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Thursday, February 28, 2013



Farmers/Businessman Banquet held Tuesday at RCMS

Joe C. Bullen was inducted into the Rockcastle County Agriculture Hall of Fame at the Farmers/ Business Banquet held Tuesday night. Shown in the above photo are Rockcastle County Conservation District Board Vice-Chairman Roy Reynolds and Chairman Tommy Harold Mink presenting Bullen, at right, a plaque for his dedication and service for the promotion and advancement of agriculture in Rockcastle County. Shown at right is 2013 Miss Kentucky Jessica Casebolt who was the guest speaker at the banquet. (Other awards will be featured in next week's issue.)



Rockcastle Schools receives bill after large insurance trust dissolves

By: Doug Ponder

The financially troubled Kentucky School Board Insurance Trust recently completed their assessments of all 174 Kentucky school districts for money that is

owed to the disbanding agency.

KSBIT announced their totals on their website last week and they listed the total assessment for the Rockcastle County Board of

Mt. Vernon Council has short monthly meeting the council that there were

With no items on the agenda under old or new business, the Mt. Vernon City Council was able to adjourn their regular monthly meeting twenty five minutes after it started Monday night

Mayor Mike Bryant told

Local man arrested for arson/assault

By: Doug Ponder

A Conway man was arrested for arson and assault Sunday night after he attempted to set his house on fire while his family was still inside the home.

Arrested at the scene was James Brian Hatcher, 50, of Conway.

According to the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Joe Rush responded to a residence on Buffalo Hollow Road around 10:30 p.m. after receiving a complaint of someone trying to set a house on fire while people were still inside the home.

Once Rush arrived, Hatcher's wife told him that Hatcher became angry and violent after she asked him about their money issues.

After confronting him about the money, she said Hatcher started throwing stuff in their bedroom and shoved over a large metal

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several projects underway

but that deadlines had not

been met that would enable

water tank project and the

city is now in negotiation

for land needed for a new

tank to be located near

Northside Baptist Church.

2.4 acres are being negoti-

ated for, Bryant said, on

which probably a new low

profile tank would be

erected for easier mainte-

council that the annexation

issue was still in process

with the city having re-

ceived a legal opinion on

what constitutes an industry,

as opposed to a business.

This distinction was neces-

sary because industries can-

not be automatically an-

nexed without their consent.

The mayor said he hoped

that the package of benefits

of being in the city limits

would convince the indus-

tries involved to choose an-

upgrade of the city's sewer

plant are being taken

through March 6 at which

time action by the council

date on remodeling efforts

at Lake Linville Boat Dock

on which Bryant said

progress was continuing.

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Bryant also gave an up-

will be required.

Bids for the repair and

nexation.

Bryant also told the

One of them involves the

the council to take action.

Pulaski County. KSBIT announced earlier this month that they will be ceasing their operations on June 30th due to a prolonged deficit. KSBIT as-

Education at \$147,588.

The total assessment for

surrounding counties are:

\$167,911 for Garrard

County, \$255,914 for Jack-

son County, \$1,118,605 for

Laurel County, \$450,801

\$1,044,199 for Madison

County and \$520,072 for

Lincoln County,

Conway woman receives million dollar settlement

By: Doug Ponder

A Conway woman recently received over a three million dollar award from a life-threatening crash that happened over two years

Angela Merritt, 43, of Conway will receive a \$3,638,888 settlement from Super Service, Incorporated after one of their drivers rear-ended Merritt at the intersection in front of the Rockcastle County High

School on January 24, 2011. Merritt was stopped at a red light at the intersection when the Super Service semi-truck plowed into her at 55 mph and pushed her car approximately 200 feet. The Super Service driver told police that he saw Merritt stopped but his brakes failed when he applied them. Authorities said the semi-truck hit Merritt's car so hard that the entire trunk ended up in the back seat of her car.

The Super Service driver was not injured but members from Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue had to extricate Merritt from her vehicle.

(Cont. to A5)

sessed current and former members who were in the insurance program between 1990 and 2011.

