



Father, son charged with murder

A former Rockcastle County resident and his son were arrested on Christmas Day and charged with murder.

According to a news release from the Kentucky State Police at London, Larry Sidham, 50, of London and his son, James Sidham, 26, of Broadhead were charged with the murder of a Clay County man on December 17th.

According to police, Steven Marcum, 37, of Goose Rock, was murdered in Clay County at a residence on Billie's Branch.

The Sidhams were arrested without incident in the Sweetwater area of the county, approximately eight miles north of Mt. Vernon. Both men were taken to the Rockcastle Detention Center and later transferred to Clay County where they are still being held on \$100,000 bonds.



Larry Sidham



James Sidham

Constable arrested

Fifth District Constable Tommy F. Bullen, 44, of Mt. Vernon, was arrested during the early morning hours Sunday, after police found cocaine, marijuana and cash at his residence.

Bullen was charged with trafficking in cocaine, a Class C felony, less than five pounds, a Class D felony, after a large quantity of suspected cocaine, marijuana and cash were found at his residence, according to police reports.

Mt. Vernon Police Officer Barry Adams conducted an investigation that led to the issuance of a search warrant through the Rockcastle County Attorney's Office. Rockcastle County Attorney Jeff Burdette has requested the sealing of the information in the search warrant while the investigation is pending.

"The investigating officer has stated to my staff that evidence obtained is significant enough to lead to other potential arrests, so the investigation will continue in cooperation with other law enforcement entities," Burdette said.

According to sources, Bullen, who was elected constable in 1999, has not been known to ever officially exercise the duties of the office, other than holding it. His bond was set at \$10,000-cash, which was made by Bullen and he was released. The matter is expected to be presented to the Rockcastle Grand Jury in February.



Constable Tommy Bullen

Happy New Year from the Signal staff

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The Rockcastle County High School Y-Club, the U.S. Marine Corp and volunteers from Northside Baptist Church were busy December 21st passing out toys and other goodies to Rockcastle County families. The Toys for Tots program served nearly 300 families this year. The event took place at the Rockcastle County High School. In the top photo is U.S. Marine-Ryan Loudermilk and Y-Club member Courtney Alexander. In the bottom photo is volunteer George Renner.

300 families served by Toys for Tots program

Local farmers to share \$425,000

Doug Smith, president of the Rockcastle Beef Association and Roy Reynolds, president of the Rockcastle Agriculture Development Council are pleased to announce that local farmers will be eligible to share in \$425,000 from the Phase I tobacco settlement funds.

Three proposals from the Kentucky Agriculture Development Board have been approved as projects local producers can apply for. They include a Forage Improvement program, Genetic Improvement program and Cattle Handling Facilities.

Applications for the Forage Improvement program will start Wednesday, January 2, 2002 and continue through Thursday, January 31, 2002. Applications will be available at Adams Feed Supply, Dabney Feed Supply, and Rockcastle Feed Supply during normal business hours.

The Forage Improvement program covers three areas: Pasture improvement, which provides reimbursement at approximately 50% for certified red clover seed, lime and fertilizer according to U.K. soils test. Limits are 20 acres or \$1,500. See the application for complete details.

Hay Improvement, which provides reimbursement at approximately 50% for certified red clover seed, lime and fertilizer according to U.K. soils test. Limits are 20 acres or \$1,500. See the application for complete details.

Alfalfa Improvement, which provides reimbursement at approximately 50% for certified alfalfa seed, lime and fertilizer according to U.K. soils test. Limits are 20 acres or \$1,500. See the application for complete details.

Forage Improvement programs or combinations can not exceed the total limit of \$1,500 of Phase I

number and FSA farm number for fields being seeded. Farmers applying will be notified of approval following the February 5, 2002 work session.

The Genetic Improvement program will allow beef and dairy producers to purchase superior EPD bulls or semen. Applications will be available January 15 through February 15, 2002. All applicants will be required to attend a 2-hour producer meeting on EPD's prior to approval. Cost-share will be approximately 50% up to \$1,250 Phase I money. See application for complete details.

The Cattle Handling Facilities program will assist producers in

improving their herd health program. This includes head gates, alley ways, crowding pens, etc. Cost share will be at 2 levels with both being approximately 50% reimbursement.

At the first level, producers are required to become Beef Quality Assurance certified by attending a two hour producers meeting. This qualifies for the \$1,000 level. Producers who complete Beef Quality Assurance, plus market a group of CAP-45 calves, will qualify for the \$2,500 level. See application for complete details.

The Kentucky Agriculture Development Board has limited any one producer to \$5,000 in cost-share payments.

