

Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - (606) 256-2244

Volume 127 • Number 32

.50 per copy

Thursday, July 25, 2013



The City of Livingston hosted the first annual Rockcastle River Day last Saturday at the ford of the river off Hwy 25, just past the water plant. The event featured a Wacky Boat Race and a duck race. The event also featured live music from local musicians followed by a bonfire. Pictured at left are Serena Northern and Greta Northern who won The Wacky Boat Race. The Duck Race winners were: 1st place - Brittany Doan, \$100; 2nd place - Miranda Richardson, \$50; and 3rd place - Sherry Kuhn, \$25.

Jury Trial next Monday for remaining woman charged with Bullock murder

By: Doug Ponder

The fifth and final defendant, in connection with the shooting death of Jackie

Bullock, 34, of Mt. Vernon will have her jury trial next week.

Jessica Hailey Robinson,

Local police warn people of scam about compromised debit and credit cards

By: Doug Ponder

Local police are asking Rockcastle Countians to be skeptical of text and email messages informing them that their debit or credit cards have been compromised.

Rockcastle County Sheriff Mike Peters said his office has received numerous reports from people and banking institutions about the scam.

Peters said the messages tell people to contact their fi-

nancial institution at a telephone number provided in the message. When indi-

(Cont. to A8)

Indictments returned

Three indictments, against five defendants, were handed down by a Rockcastle County Grand Jury on July 12th.

Indicted were:

William D. Kelly, 29 and Robert Tillery, 30, both of Sweetwater Road, Mt. Vernon.

The two men were indicted for the offense of manufacture of methamphetamine, first offense and both men's bond was set at \$25,000 cash/property.

Donald Ray Newcomb, 34, of Smith Ridge Road in Eubank and Larry J. Lawson, 25, of Terry Street, Mt. Vernon, were named in a joint indictment.

Both were indicted for burglary, first degree, theft by unlawful taking and criminal mischief. Newcomb was also indicted on three counts of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Both men's bond was set at \$75,000 cash/property.

The third indictment handed down was against Nathaniel D. Whitis, 25 of Smith Hollow Road, Somerset, for criminal abuse, first degree of a 12-year-old child, Whitis's bond was set at \$75,000 cash/property.

22, of London is charged with murder, manufacturing methamphetamine and first degree robbery. Her trial will be next Monday at 9 a.m. in Rockcastle County Circuit Court.

According to the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department, Bullock was at a home on Lone Oak Drive in Mt. Vernon on December 1, 2011 before he was murdered. After he left the home, he was later found dead in the driver's seat of his vehicle after it had rolled approximately 300 yards down a hill off Lone Oak Road and smashed through a fence.

Deputy Sheriff Matt Bryant, who was in charge of the vehicle accident investigation, determined that Bullock's death was a homicide after discovering a gunshot wound in his side.

In December of 2011, Bryant originally arrested and charged Mt. Vernon residents Gary Lee Kirby, 19, Joshua Duane Cameron, 25 and Bobby Peters, 36 with the murder of Bullock. After further investigation, Bryant also arrested Mary Hannah Hunsucker, 24 of Mt. Vernon and Robinson, charging them with the murder of Bullock as well.

Upon further investigation, Bryant determined that all five people allegedly murdered Bullock during an attempted robbery of his prescription medication. Bryant also found a meth lab at Peters' home during the investigation.

Kirby, Cameron, Peters and Hunsucker all pled guilty to murdering Bullock, during their respective

(Cont. to A8)

Fiscal Court loans funds to Livingston for building purchase

At a special called meeting of the fiscal court Wednesday, Livingston Mayor Jason Medley asked the court to loan the city \$35,000 to purchase the Forster Mullins building and make it "structurally sound."

Purchase price of the building, located on Main Street, is \$20,000, Medley said and an estimated \$13,500 will be used to replace the back wall of the structure.

Medley said the city plans to generate revenue from the over 5,000 sq. ft. building with possibly a coffee shop, retail store and renovating part of it for a hostel/inn for visitors to the city which was recently officially designated the second Trail Town in Kentucky.

The mayor said the town could repay the county at the rate of \$300 a month.

