

Main Street to close a week in June for bridge construction

by CATHY DAWES
The Estill County Tribune

Members of the Irvine council unanimously agreed for the Walker Company to shut down part of Main Street for one week while the bridge near Estill Springs Elementary is being replaced. Mayor W.J. Noland said that he had discussed the closure on Main Street with Jimmy Wise, Tony Murphy, Brad Smith, and the superintendent from the Walker Company and they all thought it would be better if traffic was rerouted from Main Street and around the bypass during the time that the bridge was being replaced.

The original plan was for traffic to still utilize Main Street while the bridge was being replaced which would take approximately three months. The superintendent from the Walker Company

said that he felt like the project would be done within a week if traffic was diverted from that area.

"I don't think a week will hurt anybody," stated Mayor Noland.

The bridge replacement will not be started until after school is out for the summer. Councilman Billy Arthur said that he felt like a week of inconvenience would be much better than three months of inconvenience.

Walter Schuler, a resident of Irvine, approached the council about a traffic accident that he was involved in on March 8th. Schuler said that he was travelling on Highway 52 because traffic had been rerouted due to construction on Miller's Creek. He said that he was following a garbage truck that was going extremely slow on Tipton Ridge and a

lady behind him in the car kept weaving in and out of traffic. Schuler said that he called 911 four times asking for help from the police because he knew that the lady behind him was going to cause an accident. He said the fifth time that he called 911 was when he was in city limits and the reckless driver crashed into him around Estill Avenue.

Schuler said that Chief Brad Smith responded to the accident and that several witnesses were on hand to tell Smith how recklessly the lady had been driving. He said that the impaired woman was on her way to pick up children at school and he appreciated the way Smith handled the situation. He was not pleased to find out that in order to obtain an accident report that he had to pay a five dollar fee. Shuler

added that he thought it was a shame that the county tried to suck money out of a working man who was trying to feed his family.

City Clerk Robin Powell asked the council to amend the personnel policy. Powell said that according to the current policy that a city employee must take at least four hours of sick time if they have a doctor appointment. She said that recently she had an appointment that only lasted an hour but she had to use four hours instead of just one. Powell informed the council that each employee receives eight hours of sick time each month but those roll over to the next month if they aren't used. Tobo Bryant said he didn't think it would be a bad idea to amend the policy and change it to one hour increments.

Powell also asked the

council to approve a two day training session that she is required to attend twice a year. She said that she typically applies for grants to cover the cost of the training session which is \$636, however, this time the paperwork didn't get signed in time for her to receive the grant. When asked who had to sign the paper Powell replied that the mayor had to sign the grant application. Mayor Noland said that he didn't have time to think about it, therefore, he didn't sign it.

"Is she going to use her vacation time or are you all going to pay her?" asked Noland.

"I don't think she should have to use her vacation time in my opinion," replied Councilman Arthur.

In other news, a representative from Payroll Solutions was at the meeting to explain

to the council what the benefits would be to have his company handle the payroll for city employees. The city would not be locked into a contract and would be able to discontinue the service of Payroll Solutions at any time. The approximate cost would be \$2,500 per year for the company to handle payroll checks as well as state, local, and federal taxes.

Joann Smith of EKAT located in the West Irvine Plaza said that she had read in the paper where the council was looking for someone to handle their payroll and that she had submitted a bid to the mayor in the amount of \$150 per month. She said that her company would also take care of all quarterly and yearly taxes. Smith said that she has lived in Estill County for four years.



The two Beverlys (Miller and Thompson) got together Thursday at Irvine Health and Rehab. He was there with his church for the monthly birthday party, and Thompson brought gifts for the residents.



Billie White pulled the little red wagon loaded with candy, eggs, and stuffed animals through the nursing home. The stuffed animals were donated by the Opportunity Store and the Catholic Church.

Landfill gets citations

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The following day, another layer of garbage is placed on top of that, and another cover at the end of that day.

At the public meeting, Dave Retell, director of landfill operations for Advance Disposal, said the material was misrepresented when it was brought to the landfill.

"We will do whatever is necessary to minimize the threat," Retell then stated.

He also added that at that time, Advanced Disposal was submitting a working plan of remediation to present to the state.

The landfill is required by the notice of violation to comply with a Radiation Survey and Site Investigation (RSSI) by the Cabinet for Family and Health Services.

A landfill near Ashland also received a notice of violation the same day. The state says Green Valley Landfill accepted a low radioactive waste from Ohio between June 2015 and January 2016.

The radioactive waste was sent to both landfills by Advanced TENORM Services, LLC out of West Liberty, Ky.

The Energy and Environmental Cabinet sent a cease and desist order to Advanced TENORM Services, LLC on March 1.

Reporters from the media have unsuccessfully tried to reach by telephone Jason Hoskins or Cory Hoskins, whose names were listed as persons in charge. One television station even visited the address.

The company may be fined up to \$100,000 per occurrence.

Criminal charges may also be pending. The office of Attorney General Andy Beshear is investigating the criminal penalty phase. A member of Beshear's staff attended the public hearing on March 1.



Ravenna Council recently purchased a used cruiser for School Resource Officer James Gross. It was paid for out of taxes paid on railroad cars.

Ravenna purchases used police cruiser with taxes

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The check amount totaled \$10,026.56 which the city used to purchase a gently used police cruiser for James Gross. Gross said that the transmission went out on his other cruiser and he expressed his gratitude to Jeremiah Williams and Ricky Williams for helping him get the new cruiser on the road in such a timely fashion.

Councilwoman Sharon Snowden said that she had spoken with Tommy Mullen of the Estill County Animal Shelter and was told that they do not pick up cats. He did say that if residents wanted to borrow a cage from the shelter and catch the cats themselves and return them to the shelter then they would be happy to find them homes. Snowden said that the shelter doesn't have funding to spay and neuter stray cats, therefore, they only take care of the cats that are being adopted.

