



State Senator Brandon Storm, right, and State Representative Bill Wesley visited the Kentucky Steam Engine Heritage Museum in Irvine last week. When the museum is completed, Estill and other counties in the area are expected to benefit.

Newly elected state representative from Estill sponsors bills during this legislative session

Bill Wesley, state representative of the 91st district, has sponsored House Bill 277 and is a co-sponsor of HB 139, 210, and 218 during this spring's legislative session.

The 91st district includes Breathitt, Lee, Owensley, and Estill counties, and the Waco precinct of Madison County.

Wesley is an Estill County resident.

If HB 277 passes, it will amend KRS 186.430 to exempt operators license requirements for

a member of the United States armed forces, their spouses, and dependent children while they are assigned to Kentucky if they have a valid drivers license from another state and maintain a permanent residence elsewhere.

HB 139, if passed, will increase the minimum total and permanent in line of duty or duty related disability benefits for employees in the Kentucky Retirement System from 25% to 75% of the members' monthly pay.

The bill will also ensure that those disabled employees have full hospital and medical insurance benefits for the member, their spouse, and dependents.

HB 210 will require employers to provide the same leave policies to adoptive parents as they provide to birth parents.

It will change the applicable age of an adoption child from seven to ten, and it will create an exemption for specified categories of adoptions.

HB 218 will exclude

houses of worship from emergency condemnation authority.

It will prohibit a government entity from prohibiting religious services during an emergency to a greater extent that imposed on government organizations or businesses that provide essential services.

It will also prohibit a government entity from taking any discriminatory action against a religious organization on the basis that the organization is religious.

Two are arrested with drug charges



Charles Durham

Photo/3 Forks Jail
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The trooper added that he was able to secure an arrest while they were in the mud/water.

The citation states that during a search of Dixon's wallet, a small folded piece of paper containing a brown substance, believed to be heroin, and a clear plastic baggie that contained a crystal rock believed to be methamphetamine were located.

Dixon was charged with fleeing or evading police, first degree (on foot), and two counts of possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (heroin and methamphetamine).

Deputy Smith re-

mained with Durham while the trooper and sheriff were pursuing Dixon.

He said he saw Durham remove a bag from his pocket and throw it in order to conceal it. He added Durham was detained during the search for the bag, which turned out to be a small bag of suspected methamphetamine.

Smith added that he looked through the open door of Durham's outbuilding. In plain view was a bag of suspected methamphetamine and a scale.

The deputy says the total weight of the suspected meth was around 16.5 grams.

Durham was charged with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (greater than or equal to two grams methamphetamine).

Both Dixon and Durham were transported to Three Forks Regional Jail in Beattyville, but Dixon has been released.

Irvine Police Activity

Irvine Detective Sam Hensley served an Estill County bench warrant on Joseph Noland, 31, of Wisemantown Road, Irvine on January 25. The warrant was for alleged contempt of court libel/slander/resistance to order.

An Estill County bench warrant was served January 25 on Dills Berryman, 41, of Stacy Lane, Irvine by Det. Hensley. The warrant says that Berryman failed to appear.

Darrell Estes, 42, address unknown, was served with an Estill

County bench warrant on January 25 by Detective Hensley. Estes allegedly failed to appear in court.

Those three arrests took place at 101 Chestnut Street in Irvine.

Irvine Officer Jason Conrad served an Estill County bench warrant on Keitha Michelle Boyken, 32, of Macedonia Road, Irvine on January 26.

The warrant says Boyken was arrested for non-payment of court costs, fees, or fines.

She was arrested in the Shell Mart parking lot.

Clarification

Ravenna Mayor Valerie Flinchum says the amount that Fire Chief David Harvey is paid was incorrect in last week's article. She said Harvey is paid \$538 a month before taxes, instead of \$600.

She also stated that Ravenna being dry was not the only factor in Ravenna not being asked to annex the Kentucky Steam Engine property on Kirkland Avenue.

"We could not give them 24 hour police and fire protection," she stated.

Sheriff confiscates over \$10,000 in cash

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The citation adds that Flynn found a large amount of money rolled up in bundles and a zipper case with coins were found in a jacket behind the center console.

A count of the paper and coins added up to \$10,422.79.

