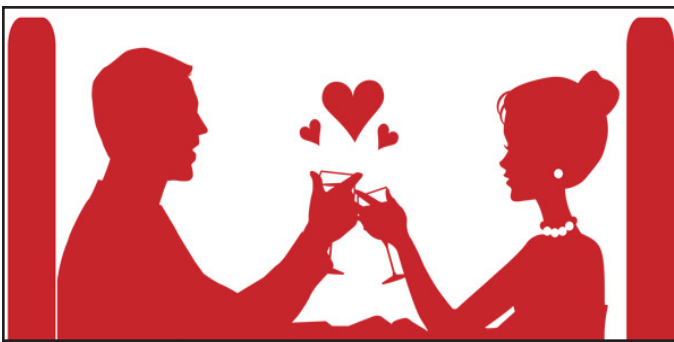




Little Sweethearts – Page 13



Happy Valentine's Day



Patriots Basketball – Page 12 & 13

The Estill County Tribune 50¢

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INC 3¢ TAX IN KY

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 33 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2014 IRVINE & RAVENNA, KENTUCKY 40336 14 PAGES

Ravenna starts process of merging with Irvine Voters in the two cities will make the final decision at the polls

by CATHY DAWES
The Estill County Tribune
A first reading of an ordinance pertaining to the merging of the city of Ravenna and the city of Irvine was read by city clerk Susan Lay during the Ravenna Council meeting on Monday, February 10, 2014.

The ordinance states that if both city governments approve the ordinance then it will be put on the ballot for the next general election that will be held in November. At that time residents of the Irvine and Ravenna will vote on whether

or not the cities will merge into one.

Mayor Estine Tipton said that three council members from Ravenna and three from Irvine met to review the situation and to decide if the merger would be feasible for both cities.

If the merge between cities did happen it would take up to a year before everything was finalized. Both cities have until August 12, 2014 to decide whether or not to have it on the ballot for the election in November. Both cities would be called the city of Irvine.

The insurance premium tax

was once again put to a vote by council members. William VanCleve said that he still wanted the tax lowered to the same rate that Irvine has which is ten percent. Tina Johnson said she was all for lowering the tax if she could be certain that the merging of the two cities would actually happen because it would be lowered anyway. However, if the merging of the two cities fell through then it would put the city of Ravenna in a bind to pay the bills each month.

"I don't think it's a good idea to break yourself down to

a point where you can't operate each month," stated Jim Richardson.

Louis Officer agreed and said that it just didn't seem feasible at this time for the city to lower the tax rate when they still had outstanding bills to pay such as the worker who had been scraping the streets during this bad weather. He made the motion to keep the tax rate the same with all council members in agreement other than VanCleve.

Mr. VanCleve stated that he would like to see all the ordinances of the city of Ravenna

brought up to date. He said the ones that concerned him pertained to holidays and compensation for city employees. He added that bonuses were to be given out according to an ordinance and he thought it was time to bring them up to date.

Mayor Tipton said that a committee had been reviewing and amending ordinances while Charles Crowe was still in office but had not completed them.

VanCleve stated that all council meetings had been illegal since the meetings had been moved to the second

Monday of each month because the ordinance stated that they are held on the first Monday of each month at six o'clock. Mayor Tipton explained to him that the meetings had been changed because it was too hard to get a financial report completed by the first Monday of the month.

The council agreed that a small committee would be formed once again to begin reviewing and amending ordinances. Jim Richardson and William VanCleve agreed that they would be on the committee to work on the ordinances.

3 are charged with unlawful transaction with a juvenile

Two women were arrested Thursday, and a man was arrested on Friday following an investigation involving a 14-year-old female.

The mother of the girl was the first one arrested. She is Ginny McKinney, 29, of Winchester.

The citation states that on November 26, 2013, McKinney asked her daughter to steal 20 Neurontin from her grandmother.

It adds the child stole the pills that night from her grandmother living at Mt. Crest, and the mother came from Winchester the following day to retrieve the pills from her mother.

Sgt. Michael Gross said the mother and daughter both admitted to the activity.

McKinney was charged

with unlawful transaction with a minor second degree and endangering the welfare of a minor.

The second woman arrested was Malea D. Combs, 30, of Mt. Crest, Irvine. She faces the same charges.

The citation says that on January 6, 2014, Combs bought 10 Neurontin tablets from the juvenile. Capt. Adrian McKinney said that Combs stated she paid the juvenile \$5.00 for the Neurontin the juvenile had stolen from her grandmother.

Capt. McKinney said that Combs also admitted to smoking marijuana with the juvenile and the juvenile's boyfriend at an earlier date.

On Friday, Irvine Officer John Sturniolo arrested Mark Anthony Hinds, 19, of River Drive on a warrant

obtained by Sgt. Gross.

