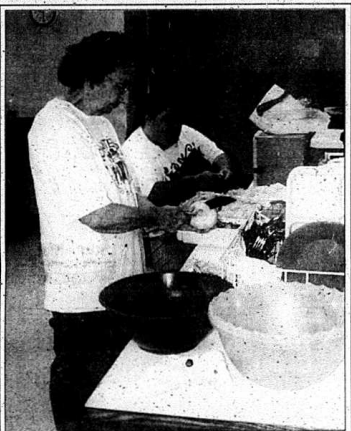




A large group of citizens pitched in to pick up bags of litter



Dell Ponder, of Livingston, led the pack in picking up the trash on US 25 to the interstate.



Rockcastle County Senior Citizen volunteers Eleanor West and Pearl Akorn help prepare lunch for the folks who cleaned up.



Magistrate John Holbrook gets "down and dirty" in doing his part in the clean-up effort.

Clean the Rock gets underway

Never doubt the power of a group of community-minded citizens on a mission to make their community a better place to live. On Saturday, a large group of concerned citizens of all ages gave up their day to join hands with one another to pick up bags of litter that had been carelessly tossed out of cars and onto one of our roadways leading into Mt. Vernon. These folks realize that if we are to attract industries and jobs into our county, we will have to make our area more presentable to those prospective industries. They realize, as we all do, that we can no longer continue to use our roadways as dumping grounds if we are to instill pride in our children for their community and if we are to attract tourists who will see the real beauty of our area.

Any clean-up and beautification efforts takes a lot of folks to be successful and this first effort was not short on volunteers and donations. *Woodmen of the World* Lodges #88 & #901 joined with the *Rockcastle County Task Force for Clean-up and Beautification* to sponsor this Saturday in June. The Task Force with the help of Community Trust Bank of Mt. Vernon and Citizens Bank supplied bright yellow t-shirts with the "Clean the Rock and Keep it Clean" logo and bright orange trash bags for hauling the trash away.

The group met at the Senior Citizens building and was treated to lunch with food and supplies donated by Kukit Mart, FoodWorld, Save-A-Lot, Peg's Food Mart, Mt. Vernon Scrap, Hilltop Market, Main Street Flowers and Gifts, Marlene Lawson, Cox Hardware, Lake Linville Boat Dock, Heritage Crafts, Country Sams, all of Mt. Vernon and Kerns Bakery and Vendors Mall of London, and Wal-Mart of Berea. Also a special thanks goes to Sandra Bullock for all her work and organization efforts in making this a success.

If you missed this opportunity to take part in a worthwhile community service, you will have the opportunity to join a group in July to clean another visible corridor coming into Mt. Vernon. This is a good way to give back to your community and to teach your children that the community belongs to all of us and it is our responsibility to keep it clean. They will learn by our example.

The Rockcastle Task Force is asking the churches in the county to sponsor the July clean-up. Get involved - you will be glad you did.

"Election"

(Cont. from Front)

Locally, five people have already filed for the Mayor's position in Mt. Vernon.

They are current Mayor Karen King, council members Charles Kirby and Jackie Renner, respiratory patient Jody Adams and Doug Bullock, the most recent to file.

Bullock is 47 and he and his wife, Jean, have three children. Jean is also the twin sister of Sheriff-Elect Darrell Doan.

"I believe everyone in the city deserves good paved streets along with a state of the art water and sewer service," he said.

"I have installed a lot of the water sewer lines in the area and I helped build the sewer treatment plant," he added.

"Some of my best qualities are the way I get along with everyone and I really like living in Mt. Vernon," he added.

The only person to file for city council in Mt. Vernon is Matt Bryant, a former police officer.

No one has filed for school board in division one and three. Sam Stallsworth is the incumbent in division one and Dr. G.W. Griffith, who is the current board chairman, is the incumbent in division three. Division one is comprised of East and West Livingston and South Mt. Vernon.

Division three is made up of the precincts: North Mt. Vernon, West Mt. Vernon and Bullock.

To run for Mayor you must be 25-years-old, a resident of the city for a year, have two signatures from voters inside the city and pay a \$20.00 fee.

The same is true of city council hopefuls, but they must be only 21 years of age.

School board candidates must be 24-years-old and lived in Kentucky for the past three years. They must also have a high school diploma or G.E.D.

To run a candidate must have 20 signatures from voters in his or her division and pay a fee of \$20.00.

The deadline to register for all city and school board offices is August 13th.

Rockcastle Countians can register to vote or change their party affiliation until October 8th.

One thing that might make the City of Mt. Vernon's mayoral race a little more interesting this year is the fact that the job now pays \$3,000 per month. The benefits include health insurance and state retirement.

No candidates have filed in Broadhead nor Livingston or for school board as of yet.