Rockcastle awarded federal funds

Rockcastle County has been chosen to receive \$9,019.00 to supplement food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, United Jewish Communities, Catholic Charities USA, and National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; and United Way of America which will provide the administrative staff and function as fiscal agent. The Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A local Board made up of the Rockcastle County Judge Executive Bizzz Carlottis, local Community Action Agency, etc., will determine how the funds awarded to Rockcastle County are to be distributed among

the emergency food and shelter programs run by the local service organizations in the area. The local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds available under this phase of the program.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local organizations chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary nonprofit or units of government; 2) have an accounting system; 3) practice nondiscrimination; 4) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs; and 5) if they are a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying organizations are urged to apply.

Rockcastle County has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with Daniel Boone Development Council. This agency was responsible for providing 630 nights

(Cont. to A7)

Renner files for Mt. Vernon Mayor, Sam Stallsworth files for Sheriff

By: Richard Anderkin

Filings for county offices in the upcoming May Primary continue this week.

Rockcastle County school board member Sam Stallsworth, 49, of Livingston has filed for the Republican nomination for Sheriff.

Stallsworth, who has been Chief of Livingston fire department for the last eight years and a member of that department for the last 18, has served on the school board for the past three years.

Mt. Vernon council member Jackie Renner, 49, has also filed for the office of Mayor in next fall's general election.

Renner has served on the city council for four terms and served a vice-mayor for two terms.

"I am running for Mayor of Mt. Vernon with a forward look; while mindful of our rich heritage," Renner said in a written release.

"I hope to serve as a Mayor the city can be proud of, as I hold the office with dignity," he said.

Also filing this week were Randy Stewart, 42, of Orlando for district five magistrate.

Former Livingston police officer Billy M. Hammons, 67, of Otawa has filed for Sheriff. Hammons has sought the office before, but was unsuccessful.

Billy Mullins, 51, Mt. Vernon has filed for fifth district magistrate.

The second Democrat to file for office is Larry Newcomb, 34, of Brindle Ridge. He is seeking the Democrat nomination for magistrate in the first district.

Newcomb and incumbent first magistrate John Holbrook are the only two Democrats to file this far.

Other hopeful candidates to file so far are:

Mt. Vernon council member Claise Kirby, who will also run for Mayor.

Those wishing to run for city offices have until August 13. All city races are nonpartisan.

Other candidates to file so far are:

Well known businessman Howard Saylor for County Judge, incumbent Sheriff Shirley Smith, Wayne Lear, Sr. for Sheriff, former Deputy Darrell Dean for Sheriff and John H. Kemper for Sheriff.

Also filing previously are incumbent district two magistrate Jack Bradley and William Depney. As for these magistrates Bill McKelvey is the only one to file as of date. He is an incumbent. In District four, incumbent district two magistrate Jack Bradley and William Depney.

Waddle dies

The first person ever to sue the state of Kentucky in an effort to make solid waste collection mandatory has died.

Jerry Waddle, 57, of Livingston died Monday.

Waddle was the first person in the state to bring suit against Kentucky Governor Paul Patton and the Cabinet for Natural Resources for failure to enforce state laws against illegal dumps.

"Jerry was a very good friend to the public," said Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carlottis. Waddle also was the person who started the Rockcastle River Rebirth, which has been instrumental on the local level in bringing attention to cleaning the Rockcastle River and its tributaries of illegal dumps.

He was also founding member of the Kentucky Waterways Alliance, which has had thousands of volunteers.

(Cont. to A7)

Brodhead man indicted in connection with possible scam

A Rockcastle County man was among 51 indicted recently in federal court in Florida.

Michael Berry, 47, of Brodhead is charged with participating in a \$20 million dollar scam against McDonald's Restaurant.

Originally 21 people were indicted

in September for the theft and distribution of the high-value game pieces from McDonald's promotional games such as Monopoly and Who Wants to Be a Millionaire.

It was reported that Berry won a ski boat and \$100,000 in cash in one of McDonald's promotions.

The filing deadline for all county offices is January 29. Those filings must take place in the county clerk's office.



Jackie Renner has filed for Mayor of Mt. Vernon.



Sam Stallsworth has filed for Sheriff.

Livingston man charged with rape

A Livingston man was arrested December 21st and charged with rape. Jeff Howard, 34, is accused of raping the daughter of his ex-wife, according to Rockcastle County Attorney Jeff Burdette.

Burdette said that he issued the warrant for Howard's arrest after the 18-year-old was treated at the Rockcastle Hospital.

Howard is being held in the Rockcastle County Detention Center under a \$25,000 cash bond.

Kentucky State Police Detective Gary Lane is investigating the case.

Howard will appear for a preliminary hearing on January 7th.

Editors Note: The Signal does not identify possible victims of sex crimes.



Jeff Howard