The council unanimously agreed to move the general fund account and any other accounts that are currently at BB&T to Citizens Guaranty Bank. Mayor Tipton said it would make it much easier to have all of the ac-

counts in one place that way they could utilize the online banking tool that is provided by Citizens Guaranty Bank.

The annual Easter egg hunt will be held on March 26th at 1 pm at Veterans Memorial Park. Tipton said that a local church had contacted her about using the park that day. When she informed her that the egg hunt was that day the lady said that they had 1,000 eggs already and they would just add those to what the city had and help out with the egg hunt. Tipton said that she plans on dividing the park into sections for the egg hunt that way the smaller children and older children will have separate places to hunt.

Resolution #17 in the amount of \$17, 215.00 for the homes located on Poplar and Elm Street was passed by the council. The home on Elm Street has a completion price of \$75,320 and the home on Poplar Street has a completion price of \$83,528. These two homes were added to this phase of the rehabilitation project because there was funds left-over from the five homes that were previously renovated.

Irvine and KSP weekly activities

IPD Captain Adrian McKinney said received a radio call that a black Ford ranger had struck a van in the parking lot of North Gate Apartments and had left the scene around 1:31 p.m. The caller said the last name of the man driving the truck was "Collett."

Police Chief Brad Smith located the suspected vehicle about an hour later on Misty Hollow. McKinney said when they ran a background check on the vehicle, it came back as having no insurance.

The owner of the vehicle was identified as Scottie W. Collett, 39, of Winchester Road.

Collett's wife told Irvine Police that her husband had assaulted her. She said he had hit her left eye area with a pistol. He reportedly grabbed her by the hair and put a gun to the back of her head. She added that he also had pushed the pistol in her mouth while assaulting her. Police say the wife had a black left eye.

Irvine Police charged Collett with leaving the scene of an accident (hit and run), failure to maintain required insurance, and assault second degree family with gun.

A citation states that Collett gave Irvine Police permission to search his vehicle. Irvine officers said they located a white crystal substance wrapped in aluminum foil that was inside a gun case.

IPD field tested the crystal substance, and the officers say it field tested position (turned dark blue) for meth.

Collett was then charged with possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine).

A bench warrant from Estill District Court was also served on Collett. District Judge William "Bo" Leach signed the warrant saying Collett had failed to appear in district court on Sept. 9, 2015 to answer a charge of operating on suspended or revoked driver license.

Collett's bond was set at \$15,000 cash. Court records say that Collett was arrested for a new offense while he had a case pending.

Promoting Contraband

Officer Sam Hensley said he stopped Brian Keith Jones, 44, of Coral Avenue on Richmond Road at 1:00 a.m. Monday because Jones did not have an illuminated license plate.

Jones reportedly told the officer that he did not have an operators license or insurance on the 1996 Chevrolet.

The citation states that a license check revealed that Jones had three suspensions.

Hensley said he placed Jones under arrest. He was charged with rear license plate not illuminated, operating on a suspended operators license, and no insurance - first offense.

Jones' vehicle was then searched for contraband. The citation states that Jones continuously said he had nothing on him. His vehicle was towed and Jones was transported to the Estill County Detention Center.

During a search at the jail, the officer said a piece of plastic shopping bag was recovered from Jones' jeans pocket.

The officer said that Jones asked him not to charge him and throw it away.

Hensley said the plastic baggie contained approximately 1/2 inch square of a suboxone strip. Jones told the officer he did not have a prescription for it.

Jones was then charged with possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense and promoting contraband, first degree.

Bond for Jones has been set at \$2,500 cash.

State Trooper Injured

A state trooper was injured last Wednesday night while investigating a third party complaint of drug activity in the presence of a juvenile.

The citation states that Trooper Robinson arrived at Stacy Lane Apartments

around 10 p.m. Upon arrival, he knocked on the door of the apartment in question.

The citation states that Rusty F. Riddell, 34, of Pea Ridge Road opened the door and observed Trooper Robinson. Immediately, numerous other people inside the apartment stood up and began to run to the back rooms of the apartment.

At the same time, the citation adds that Riddell attempted to shut the door, significantly striking and injuring Trooper Robinson's leg.

Trooper Robinson was then able to force the door open fearing the destruction of evidence.

Trooper P. Powell then entered the apartment to secure it for Trooper Robinson's safety. He found two of the people who had run to the rear of the apartment, hiding.

Riddell is being charged with third degree assault of a police or probation officer.

Trooper Powell completed the citation because Trooper Robinson was receiving medical care.

Bail for Riddell has been set at \$10,000 cash.

Fugitive from Ohio

William Steele, 40, of Lost Creek Road in Hazard, Ky. was arrested on Main Street in Irvine on Tuesday, March 8 by KSP Trooper Pennington.

Trooper Pennington served a fugitive warrant

Girl Scout Troop 7182 is hosting Cookies and Cops with First Responders on Saturday, March 19, starting at 11 a.m. at Estill Springs Elementary. Everyone is invited to come celebrate our police officers- whether they are Kentucky State Police, Irvine City, Ravenna City, Estill County Sheriff, or maybe a police office that lives here but serves elsewhere! And all other 1st responders, we would love to invite them also they all do so much for us. Our Girl Scout Troop #7182 wants to invite everyone to come celebrate our Police Officers and 1st responders. We are celebrating the best way a Girl Scout Can- with COOKIES. We will have games, crafts, snacks, and of course, if you or to meet and become friends with. If you or your organization, group or business would like to help with this event, please contact Emma Day @ 606-975-9037 or by face book one of the co-hosts. Invite a police officer you know or just invite your friends to come celebrate our fine officers!