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RCMS does well at KYA
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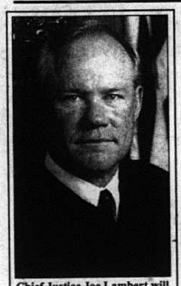


Chief Justice Joe Lambert will seek re-election to the Kentucky Supreme Court

Chief Justice Lambert files

Joseph E. Lambert, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Kentucky, has today filed for re-election from the Third Supreme Court District. The Third District consists of twenty-seven counties located mostly in Southern and Southeastern Kentucky. Lambert, 53, was first elected in 1986 and re-elected in 1994.

Announcing that he will seek re-election, Lambert said, "I am grateful for the opportunity to have served the people of Kentucky on their highest court. I am also honored that my colleagues elected me as Chief Jus-

(Cont. to A-10)

McKinney bound to Grand Jury

Mike McKinney, 30, of Brodhead remains in jail this week after two hearings in district court on Monday.

McKinney is charged with attempting to kill his estranged wife, Meleissa Lear McKinney a couple of weeks ago.

According to police reports, McKinney shot at his wife through the door when she went to their home on Hwy. 150 near Brodhead.

Mrs. McKinney was injured by fragments of glass.

During the first hearing for McKinney, Rockcastle County Attorney Jeff Burdette asked that his $5,000 cash or property bond be increased by District Judge Walter McGuire.

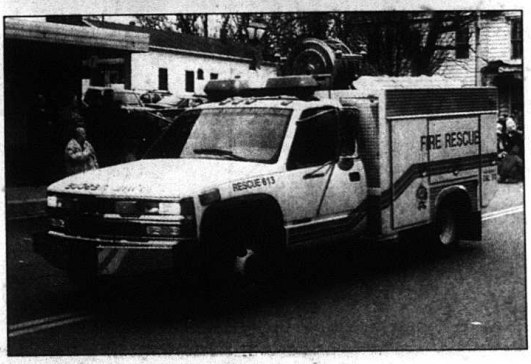
McGuire refused, but on Monday after an apparent heated discussion between Burdette and McGuire, the bond was increased to $15,000.

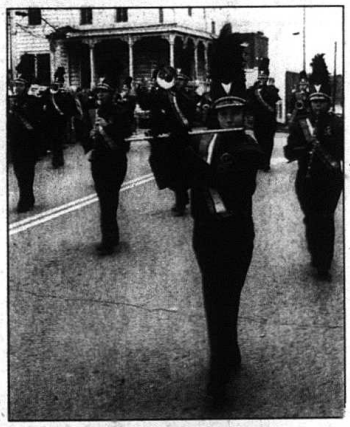
Burdette said that he asked for increase because he thought McKinney might be a danger to society at this time.

Besides the attempted murder charge the day of the shooting, KSP officer Lafe Owens, also charged McKinney with driving under the influence (drugs), after McKinney fled the scene, according to court records.

During Wednesday's hearing, probable cause was found to hold McKinney over to the Rockcastle County Grand Jury.

Parading through Mt. Vernon





One of the largest ever Christmas Parades in Mt. Vernon took place on Saturday. Shown in the top photo are members of the Rockcastle County High School Future Farmers of America Chapter. In the middle photo, David Bales drives Mt. Vernon's new fire and rescue truck and at right, Allison Carter is shown marchingwith the RCHS band. Inside this week's edition you will find numerous other photos from the parades at Mt. Vernon and Brodhead.

In upcoming elections

Clarice Kirby is Mayoral hopeful

Dowell, Bradley also file

Mt. Vernon City Council member Clarice Kirby announced on Tuesday that she would be a candidate for Mayor in next year's general election.

Mrs. Kirby, who issued a statement on Tuesday said that she had decided to "take a big step up for the City of Mt. Vernon."

Mrs. Kirby has been a council member for a total of 13 years, serving under three different Mayors.

She said in her release that she would devote all of her energy to being Mayor and "a servant of the people."

She said that if elected, people would find her working in Mt. Vernon's City Hall as a "full-time Mayor."

Mrs. Kirby said she would work to promote teamwork among the city's numerous employees.

Current Mayor Karen King has indicated that she may not be a candidate for re-election next Fall.

Mrs. Kirby is the first person to file for any city office throughout the county.

Those wishing to run for city offices have until August 13th to file.

All city races are non-partisian.

Other filings this week include, incumbent Coroner Bill Dowell, who will be seeking an unprecented, ninth term in office.

Incumbent second district magistrate Jack Bradley will be seeking his fourth term in office.

Ernest Alcorn will run for constable in district one and Donnie Cope will run for constable in district four.

