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Floods cause more problems than usual

Two are rescued from flood waters at Pryse

by DELORES ROWLAND Estill County Tribune

At least four or five houses were affected by the rising waters of Chamberlain Branch early last Wednesday afternoon.

Judge Wallace Taylor said Monday that flooding was caused by debris which had formed into a dam at the drain pipe going under the CSX Railroad.

CSX brought in equipment to remove the debris and get the water flowing again.

Taylor said this was similar to a flooding situation in the same area about eight or nine years ago.

In other areas of the county, roads were closed because of normally expected flooding.

Taylor became unable to leave his home because of the flooding. He lives at Pryse.

When he left work on Thursday, he said he had

to go around the mountain on KY 52. Before he got to his home, he drove through about a foot of water.

When Taylor awoke Friday morning, he said he was trapped by the flood waters. He worked from home that day.

He said the flood waters were higher than predicted. The flood waters crested at 31 feet while the water is normally at 17 feet.

Because of the flooding at Pryse and other areas which were shut-off by floods, state road workers were unable to get into those areas to clear state roads of the ice and snow which followed the rain.

Then, as if flooding and bad roads weren't enough, residents at Pryse and Millers Creek lost their municipal water service.

On Friday, the Estill County Rescue Squad contacted CSX Railroad for clearance to use the railroad tracks to deliver drinking water. They were told when no trains would be on the



Judge Wallace Taylor

tracks along Millers Creek and Pryse.

The rescue squad used four-wheelers and delivered water from house to house at Pryse and Millers Creek. Taylor said they used water which was left over from the water distribution.

Taylor said his daughter also lives in the area. He was outside watching to make sure she made it to her home safely

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Flooding in the Twin Cities



As the rains came down and snow melted, the waters came up. Last Wednesday afternoon, a low lying area between Broadway of Irvine and Main Street of Ravenna flooded.



This photo taken from River Drive shows water surrounding a house on Main Street of Ravenna near the Irvine city line.

West Irvine home is burglarized

A burglary on West Cedar Grove Road remains under investigation, although the Estill County Sheriff's office has suspects in the crime.

Young told Deputy Randy Farthing that she heard a loud thump. She saw a male and a female coming out of a neighbor's house.

The report states the homeowner was in the hospital and another woman has been taking care of the house.

Young told the deputy that she called the caretaker, who told her to call 911. She told

Deputy Farthing that she recognized the couple as the caretaker's daughter and the daughter's boyfriend. She also gave the deputy a description of the car the couple was in.

Farthing's reports said that intruders kicked in a door to enter the house. Items reported taken include a radio/cd player, old coins and bank cards.

The deputy located the suspect couple in a vehicle fitting the description of the one at the break-in. Charges may be pending against the couple. A burglary charge is a felony.

TUESDAY St. Patrick's Day MARCH 17

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Irvine mayor breaks traditions in making new appointments

by CATHY DAWES Estill County Tribune

Mayor W.J. Noland got right down to business during the Irvine city council meeting on Monday night by recommending Regina Robertson to the I.M.U. Board of Commissioners for the second time in less than a month.

"The way I understand it, the decision we have to make is with the name that you put forth with a yes or no vote. So on that I'll make the motion to nominate Regina Robertson," stated Councilman Tobo Bryant.

The nomination failed to go through with three members of the council voting against it.

The next item on the

agenda was to appoint a mayor pro-tem. In the absence of the mayor the pro-tem would be able to make decisions on his behalf. Mayor Noland said that the way he understood the law, the pro-tem could be the city attorney, the city clerk, or a person off of the council.

"In the past we have always done the top vote-getter if they were willing to take it, but it's your call to make if that's what you want to do," stated Bryant. "I think I'll appoint the city clerk," said Noland.

JR. Blackwell addressed the council and said that he had been contacted by B. Williams back in December and was told that his term

was ending and asked if he would serve another term on the I.M.U. Board of Commissioners. He said that it was his understanding that Williams had submitted a letter to the city council regarding the matter until he read the newspaper two weeks ago.

Mayor Noland went on to say that some of the information that was printed in the newspaper was not accurate. Blackwell said that he was going to retire from the position.

"I know you don't want me in there, so you can put anyone in my place that you want to," stated Blackwell.

Tobo Bryant said that he wanted to thank Mr. Blackwell for the 25 years that he

had served on the board.

"I'd like to say something, but I'm just not going to say anything," said Councilman Billy Arthur.

Chief of Police Brad Smith informed the council that several repairs had been made on street lights throughout the city. He suggested that if any residents notice a street light that isn't working properly to contact the police department or to contact Kentucky Utilities.

Fire Chief Tony Murphy said that the fire department had responded to two structure fires in the past week. One of those fires happened on Broadway and the other happened at the Renaissance Apartments. Murphy said that the fire at

the apartments was a small fire located in the kitchen in a garbage can. He said he gave the residents of the building an instructional class about the importance of evacuating the building when the fire alarm goes off.

Around the table, Councilwoman Nelle Williams said that she was checking with Frankfort to see what people can or can't have on their porch and in their yards. She said that six years ago she started sending out letters to residents about the condition of their property and that some of the messes are worse now than they were back then. She added that a lot of the problem exists at rental properties.