



Mount Vernon Signal

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A Letchfield truck driver lost control of his log truck Monday morning on Hwy. 150, at the junction of Hwy. 70, after a car stopped in front of him to turn onto Hwy. 70. The truck driver said that when he took the shoulder, to avoid hitting the car, the mud pulled his truck into the guardrail and caused him to overturn. Luckily no one was injured, but it took several hours to clean-up the accident scene. Above, Mt. Vernon firefighter Brian Hansel surveys the damage.

Former officer charged after police search property

Federal drug agents swept through Brodhead and Stanford last week rounding up eight people, including a former Mt. Vernon police officer, accused of running a cocaine and marijuana operation that stretched from Kentucky to Texas.

The eight men arrested were charged with drug trafficking and placed in federal custody in Lexington, marking the end of a 15-month investigation that involved 18 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

A former Mount Vernon police officer, Larry Thompson, 48, of Brodhead was described as the operator of a "major" drug ring broken up by last Wednesday's arrests. Also arrested in the raids that took place at various locations were Robert Durham, 54, Nathaniel Pope, 20, Raul Tomo, 32, George Moore, 47, Darlene Moore, 37, Josh McClure, 20, all of Stanford and Salvador "Julio" Reyes of Brodhead.

Thompson was a Mt. Vernon police officer for six years and left the force ten years ago, according to Mt. Vernon Chief Bill Mink. Mink said to his knowledge Thompson has not worked in law enforcement since then.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and office of U.S. Attorney Gregory F. Van Tatenhove,

announced that the arrests had been made in a written press release issued Friday.

Approximately 60 law enforcement officers, including Mt. Vernon police officer Barry Adams were involved in the arrests and the execution of the nine federal search warrants last Wednesday.

In addition to the DEA and the U.S. Attorney, agencies participating in the investigation included the

Kentucky State Police, Lexington Police, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service the Internal Revenue Service and several other law enforcement agencies.

A detention hearing was held in federal court for Thompson on Tuesday. According to authorities Thompson will likely be indicted in federal court on Thursday and he is still being held without bond.

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Four arrested by Game Warden

Local Fish and Game Warden Steve Isaacs has been a busy man lately, but a lot of things he has been doing has had nothing to do with overseeing anglers and hunters.

According to authorities, early Sunday morning, while looking for individuals illegally spotlighting deer, Isaacs observed Della Horn, 27, and Daniel Blackburn, 31, both of Sunnyside Estates and Darrell M. Blackburn, 37, of Livingston with two stolen motorcycles in the back of Horn's car.

Isaacs arrested Horn and Daniel Blackburn at the scene around 2:30

a.m., but according to authorities, Darrell Blackburn ran from the scene. He turned himself into Isaacs at

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Please Note!

Local officials announced this week that Trick or Treat Night in Rockcastle County will be next Thursday, October 31st from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Local residents should also remember to set their clocks back one hour on Sunday night, moving back to Eastern Standard Time.

In Mt. Vernon

Council votes to take in five more roads

By Richard Anderkin

The Mt. Vernon City Council voted on Monday night to take five more roads inside the city limits into the city's road work program.

City Engineer Luther Galloway suggested the city take in four streets, but in the end the council voted to take in five.

The five streets named had not been maintained by the city or the county in recent years, mainly because the city had no deed or easements to the roads and the county did not maintain them in recent years because they are in the city limits of Mt. Vernon.

One of the streets accepted is that of a Mt. Vernon council member and another is that of a local doctor and his wife who have complained persistently about the condition of their road.

Galloway and city maintenance supervisor Dennis McClure recently surveyed all the streets inside the city of Mt. Vernon and Galloway reported on the length and condition of each road.

The five roads that the council agreed to maintain on Monday night are the road in Four Sons Subdivision, which runs from West Main Street, near the Hwy. 461 by-pass, Redbud Drive, which runs off Chestnut Drive in Chestnut Hills Subdivision, which connects with Paul Street and Hillcrest Drive, which extends off Redbud Drive in the same subdivision.

The council also voted to take in Jerri Lane, on the end from the Hwy. 461 by-pass; which runs behind Town and Country Motors and McHaffey's Sporting Goods. The council also voted to take in Lower Drive, which runs off the Sand Springs Road on Town Hill.