Sizemore was charged with trafficking in a controlled substance, first

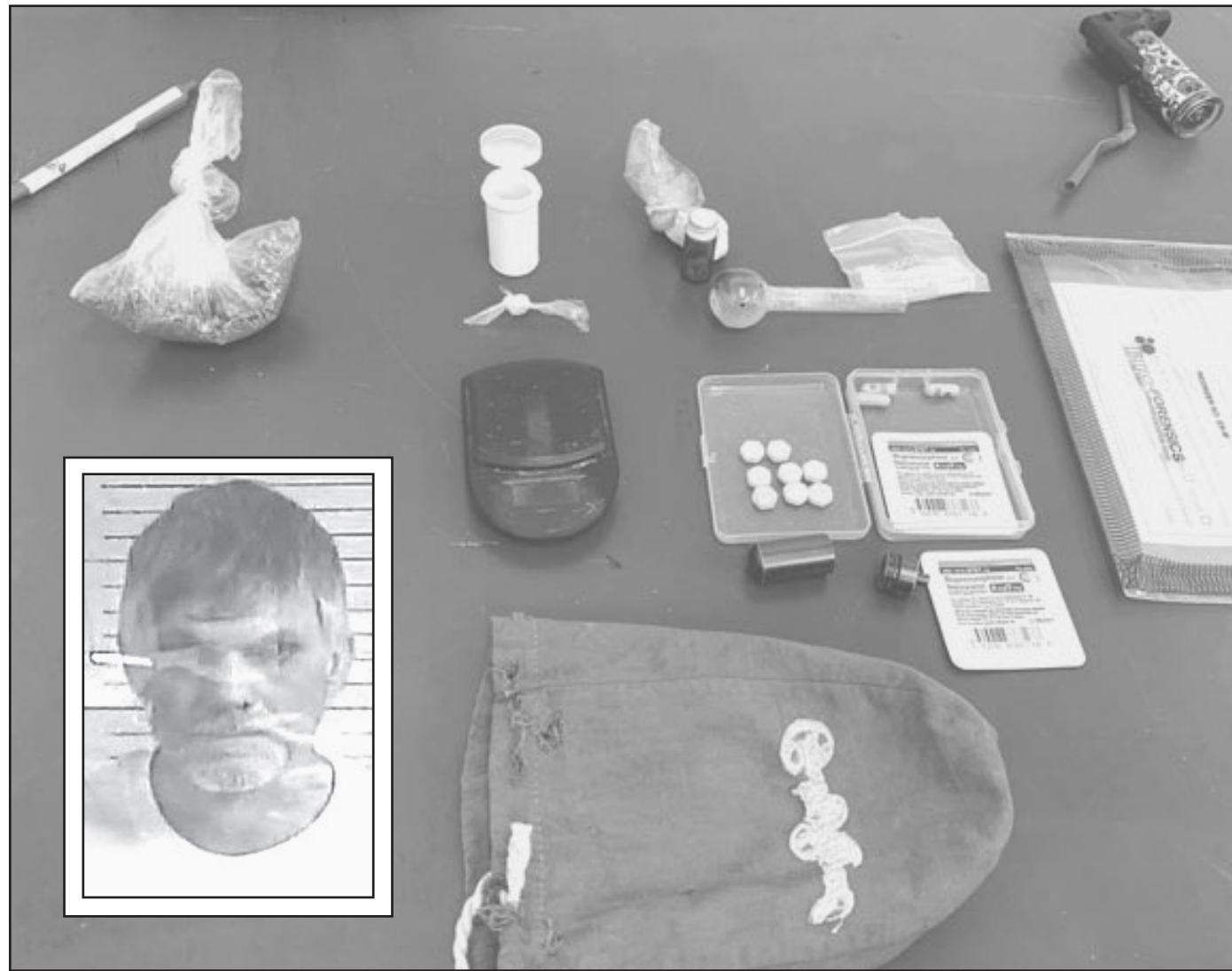
degree and first offense (greater than or equal to two grams of methamphetamine), trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (heroin), trafficking in a controlled substance, third degree and first offense (drug unspecified), trafficking in marijuana, first offense (less than 8 ounces), and drug paraphernalia -- buy/possess.



Magnolia stellata, commonly called "star magnolia," is native to Japan. It typically grows 15 to 20 feet tall.

It is noted for its very fragrant, star-like, white blooms that blanket the tree in early spring before the foliage appears. Red seeds form in green pods that split open in fall.

Source: www.missouribotanicalgarden.org



Above are some of the items taken into evidence last Wednesday afternoon by Sheriff Chris Flynn at an apartment complex on Richmond Road. Flynn arrested Chris Sizemore on a warrant and drug trafficking charges. Sizemore, pictured in the inset, was lodged in Three Forks Regional Jail.

Sizemore's photo/Three Forks Jail and Evidence Photo courtesy of Sheriff Flynn