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Stallsworth resigns from school board

Rockcastle County school board member Sam Stallsworth resigned his position from the local board on Tuesday night after four and one half years of service.

Stallsworth, who is head of Livington's water department and Livingston City Fire Chief told the board that because of state law he was not eligible to serve on the board any longer.

Stallsworth told the board that while he was reading a newsletter from the Kentucky School Board's Association he became aware that he was sitting on the Rockcastle County School Board illegaly.

"Due to the fact that I am employed by the City of Livingston I cannot hold the office of school board member. Therefore I regretfully must resign my position as board member effective immediately," Stallsworth wrote in a letter of resignation to the board.

"I have enjoyed working with Superintendent Larry Hammond and the Rockcastle County Board of Education and I will continue to do so as a citizen of Rockcastle County and I will continue to support Rockcastle County Schools," Stallsworth said.

Stallsworth said later that he thought the law was "pretty stupid," but that it was the law.

"All that law does is keep civic minded citizens from serving on boards, councils and fiscal courts," Stallsworth said.

"I think the state erred when they passed some portions of the Kentucky Education Reform Act and their rules for who serves and who doesn't was probably one of the mistakes," Stallsworth said.

Board Chairman Terry Burton accepted Stallsworth's resignation after a lengthy discussion and Stallsworth left.

Sam Stallsworth

Rockcastle County School Superintendent Larry Hammond said that he now has to notify the Kentucky Department of Education of Stallsworth's resignation and that they will begin the process of appointing someone to replace him.

Those interested must apply to the state and they will conduct interviews.

In the November General Election a special election will be held to fill Stallsworth's unexpired term, which is three years.

The filing deadline for the election is August 12th and candidates will be required to be at least 24-

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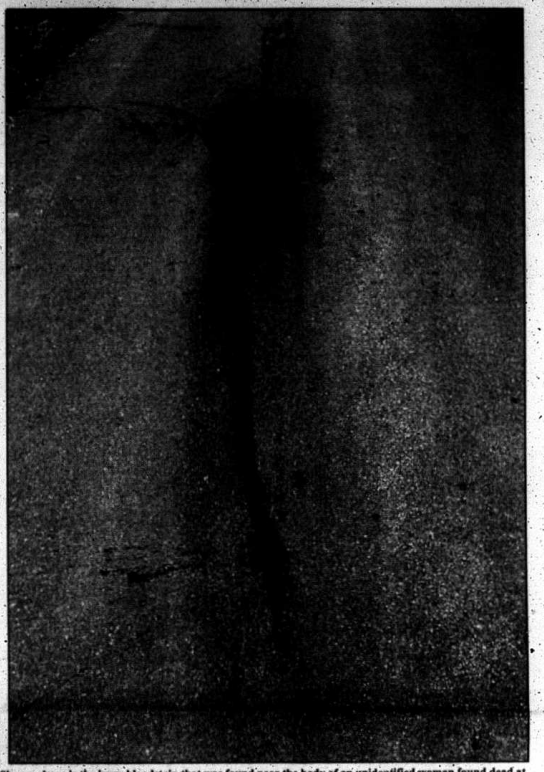

Shown above is the large bloodstain that was found near the body of an unidentified woman found dead at Hummel Sunday morning.

City annexes more property; hears second reading of budget

The Mt. Vernon City Council voted Monday night to annex three pieces of property into the city limits.

Annexed were the new Northside Baptist Church and parsonage; the property of Richard and Connie Graham off Lair Street and a planned housing development on property belonging to Roland Mullins in Mt. Vernon.

Wabuck Development is planning 24 elderly units and 24-40 multi-family units on the five to six acres of the Mullins' property with an entrance off Richmond Street.

The council agreed to the annexation and made a motion to seek funds to replace the existing lift station at Snack Shack Drive-In with a larger one which would also service the housing development and residents of Greenway Drive. The estimated cost of the larger lift station is over $100,000.

Debbie Gilbert, representing

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Brodhead council to discuss fire department's situation

Monday night the Brodhead City Council will discuss a very controversial subject.

Last year the Brodhead-Rural Fire Department purchased a building on Hwy. 70 for a sub-station, which serves the western end of the county.

At that time the two departments were working together as one, according to Brodhead City Council member Curt Brown.

But now Brown and members of both departments say many problems have occurred the most serious of which is that people on the Crab Orchard side of Brodhead actually have less fire protection than they did before.

In order to apply for grants for equipment and trucks, the rural department has to keep a five mile radius of service and currently they are listed as being housed in Brodhead because they still house a truck in Brodhead.

"It is confusing and something that should be straightened out and the fiscal court is going to have to have a part in it, because of all the funding they have provided," Brown said.

The two departments have split equipment and many of the firefighters who did serve on both departments have quit.

"Unless Brodhead Rural Fire Department requests mutual aide from another department, including the Brodhead city department the city fire deparment cannot go out of the city limits," Brown said.

"It makes no sense, what has happened and the council and the fiscal court, along with the two departments are going to have to straighten this out because we are here to serve the people," Brown said.

Brown said that Mayor Walter Cash had invited members of the fiscal court and County-Judge Executive Buzz Carloftis to Monday night's meeting, which begins at 7 p.m.