Councilwoman Lonetta Daugherty lives on the portion of Jerri Lane that was put on the city's road maintenance list. Dr. James Cunningham and his wife Sue, live on Hillcrest Drive and they have been very vocal about the condition of their road and the fact that neither the city or county would maintain it, as has Daugherty.

Galloway was very detailed about the condition of the roads in the city and at one point told the council that if they brought all roads in the city up to specifications it could cost the city as much as \$2.6 million.

But in almost the same breath he said that if the city did that it would cause more problems that it would benefit the city because the widen-

ing of many streets would bring the roads in question too close to the dwellings along the streets.

Galloway said that many streets in the city are as narrow as eight feet, but that because of the low volume of traffic, the width of the streets does not seem to be a problem.

Galloway told the council that the city currently has just over 17 miles of city streets and spends about \$40,000 per year resurfacing some of those streets.

Councilman Joe Mullins suggested that the city use some of their municipal aid money from the state to upgrade one street at a time and not necessarily resurface some streets that are currently in good shape.

Galloway and McClure recorded 117 city streets, which includes many streets that are still not worked by the city or the county.

In other business, Mayor Karen King told the council that city attorney John Clontz had recommended that the council hire an engineer from Cincinnati to review the recent \$5.4

million renovation and expansion project at the city's water treatment plant.

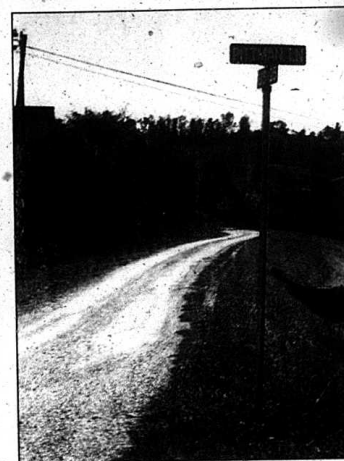
King said that Nesbitt Engineering, who was in charge of the project gave the city bad advice on several things to do with the project, including a second transmission line from Lake Linville to the city's water treatment plant.

Mayor King said after the meeting that the city was anticipating bringing in four million gallons of water a day into the plant after the renovation project was complete, but that the city was only able to get about two million gallons a day into the plant as of now.

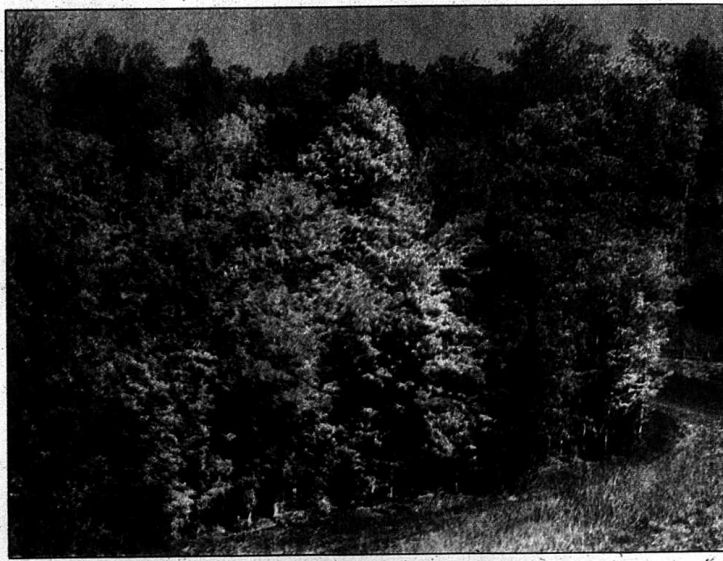
"That is basically the amount of water we were getting into the plant before the huge project and Nesbitt told us we would be okay if we put in a second transmission line, but that did not work either," said Mayor King.

The second transmission line cost the city about \$34,000 and according to King did not do anything to alleviate the problem.

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The Mt. Vernon City council voted to take in five more roads into the city road work program on Monday night. Included in the five roads is Lower Drive, off Sand Springs Road on Town Hill, shown in the top photo. In the bottom photo is another city street, Pittman Lane, which is also in poor condition, but which was not taken into the city's work program on Monday night.



If there is a prettier place in the country than Kentucky in the Fall, you would be hard pressed to find it. The above photo was taken along the

Hwy. 461 by-pass on Tuesday, which experts said was the day the Fall foliage would be the prettiest across the state.