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An elderly Michigan couple died instantly in a single vehicle wreck last week.

Buzz Carloftis, Billy Kirby file for election

By: Richard Anderkin

Filings for May's primary election continue this week with at least five more candidates throwing their hats into the political ring.

Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carloftis filed on Tuesday seeking his third term.

Carloftis, 50, of Livingston, is a Republican and so far his only opponent is Howard Saylor.

"I have felt humbled and honored to have had Rockcastle County's citizens place so much confidence and trust in me while I have been their County Judge-Executive. I am very proud of what we have accomplished, and know that we have a lot more work to get done. During my tenure in office, Rockcastle County has had the largest amount of grant funds (gifts) ever awarded to Rockcastle County in its history, a total of $5.8 million have come to Rockcastle County for projects ranging from jail construction to new bridges, the largest amount of blacktop for roads ever laid in Rockcastle County," the Judge said in a news release.

"Other projects include PRIDE clean-up, a new technology center and many other projects. This does not include the millions of dollars for new water lines that have been laid or funds set aside in Frankfort for future use by our county," he said.

"As a Republican, I am proud that I have been able to work so closely with other local, state and federal officials to get these things done. I have always placed the benefit of Rockcastle County first and, with the people's continued support, I dedicate myself to do a lot more work for them," he said.

The other most notable filing this week was that of former Rockcastle County Jailer Billy Kirby.

Kirby, 71, of Freedom School Road, served as Jailer for three terms, the first one '76 to '80 and the other two from '84 to '92.

Kirby has also served as Sheriff one term and Deputy Sheriff one term.

Kirby said that he is very proud of the fact that when he left the Jailer's office he had an excess of $250,000 in the Jail fund and that he had managed to pay for several improvements

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County-Judge Executive Buzz Carloftis has filed for re-election.

Former Jailer Billy Kirby is seeking that office again.

14 indictments returned by Grand Jury

14 indictments were returned after a recent session of the Rockcastle County Grand Jury, with five of the indictments being brought against Wally Junie Kirby of Rt. 5, Mt. Vernon.

Kirby, along with John L. Dooley, also of Rt. 5, and Dwayne S. Blair of the Old Chestnut Ridge Road, were all indicted for the manufacture of methamphetamine. Kirby and Blair were charged with complicity to manufacture methamphetamine by "knowingly and unlawfully aiding or counseling Dooley in planning or committing the offense of manufacturing of methamphetamine" and, another count in that indictment, charged Kirby with persistent felony offender, second degree.

Kirby was also charged, along with Juanita Arlene Watkins of Castle Village Drive, of the offense of manufacture of methamphetamine, first offense. Another charge of persistent felony offender was also lodged against Kirby.

Comprising the third indictment against Kirby are trafficking in controlled substance, first degree; possession of a controlled substance, third degree; fleeing and evading police, first degree and reckless driving. A fourth indictment charges that on about September 14, 2001 Kirby committed the offense of complicity to manufacture methamphetamine and a persistent felony charge was also a part of that count and the fifth indictment.

John Curtis York and Phillip C. Falin, both of Mt. Vernon, were indicted on a charge of burglary, second degree; Timothy L. Saylor was indicted for arson, second degree; Jeremy Holt was indicted for escape, second degree and on a persistent felony charge; Tommy Dooley was charged in an indictment with the offense of criminal possession of a forged instrument, second degree.

Juanita McCormick was charged

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Second phase of low income heating program underway

The Daniel Boone Development Council is again administering the Home Energy Assistance Program for low income families, according to Mrs. Nancy Meadows.

The crisis component started Monday and will continue until March 15 or until funds are expended.

To meet the definition of a crisis, a past due balance or disconnect notice is necessary if electricity is the heat source, according to Mrs. Meadows.

Less than a four day supply is necessary for all other fuel sources.

Income eligibility remains the same.

During the Subsidy program in November and December, 948 families were served by the program and Meadows expects about 1,000 families to be served by the Crisis program.

Over $200,000 will have been spent through the Energy Assistance Progam when it is complete.

The money comes from the federal government.

Daniel Boone is located on Main Street in Mt. Vernon. For additional information call 256-5315.

Michigan couple killed in wreck

Last Wednesday, an elderly Michigan couple was killed in a single vehicle accident on Interstate 75.

