

Mount Vernon Signal

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High speed chase leads to arrest

By: Doug Ponder

A Berea man was arrested for DUI and drug possession last Thursday after he led police on a high speed chase on Mt. Zion Church Road in Mt. Vernon.

Arrested at the scene was Jarrad Rudolph Burdette, 27, of Berea.

According to state police reports, officers observed Burdette's vehicle pulled halfway off the roadway while they were patrolling in the area of Mt. Zion Church Road. When officers turned around to check on the suspicious vehicle, Burdette drove off at a high rate of speed.

Once officers were able to catch up to Burdette's vehicle and make the traffic stop, they noticed that Burdette had red, glassy eyes. Officers also noticed that Burdette appeared intoxicated while performing field sobriety tests.

(Cont. to A8)

Blood drive is next Wednesday

The Kentucky Blood Center is hosting a blood drive in Mt. Vernon next Wednesday.

Those wishing to donate in Rockcastle County can do so at the Christian Appalachian Project Child Development Center from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Every donor will be entered to win a \$250 Visa gift card and everyone who registers to give blood through September 13th is eligible to win a 2013 Toyota Prius.

To schedule a donation visit kybloodcenter.org or call 1-800-775-2522. Blood donors must have a photo ID, be seventeen-years-old, weigh at least 110 pounds, be in good health and meet other requirements. Sixteen-year-old donors must have a signed parental permission slip which can be found at www.kybloodcenter.org.

Two arrested for drug possession

By: Doug Ponder

Two people were arrested for drug possession Sunday night after police made a traffic stop on Hwy 150 in Mt. Vernon.

Arrested at the scene were Joey Walker Griffith, 40, of Sadieville and Ginger Michelle Mullins, 40, of Frankfort.

According to state police reports, officers made a traffic stop after noticing Griffith's vehicle had expired tags.

Once officers approached the vehicle, they noticed that Griffith and Mullins both had pin point pupils. Officers also said that both Griffith and Mullins appeared intoxicated while performing field sobriety tests.

After searching the vehicle, officers found various drug paraphernalia items, including marijuana pipes and snorting straws. Inside Mullins' purse, officers found a one-half Loratab tablet, marijuana pipe and another snorting straw containing a white pill residue.

Officers also found 1 1/2 Hydrocodone tablets and a snorting pen on Griffith at

(Cont. to A8)



Students at Mt. Vernon Elementary School are shown getting off the bus for their first day of school in Rockcastle County on Wednesday. The Rockcastle County School Board reports 2,895 students currently enrolled in Rockcastle County Schools. Enrollment in the school system is slightly up from 2,829 students during the 2012-2013 school year. Above, Kim Graves escorts her daughter, Addy Farley for her first day of kindergarten.

Fiscal Court discusses new equipment for road dept.; raises for employees

At Tuesday's regular meeting of the fiscal court, County Judge/Executive Buzz Carloftis told the magistrates that he had been researching costs for a new/used covered tractor for the road department, a new mower and a skid loader (bobcat as it is commonly known).

Carloftis said he, and County Treasurer Joe Clontz had looked at a used John Deere 5083E, enclosed tractor with only 30 hours on it, offered for \$35,000. The tractor costs \$43-44,000 new, Carloftis said. However, Magistrates Gary Burdette and Bill McKinney expressed concern with the E series with Burdette saying the general feeling was the E or D series were "not worth having." No decision was made on that item.

Carloftis then told the court that he had also been looking at several brands of skid loaders, because "they are easier to move around than a backhoe." Carloftis said that, used, prices ranged from \$26,000 to \$29,000 with a new one being available for \$34,700 at the state contract price. Several of the magistrates agreed to look at the machines and make a decision at a later date.

McKinney then commented that if the court were to buy a tractor, skid loader and mower, "there won't be any money left to work on roads." However, Carloftis

disagreed, telling the magistrates that the road department currently has \$945,692 in it, since receiving the county's share of the truck license distribution and the first installment of county road aid funds from the state. He also noted that the

general fund's balance, which includes occupational tax revenue, was currently at \$835,809.

No action was taken on the matter until the magistrates have a chance to look

(Cont. to A8)

4th annual Run, Bike and Hike is Saturday

The 4th annual Rockcastle Regional Hospital Run Bike or Hike will be held in Rockcastle County this Saturday.

The event will begin and end at the Lake Linville Recreational area. It will feature a 2-mile walk, 5K run, and a duathlon. The duathlon consists of a 5K run, followed by a 16.8 mile bicycle ride, followed by a 2.2 mile run. More than 200 people are expected to participate in all of the events combined.

