

**Ladies
Headed
Back To
State**
Pages 16-17



5th Straight 14th Region Championship

**Betty
Young's
Times
Remembered**
Page 7

50¢
INC 3¢ TAX IN KY
0 4 8 7 9 2 0 4 5 5

The Estill County Tribune

EstillTribune.Com

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 49 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016 IRVINE & RAVENNA, KENTUCKY 40336 18 PAGES

Irvine Police arrests 14 in drug busts

As of Monday evening, the Irvine Police Department has arrested 14 people on drug related charges. Investigations into those charges began as early as May 27, with the arrests being made later.

The charges range from trafficking in methamphetamine and narcotics, wanton endangerment, and other charges.

"These arrests come from a continued effort to combat drug use and drug trafficking in Irvine," stated Irvine Police Chief Brad Smith.

"The department has executed several search warrants and seized various items of paraphernalia, narcotics, and cash," Smith added.

On Thursday night, four adults were arrested at 324 Jacqueline Court, and a fifth one was arrested at 325 Jacqueline Court.

The occupants of 324 Jacqueline Court

were identified as Tyler Jay Palmer Combs, 26, and Melinda Sue Powell, 33.

Combs' citation states that he sold methamphetamine to a confidential informant on two occasions.

The citation states that when the search warrant was executed at 324 Jacqueline Court, Combs and three other adults were smoking meth in a rear bathroom. It adds there was a fan in the open window which was blowing meth vapor into the living area where two juveniles were watching television. The citation states the juveniles were exposed to the vapor.

The citation states that a variety of drug paraphernalia was visible, including needles, scales, meth pipes, baggies, etc.

Combs was charged with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree (Methamphetamine), possession of a controlled

substance, first degree (meth), possession of drug paraphernalia, and wanton endangerment, first degree.

The citation states that Powell was also smoking meth in the rear bathroom when the search warrant was executed. She was charged with trafficking in a controlled substance, first (methamphetamine), possession of a controlled substance, first (meth), possession of drug paraphernalia, and wanton endangerment first degree.

Powell's citation states that she gave a baggie of methamphetamine to another female on May 22.

A second citation charged Powell with complicity to traffic in a controlled substance, first degree (methamphetamine). It states that she was in the rear passenger seat of a vehicle when a controlled drug buy was made by a confidential informant on May 22.

The two other adults present at 324 Jacqueline Court were identified as Blake Edward Brown, 27, of 307 Poplar Street, Ravenna and Hailey Nicole Wilson, 18, of 835 Sandhill Road, Irvine. They were each charged with possession of a controlled substance, first degree (Methamphetamine), possession of drug paraphernalia, and wanton endangerment, first degree.

Officer John Sturniolo issued citations to Combs, Powell, and Brown. Chief Smith wrote the citation for Wilson. They were assisted at the scene by KSP Trooper Brashear.

Combs' and Brown's bails were set at \$15,000 cash and Powell's at \$20,000. Bail for Wilson was set at \$2,500 cash. Brown was arrested on a new offense while a case was pending, according to court records.

Continued on Page 2

School board meets in special session to address staffing

Board attorney resigns, effective May 31

A special meeting of the Estill County Board of Education was held last Tuesday. Most of the actions taken involved personnel.

A request was approved for South Irvine P-K to share a librarian with Estill Springs. The librarian will be at South Irvine one day a week and Estill Springs four days.

Estill Springs principal Jessica Mullins was present and said both schools site based councils have approved the requests presented to the board.

Supt. Jeff Saylor said every school is required to have a librarian, but schools can share librarians. He said this will save a little money because there will be no extended days paid for South Irvine's librarian.

A kindergarten teacher was approved for South Irvine. The school is looking for someone specializing in humanities and practical living.

South Irvine's media specialist, Amy Hughes, has retired.

South Irvine will send a teacher to Estill Springs on the day the librarian is at South Irvine.

"We've come up with a plan that will work with both schools," Dennis stated.

The board tabled the approval of three pre-school positions. Supt. Saylor said he has not received final word if the positions have been funded by Kentucky River Foothills.

A position was created for SEMP (School Energy Management Program). Saylor said that position will be added on to a present staff member's duties with a \$1,500 management stipend.

"We saved over \$60,000 this school year (in energy management)," Saylor said.

West Irvine, Estill High and Estill Middle School are energy star schools.

Saylor gave his report to the board.

He said the district's facebook page had over 20,000 hits for when graduates visited the other schools and gave them a High Five.

A diesel mechanic was hired about two weeks ago, which Saylor said will add savings to the budget.

This year, the district will reduce the transportation by two bus routes.

Continued on Page 2

Remembering Our Fallen Officers



Top Photo: Captain Adrian McKinney addressed the crowd during the annual Policeman Memorial on Tuesday night in front of the Estill County Courthouse.

Left photo: Irvine Police Chief Brad Smith and Ravenna Police Chief Ken White place a wreath at the memorial for the officers who were killed in the line of duty.

Tribune Photos by Cathy Dawes

Obituaries

LJ "John" Baber, 86
Kenneth Caldwell Jr., 40
Jason Conner, 34
Doug Worrell, 85
See Page 6



The Estill County Community Chorus and The Winchester Singers presented "I Love America" on Sunday at the Irvine United Methodist Church. The director of the chorus is Carol Anne Wilson, above center. She has served in this capacity for approximately four years. The chorus rehearses locally and welcomes new members.

For the latest news, visit our webpage

<http://www.estilltribune.com>

Call (606) 723-5012 • Visit <www.EstillTribune.Com> • Email <News@EstillTribune.Com>