



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

Education at \$147,588.

The total assessment for surrounding counties are: \$167,911 for Garrard County, \$255,914 for Jackson County, \$1,118,605 for Laurel County, \$450,801 for Lincoln County, \$1,044,199 for Madison County and \$520,072 for Pulaski County.

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

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 ago.

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.

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

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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.

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 Plastisud SAS, a French manufacturer of injection molds that specializes in the packaging market.

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 presses.

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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 head-butted 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 returned 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 before 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

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