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50¢ INC 3¢ TAX IN KY

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Three charged with trafficking in drugs

The Irvine Police Department continues making arrests for illegal drug trafficking within Irvine and Estill County.

While many were shopping for bargains the day after Christmas, IPD was busy rounding up three suspected drug dealers that afternoon.

Melissa Renee Shepherd Hall, 48, was arrested at her residence at 607 Cantrill Street, around 4:35 p.m.

She was charged with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, and tampering with physical evidence.

Hall's citation states that she illegally sold drugs to

a confidential informant, which was recorded by video and audio. It adds that Hall sold one half gram of cocaine to a confidential informant.

Officer John Stumiolo reported that Hall went to another location to purchase cocaine and returned to her residence to sell it to the confidential informant.

The officer said that Hall opened the package of cocaine and snorted a portion of it. Then she allegedly asked the confidential informant if he wanted her to add something to it.

Hall's bond was set at \$40,000 cash.

Jeffrey Dale Harrison, 32, and Misty Dawn Melton, 21, were arrested by Hall at his residence. Harrison's address was given as 238 Cantrill Street. Melton's address was listed as 238 High Street. Cantrill runs parallel to Broadway at the Ravenna end of Irvine. High Street starts at Broadway and crosses Cantrill.

Harrison was charged with four counts of trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, carrying a concealed deadly weapon, and persistent felony offender in the second degree.

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Jim Wise, a paramedic and employee of Estill Medical Services (EMS) since 1990, has been named director/chief of the organization. He took the position vacated by Ron Campbell, who became assistant director of Madison County EMS.

Jim Wise becomes the new director of EMS

Jimmie R. Wise has been working at Estill Medical Service (EMS) since before graduating from college. Recently he was named as director/chief of EMS.

He started working at EMS when it was in an old service station building on Broadway. He is the last of the EMS employees to have worked in that building. The year was 1990 and Wise was an EMT (emergency medical technician).

One person was on duty each night, and another was on call. If a run was to be made, the on-duty person called the on-call person. If two runs occurred simultaneously, another two people were called in.

In 1992, he became the first paramedic in Estill County. Two other early paramedics have moved on to other health re-

lated careers. Tom Kirby is working as a physician assistant for Dr. Herbert Long, M.D. Ron Jackson recently left as director of Estill EMS to become an assistant director in Madison County.

Full-time employees at the ambulance service now work 24 hours on duty and 48 hours off duty.

The ambulance service building near the hospital is like another home to the employees. They cook, sleep, and clean; just like they do at home.

The 48 hours off has allowed Wise to work at other related jobs in the past. He worked at the University of Ky. as a dispatcher and transportation specialist, and later was a flight paramedic for Air Methods of Ky.

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Melissa Hall



Jeffrey Harrison



Misty Melton

Estill man arrested for forgeries

A resident of Mountain Crest was arrested Saturday on 16 felony charges and a misdemeanor.

Stuart Alan Reece, 27, was arrested on a warrant obtained by KSP Trooper Z. Pennington.

The arrest warrant states that between July 27 and November 30 of this year, Reece took checks from the home of Neil Mays. It adds that Reece wrote the checks to himself, forged Mays' name on them, and cashed them.

Three of the checks, totalling \$700

were cashed at Stop & Shop. The other five checks were written to Dollar Deals for a total of \$1,565.

Reece was charged with eight counts of forgery in second degree, eight counts of criminal possession of a forged instrument, and theft by unlawful taking or disposition.

Bail for Reece was set at \$5,000 cash. If he is released on bond, he is not to be on the properties of Stop and Shop or Dollar Deals. He also cannot have any contact with the victim.

Woman takes contraband into jail

A female inmate at the Estill County Detention Center was arrested on new charges on Friday night.

Jessica Turner, 33, of Coal Wash Road, Irvine was charged with public intoxication, promoting contraband, first degree, and menacing by Irvine Officer John Stumiolo.

The citation states that Turner took tobacco, rolling papers, a cigarette lighter and two cigarettes into the jail.

The officer said that Turner had a strong odor of alcohol on her person, and she failed

field sobriety tests.

Turner allegedly told Stumiolo that she had drank two alcoholic drinks.

Other female inmates in the cell said that Turner had brought the contraband into the jail.

Stumiolo said that Turner became aggressive toward him. He said she began cursing, yelling, and putting her hands to his face.

Bond for Turner was set at \$2,500 cash. Court records say she was arrested for a new offense while a case was pending.

Burglars take large amount of items from Red Lick farm

Deputy Randy Farthing is investigating a burglary that occurred on a farm at Red Lick Road on December 22.

The burglary occurred on a farm owned by Steven Harrison.

A large number of items were taken from Harrison's farm, and a vehicle was driven onto the farm to remove the items. The intruders dumped a pile of scrap lumber beside the building.

Many of the items were taken from a locked outbuilding. Entry was gained by kicking the door and breaking it in.

Other items were taken from an unlocked barn. Bat-

teries were removed from a tractor and a truck.

No total was available on the items which were taken, and the inventory of stolen items continues to be added onto.

The items taken include a 12 volt battery, a 6 volt battery, 16 ft. extension fiberglass ladder, two 8-foot fold out doors, 18 ft. aluminum ladder, two tobacco jacks, a lime box, 12" post hole diggers, two Poland chain saws, Craftsman box with ratchet set, miscellaneous chains and metal parts, three shovels, two axes, and two hoes.

A theft of tools was reported to Farthing the same

day by Raymond Carroll of Overlook Drive, Irvine.

Carroll told Deputy Farthing that he had let his daughter borrow a cable skill saw, 6 foot ladder, and 50 foot extension cord.

His daughter left the three items on her porch and left her home at Oak Valley around 3:30 p.m. on December 22. When she returned home a half hour later, the items were missing.

Anyone with information on items stolen from either of these locations may leave a message for Deputy Farthing at the sheriff's office during business hours by calling 723-2323 or call 723-2201 after hours.

Obituaries

- Melvira Bellamy, 74
- Harold B. Casey, 68
- Roy Durbin, 98
- Jewel D. Hawkins, 66
- Elizabeth Lamb, 68
- Agnes D. Lewis, 76
- William A. Pope, 96
- Tracy G. Proffitt, 75
- See Page 6
- Charles Sizemore, 77
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December 22 was the last council meeting for Irvine Mayor Ernest Lee Farmer, (front, center) who had served for 8 years. The city's six council members were re-elected for a two-year term. From left to right are Fire Chief Tony Murphy, Tim Burkhart,

Janice Bush, Nelle Williams, City Clerk Robin Powell, Mayor Farmer, Tommy Joe "Tobo" Bryant, City attorney Rodney Davis, Billy Arthur, Glenwood "Woody" Tipton, and Police Chief Brad Smith.