Summer Reading Program Pg. B4

Mount Vernon Signal

Rockcastle County Since 1887

Volume 117 • Number 40 - Ph. (606) 256-2244 - 50 a copy - Thursday, July 17, 2003

0000000000000000000000000000
90*1**********3-DIGIT 405
UK - KING LIBRARY
211 KING LIBRARY S
LEXINGTON KY 40506-0001

Four indicted

A Rockcastle County Grand Jury handed down four indictments on Friday, July 11.

Indicted was Matthew S. Holden, 33, Northside Apartments in Mt. Vernon on ten counts, for burglary, third degree involving break-ins at First Baptist Church, First Christian Church and Mt. Vernon Pentecostal Church, all in Mt. Vernon; Criminal Mischief at Mt. Vernon Pentecostal and First Baptist; Theft by Unlawful Taking in the break-in at First Christian; fleeing or evading police and three counts as a Persistent Felony Offender.

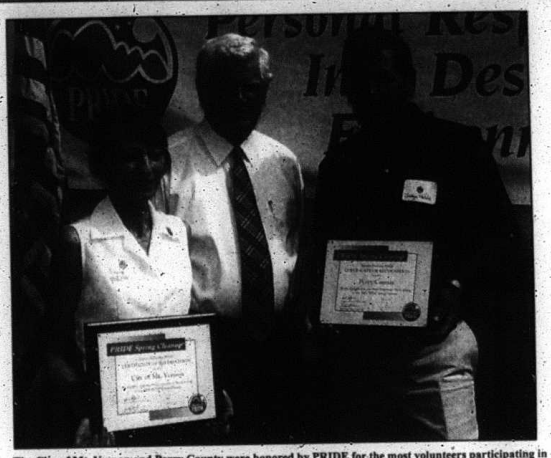
Also indicted was Ben Montgomery, 57, of Lancaster for Criminal Possession of Forged Instrument, second degree and Nancy Gena Dimitrov of Richmond for the offense of Criminal Possession of a Forged Prescription, first offense.

William Bailey, 21, of 202 Buffalo Hollow Road in Berea was indicted on three counts: Possession of a Controlled Substance, first degree, first offense; Operating a Motor Vehicle While Under the influence of alcohol/drugs, first offense and Operating a Motor Vehicle on a suspended or revoked license.

MVHS Association Annual Reunion

The Mt. Vernon High School Association (classes of 1914-70 inclusive) will hold its Annual Homecoming Dinner at the Rockcastle County Middle School Sat., Sept. 13. Registration is from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m.

Prepaid registration of $15 per person may be sent to Mt. Vernon High School Alumni Reunion, PO. Box 396, Mt. Vernon, Ky. 40456 or you may call 606-758-8150 for more information.



The City of Mt. Vernon and Perry County were honored by PRIDE for the most volunteers participating in this year's Spring Cleanup April 12-26. Mt. Vernon led cities with 55 volunteers and Perry County was the leading county with 8,500 volunteers. Pictured are, from left: Mt. Vernon Mayor Clarice Kirby, Congressman Harold Rogers who made the presentations and Perry County Judge/Executive Denny Ray Noble.

Police have suspect

Authorities identify murder victim as 40-year-old woman

By: Richard Anderkin

Authorities have identified the woman found murdered at Hummel last week.

According to Kentucky State Police Detective Gary Lane and Rockcastle Chief Deputy Sheriff Nathaniel Price, the victim has been identified as Karen Taylor, 40, of Lebanon, Ohio.

Police are releasing few details about the murder, but the investigation is progressing quickly.

Rockcastle County Attorney Jeff Burdette said Wednesday that police are very curious about a local man's involvement in the murder.

Burdette said that Bobby E. Ramsey, 39, is a strong suspect in the case.

Ironically Ramsey was arrested on Monday in Berea and charged with attempted robbery of Cumberland Valley Bank.

Ramsey apparently tried to gain entry into the bank and then fled on foot when police arrived. He was later found lying in a field off Short Line Pike, police said.

Ramsey was lodged in the Madison County Detention Center, but has since been released on bond.

