



Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue and the Mt. Vernon Police Department responded to a two vehicle accident Tuesday night on U.S. 25 near Wendy's in Mt. Vernon. Authorities say Donnie Hammond 52, of Knox County was driving a Robinson Sausage box truck on Hwy 25 when the engine blew out creating smoke across all four lanes of traffic. Dusty Lee Richardson, 31, of Mt. Vernon was traveling west on US 25 and rear-ended Hammond's truck. Hammond refused treatment at the scene. Mrs. Richardson and four passengers in her vehicle had to be treated for minor injuries.



Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue and the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department responded to a single car accident Christmas Eve morning on New Brodhead Road in Mt. Vernon. Authorities say Dortha DeBorde, 75, of Mt. Vernon was traveling west on New Brodhead Road when she lost control of the vehicle. Deborde reportedly overcorrected causing the vehicle to flip multiple times. DeBorde and her passenger Charlene Reynolds, 76, of Mt. Vernon were transported to the Rockcastle Regional Hospital. Reynolds was treated for non-life threatening injuries and later released. Deborde was flown to the UK Medical Center where she died on Sunday, December 30th, following a surgery.

Wet/dry vote highlights first six months of 2012

A decision over the future of the Cedar Rapids Recreation Center was made, a special election saw voters in Rockcastle County give an emphatic no to the sale of alcohol in the county and, in the May primary election, Eliza York was elected Circuit Court Clerk. These were just a few of the top stories in the first six months of 2012 in Rockcastle County.

In January: Jada Hayes, 7 and Malachi Hayes, 5 of Mt. Vernon lost their lives in a traffic accident on the new Hwy. 150. A majority of the board of education turned thumbs down to a proposed school property-wide smoking ban. Brenda McKnight and Larry Hammond filed as candidates for the seat of Circuit Clerk Teresa Vanzant who planned to retire in December. A new Wellness Center opened at Rockcastle Regional Hospital. Long-time state representative Danny Ford announced his plans to retire in December of 2012 and U.S. Navy Captain (Ret.) Roger Coldiron announced his candidacy for Ford's seat. A grand re-opening ceremony was held for the newly renovated Citizens Bank in Brodhead and Joe Mullins, who had served as a member of the Mt. Vernon City Council for over 20

years, died. His youngest son, Cliff, was named to fill his unexpired term.

In February: Eliza York filed for the office of Circuit Court Clerk. The Mt. Vernon City Council approved a 36% water rate increase to pay for a water tank capital improvement project. Local pastor Mark Eaton entered the race for state representative. A petition, containing 1,411 signatures, to place a wet/dry vote on the ballot in the May primary was presented to County Clerk Danetta Ford. Ford's office verified 816 of the signatures and a special election was set for March 31st by County Judge/Executive. The date had to be moved to April 3rd because of a state law that said the election had to be held on a Tuesday. Trevor Todd, a 4th grader at Roundstone Elementary School, was the overall county spelling bee winner. Mahala Saylor, RCMS, was the 2nd place winner; Elijah McKinney, BES 5th grader, got 3rd and Caroline White, a 5th grader at MVES was fourth and the City of Livingston began the process to become the first Trail Town in Kentucky.

In March: The former Plasticware building and machinery were sold at a Master Commissioner's

Sale. The equipment brought \$3,170,000 and was bought by Anchor Packaging. Citizens Bank bought the building for \$2,343,000, the total of the mortgage the bank held on the property. Seven people were arrested for manufacturing methamphetamine in seven separate meth lab raids. Cedar Rapids, which was purchased by a group of former and current members, after members of the fiscal court declined to approve the purchase of the facility for operation as a county park, was reopened March 1st for

golfing and the sale of swim, family and individual memberships. David King, of King Bottling, producers of Climax Water, received the Small Business of the Year Award at the annual Farmers/Business Banquet. Others honored included: Shirley Cummins, Executive Director of Rtec, recipient of the 2011 Large Business of the Year Award; Steven Eversole, owner of Back Porch BBQ, received the Business of the Year Award; Mike Deborde re-

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Christmas saved for family after losing home to fire

By: Doug Ponder

Christmas was saved for a Mt. Vernon family who lost their home to a fire on Christmas Eve night.

Amy Cromer, 26 and her boyfriend John Wells, 24, lost their Sand Springs home to a fire on the night before Christmas when the family wasn't home. The couple lived there along with three children, eight-year-old Jase Cameron, six-year-old Jaden Cameron and two-year-old Dawson Cameron.

The house was a total loss and the couple did not have homeowners insurance. Only a few Christmas presents could be saved from the residence during the fire.

However, after the Christmas presents were saved, severe fire and smoke damage was discovered once they were unwrapped.

Cromer said she had taken her children with her while she was doing some last minute Christmas shopping. Cromer also said that Wells was at work during the time of the fire.

"Neither one of us smelled a burning smell when we left and we had also turned everything off. So we really don't know what happened," Cromer said. "I just thank the Lord it didn't happen when we were all asleep."

After the fire, the family stayed the night with Cromer's

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Sheriff's Dept. asks for more help from court

Dale McNew, financial officer for the Rockcastle County Sheriff's Department, told the court that without additional financial help from the court, Sheriff Mike Peters would have to reduce his staff even further.

McNew said the depletion of the forfeiture funds has caused over \$63,000 in expenditures to have to be added to the general budget.

The additional funding requested is \$9,340 monthly, in addition to the over \$229,000 contributed in 2012 to the

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Mt. Vernon man arrested for stealing dishwasher from local restaurant

By: Doug Ponder

A Mt. Vernon man was recently arrested for receiving stolen property after allegedly stealing a dishwasher from a former Mt. Vernon restaurant.

Arrested was Dale J. Bradley, 28, of Mt. Vernon.

According to Mt. Vernon Police reports, officers Jeff Harness and Adam Stallsworth responded to a complaint of a theft at the former Rock Fire Steakhouse on 75 Holt Drive in Mt. Vernon.

dishwasher, despite there being a frost on the ground.

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Ford named Surplus Property Director by Gov.

By: Doug Ponder

Governor Steve Beshear recently appointed former Representative Danny Ford as the Surplus Property Director in the Kentucky Finance and Administration

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Swearing-In ceremony for Meade is Sunday

The official swearing-in ceremony for representative-elect David Meade will be held Sunday at the Lincoln County Courthouse at 3 p.m.

The ceremony will be conducted by Chief Circuit Judge Jeffery Burdette.

The public is invited to attend.



Western Volunteer Fire Department and Mt. Vernon Fire and Rescue responded to a house fire on Hwy 618 last Thursday night in Quail. Authorities say the house, which was completely destroyed, was owned by Dallas Kirby, 62, of Mt. Vernon. The cause of the fire remains unknown.

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