After much deliberation, a sign welcoming newcomers to the City of Mt. Vernon was unveiled on July 3 at the intersection of Highway 25 and 461. The sign is the first of several planned objectives to help promote the county and its communities. Pictured above are Lawrence Bullock, designer and builder of the sign, along with Danny Settles and Jerry Pensol, members of the county tourism task force. Landscaping and lighting for the sign should be completed by late summer of this year. (Photo by Kyla French)

Sunday morning

Body found on Hummel Road by local runners

Sunday morning around 6:30 a.m. two local runners discovered the body of an unidentified woman on the Hummel Road approximately five miles east of Mt. Vernon.

Local attorney Willis G. Coffey and local optometrist Dr. Lee Cain were taking their weekly Sunday morning run when they smelled a strong odor along the Hummel Road, 3.1 miles from Renfro Valley.

Coffey said that when the two men turned around at their normal spot, Cain looked to his right and saw the dead woman about ten feet from the roadway.

The two also noticed a large blood stain in the middle of the road.

The two ran back to Renfro Valley and called authorities, who arrived on the scene around 7:30 a.m..

Rockcastle County Deputy Coroner Bud Cox said that preliminary autopsy results indicated that the woman had been shot several times, including at least once in the head.

Her hands had also been severed from her body.

Detective Lane said Wednesday that he thought the woman had apparently been murdered at the scene and that most likely she was a transient. The body had apparently been on the roadside for about three days.

Kentucky State Police are asking for assistance in identifying the victim.

The victim is described as an adult white, female, approximately 5'5, weighing between 125 and 135 pounds and dark hair.

The woman was wearing an orange and white shirt with and upside down military insignia on the left pocket area, blue jeans and black shoes.

The victims ears were pierced, she had scars on her stomach where her gall bladder and appendix had been removed. She had also had had an hysterectomy, according to autopsy results.

Det. Lane also said that she wore an upper denture with a partial name, (Taylor.K) stamped in the denture plate.

Anyone having information concerning the identity of the woman should contact state police at 1-800-222-5555

Fiscal Court told

Livingston to get single housing development

Debbie Gilbert of Wabuck Development visited the Fiscal Court Tuesday, at their regular meeting, to apprise the court of her company's plan to construct 4-6 single family homes in the Livingston area, under the auspices of Rural Development.

Ms. Gilbert, who had been at Monday night's meeting of the Mt. Vernon City Council to talk with them about 48 - 64 elderly and multi-family housing units being planned for Mt. Vernon, told the court that the three bedroom, 2 bath homes would be built on property owned by persons living in sub-standard housing: 62 years of age or older or disabled.

The homes, from 1088 to 1132 sq. ft., will be valued from $70,000 to $78,000 dollars and will not cost the propelty owner anything. Income requirements is up to 80% of the median income level for this area which, according to Ms. Gilbert, for a family of four amounts to about $38,000 a year.

The present home on the property will be demolished, unless it's a mobile home which must be salvaged, by Wabuck, and persons living in that home will be provided with some form of housing while the new home is being built.

For more information on this project, contact County Judge Buzz Carloftis at 256-2856 or Magistrates William Denny or Fred Mullins.

The court meeting began with the magistrates giving Carloftis authority to sign a grant agreement with the Tobacco Development Fund for a grant award given to Eastern Rockcastle Water in the amount of $475,000. The grant, which will be funneled through the county, will be used, in part, to repair an area on Hwy. 490 where the road has slipped and the water line is now laying on top of the ground and needs to be moved to the other side of the road before cold weather. A project estimated at between $10,000 and $20,000, according to Randy Corey, manager of Eastern Rockcastle Water Association.

Another long discussion before the court was brought up by Doug Proctor of Mt. Vernon. Judge Carloftis told the court that Mr. Proctor had "provided supervised recreation for small boys and girls for the past 17 years" in the form of a Hot Rod baseball program, all by donations, and was very interested in the county and three cities forming a county-wide recreation board.

Carloftis and Proctor told the court that other nearby towns, Berea and London, had "outstanding" facilities for every type of sports and, Carloftis said, in London it had been accomplished with fiscal court funds and private clubs, particularly the Optimist Club.

"Our kids are playing in less than stellar locations," Carloftis told the court. "Every county around us has things we don't have because of a lack of funding."

Proctor agreed that there needed to be a commission formed which would oversee a county park system and offered his services. Carloftis agreed with forming a county park system whereby all the present resources of the three towns and the county could be brought together and then work go forward on improving all facilities.

Magistrate Ralph Allen mentioned that Brodhead, Mt. Vernon and Roundstone all had some type of sports facility but that Livingston had nothing. He suggested that the old railroad tie yard, near the sewer plant, in Livingston might be leased and developed for a recreation field. However, Carloftis said this could take some time because of the process involved with the railroad.

County Attorney Jeff Burdette also suggested that a list of the present facilities be made, including town signs, and their owners, so the fiscal court would know what they were dealing with beforehand.

The court also approved renewal of permits for five garbage haulers a convenience center and a container service. One renewal application was not acted on because the form was improperly filled out and will be brought up at a future meeting.

Magistrate Billy McKinney told the court he felt a moratorium should be placed on any new permits for garbage hauling, unless some of the present servers quit, since "every part of the county has coverage."

The matter was tabled however after County Attorney Burdette told the court that a moratorium had already been put into place and needed to be looked at to see if it were still in place.

Jailer James Miller told the court that $90,000 was available from the jail's commissary fund and he was offering it to help pay some of the jail's expenses. "I would like to use the funds to provide some relief to the county for the jail operation," Miller said.

Carloftis told the court that the funds could not be used for anything the jail had to have to operate but could be used on things benefiting inmates and the work release program.

The court took no action on use of the funds at the meeting.

The court did establish a lower

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