Deputy Price said Tuesday that last week's information released by the *Signal* concerning the murder has led to several tips about the murder, which included several individuals, but that Ramsey is the strongest suspect.

Ramsey, who now resides in Madison County, is formerly of Rockcastle and has spent ten years of his life in prison. He was released six months ago.

"Based on interviews, statements and accumulated evidence, I can confirm that investigators do think that Ramsey is a key suspect in the case," Burdette said.

According to Det. Lane, police think the murder occurred sometime late on Tuesday, July 1st, or during the early morning hours of Wednesday, July 2nd.

Autopsy results confirmed that the victim's hands had been severed from the rest of her body in an apparent attempt to conceal her identity.

Cont. to A-7

Karen Taylor

Bobby Ramsey

After lengthy meeting

Brodhead firemen reach agreement

By: Richard Anderkin

It appears that the two Brodhead fire departments have resolved some differences after a lenghty meeting on Monday night.

Several Brodhed area residents, many firefighters as well as Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carloftis and magistrates Bill McKinney, David Gibbs and William Denney also attended the 150 minute meeting.

At times the discussion became very heated, but in the end an agreement was reached which will apparently provide rural fire protection to all areas of Brodhead.

Last year the Brodhead Rural Fire Department purchased the former Robbin's Muffler Shop building on Hwy. 70 with intentions of making it a substation from which to fight fires in the western part of the county easier.

But since then the Brodhead Rural fire department and the city of Brodhead's fire department which used to be one department have had their problems.

They have since split up equipment, money and trucks and many firefighters who served on both departments have quit.

Monday night's council meeting turned into a discussion simply about fire protection and who was going to protect who.

Dealva Bussell and his wife Mary who live just outside the city limits of Brodhead on the Crab Orchard side of Hwy. 150 were among the first to ask questions.

Mr. Bussell asked who would come to his house in case of a fire.

He was told that the Brodhead Rural fire department would come from Quail, through main street in Brodhead past the city fire house.

Bussell, who is the former water superintendent for the city of Brodhead said that he thought it was not wise that a fire truck would have to come from Quail to his home if it was on fire, when the city had trucks in the city fire house that could be to his home in much lesser time.

Eugene Taylor and his two sons, Steve and Tim, who own E.S.T. Tools, a tool and die factory on Hwy. 150 were also very vocal about the

Cont. to A-8

Prominent businessman, Clarence Carter dies

Warren Clarence Carter, 81, prominent Rockcastle County businessman and former County Clerk, died Tuesday, July 15 at his home in Mt. Vernon.

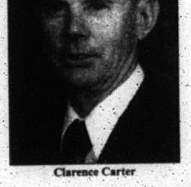
Mr. Carter, who is survived by his wife, Louise and three children, was involved in a wide range of business affairs in the county. After serving in the U.S. Navy for four years from 1940-45, he operated a sawmill business with his brother, Kenneth for four years, then worked with the United Iron Workers and at the Bluegrass Army Depot until the end of 1953. In 1954, he won the county clerk seat and served three terms after which he bought Carter's Market from Bob Ford in 1966 and operated it for 23 years.

He then bought Kastle Inn Restaurant and built the Days Inn Motel on adjacent property with four other investors.

In the 1980's, Mr. Carter also built nine Convenient stores in Mt. Vernon, Brodhead, Crab Orchard, Berea, Irvin, Corbin and Williamsburg.

Other business interests included

Cont. to A-7



Clarence Carter

Fiscal court opens bids on bridge over Roundstone Creek

Only one bid was submitted for a new single-span bridge over Roundstone Creek, just north of Roundstone School on the Homer Brown Road.

The court opened the bid, from N&N Contracting, Inc., at a special called meeting Friday afternoon.

The bid contained costs for three ways of constructing the bridge. For a 20 ft. wide, 42 ft. long bridge of precast concrete, the bid was $69,790. For an 18 ft. wide bridge, also precast concrete, the bid was $59,650 and for a 20 ft. wide bridge built with steel I-beams, the bid was $63,400.