Medley told the court that, to date, the city has received about \$5,400 in donations, primarily from alumni of Livingston School. "The energy is very positive in Livingston from both alumni and local residents," Medley said. Much of the renovation of the Mullins' building will be done by volunteers Medley told the court.

Magistrate Ralph Allen made a motion to approve the loan to the city. It was seconded by County Judge/Executive Buzz Carloftis

and Magistrates Bill McKinney and Lee Earle Adams voted yes. Magistrates Gary Burdette and William Denny were not present for the meeting.

The court also approved an application by the Livingston Volunteer Fire Dept. for a Homeland Security grant, through the state, to purchase water rescue equipment.

In other business, the court approved a list of roads to be submitted for approval by the state for FLEX fund usage. The county currently has \$367,000 to spend on these roads.

Carloftis told the court that estimates of the cost of repaving sections of each of the roads will have to be made by Greer Bros. before the list can be submitted to the state.

The list of roads include: Wildie, Anglin Falls, Freedom School, Hummel, Wind Chime, Grace Loop, Smallwood, Lear Lane, Possum Kingdom, Chestnut Grove, Brushy Ridge, Wolf Creek, Sand Hill, McCollum, Doc Adams, Cane Branch, Copper Creek, Grassy Branch, PurrRigsby, Buffalo Branch, Bloss, Foggy Hollow, Poppy Lane, Stallsworth Branch and Sweetwater.

At the suggestion of the magistrates, four roads

(Cont. to A8)

Knoxville man arrested after involved in a two vehicle accident on I-75

By: Doug Ponder

A Knoxville man was arrested Monday afternoon after he was involved in a two vehicle accident on I-75, southbound at the 54 mile marker in Rockcastle County.

Arrested was Ryan Edwards Peters, 33.

According to the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department, Peters was traveling in the middle lane when he reportedly hydroplaned and drove into the path of another vehicle, driven by Priscilla

Bernhold, 66, of London, who was traveling in the right lane.

After the two vehicles collided, they both ran off the roadway and hit a rock embankment, eventually coming to rest approximately 25 yards from the point of the collision.

Bernhold as well as Peters and his passenger, Mary Elizabeth Wilson, 36, of Knoxville were all transported by ambulance to Saint Joseph London Hos-

(Cont. to A8)

Brodhead man arrested for growing marijuana

By: Doug Ponder

A Brodhead man was arrested Monday afternoon for cultivating marijuana and drug possession, after officers from the Kentucky State Police Department raided a home on Goldfinch Lane in Brodhead.

Arrested at the scene was Danny L. Deborde, 57, of Brodhead.

According to state police reports, officers responded to the residence after receiving information, from an aerial spot by a state police helicopter, that marijuana plants were growing on the property.

After receiving consent to search the property, officers found eight marijuana plants, along with several other items associated with

(Cont. to A8)



Police arrested Ryan Edwards Peters, 33, of Knoxville Monday afternoon, after he was involved in a two vehicle accident on I-75 southbound at the 54 mile marker in Rockcastle County. Authorities say Peters was traveling in the middle lane when he reportedly hydroplaned and drove into the path of another vehicle driven by Priscilla Bernhold, 66, of London who was traveling in the right lane. After the two vehicles collided, both cars ran off the roadway and hit a rock embankment, eventually coming to rest approximately 25 yards from the point of collision. Bernhold, as well as Peters and his passenger Mary Elizabeth Wilson, 36, of Knoxville, were transported to Saint Joseph London Hospital where they were treated and later released. Peters was later arrested on numerous endangerment, theft and drug charges after police found drugs and another woman's purse in his vehicle. The case is still under investigation by the Kentucky State Police and Trooper Scottie Pennington is in charge of the investigation. Further charges are pending.

Of Special Note Inside

- Viewpoints Pg. A2
- Obituaries Pg. A3
- Church News Pg. B8
- Courthouse News Pg. B2
- Classifieds Pgs. B5-7
- Sports Pg. B4

Contact us at: mvsignal@windstream.net
Deadline submission is Noon Tuesday

Call
606-256-2244 for
Advertising &
Subscriptions