The 5K run and 2-mile walk will be held on Lake Linville Rd. The second run of the duathlon will be on Barnett Rd. The bicycle portion of the duathlon will begin at Lake Linville and will go up Mount Zion Church Road and Brindle Ridge Road to Brodhead, then onto Chesnut Grove Road, back on Brindle Ridge, to Hurricane School Rd, then Renfro Creek Road back down to the lake.

Residents are being asked to drive cautiously

and be aware of cyclists in these areas from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Those who live along the route who will be out that morning are asked to proceed out of driveways slowly and cautiously.

"Our primary concern is safety," Southern KY AHEC Director Dwain Harris said. "We want the participants to have a positive, safe experience."

More than 30 volunteers will be posted along the route to direct cyclists and caution motorists. Signs will also be posted along routes.

The organizers of the event is Rockcastle Regional Hospital and the Rockcastle County Chamber of Commerce.

Proceeds go to the American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge in Lexington. We'd like to thank all of our official sponsors who help make this race possible, including Citizens Bank, City of Brodhead, City of Livingston, City of Mt.

(Cont. to A8)

Numerous items approved by School Board for 2013-2014

By: Doug Ponder

Several items were discussed during the monthly school board meeting Tuesday night that dealt with policy, procedure and tax rate updates for the 2013-2014 school year.

Superintendent David Pensol presented a policy and procedure review packet to the board that included several different changes made by the Kentucky School Boards Association.

The majority of the KSBA changes came in the area of how school booster clubs should operate. He said booster clubs can either operate under the district as a school activity fund or they can operate as an independent organization. However, Pensol said if they choose to be an independent organization the booster club would have to obtain their own tax ID number, provide their own financial report, own their own liability insurance, etc.

ity insurance, etc.

Pensol said that the KSBA changes came as a result of the misuse of funds by booster clubs in other districts and that they are trying to pull booster clubs "under the umbrella" of a school activity fund.

Finance Officer Melanie Lyons said that there has also been major changes by the KSBA about fundraisers. She said organizations now have more restrictions on what they can and cannot do.

"You can't set a certain limit that someone must sell or make for a fundraiser and you also can't force someone to do a fundraiser," Lyons said. "One student can no longer raise a large amount of money in a fundraiser and use it solely for themselves. If it is an organization fundraiser everything now goes into a large pot to be distributed evenly

(Cont. to A8)

Livingston mayor plans for Community Cafe

Livingston Mayor Jason Medley brought the city commissioners up-to-date Monday night on the progress of the Community Cafe.

Medley said the cafe is located in the former Livingston School's cafeteria in the basement. He said the area has been cleaned, wired, new window glass installed and drywall is in the process of being hung.

The mayor said plans are to hold community events in the room and to rent the room for local private events. He said work should be completed in another month. Plans are to hold the Livingston School Homecoming there in October, when a full day of activities are being planned for returning alumni.

Most of the expense for the project has been furnished by donations from alumni, Medley said, and volunteers have done the actual labor.

The mayor also reported on the sidewalk project for Main Street. He told the

commissioners that the actual project should begin in the summer of 2014. Medley said that the project, which has been on the table for three or four years, will be primarily one of repairing existing sidewalks with, hopefully, new street lights because material costs have risen since the 80/20 transportation grant was awarded.

Medley also told the commissioners that implementation of the new ordinances had gone smoothly, primarily because of the way Police Chief Carl Swanigan has enforced them. "You see a lot more people stirring around," the mayor said, "because it is a safer place for people to walk now."

The town will be featured in *Kentucky Living Magazine* in their October issue, Medley said. The magazine has a circulation of 1.2 million readers.

"There are a lot of good things going on with a lot of community support," Medley said.

Street lights discussed at Brodhead Council meeting Monday

By: Doug Ponder

Lighting issues was the main topic at the monthly Brodhead Council meeting Monday night.

Mayor Walter Cash proposed to the council that the city put up five more standard street lights within city limits. He suggested that two street lights be placed along Lynn Circle Drive and that three more be placed inside the new Depot Park along the walking trails.

"I drove to Lynn Circle the other night and it was pitch black dark. If I lived on that road I would need a street light," Cash said. "We also need the three lights inside the park to help light

it up more as well."

Clerk Becky Bussell said that Kentucky Utilities would install and maintain the five street lights. She also said that having five more street lights wouldn't make a huge difference on the city's monthly electric bill.

Councilman Mark Buras agreed with Cash and said that the street lights would be a great investment for the city, especially at the new Depot Park.

"The lights at the new park is a saving grace as far as vandalism is concerned," Buras said. "There hasn't

(Cont. to A8)

Of Special Note Inside

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- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----------|
| • Viewpoints | Pg. A2 | • Courthouse News | Pg. B2 |
| • Obituaries | Pg. A3 | • Classifieds | Pgs. B5-7 |
| • Church News | Pg. A6 | • Sports | Pg. A6 |

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