

Cong. Barr Hosts Inaugural Veterans Benefits Training

On Thursday, January 15th, Congressman Andy Barr hosted an inaugural Veterans Benefits Training Program in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Louisville Regional Office.

After identifying issues in the application process for VA benefits, Barr invited the Regional Office to conduct training for Sixth District veterans and their representatives to help streamline the process. The training included procedures for filing claims, appeals, as well as how to apply for other benefits offered by the VA Benefits Administration.

While the VA regular conducts training in Louisville, this was their first training session in the Sixth Congressional District.

"We saw this as an opportunity to invite the VA to host a training program in a more centralized area for our constituents," Barr said.

"I am grateful to VA personnel for joining us in Lexington to educate our veterans on the claims process. It is a privilege to have the opportunity to assist veterans in what can often be a complicated process."

More than 30 veterans and Veteran Service Organization representatives attended the initial training from across the Sixth District. Congressman Barr anticipates hosting similar training events in the future.

The Congressman also invites all veterans and veteran advocates to join the Sixth District Veterans Coalition, a non-partisan organization that meets regularly to discuss matters facing the veterans community. To receive more information or to sign up for the coalition, please contact the Lexington District Office at (859) 219-1366.



Photos from the veterans training that Congressman Barr's office hosted this week in partnership with the VA administrative offices out of Louisville. One veteran from Estill County who participated was Darrell Calmes.

Irvine Police Arrest Log

Samuel D. Travis, 22, of Lilly Ferry Road, Irvine was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, second offense, on January 15 by Irvine Officer Sam Hensley.

Officer Hensley said he observed Travis at Shell Mart and he was stumbling as he walked through the store. he said that Travis then got into the driver's seat of a white 2002 Ford and left the parking lot.

The officer said he caught up with the vehicle on Wisemantown Road where he made a traffic stop. Hensley said Travis failed field sobriety tests and told him that he did not have anything to drink. Hensley said he took Travis to the Estill County Detention Center where a breathalyzer registered .256.

Two bench warrants were served by the Irvine Police Department on William M. Johnson, 31, of Rice Station Road, Irvine. Johnson was found guilty of public intoxication on February 19, 2014 and June 25, 2014. Judge Bo Leach issued the warrants because Johnson allegedly failed to pay fines of \$213 and \$233 on the two charges and a service charge of \$30 on each charge.

A Powell County bench warrant was served by the Irvine Police Department on Ernest C. Brinegar, 28, of N. Plum Street, Irvine. The warrant says that Brinegar failed to pay \$303 on his fine of \$303.00 after being found guilty of two traffic offenses on Jan. 22, 2013.

A bench warrant was served on Cindy Ballard, 31, of Wall Street, Irvine on January 15. She was found guilty on two traffic-related charges on November 21, 2012. The warrant was issued because Ballard had failed to pay \$643.00 in fines and court costs. Judge William Leach said she can serve 13 days in place of the fine.

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Jan. 6 Estill Circuit Court Docket

Circuit Court January 6

Kyle Matthew O'Hair, not transported, passed to Feb. 3.

Beatrice Howell, violation of pretrial diversion, passed to Feb. 3 for hearing. (Two cases.)

Joshua Wagers, defendant not present, not transported from Fayette County. preliminary pretrial set for Feb. 5 and regular pretrial for Feb. 27.

Michael Leforce, diversion revoked for assault. Sentenced on previous plea.

Fred Homer Rogers Jr., commonwealth withdrew motion to revoke diversion, continues with high risk monitoring/drug testing.

Kristopher Estes, preliminary pretrial March 5 and regular pretrial March 27.

Autumn F. Reed, diversion violated. Sentencing Feb. 3 on two cases

Michael Hickey, defendant in custody, not transported. Sentencing Feb. 3.

Glenn Newton, sentenced per plea to three years for three charges to run concurrently. Jail credit 247 days. Attend substance abuse treatment.

Thomas Scott Reeves, Informal pretrial Feb. 5 and regular pretrial Feb. 27. TICS, first and 2nd, TICS within 1,000 feet of a school, trafficking in marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Phillip Larrison, Bench warrant issued, bond returned. Preliminary pretrial Feb. 5 and regular pretrial Feb. 27. for theft by unlawful taking and receiving stolen property.

Greg Neal, TICS first and third degrees, preliminary pretrial Feb. 5 and regular pretrial Feb. 27.

William Puckett, TICS, first and TICS, 2nd (2 counts), trafficking in legend drug, preliminary pretrial Jan. 8 and regular pretrial Jan. 23.

Judy Abner, cultivation of marijuana, passed to Feb. 27 regular pretrial.

