally discharged two years.
Eugene L. Zita: Speeding, state traffic school authorized on payment of \$75.85 costs.
Barrett J. Sawyers: Speeding, \$30 and costs; No operating license, \$100 fine; Failure to appear, \$50 fine.
Thomas F. Clay, Jr.: No drivers license, \$150 and costs and 30 days/conditionally discharged one year; Speeding, \$30 fine; Failure to appear, \$50 fine.

August 29, 2002
Janet F. Smith: Speeding, paid \$150 total fine and costs.
John K. Fallon: Failure to wear seatbelt, \$25 fine and costs.
Rocky G. Mink: Minor possession of alcohol, \$25 and costs; Criminal mischief, \$50 fine and 10 days/conditionally discharged one year.

Dennis R. Brown: Fines due (\$187.35, \$124.35 and \$131.85), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.
Jason G. Brown: Speeding and other charges, license suspended for failure to appear.
Rameela S. Brown: Fines due (\$217.35), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.
Chris Leon Caldwell: Conditional Discharge/Revocation motion, 30 days in jail on weekends; Alcohol intoxication, \$25 fine and costs.
Paul Clark: Fines due (\$142.35) and 20 hours community service work, bench warrant issued for failure to appear.
Lewis Cotton: Fines due (\$52.50), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.
Glady's Creech: Theft by deception, bench warrant issued for failure to appear.
Johnny Michael Cromer: Alcohol intoxication, bond applied to fine.
Steven L. Cunningham: No Ky. Reg. Plates and other charges, license suspended for failure to appear.
Kenneth B. Evans: Fines due (\$27.35), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

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Commonwealth of Kentucky
28th Judicial Circuit
Rockcastle Circuit Court - Division II
Civil Action No. 01-CI-00128

Alice J. Butler, et al Plaintiffs
V.
Inez Vaughn, et al Defendants

NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to an order of sale entered on August 21, 2002, in order to satisfy the judgment of May 10, 2002, I will offer at public auction the hereinafter described real property in Rockcastle County, Kentucky:

At the Courthouse on East Main Street
Mt. Vernon, Kentucky
on Monday, September 30, 2002
Beginning at the Hour of 2:00 p.m.

Said property being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

On Wiggins Branch, BEGINNING at a sycamore on the bank of the branch, Seth Albright's corner; thence his line North 53 1/2 West 24 3/5 poles to a stake in the pole, 10 links North 43 1/2 West from a stone point; thence North 61 3/4 West 29 3/5 poles to a stone by a black oak; Albright's and W.E. Carter's corner; thence with Carter's line North 18 West 37 poles to a stone by a gum in Carter's and a corner of Willie Cash; thence with Cash's line North 23 1/4 East 20 poles and 22 links to a stone by a white oak stump; thence South 51 1/2 East 21 poles and 7 links to a two chestnut oaks on the side of the ridge; thence South 28 East excluding the road, 19 poles to a white oak; thence South 66 East 40 poles to a stone on the bank of the creek where once stood a sugar tree; thence up the branch with its meanders South 52 West 12 1/5 poles, South 29 1/2 West 3 poles and 14 links South 30 1/4 West 8 poles, South 34 West 19 3/5 poles to the beginning and contains 18 acres excluding the pole.

Inez Vaughn, single, made two (2) off-conveyances, of a portion of her 3/4 undivided interest as follows:

(1) Inez Vaughn, single, to Thelma Gregg
(2) Inez Vaughn, single, to Helen Evans

This being the real property which Maudie Alice Vaughn and Anee Vaughn obtained by deed dated October 28, 1950, executed by Sallie Newell of record in Deed Book 85, page 500 in the Office of the Rockcastle County Clerk. Maudie Alice Vaughn died intestate and left surviving her, Anee Vaughn (her husband), Thelma Shane, Evelyn Sargent, Walter Vaughn, Helen Evans, Inez Vaughn, Elmer Vaughn, Brenda Sue Clark, granddaughters, issue of Albert Vaughn, Wilson Vaughn, grandson, Loretta Renner, granddaughter, as shown by Affidavit of Descent of Maudie Alice Vaughn.

The property shall be sold on the following terms and conditions:

1. The real property shall be sold for cash or upon a credit of thirty (30) days with the purchaser required to pay a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the purchase price in cash on the date of sale and to secure the balance with a bond approved by the Master Commissioner.
2. The bond shall bear interest at the rate of twelve percent (12%) per annum until paid in full. The bond shall have the force and effect of a judgment and shall be a lien on the property sold as additional security for the payment of the purchase price.
3. Unpaid taxes or liens of record at the time of entry of judgment shall be paid out of the proceeds of sale.
4. The purchaser shall pay the 2002 local, county and state property taxes.
5. The purchaser shall have possession of the real property upon compliance with the terms of the sale and will have risk of loss on any improvements at the time of sale.
6. The sale shall be made subject to all easements, set back lines, restrictions or covenants of record or otherwise and shall be sold as is.

Willis G. Coffey, Master Commissioner
Rockcastle Circuit Court

The Rockcastle County Strategic Planning Committee

NEEDS YOUR INPUT

A summary of the draft plan is included in the newspaper.

Please attend a
COMMUNITY MEETING

at
Rockcastle County High School Auditorium
September 19, 2002
7:00 p.m.

Everyone who is interested in planning the future of Rockcastle County is welcome to attend.

Comments may be sent to the:

Rockcastle County Development Board
PO Box 592
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

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