



Mount Vernon Signal

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Civic leader Lee Keene dead at 70

Was Rockcastle Hospital
Administrator for 13 years

Former Rockcastle Hospital Administrator and Mt. Vernon City Council member Lee Keene died Wednesday at a Knoxville hospital. Mr. Keene was 70.

Family members said he suffered a stroke on Sunday morning shortly before leaving for church and that on Monday he suffered a brain hemorrhage.

Mr. Keene was hospital administrator for 13 years and member of the Mt. Vernon City Council for seven years.

Mr. Keene was instrumental in expanding the local hospital and he was also a personal friend of Kentucky Governor Paul Patton.

Keene used his influence with Patton to help get several projects done in the county and several local officials had only good things to say about him this week.

Rockcastle County Attorney Jeff Burdette, who is also general counsel for the local hospital, said Wednesday that Mr. Keene was a "leading proponent of growth in our county, with goodwill always on his mind."

"His positive impact has gone far beyond what he accomplished at the hospital," Burdette said.

Rockcastle County Judge-Execu-



Former Rockcastle Hospital Administrator Lee Keene died in Knoxville on Wednesday.

tive Buzz Carlolitis called Keene a forthright, candid person who had Rockcastle County's best interest at heart. "He was a great asset to this county when he moved here to take over the operation of the hospital," Carlolitis said.

"I feel like the city of Mt. Vernon, Rockcastle County and the state of Kentucky has lost a true public servant," Mt. Vernon Mayor Karen King said.

Mr. Keene, who is survived by his wife Patricia, a son Lee Douglas, Jr. and a daughter Barbara Sue Taylor, will be at Lynhurst Funeral Home in Knoxville, TN.

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2002 Rockcastle County High School graduate Angie Boring was the recipient of the Calvin Rader Scholarship in the amount of \$750. The annual Scholarship is presented to a RCJHS senior each year in memory of Rader, who coached Little League in the county for 22 years and was well-known throughout the county. Rader died in an automobile accident in August of 2000. Family members are attempting to make the annual scholarship \$1,000 a year. A selection committee awards the scholarship, based mainly on an essay that must be submitted to the counselor's office at RCJHS. Anyone wishing to donate to the scholarship can contact Donna McClure at Community Trust Bank or call (606) 256-5141.



Engineers were busy on Monday core drilling around the intake valve at Lake Linville. Apparently, the valve, which has been in place since the lake was built in the 1960's has cracked and is not putting enough water into the water plant.



Because of the amount of water the City of Mt. Vernon pumps each day, they will soon consider a project that would dredge the lake in certain areas, including the area shown above. The city pumps 1.5 million gallons of water a day and is the county's main supplier of bulk water. Although the city recently completed a \$5.4 million renovation of the water plant, there is still not enough water going into the plant, to guarantee that the plant can meet their demands.

Boone Cromer Road residents may get water

The Rockcastle County Water Association is attempting to provide more water to rural homes in the Sand Springs area of the county.

The association announced this week that they hope residents along

the Boone Cromer Road will participate in a project that could provide water along the road.

Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carlolitis said the county

was willing to dig the water line along the road at no cost to Rockcastle, which would allow them to install the water lines.

Rockcastle, which now serves 565 homes in the county, is asking residents along the road to pay a \$517 meter service fee, which would help in the cost of the project.

Deadline to sign-up for the project is October 31st.

For more information contact

Rockcastle Water Association at (606) 256-5480.

Local man sentenced

On Monday, September 30, Joseph W. Hutchens, 26, of McKee, was sentenced to twelve months in the Rockcastle Detention Center. Hutchens pled guilty to Criminal Trespassing, first degree, a class A misdemeanor. Twelve months is the maximum sentence upon a conviction for Trespass First Degree.

Hutchens was arrested by KSP

Trooper Lefe Owens on September 13, after he was notified that someone was in a house that belonged to Paul McNew, on Mayapple Road near Conway. A neighbor who knew that McNew only used the residence on the weekends, noticed lights on, and a person moving about in the house. Upon arrival, Trooper Owens

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Monday last day to register for fall election

By: Richard Anderkin

Rockcastle County voters have until Monday to register for the fall election.

Voters can also change parties until that date. All changes and registrations must be made in Rockcastle County Clerk Norma Houk's office by 4 p.m. on the 7th.

Those needing to vote by absentee ballot can pickup applications until October 29th. Absentee ballots must be returned to the clerk's office by 3 p.m. on the day of the election. Disability, age and employment out of the county are legitimate reasons to vote by absentee ballots, according to Mrs. Houk.

There will also be a voting machine set up in the clerk's office beginning on October 21st for those unable to vote on election day.

This fall, incumbent Mayor Karen King will face six challengers.

One candidate, who filed was 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, has since withdrawn.

Other candidates are council members Clarice Kirby and Jackie Renner.

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

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

In Brodhead there will be no races, since all four current council members, Curt Brown, Johnny Wilcox, Larry Taylor and Everett Albright have no opposition.

Brodhead Mayor Walter Cash is also unopposed.

In Livingston, current Mayor Curt McHargue, 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 opponent 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 Busell, Shelley Raines Lewis, a social worker with the state of Kentucky, Don Jones, a rural mail carrier and local volunteer Iremen Brian 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 Hastly, 34, of Sand Springs, who is currently studying to be a Respiratory Therapist and incumbent board member Sam Stallsforth 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 Hastly, 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

(Cont. to A-9)



Mt. Vernon Mayor Karen King, left, met with Kentucky's Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Tom Bennett, last Thursday to discuss several projects in the county, including the need for an alternative water source for the city of Mt. Vernon, which provides the bulk of the water supply throughout the county.



Mt. Vernon fire chief Garry Hansel stands in front of the city's new fire truck, which the council voted to buy on Monday night. The truck will cost the city and fire department \$64,000 and will replace a 1979 model, which the county is considering buying for the Brodhead Rural Fire Department.