Assessments were based on a formula that considered each districts premium amount paid, past claims and number of years they participated in the program. Each school district will get to choose if they want to pay their bill in a lump sum or on a ten or twenty year re-

payment plan. KSBIT was originally created in 1978 to provide coverage under self-insured pools which allowed school districts to combine their resources and share the risk. The trust went on to become one of the leading insurance trusts in the state that provided low cost insurance to the state's school districts in

(Cont. to A5)

18th Annual **Kiwanis Club** radio auction starts Friday

The Rockcastle County Kiwanis Club will be hosting their 18th annual charity radio auction on Friday, March 1st from 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturday March 2nd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Items to be auctioned off include Renfro Valley tickets, sports memorabilia, oil changes, Porter paint, tools, knives, coins, healthcare products, restaurant certificates, candles, salon products, swim memberships, Longaberger baskets, home décor, photo sessions and tanning packages.

The auction will be broadcast by WRVK 1460 radio station. You can place your bid by calling 606-256-0009.

Contact us at: mvsignal@windstream.net

Integrity Mold & Die bought by French company

In what may prove to eventually be an economic shot

in the arm for Rockcastle's economy, an announcement was made recently that Integrity Mold & Die Ltd. of Mt. Vernon has been purchased by Plasdtisud SAS, a French manufacturer of injection molds that specializes in the pack-According to Dwight Looney, one of the three founders of Integrity Mold, along with Kyle Thompson and Rick McGraw, the first step for his company will be integrating

Plastisud's technology into their process. "Our goal is to expand," Looney said "and, in the long term, this will be good for Integrity and for the community.' Plastisud has more than 200 employees and annual sales exceeding \$50 million. The company specializes in tooling for closures and thin wall packaging and has a 130,000

square foot production plant, equipped with 10 injection

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RCHS teacher seriously injured in farm accident

By: Doug Ponder

A RCHS teacher was seriously injured in a farm accident last Friday after a cow knocked him down and trampled him on his farm.

Tony Saylor, 50, of Brodhead was tending to a newborn calf when the mother cow charged at him and headbutted him in the chest. The impact knocked Saylor to the ground causing the cow to trample and "wallow" him for approximately 15 yards until he came to rest under a fallen tree at the edge of the woods on his farm. Once Saylor came to rest under the tree, the cow retuned to the field with her newborn calf.

According to Saylor's wife Becky, Saylor had called her at work about thirty minutes before the accident and told her that one of their cows had calved on a hillside toward the back of their farm near the woods. Mrs. Saylor said Saylor told her that his phone's battery was about to

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RCHS graduate is prominent **MMA** fighter

By: Doug Ponder

A 2007 Rockcastle County High School graduate has become a well-known mixed martial arts fighter in Kentucky.

Harry Hunsucker, 24, of Richmond, competed last Saturday in Bowling Green against Louisville MMA fighter Jesseray Childrey for the Hard Rock MMA Heavyweight Championship.

Hunsucker ended up losing the match by submission but he still earned praise and recognition from Bluegrass MMA who said Hunsucker gave Childrey "one of the worst beatings that's ever happened in the cage."

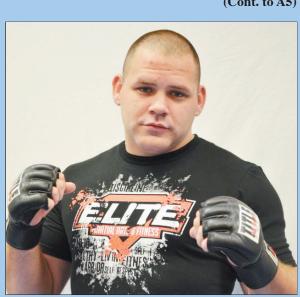
Hunsucker dominated the fight in the first round as Childrey took a bloody beating at the hands of Hunsucker. However, toward the end of the second round, Childrey was able to get Hunsucker on the ground and secure a rear-naked choke hold causing Hunsucker

to tap out. The loss dropped Hunsucker's professional MMA record to 6-2. He also has an amateur record of 2-1 be-

fore he started fighting professionally. Hunsucker began his MMA career two months after graduating from RCHS when he fought in his first match

in a competition at Russell Springs in June 2007. "I had a lot of friends doing it and I figured it was

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MMA fighter Harry Hunsucker

Of Special Note Inside

Deadline submission is Noon Tuesday

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