Magistrate Billy McKinney noted that the bridge needed to be out of precast concrete since the beams would need regular maintenance.

The court accepted the bid, with the method of building to be determined later, contingent on funding by the state who will probably decide how the bridge will be built.

It was noted, by County Judge/Executive Buzz Carloftis, at the beginning of the meeting that Friday was the last day for Anna Rose Mullins, secretary to the fiscal court.

Judge Carloftis told the court that the county owed Mrs. Mullins a debt of gratitude for her 32-years of service to the county and that she would be greatly missed.

The court also approved a waste hauler permit for Waste Management, Inc. who had incorrectly filled out their application and could not be approved at the regular meeting of the court this month.

Food Coupon Program available for seniors

Rockcastle County Senior Citizens is working with local Farmers Market and Ky. Dept. of Agriculture for a Seniors Food Coupon Program.

As of July 1st, all seniors, 60 and older with monthly income less than $1,869 for two people or $1,385 for one person, will be eligible for the Farmers Market coupons. Call 256-4316 or stop by the Rockcastle Senior Citizen Center, located next to Lumber King on Hwy. 25 in Mt. Vernon to sign up. Please bring proof of income.

Carloftis garden dedicated at Cumberland College

Members of the Mt. Vernon Garden Club attended the "Planted & Enchanted" event at Cumberland College recently. Members of the club in the photo are: Jean Dewberry, Lucille Carloftis, Jessie Murray, Tammy Cox, Faye McCauley, Martha Cox, Marilyn Reed, Debbie Brown, Kathy McCauley and Vicki Cox.

Reprinted from the July 9, 2003 edition of The Sentinel Echo.

What do actors Julianne Moore, Edward Norton and entertainer Bette Midler and Cumberland College have in common? They all have gardens designed by acclaimed garden designer Jon Carloftis.

Carloftis drew a capacity crowd Saturday, June 28 at the Cumberland College garden event called "Planted & Enchanted." Over 200 guests gathered at the home of Cumberland College President and First Lady Jim and Dinah Taylor to dedicate the newly created "Carloftis Garden." As one of the nation's premier garden designers, Carloftis was on hand to share his expertise.

"Jon is a kind, gentle young man who is unaffected by his genius in creating garden rooms," Mrs. Taylor remarked. "Jon Carloftis is a wonderful speaker, his slide presentation was outstanding and we got wonderful ideas of things to try at home and in our garden as well," said Susan Slusher in an email message she sent to her local newspaper.

Mrs. Taylor explained the day as a day of celebration. "A celebration of Jon's talent and vision, and a celebration of family."

The "Carloftis Garden" was dedicated in honor of Carloftis' family: his parents, Carlos and Lucille Carloftis and his five siblings. The Carloftis family home is in Livingston, Kentucky. Several members of the family attended Cumberland College.

"Jon's love for family is obvious in all that he does," Mrs. Taylor stated. "The fact that he wanted the garden he created dedicated to his parents and siblings proves that love. "Several months ago, Mrs. Taylor approached Jon with the idea of him designing the garden located behind the president's house. After just one look at the garden, Jon said he knew he wanted to take on the project. "Except for the fish pond and the stonework, it (the garden) was just a gully," he said. "I knew right away I wanted to do it."

According to Mrs. Taylor, the Carloftis family donated the entire garden, including lawn furniture. "Lucille Carloftis has been a dear friend of ours for many, many years," Mrs. Taylor said. "She is the epitome of a gracious, sophisticated lady who is devoted to her family and is a supportive and loving friend to all who know her."

The dedication plaque located in the garden was donated by the City of Williamsburg. Mayor Bill Nighbert was on hand at the dedication.

Members of the Cumberland College Patriot Arts League organized the entire event, with all proceeds going to the cultural arts programs at the College.

Guests of the event were also treated to a slide presentation by Carloftis, a brunch featuring stuffed French toast and quiche and gourmet desserts, made by Patriot Arts League member Linda Davies of Barbourville.

Cont. to A-7

Jon Carloftis spoke to the capacity crowd at the June 28th dedication of the "Carloftis-Garden" at Cumberand College.