"Survivor"

(Cont. from Front)

entire stomach along with a part of her pancreas and diaphragm.

It was a miracle! After extensive surgery, numerous complications and a 42 day hospital confinement, Oma survived, but the lifestyle she had known was ended. Her diet and physical activity, and health were forever changed.

Oma had just begun to accept her unfortunate fate, when again, she became ill. For the second time, she was diagnosed with cancer, the silent killer. Oma was relentless. She fought with all her might, and again... she survived.

Almost 15 years have passed since her first diagnosis of cancer. By the grace of God, wonderful doctors and

love of family and friends, Oma has lived to see two additional grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. She is a survivor!

After all Oma had been through, she lost her husband to cancer in 1999.

The Relay for Life event will be held at the Rockcastle County Middle School football field on Friday, August 2, from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. It is an overnight fundraising event filled with activities, entertainment, food and community spirit. Relay for Life was originally created as an overnight event in 1985 to represent the fact that cancer never sleeps. A cancer patient endures months and sometimes years of treatment and life changing issues. Staying overnight at the Relay for Life is one small way that we symbolize and support the struggles of cancer patients and their families.

If you would like more information about the event or how to form a team then you may contact any of the following people: Kelly McClure at 256-4122, Danielle Smith at 256-3807, Tom & Darlene Laney at 878-9412, Darlene Mink at 758-0900, Jill Ponder at 256-3615 or Cynthia Rogers at 679-3287.

In next week's Relay for Life article more information will be given on how you can honor a loved one by purchasing a luminary for this year's event. A date and time will also be given for the next meeting.

The theme for the event will be Rockin' Relay. If you would provide entertainment, such as bands or individual singers, at the August 2nd event then please call Sandra Bullock 758-8038, Robin Ramsey 256-0088 or Mary Ann McNew 256-4046. You may also contact these ladies if you are a survivor of cancer.

Main St. meeting held

Downtown professionals from across the state gathered in Versailles and Midway as a part of the Kentucky Main Street Program's quarterly meeting on June 10, 11 and 12. Topics covered in the three-day session included basic skills for working with web based services and PowerPoint presentation development, working with farmers' markets, and extensive networking sessions. Attendees included Main Street Program Managers, city officials and downtown merchants. Carol Bryant attended the three day session representing the downtown revitalization efforts of Mt. Vernon and was given resources covering numerous aspects of downtown revitalizations as well as provided a detailed session workbook.

The Kentucky Main Street Program is the nation's oldest statewide Main Street effort and represents over 22 years of downtown revitalization efforts through historic preservation and economic development. The Kentucky Heritage Council houses the Main Street Program in its offices and follows the four-point approach developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the mid-1970s. The efforts in Kentucky mirror what is taking place in 48 states and over 1,500 communities across the country.

For more information about the Kentucky Main Street Program call (502)564-7005 or visit the Kentucky Heritage Council's web site at <http://www.kyheritage.org> or contact Carol Bryant at (606)256-5246.

MVHS Reunion September 14th

The Mt. Vernon School Reunion Banquet will be held on Saturday, September 14th, at the Rockcastle County Middle School. Registration will start at 4:30 p.m. with dinner being served at 6:00 p.m.

The honored classes for this year will be the Classes of 1952 and 1969. The Alumni Association needs any information you might have on anyone, who would have been in these classes.

Please contact Carol J. Riddle at (606)735-8150 or P.O. Box 67, Broadhead, KY 40409.

The next two Alumni Association Committee meetings will be July 25th at 5:30 p.m. at the home of Albert and Eva Griffin, 305 West Main St., Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 (256-2365) and July 31st at 1:30 p.m. at Rockcastle County Middle School.

Anyone interested, please attend. Especially needed are people from the Classes of 1952 and 1969.

Police asking for help

Police are looking for a man who fled from them after they tried to stop him for reckless driving.

According to Livingston police officer William Harris, he received a report of a possible drunk driver around 1 p.m. last Saturday in the Livingston area.

According to Harris' report, he encountered a green Ford Explorer on the bridge at Livingston and attempted to stop the vehicle, which turned onto Hwy. 490 at a high rate of speed.

Harris' report said the Explorer then turned at Lamore and ran into the ditch, but kept going.

The Explorer then got on Hwy. 1955 before turning off on an unmarked gravel road.

Harris' report said that the Explorer encountered several vehicles, including some 4-wheelers and was causing a very dangerous situation, when the pursuit ended.

Harris said that the driver had been identified and the case would be presented to the Rockcastle Grand Jury.

Officer Harris was assisted by Kentucky State Trooper Coby Smith.

Anyone with any information should contact the Sheriff's office at (606) 256-2032 or 256-1327.

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Matt Stamper, Brian Gilbert and James Stacy work to make a difference in collecting the litter that covers and hides the beauty of our area.