



The Estill County Tribune

EstillTribune.Com

VOLUME 39, NUMBER 28 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021 IRVINE & RAVENNA, KENTUCKY 40336 16 PAGES

3 are charged with drug trafficking

Sheriff arrests Estill man

A traffic stop on Jan. 4 led to felony charges for one Estill County man.

Sheriff Chris Flynn said he was sitting in the parking lot of Blue Banks Store when he noticed a vehicle fail to stop before turning right onto Wisemantown Road.

He made a traffic stop at nearby South Winn Ave., and consent was given to search the vehicle.

Flynn said he located a jewelry box with three orange pills believed to be suboxone. The driver's wallet in the floor had one suboxone strip in it.

The sheriff stated that he also located a set of digital scales and a small plastic bag of a crystal like substance, suspected methamphetamine.

Flynn said he weighed the suspected meth. on the scales found in the ve-

hicle, and it weighed approximately 3.75 grams.

He arrested the driver, Jesse Wayne Johnson, 54, of Picnic Hill Road, Irvine. Johnson was charged with disregarding a stop sign, trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, drug paraphernalia -- buy/possess, and possession of a controlled substance, third degree -- drug unspecified.



Jesse Johnson
Photo/3 Forks Jail



Sheriff Chris Flynn assisted the Irvine Police Department with a traffic stop on January 5. Flynn's drug dog, Ruby, alerted on the vehicle. A large quantity of suspected drugs and \$1,150 in cash were confiscated, which are pictured above with Ruby.

Photo courtesy of Sheriff Flynn

IPD charges Lee women



Brittany Shuler
Photo/3 Forks Jail



Jacklyn M. Jewell
Photo/3 Forks Jail

Two young Lee County women were arrested by the Irvine Police Department on drug charges in the early morning of January 5.

A vehicle driven by 22 year old Brittany Shuler of Beattyville was stopped on Sandhill Road for traffic violations.

Sheriff Chris Flynn deployed his K-9, Ruby, around the vehicle, which alerted to the presence of narcotics.

During a vehicle search, the citation says officers found a clear plastic container with lid in the center console near cup holders. A tied, clear baggie was inside that contained what appeared to be methamphetamine.

Detective Sam Hensley said Shuler, the driver, admitted that it belonged to her.

The officers continued their search, and a clear baggie containing other

clear bags was located in the purse of back seat passenger, Jacklyn M. Jewell, 29, also of Beattyville.

The citation stated that one bag contained what appeared to be marijuana and the other methamphetamine. Jewell claimed ownership.

Det. Hensley said the officers found a small, black lock box in the back seat near Jewell. A key was found under the front floorboard near Shuler. Another key was found in Jewell's pocket, and both keys fit the lock box.

Hensley said the lock box contained 8.25 grams of a gray/white powder, 27.7 grams of marijuana, three 800mg Gabapentin pills, two 10mg Methadone pills, one 7.5 mg oxycodone pill, a syringe with an unknown liquid, a set of digital scales and several new plastic baggies.

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Ravenna council reverts salaries to old ordinance; to work for free

by CATHY DAWES
Tribune Staffwriter

A special meeting of the Ravenna council was called for January 5th by newly appointed Mayor Valerie Flinchum. On the agenda for the special meeting were three items including payroll, hiring a city clerk, and discussing a city attorney.

Flinchum informed the council again that ordinances that had been passed pertaining to

payroll since 1998 were invalid. She said the ordinances had not been passed properly, therefore, the council would go back to the ordinance that was dated in 1998 that stated the mayor's salary would be \$300 per month and that each council member would receive \$25 per month for sitting on the council.

Sometime over the years the mayor's salary had been raised to \$800

per month and each council member received \$100 per month.

Flinchum added by saying that she would not be taking any salary for the remaining two years that is left in her term. All council members agreed that they would not take their pay as well and that would save the city thousands of dollars each year.

Flinchum said that as of January 1st that David

Harvey would no longer be paid for his position as fire chief. She said that the fire department was strictly a volunteer fire department and that the position should never have been a paid position.

She added that the fire trucks that the city of Ravenna owns have been called "parade quality" which means they are not in working order to use at a fire.

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Obituaries

- Margaret Camic, 90
- Sally Cheeks, 83
- Linda Conner, 66
- Wendy Harrison, 55
- Charles Kidd, 76
- Amanda Peterman, 47
- Wanda Prescott, 87
- Shonna Rogers, 47
- Keeirraha Smith, 22

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New school board members were sworn in January 5th

Donna Isfort, Bryan Covey are chairman & vice chair

by CATHY DAWES
Tribune Staffwriter

Newly elected school board members Carrie Smallwood and Tambo Hardy were sworn in during a special meeting on January 5th.

Superintendent Jeff Saylor explained their duties as a board member were to set the budget, pay bills, policies and procedures, and to evaluate and hire the superintendent.

"It's very important that we all be united as a board and it's okay to disagree. We do in the board meetings and then we move forward," stated Board Member Donna Isfort.

Board member Bryan Covey made a motion for Donna Isfort to replace Rhonda Hardy as chairperson of the board.

Board member Sheila Samples then nominated Bryan Covey to replace Isfort as vice-chair. All members were in favor of the nominations.

Isfort and Covey were also nominat-

ed to serve on the finance corporation. The board agreed to keep the meetings on the third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m.

Ethan Moore from WSKV spoke to the board about the partnership between the radio station and school system. Moore said they were having conversations with Danny Wood and William Hardy to announce the games like they have done for many years on another local radio station.

Saylor said that the first middle school volleyball game had been live streamed the other night.

Mr. Saylor said that back in December the governor had changed the guidelines to where schools could return to in person classes while they were still in a red zone as long as they followed the guidelines that were set by the state. Saylor said that while the local health department has been a great partner with the school system.

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M&W Hospital Announces Retirement of John Isfort

Administration at Mercy Health - Marcum and Wallace Hospital has announced that John Isfort, Senior Project Manager and Program Director for the Project HOME Network, will retire effective January 15, 2021.

Since July 7, 2004, John has served in a number of roles with many responsibilities including securing over \$4 million in grant funding for hospital programs. His recent grants allowed the hospital to implement behavioral health and substance use disorder programs; including the development of the Quick Response Team that has shown much success and impact. John was also instrumental in the hospital's Trauma Certification. Additionally, he has served on



John Isfort

several community and civic boards.

"We are grateful for John's accomplishments and contributions to our hospital that directly impacted patients and our community," said Trena Stocker, Marcum and Wallace Hospital President. "We wish John every happiness in this next phase of life."

Current grants will be managed by hospital associates.