The accident occurred just north of the Rockcastle River bridge, around 4:00 p.m.

According to a report filed by State Trooper Coby Smith, the driver of the vehicle, 81-year-old Richard Moore lost control of the 1999 Ford Explorer as he drove North on the interstate.

The Explorer crossed the median, both southbound lanes and traveled over a 35 foot embankment where it struck bottom of the ravine.

Rockcastle County Coroner Bill Dowell pronounced both victims dead at the scene.

Members of the Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue Squad assisted at the scene.

Richard Moore and his 76-year-old wife, Maggie were traveling home to Detroit, Michigan.

Livingston man freed on bond

A Livingston man who was arrested on December 21st and charged with rape was released on bond Monday.

Rockcastle District Judge Mike Henry ruled that there was enough evidence to present the case against Jeff Howard, 34, to the Grand Jury, after he heard testimony from Kentucky State Police Detective Gary Lane.

Howard's attorney, Jerry Fish, asked that the bond be reduced from $25,000 to $2,500.

County Attorney Jeff Burdette said he asked that the bond stay the same because of the seriousness of the crime.

The case will likely be presented to the Grand Jury in February.

2001 will be year to remember

By: Richard Anderkin

The biggest news of the year in Rockcastle County probably did not even happen in Rockcastle County - but it impacted most every resident.

On September 11th, thousands of innocent Americans were killed in terrorist attacks in New York and Washington D.C.

Citizens all across the nation watched in virtual horror as a country was changed forever in a couple of hours.

The attacks eventually led to a war halfway around the world in Afghanistan. It also made citizens realize that some sacrifices would have to be made to ensure our freedoms and security.

There were several numerous stories in Rockcastle, some good, many bad.

The year started off on a tragic note when a Flat Gap man, Johnny Baker, 70, died in a collision on U.S. 25.

David Lovell, of Burr, pleaded guilty to the 1997 murder of Charles "Toddy" Baker and the Rockcastle County Fiscal Court accepted a construction bid on the Kentucky Country Music Hall of Fame at Renfro Valley for $1.7 million dollars.

The Hall is nearing completion.

A controversy over a proposed one acre landfill began early in the year, after a Berea contractor made application to the state.

The Rockcastle Fiscal Court and contractor David McFarland finally reached an agreement and the landfill was not constructed.

The posting of the Ten Commandments was also in the news early in the year when a Laurel County man asked the Rockcastle School Board to place them in schools, as historical documents.

The Ten Commandments were never posted.

The Rockcastle County Extension Seivice moved into a new building on West Main Street in Mt. Vernon and the Rockcastle County Road Department got a little egg on their face when they ran out of salt for county roads. It was sometime before a shipment was received.

Kentucky Education Commissioner Gene Wilhoit toured Roundstone Elementary School because of their outstanding grades and the Bank of Mt. Vernon was sold to Community Trust.

The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court won a major decision in Circuit Court concerning a condemnation suit over the Oscar Isaacs Road in northern Rockcastle County.

The court sued several landowners in order to obtain more right-of-

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Local man charged

A Rockcastle County man accused of shooting another local man in the neck, was released on bond Wednesday, after he turned himself in to the Rockcastle Sheriff's office.

James Clyde Payne, 36, of Mt. Vernon, is accused of shooting Curtis Todd, 27, of Brodhead, once in the neck.

According to a news release from the Kentucky State Police, the shooting occurred after an argument between the two men around 11 p.m.

Todd was shot with a handgun.

Todd was taken to the Rockcastle Hospital for treatment and later transferred to the UK Medical Center where he remained in serious condition on Monday.

Rockcastle residents gathered on the courthouse steps for a Prayer Service, shortly after the September 11th terrorist attacks.

Rockcastle County got its first snowfall of the season Saturday and Monday with just over three inches of the white stuff being recorded at the Cox Funeral Home Weather Station. Above, Anthony, Kenny and Casey Hansel built a snowman in their yard on Sunday afternoon. The low temperature this winter has been ten degrees, which was recorded on January 2nd and the recorded high in January has been 44 degrees, which was recorded on January 5th. Rockcastle students missed the first three days of school this week, but returned to school on Thursday.