Dowell, Bradley, Cope and Alcorn are all Republicans.

Other candidates to file so far are Howard Saylor for County Judge, incumbent Shirley Smith for Sheriff, Wayne Lear Sr., for Sheriff, Darrell Doan for Sheriff, and John H. Kemper Jr., for Sheriff.

In the magistrate races, in district one, Democrat John Holbrook is the only one to file so far.

In district two, before Bradley's filings, William Denney filed. They are Republicans.

In district three, Bill McKinney a Republican is the only to file as of date. He is the incumbent.

In district four Fred Mullins Jr., has filed for re-election. He is joined so far by Roger Rucker.

In district five, incumbent Donald Bullock has filed. He is challenged by Mark G. Poynter, Merrill Keith Brown and George Renner.

Incumbents Norma Houk, Jeff Burdette, Margaret Offutt and James Miller have all filed.

In the constable races in district two, Delno McClure and Shannon York have filed.

In district five, Albert Wayne Carpenter has filed.

The filing deadline for all county offices is January 29th.

Those files must take place in the County Clerk's office.

The deadline for filings for school board races is the same as city races, August 13th.

Registered voters who may wish to switch their political party registation have until December 31st.

That also can be done in the County Clerk's office.

Clarice Kirby has filed for Mayor of Mt. Vernon.

Incumbent Jack Bradley has filed for re-election in District 2.

Local residents plead guilty

The U.S. Department of Justice in the Eastern District of Kentucky announced Tuesday that they had received several guilty pleas from local residents.

Those pleas are in connection with the manufacturing of the illegal drug methamphetamine, (meth).

Jennifer Kirby, 22, of Mt. Vernon, Phillip Kirby, 25, of Mt. Vernon, James Earl Gray, 47, of Mt. Vernon Jonathan Cromer 22, of Mt. Vernon and Brian Pittman, 22, also of Mt. Vernon entered guilty pleas to manufacturing meth.

Phillip Kirby also pled guilty to conspiring to distribute the illegal drug and he also agreed to forfeit $1,800.

The pleas were entered in front of Federal Judge Jennifer Coffman. Sentencing will take place on April 25, 2002.

RCHS Rifle Team takes state

The Rockcastle County JROTC Rifle Team traveled to Shelby County on the 15th of December where they won the Kentucky State High School Air Rifle Team Championship (Sporter category) for the third year in a row. The match was fired against the top five teams in the state, with Rockcastle County firing a score of 2515/3000, beating their closest competitor (Henderson County) by 110 points.

Two of our team members earned their place on the First Team All-State. They were Shannon Bullock who was first in the state with a score of 534/600 and Josh Hayes who placed fifth in the state with 504/600. Tim Tyler earned a place on the Second Team All-State by placing 10th in the state with a score of 494/600. The other members of the winning team were Ronald Willey who placed 11th with 493/600 and Johnathan Noe who placed 12th with a score of 490/600.

Our Precision Team, most who just started shooting in this category, placed 12th in the state Members of this team were Adam Stallsworth, Tara Thompson, Melissa Jones, Erik Stallsworth and Derrick Hensley. Other members of the Rifle Team not shooting that day were: Sarah Steele, Chris Eldridge, Russell Willey and Karen Barber.

The Rockcastle County High School Rifle Team won the State Air Rifle Championship last weekend in Shelby County. It is the third straight year the team has been crowned state champions. Those shooting for the team are pictured above, front row from left: Shannon Bullock and team captain Tim Tyler. Back row from left: Johnathan Noe, Josh Hayes and Ronald Willey. Bullock was the top shooter in the state scoring 534/600.

No paper next week

Due to the Christmas holiday falling the way it has this year, for only the second time in 35 years, there will be no *Mt. Vernon Signal* next week.

Our next issue of publication will be on January 3, 2002. The *Signal* office will be closed Friday, December 21st through Friday, December 28th.

Woodrow Lamb pleads guilty to charges of attempted murder

A Rockcastle County man who has had numerous run-ins with the law over the past year has pled guilty in Rockcastle Circuit Court.

Woodrow "Woody" Lamb, 24, of Calloway, has pled guilty to two counts of attempted murder, according to Commonwealth Attorney Eddy Montgomery.

Lamb had been accused of firing shots at Mt. Vernon Police Chief Bill Mink and officer Barry Adams on July 23rd.

Montgomery did not say how much time in prison he would recommend for Lamb, who has been held on a high bond since his incarceration.

Billy Joe Spoonamore, 46, of Mt. Vernon also had his probation revoked and was sentenced to a period of three years in jail. According to Montgomery, Spoonamore admitted that had violated his probation, by using illegal drugs.