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The absolute auction of Cox Hardware attracted over 1,000 bidders last weekend. Ford Brothers owner/auctioneer Sam Ford said the auction was one of the largest auctions their company has ever operated with bidders attending from twenty Kentucky counties and four different states. The building was bought by Bill and Tracey Burdette of Mt. Vernon for \$51,000. Ford said they also have a wide variety of Case, Boker and other miscellaneous knives and knife accessories from Cox Hardware that they are currently selling online at www.fordbrothersinc.com. Pictured below is Auctioneer Jerry Ham selling items during the auction.



Cox Hardware auction attracts over 1,000 bidders last weekend

By: Doug Ponder

The absolute auction of a century old business in downtown Mt. Vernon attracted over 1,000 bidders last weekend.

Ford Brothers Auctioneer Sam Ford said the Cox Hardware auction was one of the largest auctions their company had ever operated with bidders attending from

twenty Kentucky counties and four different states.

"We had roughly 500 to 600 bidders sign up on each day of the auction last Friday and Saturday," Ford said. "When you have an auction of a century old business, it will attract people from all over the country as everyone wants to buy an item to remember

the century old store by."

The building was bought by Bill and Tracey Burdette of Mt. Vernon for \$51,000. Some other items of interest that were sold during the auction was an antique glass showcase for \$2,500, an old toy John Deere pedal tractor for \$1,250 and a steel anvil for \$800.

The pot belly coal-burning stove, which had been a common meeting place for visitors inside the store since 1913, was bought by Robert Crawford of Brodhead for \$650.

Ford said they also have a wide variety of Case, Boker and other miscellaneous knives and knife accessories from Cox Hardware that they are currently selling online at www.fordbrothersinc.com. For more information about the online auction, Ford said you can also contact the auctioneers at 606-256-4545 or 1-800-435-5454.

Ford went on to say that it was a pleasure to work the auction but that it was also bittersweet as he himself had many memories from the store over the years.

"Cox Hardware really meant a lot to everybody in the community and it's really sad to see it close," Ford said. "My dad had a charge account and he would often send me to get things for him at the store. Those are some of the most cherished memories I have of my childhood."

Former owner Martha Cox, who had worked in the store since 1976 and managed the business by herself since her husband Jim's death in 2009, decided to close the store in February after the store had been in her family for three generations since 1907.

At the time of making the decision to close the

(Cont. to A5)

Court okays road aid and LGEA plans; approves funds for park at Brodhead

At a special called meeting of the Rockcastle Fiscal Court Tuesday, the public hearing for the use of County Road Aid and LGEA funds was held. No one was present for the hearing so the budget for these two appropriations was approved.

\$1,256,644 is expected from the state for county road aid this year, up from \$1,144,015 last year and expected LGEA funding amounts to \$180,000, up from \$133,000 a year ago. Part of that increase comes

from the county being moved to a coal-producing county, instead of coal-impacted, according to County Judge/Executive Buzz Carloftis.

During the meeting, the court also approved a resolution dealing with a grant for phase 2 of City of Brodhead's new park.

Carloftis told the court that the grant would be for a total of \$40,000 but would involve \$20,000 in in-kind participation by the city. He

(Cont. to A5)

J.D. Bussell hired to replace Leon Davidson

MVES principal position filled

By: Doug Ponder

The Mt. Vernon Elementary School principal position was filled last Friday after being posted for fifty days.

J.D. Bussell, 36, of Brodhead was selected over fifteen other applicants by the Mt. Vernon Elementary School Site Based Council to replace current principal Leon Davidson, who announced his retirement after this school year. Bussell's first day will be July 1st.

After graduating from RCHS in 1994, Bussell attended ECU where he played baseball for the Colonels and received his bachelor's degree in education. He then went on to receive his master's degree and Rank 1 from Union College in Barbourville.

Bussell began his teaching career in 1998 as a science teacher at RCHS where he taught freshman science for 9 years and chemistry/earth science for 5 years. He was also the RCHS assistant football coach for 4 years and the head coach for the RCHS baseball team for 9 years.

Bussell is married to the former Gina Wilson who is a first grade teacher at Brodhead Elementary School. Together they have three daughters, Alexa 10, Ella 6 and Adeline 3.

Commenting on his appointment, Bussell said he was honored and excited when he first heard about being selected as the new principal of Mt. Vernon El-

ementary.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to be the principal at Mt. Vernon Elementary School," Bussell said. "I look forward to being a part of a team that includes such a talented group of experienced administrators and teachers."

National Day of Prayer is Thursday

The 62nd annual National Day of Prayer service will be held this Thursday at noon on the courthouse lawn.

The theme for this year's observance will be "Pray for America." The scripture passage will be from Matthew 12:21 "And in His name shall the Gentiles trust" which reminds us that "in His name, the nations will put their hope."

Guest speaker will be Kent Ostrander, Executive Director of the Family Foundation of Kentucky. Brother Luther Allen will be leading the singing and special music will be provided by Zack Rice from Cornith Baptist Church in London.

Opening remarks and prayer will be by Senator Jared Carpenter and the event will be closed in prayer by Bro. Randy McPherson.

The public is invited to spend time in prayer for our government, military, churches, schools and families.

Elderly man accused of killing sister sentenced to ten years

By: Doug Ponder

An elderly man, who was charged with murdering his sister on a Rockcastle County roadway, was sentenced in court last Friday.

Clyde White, 79, of Corbin was sentenced to ten years in prison for second degree manslaughter after entering an Alford Plea during his pre-trial in March.

Under the Alford Plea, White maintained his innocence but acknowledged there was enough evidence to convict him. It's commonly referred to as the "I'm guilty but I didn't do it plea."

According to state police reports, White was originally charged with murdering his sister, Dorothy Whitaker, 83 of Lexington in August of 2011 after he chased a van she was riding in along I-75 into Mt. Vernon. White's brother, Lawrence White, 82, of Lexington was the driver of the van that eventually wrecked on Hwy 461 in Mt. Vernon after Clyde White rammed it several times.

(Cont. to A5)

Two arrested for marijuana trafficking

By: Doug Ponder

Two people were arrested for marijuana trafficking in two separate marijuana busts this past week.

A Mt. Vernon woman was arrested for marijuana trafficking last Thursday night after police raided a home at the Ramsey Trailer Park in Mt. Vernon.

Arrested at the scene was Melinda Fay Hornsby, 59, of Mt. Vernon.

According to Mt. Vernon Police reports, Assistant Chief Barry Adams responded to Hornsby's residence at Ramsey Trailer Park, after receiving complaints of her selling marijuana from her home.

Once Adams arrived at the residence, Hornsby told him that he couldn't come inside her home and that he needed

(Cont. to A5)



467 Rockcastle Countians took advantage of the annual Free Trash and Bulk Goods Drop-Off Day at the Brodhead Fairgrounds last Saturday. The event is funded annually by the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court and PRIDE. The number was up from the 446 Rockcastle Countians who participated in the event last year. Solid Waste Coordinator James Renner said he didnt have the number of dumpster loads that were taken off by Bee Garbage at the time of publication.

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