



Beautification Winners
Second Front

Mount Vernon Journal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 114 - Number 41 - Ph. (606) 256-2244 - .50 a copy - Thursday, July 12, 2001



Officials still uncertain what caused death of animals

By: Richard Anderkin

Local disaster and emergency officials have been monitoring a situation in the southern part of the county, which may involve contaminated water in the Roundstone Creek.

Acting Emergency Management Director Bonnie Roark said Saturday that she had received a call from two Berea women who had been walking their dog along Roundstone Creek near what is known as the "Sinks" near Mullins Station on Friday afternoon, when the dog drank from the creek and died.

Roark said that it was her understanding that the dog died about three minutes from the time it drank from a pool of water at the edge of the creek bed.

Mrs. Roark said that the dog apparently went into convulsions before it died.

Upon receiving the information from the two Berea women, Roark, deputy Director Dwight Brown, Deputy Sheriff Ronnie Roark and members of the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department inspected the area around where the dog had drank from the pool of water.

The group found several dead animals and insects and the pool of water had a strange brown cast on top of the water.

"It looked like some type of chemical on top of the water," Roark said.

Cont. to A-7

Mark Chestnut to perform in Renfro Valley Saturday

Some years ago, legendary country vocalist George Jones contributed to the liner notes of a green, young kid from Texas. "This boy from Beaumont is the real deal," Jones said. The kid was Mark Chestnut. More than a decade later - with a lineup of best-selling albums, chart-topping singles and CMA's prestigious Horizon Award to his credit he's still the real deal.

With his laconic drawl, wry humor and world-class country baritone, Mark Chestnut is East Texas to the bone. Chestnut doesn't just sing country music; he's practically got it cursing through his veins. He's a second-generation recording artist. (His dad, the late Bob Chestnut recorded for various small labels and was bad-

Cont. to A-7



Officials still do not know what has caused the deaths of several animals in the Mullins Station area. The barrel, at left, was found in the area, but officials are not sure if its contents are related or not. In the top photo Sam Stallsworth, Bonnie Roark, a state health inspector and Dwight Brown look at an apparent contaminated pool of water on the Roundstone Creek. Above is one of the dead wild animals.

Hundreds of Cavers

Crawling around on your belly in

a dark hole in the ground may not sound like the ideal vacation to you, but for the cavers attending the National Speleological Society's annual convention, it's what they have been dreaming of since the first hint of warmer weather.

1500-1800 cavers from across the country and the world will descend upon Mt. Vernon and Rockcastle County the last week of July (23-27). Throughout the week, the cavers will attend educational sessions at Rockcastle High School, and participate in preplanned activities including cave trips, hiking, and visits to local points of interest such as Renfro Valley and Big South Fork Railroad among others.

Cont. to A-7

Court discusses turning fairgrounds over completely to local fair board

Heated discussion takes place between Judge, Roark

By: Richard Anderkin
The Rockcastle County Fiscal Court discussed some minor problems between the Court and the Rockcastle County Fair Board during their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday.

Fair board member Roy Reynolds discussed the situation with the court. It was agreed that the court would completely turn over the fairgrounds to the board and that they would be responsible for paying all bills and accounting for all money that is taken in by the board.

They will also be responsible for scheduling events and maintenance of the fairgrounds, including any needed improvements.

Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carlolitis said the only requirement of the board would be to report to the court on either a quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis.

"It will just make things run smoother, they will not have to come to the court when they need something, they can simply do it themselves - that was the intention of the court when the board was set up," Carlolitis said.

Reynolds said that he thought the fair board would be in agreement, but that he would have to meet with them before he could give the court a final answer.

Following the discussion about the fair board, Judge Carlolitis and 9th Director Bonnie Roark, became involved in a somewhat heated discussion concerning the fact that she holds two county jobs.

Besides heading up the 9th emergency dispatch system, Mrs. Roark is also Director of the state's Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness

Program. Both are full-time positions and Carlolitis has told Roark she cannot keep both, although she has assistants in both jobs.

Mrs. Roark, was also quite upset because she had not been offered the recently filled position of Emergency



Dougie Medley, 21, of Livingston escaped serious injury Saturday when he lost control of his Ford Pick-up near Burr on U.S. 25. Medley walked away from the wreck, although the truck flipped and the top was completely flattened.

An early morning pursuit on Interstate 75 over the weekend ended when a burglary suspect sideswiped a London City Police cruiser, wrecking both the cruiser and the suspect's getaway vehicle.

According to Officer Greg Lewis of the London City Police Department, a call was made to police Sunday, June 8, to inform them of a burglary at the Dairy Mart on Falls Road in Corbin.

"The civilian said they were breaking out the front window of the store," Lewis said, adding that the suspects were thought to have made away with two garbage cans of cigarettes.

An "attempt to locate" call was then dispatched to area police agencies containing a description of the Ford Ranger the men were thought to be driving.

London Officers Matt Moore and Travis Hurley, traveling in one cruiser, spotted the men in their truck at 41-mile marker - the north London interchange with KY 80.

According to Laurel County District Attorney David L. ...

Cont. to A-7



Mark Chestnut will perform Saturday night.

Corbin robbery ends in wreck



A chase that began in Corbin, ended up in a two car crash involving a London police officer in Rockcastle County early Sunday morning. No one was seriously injured in the 4:30 a.m. crash. (Front page photos by Richard Anderkin)