

Pilot dies in crash

Crash south of airport in Jefferson County kills ultralight pilot

BY TESA GLASS

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MT. VERNON — A local man has died after the ultralight aircraft he was piloting crashed in a wooded area south of Liberty Road in Jefferson County.

The name of the victim is not being released pending notification

of the family.

At least two citizens witnessed the ultralight go down south of Liberty Road, east of Chestnut Acres Road. The emergency call came in just before 4 p.m. Tuesday, and Mt. Vernon Outland Airport Manager Chris Collins was called moments later.

The wreckage was located by a resident with an ATV, Collins, Jefferson County Sheriff's Deputies and the Jefferson Fire Protection District personnel in a wooded area near a creek. Collins left the scene to go to the airport to check on hangars and verify the pilot was the owner of the

ultralight. Collins also said he notified the Federal Aviation Administration of the crash.

"Usually, if it's just an accident with an ultralight, the FAA is not involved in an official investigation," Collins explained. "But in this case, there is a fatality, and they will conduct an official investigation."

Airport officials conducted a low fly-by of the crash site, taking photographs for the investigator, and the National Traffic Safety Administration spoke with first responders and requested photos on the ground of the crash site to aid in the investigation.



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Jefferson Fire Protection District, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Mt. Vernon Police and Litton Ambulance wait to go back to the aircraft crash scene on Tuesday afternoon.

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