Hinds was charged with sexual abuse, second degree, unlawful transaction with a minor second degree, and trafficking in marijuana, less than eight ounces, first offense.

The warrant states that between December 1, 2013 and February 1, 2014, Hinds

had sexual intercourse several times with the juvenile.

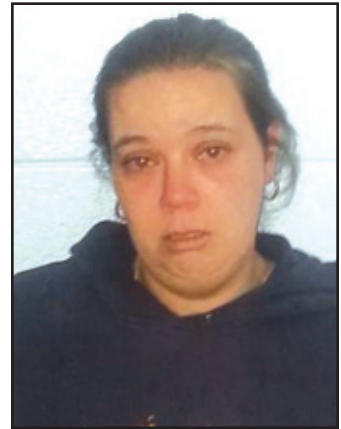
It adds that on various occasions, Hinds sold and gave marijuana to the female knowing that she was 14 years of age.

Hinds was arraigned in Estill District Court on Monday, February 10.

Continued on Page 5



Ginny McKinney



Malea Combs



Irvine council member Nelle Williams cut a cake for the Bob Walker memorial at Monday's council meeting. The council observes the memorial annually at their first meeting in February since the murder of the city's police chief nearly 30 years ago.

Driver arrested for theft after high speed chase

A Sand Hill man was arrested Saturday afternoon following a high speed chase on Wisemantown Road.

Prior to the pursuit, Bill Goosey of Sand Hill Road reported seeing someone take a 10 foot joint of cast iron pipe from a construction site on Sand Hill Road. The pipe had a four-foot diameter and belonged to the Estill County Water District. It was valued at \$200.00.

Goosey reported that a male had placed the pipe in a teal green Chevy truck. As the truck left the scene, Goosey followed it onto Dark Hollow Road.

Deputy Randy Farthing said he observed Goosey following the truck on Dark Hol-

low Road. He stated he also saw the cast iron pipe fall out of the truck.

Farthing said he asked Goosey to stay with the pipe while he followed the pickup truck.

He stated he followed the truck on Dark Hollow Road, and it made a right onto Wisemantown Road. Farthing said he then activated his overhead lights and siren in an attempt to get the truck's driver to stop. He said he also observed the truck's registration plate number.

Farthing said that truck took off at a high rate of speed. It passed four cars, still traveling at a high rate of speed.

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Students miss 20 days; last day may be June 4

by CATHY DAWES
The Estill County Tribune

It seems as though the students in Estill County have been getting an extended Christmas break due to all the snow days that they have missed. As of Tuesday, February 11th students have missed a total of 20 days.

On Monday, Superintendent Bert Hensley said that the district is required to attend 170 six hour days of school. Students in the county attend extra time each day, therefore, that time can be used as 'bank' days.

He stated that a total of seven bank days have been used as make-up time and March 21st has been added as an instructional day.

March 21st is set aside for teachers from each county to attend a conference held by the Central Kentucky Education Association. All districts statewide are required to be closed on the day of the conference but due to inclement weather conditions, Frankfort has decided that the day can be used as a make-up day.

May 20th is election day and will not be used as a make-up day. Hensley said that Memorial Day is also an option but hated to make students attend school on that day.

The superintendent said that at this point spring break is still on but will be discussed at the next school board meeting. He said the board would decide whether or not to take

part of spring break or all of it just depending on how many more days students are out of school.

As of Tuesday, the last day of school for students is scheduled for June 4th, but that could change depending on the weather. Hensley said that it's very difficult to extend the school year further into June because the end of school reports have to be completed by the end of June. He also said that many teachers take summer courses as part of their continuing education and that would interfere with their classes.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held on February 20th at Central Office at 6 p.m.

Obituaries
Virginia Babb, 71
Dennis Bates, 75
Gerald Estes, 70
Mary M. Flynn, 75
Joy L. Gilbert, 54
John Goodwin, 63
Clarence Stamper, 53
Stanley Wiseman, 65
See Page 6

KSP arrests woman for identity theft and forging documents

An Irvine woman was arrested February 5 by Kentucky State Police on multiple charges.

Cynthia Henry Puckert, 29, of Oak Street, Irvine was charged with theft of identity without consent, attempt to obtain controlled substance by fraud, and six counts of forgery third degree.

The citation states that Puckert used the identity of another female to receive treatment at Whitehouse

Clinic on January 21, 2014. It adds that she also attempted to obtain narcotics but was denied them due to the victim's Kasper report.

The citation adds that Puckert forged several documents to receive treatment at Whitehouse clinic.

Puckert was arraigned February 7. She pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Her preliminary hearing is set for Feb. 12. Bond has been set at \$10,000 cash.



As snow melted off roofs on Monday, the water quickly formed icicles in the cold temperatures.



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