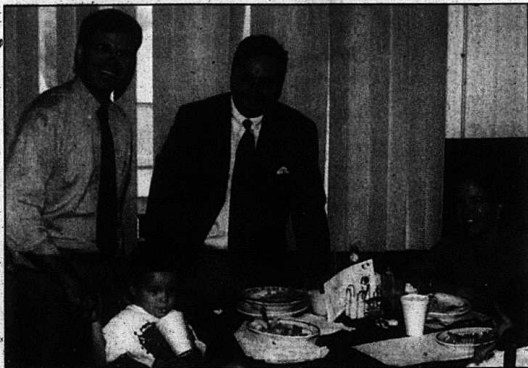




Mount Vernon Signal

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Republican U.S. Congressman Ernie Fletcher of Lexington was in Rockcastle County on Monday talking to people about a possible run for Kentucky Governor. In the top photo, Fletcher shakes hands with Thomas Burdette. His dad, County Attorney Jeff Burdette, his mom Twila and his sister Zoe look on. In the bottom photo, young Republicans Heather Richards, Brittany Asher, Amanda Cummins, Dustin Albright and Travis Burton pose for a picture with Fletcher.

Two school board races this Fall Eight file for Mayor in city of Mt. Vernon

By: Richard Anderkin
Maybe people are being more civic minded or maybe it is the fact that the next Mayor of Mt. Vernon will make \$3,000 a month, have a family health insurance plan and a retirement plan with the state. Whatever the reason, eight people have filed for Mayor in the City of Mt. Vernon. This fall, incumbent Mayor Karen King will face possibly seven

challengers (she likely will not). One candidate, who filed this week, is only 23 years old and state law requires that a Mayor of a fifth class city, which Mt. Vernon is, must be at least 25 years old to run. Timothy Kirby, of Barnett Trailer Court, filed his papers in County Clerk Norma Houk's office and Mrs. Houk said she must accept them according to state law until the matter is looked into.

Former council member Lou Vanhook, former Mt. Vernon police officer Matt Bryant who is an associate Pastor at Faith Harvest Fellowship, current council members Clark "Joe" Mullins, Lonetta Daugherty and Wayne Bullock have all filed for council.

Also filing for Mt. Vernon city council were: Daniel Boone Development Director Betty Carter Russell, Shelley Raines Lewis, a social worker with the state of Kentucky, Don Jones, a rural mail carrier and local volunteer fireman Bryan Hansel and Steve Renfro. Hansel works at Dowell and Martin Funeral Home and Renfro works at Jack's S&T.

Barbara Bennett, who is a former businesswoman in Rockcastle County and whose son-in-law, Barry Adams is a police officer, has also filed for city council.

All total, eleven people will seek six seats on the council.

Donna Hasty, 34, of Sand Springs, who is currently studying to be a Respiratory Therapist and incumbent board member Sam Stallsworth of Livingston, will face off in the division one school board race. Division one is composed of East Livingston, West Livingston and South Mt. Vernon.

Steve Owens, 55, of Mareburg, and local pharmacist Tina Cain Hasty, 43, will square off in the division three school board race. One of the two will replace board chairman, Dr. G.W. Griffith, who did not seek re-election. He served on the board for ten years.

Division three is composed of the precincts North Mt. Vernon, West Mt. Vernon and Bullock.

There will also be two magistrate races and a constable's race this fall. Two term third district incumbent Republican Billy McKinney faces

Fletcher meets with local people

At the urging of citizens and leaders throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Congressman Ernie Fletcher (R-KY-6th) launched an Exploratory Committee for Governor and kicked off a statewide tour early June at the State Capitol in Frankfort. Fletcher was in Rockcastle County on Monday.

"I am looking forward to traveling across the Commonwealth of Kentucky," said Fletcher. "I believe it's important to get out and meet with folks and to listen to their concerns. This tour is about the overall well-being of every citizen, from every walk of life throughout our great state."

During his exploratory announcement tour, Congressman Fletcher was focused on a variety of issues including education, poverty, positive economic development, healthcare, technology, a cleaner environment and supporting family farms.

He spoke about those issues at the Rockcastle Republican meeting which was held at the Kastle Inn in Mt. Vernon.

