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ECHS Prom Royalty



Deron Miller and Whitney Ferrell were crowned king and queen during the prom at the Estill County High School on Saturday night.

Tribune Photo/Cathy Dawes



Not all prom goers arrived in vehicles. Two couples were driven around the high school in a horse-driven wagon before entering the prom.

Tribune Photo/Delores Rowland

Ravenna must repay \$61,000 for allegedly misusing road funds

by CATHY DAWES
Estill County Tribune

Members of the Ravenna city council sat silently as city clerk Jamie Hill read the results of an audit that had been ongoing for several months. According to the findings, the city had misused Municipal Road Funds, otherwise known as MAR, in the years

of 2010-2014.

The report states that \$39,388 was moved from the road fund to the general fund to pay bills. There was also \$29,112 in documented expenses that the auditor deemed 'not allowable'. The report showed that the city had borrowed \$7,500 at one time but had repaid it back to the road fund account.

Hill stated that she and Mayor Tipton had been in close contact with Stephanie Banks who performed the audit and Mike Coffey from the transportation department and were told that the city had to repay a grand total of \$61,000 back to the road fund beginning on July 1, 2015.

"It's going to put us in a bind isn't it?" asked Councilwoman Beverly Thompson.

Mayor Tipton said that it would be hard on the city especially considering the fact that there are three bank loans that she knew nothing about when she took office. She said that the city was doing much better financially but an added \$500 payment

a month would definitely put a strain on the budget. Tipton said that she hoped she could convince former Mayor Charles Crowe and former city clerk Kim Parks to sit down with the auditor and explain some of the documentation to the auditor. She said she knew for a fact that work had been done on the streets by Terry Johnson and other city workers but the documentation was unclear and that's why it was denied by the auditor.

Thompson asked if there was anything said about paying interest on the \$61,000 and Tipton said no and that she hoped it stayed that way.

Jamie Hill said that she had overheard a conversation at a local restaurant about Mayor Tipton receiving back pay in December. Tipton said that she wanted to clarify that she had done nothing wrong when she took the back pay and the reasoning behind it was that she had cut the mayor's salary in half when she took office to help the city financially.

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Schools are locked down while shooter is loose

Teen is arrested for shooting grandmother

The Kentucky State Police, Richmond Post was contacted by Estill County Dispatch just before 1:45 p.m. Thursday, in reference to a female that had been shot in Estill County.

Estill County Schools were placed on lockdown until the suspected shooter was arrested, and students were late getting home that afternoon.

The initial investigation indicates that Dorothy Gregory, 59 years old of Irvine, was shot following an altercation with her grandson at a residence on Ida Grace Road

The alleged shooter, Jordan Payne, 19 years old of Richmond, left the scene and returned to a residence in Madison County. Madison County Sheriff's Office located

Jordan Payne at his residence on Mockingbird Hill Road, where he was arrested without incident.

Payne has been charged with Assault 1st Degree and Wanton Endangerment 1st Degree. He is lodged in the Estill County Detention Center.

Dorothy Gregory was transported to the UK Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries.

The ongoing investigation is being conducted by KSP Detective Zach Thompson.

Payne was arraigned in Estill District Court on Monday where he pleaded not guilty to his charges.

A preliminary hearing has been set for May 20 in district court.

Fatal crash on Millers Creek Rd. claims life of vehicle's driver

The Kentucky State Police, Richmond Post, is investigating a single vehicle fatal collision that happened just after 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 9 on Millers Creek Road.

The initial investigation has revealed that a 1998 Dodge truck, operated by Chester Harrison, 54 years old of Irvine, was traveling west on Millers Creek toward Irvine.

The vehicle, traveled off

the left side of the roadway and overturned. Harrison was pronounced deceased at the scene by the Estill County Coroner.

The wreck occurred near the one lane bridge.

The investigation indicates that Harrison was not wearing a seatbelt and alcohol may be a factor in the collision.

The ongoing investigation is being conducted by Trooper Jason Carpenter. He

was assisted at the scene by KSP Personnel, Estill County Sheriff's Office, Estill County EMS, Estill County Fire & Rescue, and the Estill County Coroner.

This is the first fatal wreck occurring in Estill County this year. It happened exactly one year to the day since the last fatal wreck was reported in Estill County.

Two traffic fatalities were reported in Estill County during 2014.

Indictments are returned

Eight indictments were returned Tuesday, May 5 by the Estill County Grand Jury.

Donna Kearns aka Donna Doty, 42, of Richmond Road, Irvine was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (oxycodone) and possession of a controlled substance, second degree (suboxone).

The indictment states that on July 25, 2014, Kearns sold 1/2 of a 30 mg. oxycodone to a confidential informant. It adds that she possessed 1/2 of a suboxone pill on Sept. 27, 2014.

Irvine Officer Karl Rifenburg conducted the investigation.

Twenty-five year old Chrystal Riggsby of Hood Avenue, Irvine was named in a six count indictment.

The indictment charged her with possession of a controlled substance in the first, second, and third degrees.

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Jessica Dawes was escorted to the prom by Jantzen Day.

Tribune Photo/Cathy Dawes



LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL

RESPECT • HONOR • REMEMBER

"Officer Down!" When those words blaze across a police band radio, they cause a stirring in the soul. Those words hopefully will never be heard in our community ever again.

However, there have been those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in our past. Let us as a community come together and remember those who have died in the line of duty. Also, let us join together with our Law Enforcement Officers who are serving us now, to have a better town and county. Everyone is respectfully requested to attend the upcoming Law Enforcement Memorial 2015 on Friday, May 15th at 7:00 p.m. in front of the Estill County Courthouse, to remember those who have given and support those who are serving now.

God Bless, Chaplain Chris Carlyle, Irvine Police Department