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# The Estill County Tribune

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## New sheriff to bring changes to the office

In less than two weeks, Chris Flynn will become the next sheriff of Estill County.

Since Flynn won the November election, he has been busy learning about his new job.

He attended a training for newly elected Kentucky sheriffs during the first weekend of December. Over a third of the state's counties (47) will have a new sheriff.

Flynn followed that weekend by attending a week-long training for Kentucky sheriffs where he received

some welcome advice from a few experienced sheriffs.

"I'm going to hold myself to the same standards as my deputies," he stated.

Those deputies are required to attend 23 weeks of training at the Criminal Justice Cabinet. The training is not required for sheriffs, and Flynn had been told it was not possible for him.

At the week-long training for sheriffs, he met the sheriff from Muhlenberg County who took the training after being elected.

Flynn's plans are now to put himself through the police academy during his first year in office.

It will benefit the community, but the sheriff's office will have to hire more deputies to enable him to go to the academy.

The sheriff's office is on a calendar year budget from January 1 through December 31. All monies left in the sheriff's office at the end of the year must be turned over to the county. This will require Flynn to get an ad-

vancement from the state for operating funds until other monies start coming in.

Beside hiring deputies, Flynn wants to have trained security officers for the court system.

He plans to develop a new policies and procedures manual for his staff. Eventually, he wants the sheriff's office to get accredited.

Flynn plans to establish an evidence room.

In previous years, a state auditor has criticized the sheriff's office for not mak-

ing daily deposits and lack of segregation of duties. (This is when only one person handles the monies.)

Flynn said he understood there are days when maybe only \$5 comes in to the sheriff's office, but he said he will be making the bank deposits himself if needed.

For the last several years, he has been bookkeeping at his family's auto repair service. He will use his financial skills to assist the financial clerk.

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Estill Sheriff-Elect Chris Flynn

## Grand jury returns 14 indictments

Fourteen indictments were returned December 4 by the Estill County Grand Jury.

Charles Wayne Horn, 56, of Front Street, Irvine was named in a ten count indictment based upon an investigation on August 21 by IPD Sgt. John Sturniolo.

The indictment charges Horn with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense; possession of a controlled substance, third degree; assault third degree of a police officer; two counts of wanton endangerment, second degree; drug paraphernalia - buy/possess; failure to comply with bicycle safety regulations; fleeing or evading police, second degree; resisting arrest; and first degree persistent felony offender.

According to the indictment, Horn had under two grams of methamphetamine in his possession which he intended to sell. It adds that he also had a gabapentin pill, a scale and cut straw.

Horn allegedly engaged in conduct which created a substantial danger to IPD Chief Brad Smith and Sgt. Sturniolo. Sturniolo's

arm/elbow was injured. The indictment states that Horn had been convicted previously of at least two felony offenses.

Gregory M. Morris, 53, of High Street, Irvine faces six charges in an indictment.

Morris was indicted for tampering with physical evidence, possession of marijuana; possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine); illegal possession of a legend drug (14 cyclobenzaprine pills); possession of a controlled substance, third degree (gabapentin); and drug paraphernalia - buy/possess (cut straw) on Sept. 13.

According to the indictment, Morris concealed evidence by hiding marijuana from the investigator, IPD Officer Colton Lewis.

Brian S. Tipton, 34, of Sugar Hollow Road, Irvine was indicted on four charges.

The indictment charges him with three counts of trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense and being a second degree felony offender.

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Estill's Joe Benton puts up a shot on Irvine High School night at Irvine.



Irvine High Alumni watch as the Golden Eagles take the floor.

## 3 arrested for drug trafficking

Three Estill County men were recently arrested by the Irvine Police Department on drug trafficking charges.

Irvine officers went on December 13 to the residence of James Newman at 250 Lincoln Avenue to serve a warrant on him for trafficking in a controlled substance.

While officers were hidden inside the residence, they observed a man approaching the residence. Chief Brad Smith said an interview with Newman revealed the man was coming to his residence to purchase marijuana.

Chief Smith said that man, James Hoover, 44, of Barnes Mt. Road, Irvine, had cash on him to make the purchase. Officers also seized a

large amount of rolled marijuana, cash, loritab, and a handgun from the residence.

The citation states the residence is within 1,000 feet of a school, and that Hoover had two small children in the vehicle when he arrived.

Hoover was charged by Chief Smith with trafficking in a controlled substance within 1,000 feet of a school and unlawful transaction with a minor, second degree.

IPD Sgt. John Sturniolo served the arrest warrant on Newman, 54, which charged him with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense.

It states that on Dec. 12, Newman sold hydrocodone pills to a confidential infor-

mant working for IPD.

The confidential informant allegedly went to Newman's residence on Lincoln Avenue and purchased five hydrocodone pills for \$60.00 cash.

Assisting with the arrests was Officer Colton Lewis.

In an unrelated case and on two separate citations, Dalton Hoover, 21, of Webb Road, Irvine, was charged with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense.

One citation says that on Dec. 6, D. Hoover agreed to sell hydrocodone to a confidential informant working for the Irvine Police Department.

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FRIDAY  
Winter Begins Dec. 21  
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Danny Click, left, presented a plaque Thursday to Floyd Newton Jr., upon his retirement from the Estill County Conservation Board. "We've accomplished a whole lot," Newton stated. "I've enjoyed it. Thank you." The Conservation District owns the Lily Mountain Nature Preserve. It loans equipment to local residents, including a log splitter, seed drill, and chipper. Farmers can also apply for loans to purchase equipment, start up projects, such as reclaiming drain land. The conservation district is made up of seven members who are each elected to four year terms. The terms are staggered, and the board members are non-partisan. The board will appoint someone to fill Newton's unexpired term. The vacant spot will then be placed on the ballot during next November's general election.