Local businessman Doug Bullock, local businesswoman Rebekah Hammond, who is the wife of Rockcastle County Superintendent Larry Hammond, have all filed as well.

Another local businessman, Kevin Fletcher and a patient at the Rockcastle Hospital, Jody Adams, have also filed for Mayor.

In Broadhead there will be no races, since all four current council members, Curt Brown, Johnny Wilcox, Larry Taylor and Everett Albright have no opposition. Broadhead Mayor Walter Cash is also unopposed.

In Livingston, current Mayor Curt McFarlane, faces competition from J.C. Raymond Griffin and only three have filed for council.

They are Todd Mink, Katha Carpenter and Jason Medley.

Local realtor and businessman, Republican State Representative Danny Ford of Mt. Vernon, who has served in the Kentucky House for twenty years, is facing Democratic opposition from Stanford attorney J. Paul Long, who is also a former-council attorney in Lincoln.

Rockcastle's new State Senator, Democrat Ed Worley of Richmond, is facing opposition from Republican Barry Metcalf, a former State Senator himself.

(Cont. to A-11)

Local Fiscal Court agrees to KACO loan, sets tax rates

By: Richard Anderkin
The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court had a busy day on Tuesday, setting tax rates, accepting money

from the state and agreeing to borrow money for the Broadhead Rural Fire Department. Broadhead Rural fire chief Johnny

Denney met with the fiscal court and requested that they borrow \$35,000 from the Kentucky Association of Counties so they could finish paying for a building they bought in the Quail area several weeks ago.

The building, which has been used for a transmission business as of late, is the same location where Robbin's Muffler Shop was located for several years.

The Broadhead Rural Fire Department will use the building as a substation, where a truck and equipment

(Cont. to A-11)

After driving truck into store front Brodhead man arrested in Stanford

A Brodhead man suspected of cocaine use plowed his truck into a front window at Owens Furniture on East Main Street in Stanford, breaking giant panes of glass and landing himself in the hospital.

Larry Thompson, Jr., 22, was hospitalized not for injuries received in the accident but to ease him down from the drugs he had taken, according to Stanford Police Det. Rick Edwards.

Edwards said Thompson's pickup truck was still running when police arrived at Owens Furniture Thursday after being called about the wreck.

Thompson was conscious and lying on the floorboard of the truck, but could give police no information on how the accident occurred.

"He didn't know a thing," Edwards said. "We never could get anything out of him."

Edwards estimated that Thompson was traveling 10 to 15 mph when he hit the glass front of Owens Furniture.

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(Cont. to A-11)

In division three

Tina Cain Hasty files for board

Tina Hasty, 43, of Brindle Ridge, announced her candidacy for the third division school board seat. Hasty is the clinical pharmacist at Rockcastle Hospital and the consulting pharmacist at Rockcastle Health and Rehabilitation Center.

She was the pharmacy manager at Rite Aid from 1992 to 1999 and was the owner of the Mt. Vernon Drive-Thru Pharmacy from 1985 to 1992.

A 1977 graduate of Rockcastle County High School, she holds both a Bachelor of Science and a Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Kentucky.

She is married to Jerry Hasty and they have one son, Garrett. She is the daughter of Lloyd and Betty Cain of Mt. Vernon. She is a member of the First Baptist Church of Mt. Vernon and has been active in several community organizations and committees through the years, currently serving as treasurer of the Broadhead PTA.

Hasty said that she feels education is paramount in the future of the

children and the community, and would like to participate in ensuring the best possible education for the children of Rockcastle County.



Tina Hasty filed for School Board District 3



A Wisconsin couple escaped serious injury on Tuesday after the Explorer they were driving went out of control on I-75. According to officials, the couple was pushing a trailer, which apparently started fishtailing and caused the Explorer to leave the roadway and overturn.

Hot, dry

If you are trying to grow a crop or just keep your flower garden looking good, you know how dry it has been in Rockcastle County lately.

According to local weatherman Bud Cox, the county has had only a trace of rain in the past eighteen days and the temperature at times has been extremely high.

The high for August so far has been 95 on two different days and the

(Cont. to A-11)