Brian Keith Brewer, arraignment, not guilty pleas

to burglary, third; criminal mischief, 1st; and criminal trespassing, Bond reduced to \$10,000 secured by 10 percent; preliminary pretrial Feb. 5 and regular pretrial Feb. 27.

Craig Shearer, convicted felon in possession of a handgun, drug paraphernalia, and persistent felony offender, violated conditions of release from drug test, bench warrant recalled, bond remains same.

Abraham Jeremiah Martin, sentenced per plea agreement, Residence to be outside commonwealth of Ky. during his five year probation.

Ryan Newton, bench warrant to be recalled.

Highway Dept. partners with NOAA

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Department of Highways District 10 has been accepted as a partner in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Weather-Ready Ambassador initiative. The Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador initiative is an effort by NOAA's National Weather Service to formally recognize NOAA partners who are improving the nation's readiness against extreme weather, water and climate events. District 10 is the first of Kentucky's 12 highway districts to become a WRN Ambassador.

"Our district works closely with the National Weather Service's Jackson office in responding to weather events that affect travel and highway safety," said Corbett Caudill, chief district engineer. "We

rely on information from them when we prepare for snow and ice removal. Flooding and severe weather events with high winds can also impact road conditions and cause problems for drivers. Our existing weather awareness communications efforts tie in nicely to the Weather-Ready Nation initiative, so this was a natural partnership for us."

District 10's public information officer, safety officer and incident management coordinator are members of a multi-discipline committee organized by the Jackson NWS office to develop and improve public communications strategies to increase awareness of the impact weather events can have on the lives of eastern Kentucky residents. The committee also

includes other governmental agencies, area media and nonprofit organizations. District 10's participation in the Weather-Ready Nation program came about as a result of that involvement. In addition, a number of District 10 personnel have been trained as weather spotters by NWS personnel.

"Many of our highway safety messages already involve adverse weather conditions," Caudill said. "From safe driving tips on snowy or icy roads to the 'turn around, don't drown' advice when motorists encounter flooded highways, these are exactly the types of efforts that the National Weather Service is looking for in its partner agencies."

"Ambassadors are critical to building a Weather-Ready

Nation," said Louis Uccellini, Ph.D., director of NOAA's National Weather Service.

District 10 includes the east-central and southeastern Kentucky counties of Breathitt, Estill, Lee, Magoffin, Menifee, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Powell and Wolfe. All 10 of these counties are within the Jackson NWS office's forecast area. During weather events or emergencies that impact travel, the district provides information to the public via Twitter and Facebook as well as sending updates to area media outlets.

More information on the NWS Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador initiative is available at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherready-nation/>. The Jackson NWS office's website is <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/jkl/>.



The Estill County Tribune

| Estill County | Adj. Counties | Kentucky | Out of State |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 year \$16.04 | 1 year \$26.42 | 1 year \$30.19 | 1 year \$32.00 |
| Sales Tax 0.96 | Sales Tax 1.58 | Sales Tax 1.81 | Sales Tax 0.00 |
| Total \$17.00 | Total \$28.00 | Total \$32.00 | Total \$32.00 |

**Seniors, 65 and older, may deduct \$2.50 from above totals

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____

Send this form with proper payment to:

The Estill County Tribune
 6135 Winchester Road
 Irvine, Kentucky 40336-8517

Local students earn dean's list honors at local universities

Morehead State University
 The Morehead State University Dean's List for the 2014 Fall Semester includes the following local students:

Patience Greer and Mary Morris of Irvine, and Anna Knox and Morgan Reynolds of Waco.

Western Ky. University
 Taylor D. Adams of Estill County has been named to the Dean's List at Western Kentucky University for the Fall Semester 2014.

Students making the Dean's List have a grade-point average of 3.4 to 3.79 on a 4.0 scale.

In December, 561 students completed their studies and were graduated from University of the Cumberlands (UC).

A combination of undergraduate as well as graduate degrees were awarded based on completion of requirements.

Allyson Harrison of Waco, KY earned a graduate degree.

University of the Cumberlands
 In recognition of their academic performance, the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs has announce the students that have been named to the University of the Cumber-

lands' (UC) President's List and Dean's List for the 2014 fall semester.

To be eligible for the president's list, students must have achieved a grade of "A" in convocation while maintaining a minimum cumulative scholastic standing a 4.00. To be eligible for the dean's list, students must have achieved a grade of "A" in convocation while maintaining a minimum cumulative scholastic standing of 3.50.

Michael Witt of Irvine of Irvine was named to both the President's List and Dean's List at the University of the Cumberlands.