

Thursday Night Lights



Sports, 1B

# THE RECORD DELTA



See page 4A

Adrian Alton Buckhannon Ellamore Evergreen Excelsior French Creek Hinkleville Hodgesville Kanawha Head Kesling Mill Lorentz Mt. Nebo Queens Rock Cave Sago Selbyville Tallmansville Tennerton

Upshur County's Newspaper

UPSHUR UPDATE

## Police search property for body of Luke Stout

By Amanda Hayes  
Senior Staff Writer

BUCKHANNON — The West Virginia State Police brought in a cadaver dog team recently to search a residence on Riley Heights for the remains of a man reported missing nearly three years ago.

Trooper First Class J.A. Rich confirmed a search for the body of Luke Stout was conducted at a house on Riley Heights where Rodolfo "Chino" Villagomez lived prior to his arrest for the murder of Joshua Oberg.

Rich stressed that there had been no tips or evidence to point to Stout being at that residence, but the current homeowner had expressed concerns and wanted to rule out the possibility.

"It was more to ease the homeowner's mind," Rich said.

Nothing was found in the search, but Rich said the Luke Stout case remains open and he is still following up on any leads he receives.

Stout was last seen July 8, 2012 walking down his driveway, according to previous stories. He was to catch a ride with someone at the bottom of the driveway. Stout never returned home.

See Body, Page 6A

## WEATHER

TODAY  
Chance of showers  
80/59



SATURDAY  
Chance of showers  
80/60



SUNDAY  
Chance of t-storms  
83/64



# Man killed in wreck

Russell Deuley, 66, died after collision at Rt.33/Kesling Mill intersection

By Amanda Hayes  
Senior Staff Writer

BUCKHANNON — An Ellamore man died after pulling the truck he was driving into the path of another vehicle on Route 33 Tuesday.

Russell Deuley, 66, was pronounced dead at St. Joseph's Hospital 45 minutes after the 2:15 p.m. crash. Deuley's wife, Diana, 68, was taken to Ruby Memorial Hospital. She was listed in fair condition Thursday afternoon, according to a Ruby Memorial Hospital spokeswoman.

The wreck occurred as Stan-

ley G. Kwiatkowski, 63, of Bridgeport, was driving a 2011 Dodge 1500 pick-up eastbound on Route 33. As Kwiatkowski approached the Kesling Mill crossover, a 2005 Toyota Tacoma driven by Russell Deuley pulled into the path of Kwiatkowski, who T-boned the Tacoma.

The Tacoma ended up across Route 33 pointing up the bank on the westbound side, while the Dodge came to a rest off the Kesling Mill Road.

Kwiatkowski reported a possible injury but did not go to the hospital.

See Wreck, Page 6A



AMANDA HAYES/The Record Delta

The driver of this Toyota Tacoma was killed after he pulled out in front of another truck at the intersection of Kesling Mill and Route 33 Tuesday afternoon.

# OH CRAP!

Sewage truck overturns on Rt. 20



TENNERTON — Johnny Howard, of Buckhannon, was driving this Zinn Inc. truck north on Route 20 just past Parkwood Drive when he wrecked Thursday afternoon, according to Trooper First Class J.A. Rich with the W.Va. State Police. Howard said he was coming down the hill when a vehicle stopped ahead of him, causing him to turn the sewage tanker into a small hill, where it rolled into a pole. The wreck is under investigation, with the Public Service Commission, the DEP and Mon Power all responding. Liquid was leaking into a ditch beside the road. The Buckhannon Fire Department and Adrian Volunteer Fire Department, along with Upshur County EMS, were among the other responding agencies. Cpl. B.K. Wright with the WVSP assisted with the investigation. Howard reported only minor injuries.

Photos by AMANDA HAYES/The Record Delta

## Police make felony shoplifting arrest

By Amanda Hayes  
Senior Staff Writer

BUCKHANNON — Police say an Elkins man who allegedly shoplifted items on Tuesday from the Buckhannon Walmart returned the next day only to be caught in the act.

Zachery Joel Koontz, 28, allegedly cut packages open and concealed items before he walked out of the store without paying for them, according to the criminal complaint in the Upshur

County Magistrate Clerk's office.

"The first night he took a speaker and an external modem and he tried to steal a laptop," said Lt. Doug Loudin, the investigating officer from the Buckhannon Police Department.

Koontz did not leave the store with the laptop, just the speaker and modem valued at \$142.94, according to the criminal complaint.

On Wednesday, Koontz returned to Walmart and allegedly cut open packaged

items and concealed them in a backpack and Walmart bags, but was spotted by Walmart's loss prevention officer, who called 911.

The value of the items Koontz attempted to shoplift was \$592.11. Loudin said there were too many items to name.

Further review of surveillance video allegedly showed Koontz shoplifting the speaker and modem on Tuesday, he added.

See Crime, Page 5A



Zachery Joel Koontz



## Countdown begins for BBQ Bash

Almost time for 'Almost Heaven'

By Ashley Hill  
Staff Writer

BUCKHANNON — Barbecue. Charcoal. Big rigs. Pitmasters. This isn't your everyday "backyard grill down."

It's almost time for West Virginia's one and only Kansas City BBQ Society-sanctioned competition.

Thirty-nine competitors from 11 states are ready to take center stage at the Almost Heaven BBQ Bash on June 19-20. The teams, taking their jobs seriously, are represented by such names as "Apocalypse Now," "Chix, Swine and Bovine," "Drillin' and Grillin' BBQ," "Bar-B-Que Mayham" and others.

But before they compete on Saturday, Festival Fridays' entertainment will revolve around the barbecue celebration. With live music in the background, children can light their grills — with the help of their parents — in a competition at 6 p.m. at Jawbone Park.

Children ages 7 to 15 will square off without parental help in an exposition of cookery called the "Kids Q." Ages 7-10 will prepare six portions of burger for law enforcement — the judges — and ages 11-15 will prepare chicken thighs.

Buckhannon Rotary Club has offered to purchase grills and meat for the cookoff. Contestants must bring their own utensils and seasonings.

The final day to enter is Friday, June 12, with a \$30 entry fee. The winner, however, will be bestowed with cash and an event T-shirt.

See BBQ Bash, Page 5A

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