



Mount Vernon Signal

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Landfill approved: Judge vows action

By: Richard Anderkin

On Monday, the Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet issued a permit to AMZ, Inc., which will allow owner David McFarland to build and operate a landfill on his property at Little

Clear Creek.

The state's action greatly upset Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carlottis, who issued a statement saying the county would fight the landfill to the fullest.

Carlottis said that if McFarland began construction on his landfill, he

would be considered in violation of the county's garbage ordinance and he would be cited.

"I'll instruct the Sheriff to deliver the citation to him personally and if it requires it, the county is prepared to file suit against Mr. McFarland," the judge said.

At this month's Rockcastle County Fiscal Court meeting the Judge and all five magistrates, John Holbrook, Jack Bradley, Bill McKinney, Fred Mullins, Jr., and Donald Bullock passed a resolution against the landfill. They also signed a petition along with several con-

cerned citizens, who were in attendance against the landfill.

On January 17, Rockcastle County Attorney Jeff Burdette sent McFarland a letter also stating the county's position.

"Should you attempt construction or operation of this proposed facility without approval of the fiscal court, or complying with local laws, ordinances, and permitting requirements, we will be left with no other alternative but to file suit," Burdette wrote.

"I strongly disagree with the state's blatant disregard for our county's wishes and actions to prevent the landfill on Little Clear Creek, even though the landfill will be on private property," Carlottis said.

"We, in local government, are obligated to protect the health and safety of our community's citizens," Carlottis said.

During this month's court meeting several citizens voiced their opposition to the construction of landfill.

McFarland is planning to build a landfill on his own property, at the Madison-Rockcastle County line.

He has said he would use the landfill to dispose of construction debris.

The landfill would also be located on property between McFarland's home and his brother's home.

McFarland said Wednesday that he had not decided what his next move would be, but that he was willing to set down and talk about the situation.

"I think we should have a face to face meeting and let what we can get worked out," McFarland said.

McFarland has been very open about his intent and has said that he would allow anyone who wanted to inspect the site.

He also said he would go along with any type of water monitoring and that it certainly was not his intent to harm the environment in any way.

He said that he had spent several thousands of dollars in dumping up the property at around his home in past years.

According to the state's decision, if McFarland so desires he can start construction on the landfill anytime.



Rockcastle County got the first significant snowfall of the year on Friday and Saturday when approximately four inches fell. Above, Kathy McCauley and son Jesse took advantage of the snowfall to build a snowman in their yard at Mareburg School was dismissed Monday and Tuesday, but resumed on Wednesday.



Saturday's snowfall caused havoc for 1-75 travelers, trying to make their way through Rockcastle County. Above, Glen Parker, with Town and Country Chevron, turns a truck back over on its wheels. Several accidents occurred between Mt. Vernon and Berea, but none were extremely serious.

Commissioner to visit Roundstone

Kentucky Education Commissioner Gene Whitlitt will pay a visit to Roundstone School at 11:30 a.m. on Friday.

Whitlitt will meet with Principal David Pensoil, teachers and students during his tour of the school.

Rockcastle School Superintendent Larry Hammond said that

Roundstone was chosen for the visit because of its success and because of the fact that the state considers it an impoverished school, because of the number of students on free or reduced lunch.

"The commissioner is of opinion that all schools can succeed and Roundstone had demonstrated that

very well," Hammond said.

Roundstone students have consistently scored better on the average than students in the other county schools in the past few years.

Last year students at Roundstone scored first in the state in science and seventh in reading on the state assessment.

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No injuries reported in bus accident

Rockcastle County school students returned to school on Wednesday after missing two more days

because of slick roads. But everything did not go off without a hitch.

At approximately 10:30 a.m. a bus driven by Benny Craig slid off

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The Valley Bingo Center will likely open on February 14. The Center is being co-sponsored by the Kentucky Country Music Hall of Fame, the Rockcastle County Tourism Council, the Rockcastle Little League program and the Rockcastle Youth League football program. Sessions will be held six nights a week, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Patrons must be at least 18 years old. The Center is located north of the interstate bridge at Renfro Valley.

92-year-old Wildie woman found dead

An elderly Rockcastle County woman was found dead near her home Monday evening.

Rockcastle County Coroner Bill Dowell said Ester Burdett, 92, of Wildie, apparently died from hypothermia after she left her home some time Sunday.

Dowell said that Mrs. Burdett's body was found in a field near her home, by Claude Sanders, after a caretaker realized she wasn't home when she took her supper to the house.

Dowell said that Mrs. Burdett was probably trying to walk to her sister's house, which is 2 1/2 miles in the Wildie area, and became disoriented.

Dowell said there was no foul play because the house was locked and the house key was in Mrs. Burdett's pocket.

Dowell said Mrs. Burdett showed no signs of trauma and he did not order an autopsy.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at Green Hill Cemetery.

Arrest made after shooting

On Sunday, at approximately 6:00 a.m., the Kentucky State Police at London received the report of a shooting victim at the Rockcastle County Hospital in Mt. Vernon.

Trooper Scott Miller along with

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BMV to change to Community Trust on Friday

One of the oldest ongoing businesses and the oldest financial institution in Rockcastle County, will no longer exist, after 3 p.m. on Friday.

The Bank of Mt. Vernon, which turned 400 years old in October, will become a branch of Community Trust Bank, based in Pikeville.

Community Trust purchased the Bank of Mt. Vernon in November from Premier Financial Bancorp, a company that had purchased the bank only three years earlier from Jerry Ikert.

After closing on Friday, The Bank of Mt. Vernon signs will come down and the Community Trust signs will go up.

BMV Chief Executive Officer David Jurek said that although it would be a sentimental time for many of the employees and customers, Community Trust was a bank that has a reputation for being very involved in the communities where they do business.

Jurek said that Community Trust would continue to make customer's needs their top priority and that they would bring new products and services to the county.

Jurek will remain as head of the local bank.

The Bank of Mt. Vernon was founded in September of 1900.

Editor's Note: The following is a brief history of the Bank of Mt. Vernon.

On September 2, 1900, a group of Rockcastle County men met in Jonas McKenzie's store and organized The Bank of Mt. Vernon.

The board of directors included the following: C.C. Williams, J.T. Adams, George Livesay, Jonas McKenzie, Fritz Krueger, S.H. Martin and A.E. Evans. S.H. Martin was elected as the first president and A.E. Evans was elected vice president.

The group also voted to open the bank's doors for business on October 2, 1900.

W.L. Richards and C.C. Williams were elected to buy the safe and fixtures. W.L. Richards was to buy the books and stationary. A committee of three was appointed to find and rent a suitable building for the bank to occupy. A building on Church Street was located and rented for a term of one year at \$100.00 per year.

At a later meeting held at Jonas McKenzie's store, it was decided to

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Police search for local man in Pine Hill Burr areas of Rockcastle

Police were looking for a local man Tuesday, who ran from them when they tried to serve a warrant on him.

According to police, Robert Russell, 28, is wanted for breaking parole and for outstanding warrants in Lincoln County.

When Rockcastle Sheriff Shirley Smith, Deputy Darrell Dean and parole officer Mike Coover tried to serve the warrants on Russell, he ran off.

Russell was apparently living at a mobile home in the Wart Traylor Park. Local police were assisted in the search by Pulaski County Sheriff Sam Catron, who also donated the use of his helicopter.

As of press time Russell had not been captured.



The Bank of Mt. Vernon will officially become a branch of Community Trust on Friday afternoon. Community Trust is the second largest independent banking company in the state. Community Trust purchased the Bank of Mt. Vernon in November.