



A temporary bridge has been built in Brodhead to eliminate the lengthy detours for motorists caused by the closing of the Dix River Bridge. Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) crews started working on the temporary bridge last Thursday and it was completed Monday afternoon. Shown above are KYTC crews pouring concrete on the bridge and shown below is a motorist driving on the bridge after it was opened. The temporary bridge will be in operation until the Dix River Bridge is reconstructed and opened for use. Bids for the reconstruction will be let in January and the project is scheduled for completion in the Spring of 2014.



Temporary bridge constructed to bypass closed Dix River Bridge

By: Doug Ponder
A temporary bridge was recently built in Brodhead to eliminate the lengthy detours for motorists that was caused by the closing of the Dix River Bridge. Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) crews started working on the temporary bridge last Thursday and it was opened to traffic

Monday afternoon. The lengthy detour was caused by the closing on Friday, November 8th of the Dix River Bridge due to severe deterioration of the center box beam. KYTC engineers condemned the bridge saying it posed an immediate threat to drivers and believed asserting it could collapse at any time.

Somerset KYTC Information Officer Amber Hale said emergency funding to build the temporary bridge was provided by the KYTC Rural and Secondary Roads program. Hale said the two-lane temporary bridge was built upstream from the condemned Dix River Bridge and nine culverts were laid along the river bed to keep the water flowing. She said crews then laid a layer of bedrock, layer of gravel and then poured a layer of concrete on top and along the sides to make sure the temporary bridge is secure.

Although the temporary ridge has already been opened to motorists, Hale said there will also be a layer of blacktop put down on top of the bridge later this

week. While the blacktop is being poured, the bridge will be temporary closed for a few hours until the black-

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Livingston woman arrested for endangering the welfare of a minor
By: Doug Ponder
A woman was arrested Monday night for endangering the welfare of a minor, after police responded to a domestic complaint on Towhee Lane in Livingston. Arrested at the scene was Tracey M. Slusher, 37, of Livingston. According to state police reports, Trooper Adam

Childress responded, around 11:30 p.m., after receiving a complaint of a female who was out of control at the residence. Childress was also informed that there were two other similar domestic complaints at the same residence earlier in the day.

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High speed chase begins in Rockcastle County and ends in Laurel County
By: Doug Ponder
A high speed chase, that started in Rockcastle County last Thursday night on I-75 northbound, eventually ended on I-75 southbound in Laurel County. Arrested at the scene was Shaun Slade Dirkach, 37, of Jacksonville, North Carolina. According to state police reports, Trooper Eric Moore attempted a traffic stop on Dirkach on I-75 northbound near Mt. Vernon after clocking him traveling, in his 2014 Ford Mustang, at over

100 mph. After initiating the traffic stop, Dirkach continued to travel at high speeds with Moore in pursuit. Dirkach eventually turned off the interstate at exit 76 in Berea and then went back onto I-75 at the 76 exit traveling south. Officers from the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department, Laurel County Sheriff's Department and London Police Department all joined Moore in the

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State inmate let out of jail to see his father in nursing home

By: Doug Ponder
A lot of commotion and speculation has ensued after a state prison inmate was recently let out of the Rockcastle County Detention Center to see his father at the Rockcastle Rehabilitation Center in Brodhead. Freddy Denny, 44, of Mt. Vernon was released to his brother Magistrate William Denny last Sunday so he could take him to visit their father in the nursing home at Brodhead. Denny is a state prisoner serving a three year sentence at RCDC for drug trafficking and unlawful possession of a meth precursor.

William Denny said his brother called him from the jail last Saturday night and told him that Jailer James Miller said he (William) could take him to see their father at the nursing home. Magistrate Denny said he was also told by Miller that the bedside visit was approved and Denny said he told his brother he would come down to RCDC after the morning service at his church. After the church service, William Denny said he went down to RCDC and used the intercom from outside and all he said was "I am here to get Freddy." Denny was then released from the jail to the magistrate.

Once Denny was released, William Denny said they went to McDonald's to get something to eat when they were flagged down by police in the restaurant's parking lot. Mt. Vernon Police Assistant Chief Barry Adams said he responded after receiving information that Denny was released to his brother and that no jail official was with him while he was inside a public restaurant. Adams said he called Miller at the scene and Miller told him that William Denny had been approved by him to take his brother to the nursing home to see their father. However, Miller said they shouldn't have gone to

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7 more file for county office

Seven more candidates have thrown their hats in the political arena for next year's county elections, bringing the total through publication deadline to 20. Filing their candidacy papers during the last week were: Joe M. Bussell (R), Constable 1st District; Richard E. Dean (R), Constable 5th District; Matt Bryant (R), PVA Administrator; Janet Vaughn (R), PVA Administrator; Doug Bishop (R), County Judge/Executive; Mark Buras, Brodhead Mayor and Jo Cook (R), Magistrate 4th District. Bryant and Vaughn will vie for the seat of retiring PVA Administrator Margaret Offutt. Bryant is presently a deputy serving under Sheriff Mike Peters and Vaughn is a long-time employee in the PVA office. Bishop, who ran as an Independent for the office of County Judge/Executive four years ago, will try again to unseat incumbent Buzz Carloftis who defeated Bishop in 2010 in the general election by a slim 183 votes. Buras is currently serving as a Brodhead City Commissioner. Cook is challenging incumbent Gary Burdette who was elected as a first term magistrate four years ago, when he defeated incumbent Jan Stevens. Filing deadline is January 28th.

Mt. Vernon will buy four new cruisers

The only item under new business, at Monday night's regular meeting of the Mt. Vernon City Council, was cruisers for the police department. Mayor Mike Bryant told councilmembers that the police department's fleet was aging and beginning to require a lot of maintenance. The city last bought new vehicles in 2010, primarily with a grant from Rural Development. The mayor said that he had contacted Freedom Dodge who has the state contract for the vehicles (Dodge Chargers) and had been told the cost for each vehicle would be \$29,100 fully equipped. "Citizens expect patrolling by officers and protection and we want to keep our officers as safe as we can," Bryant told the council. Mayor Bryant said that Freedom offered a lease to

own payment plan but that he would prefer to keep the financing local and asked the council for authority to proceed with obtaining local financing over a five year period. He also told the council that a couple of the vehicles to be replaced would be given to the fire department for their use for traveling to training sessions and meetings. The city currently has \$25,000 in their budget for vehicle replacement and might have to pull funds from other accounts to meet the payments. "Forfeiture funds can be used for this," Bryant said, "and we have been doing better recently in getting those funds." The council also discussed the need for a new salt truck, or at least a new bed for their old one. City

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