

Five arrested for trafficking in drugs

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One of them was an indictment warrant from Madison Circuit Court, where Kortbein was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, over two grams, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, two counts of receiving stolen property (firearm), trafficking marijuana (less than 8 ounce), first offense, drug paraphernalia - buy/possess, and persistent felony offender.

A warrant was also served on Kortbein, which was issued by Madison District Judge B. Brown saying Kortbein had failed to appear on charges of trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, greater than two grams, tampering with physical evidence, and contempt of court.

Judge Brown set Kortbein's bail at \$10,000 cash in this case.

The third warrant on Kortbein was from Estill Circuit Court. Judge Michael Dean

said she failed to appear and did not set bail.

Kortbein was given diverted sentences in April for possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, and tampering with physical evidence.

Teresa Hammons, 45, of South Irvine Road was arrested Dec. 31 on a warrant obtained by Sgt. Sturniolo. The warrant charges her with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense.

The warrant states that on Dec. 14, she had sold oxycodone for \$25 to a confidential informant working for IPD.

Hammons' bail was set at \$1,000 cash. Court records state that she was arrested on a new offense while she had a case pending.

Ella Gordon, 46 of St. Timothy Road, Irvine was arrested Dec. 31 by Sgt. Sturniolo on a charge of trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense.

The citation says that on Dec. 11, Gordon sold five hydrocodone tablets for \$60

to a confidential informant working for IPD. The transaction reportedly took place at her residence.

Gordon's bail was set at \$5,000 cash.

Millard McKinney, 62, also of St. Timothy Road, was also arrested on December 31.

Irvine Police went to McKinney's residence to serve a warrant on him.

The warrant states that on Dec. 7, McKinney sold hydrocodone (lortab) to a confidential informant for \$10.00.

The warrant charged McKinney with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense.

At the time of his arrest, IPD says McKinney had an unmarked pill bottle. The markings on the pill matched the hydrocodone that he allegedly sold the confidential informant.

IPD seized \$39 in cash from McKinney.

McKinney received a second charge of trafficking in a controlled substance, first de-

gree and first offense.

Sgt. Sturniolo was the arresting officer. An arrest on drug trafficking charges as also made by Deputy Chris Coffey on Dec. 29.

A caller told Coffey that a man was on Trotting Ridge who had warrants and was going to rob someone. The caller wanted the man off his property.

Coffey said the man gave him permission to search his vehicle after giving him a false name. When he began searching, the man began running down KY 52.

When caught, the man was placed in the back of the police car. Coffey reportedly recovered some baggies, a container with a needle, and 2.6 grams of meth.

Brandon Crabtree, 39, of Stanton was charged with tampering with physical evidence, fleeing second degree (on foot), trafficking in a controlled substance (over 2 grams of meth), and giving officer false identification info.

School Board Meets

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Supt. Saylor added that there were a lot of good things going on in the school district and they would look at a draft of the budget at the meeting in January.

Several added security measures have taken place at the schools, but Saylor said that work on the middle school and high school entrances were next on the agenda. He said that around \$150,000 had been spent to upgrade the phone systems and about \$50,000 on new cameras at the high school, but it was money well spent.

Saylor said that the new sheriff had provided traffic control at one of the schools on Thursday and he hopes that he will be able to help the district about ten hours per week while the new SRO handles things at the middle school and high school.

The superintendent stated that Greg Dunbar from the Kentucky Department of Education will be working with the district on the purchase of the new property. He said that they will take a tour of the property which he feels like will help the district for many years to come. Ross/Tarrant will solicit proposals of the new property to be surveyed. At this time there are six different tracts that make up the property and Saylor said he would like to have that surveyed and one deed made. They will also take core samples to ensure that there are no issues with the ground.

Saylor said that the landowners are not aware of any previous mineral rights on the location but it's very important to make sure they are able to obtain a clear title to the land. He said the real estate agent that is handling the purchase of the property has been very patient and the property owners are pleased to be able to help the school system. If everything goes accordingly Saylor said that he hoped to have it all wrapped up by the meeting in March.

The next school board meeting will be held on January 17th at 6 o'clock. Meetings are open to the public and are also broadcast live through social media for those who are not able to attend the meeting.

Two fiscal courts hold meetings

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The calendar year budget was approved for newly elected Sheriff Chris Flynn. He estimates that his office will receive and spend \$357,000 in revenue during 2019.

Jimmie Wise, deputy coroner and director of Estill County EMS, said he appreciated all the help those agencies got from the fiscal court.

Wise said the ambulance service made 3,930 runs in 2018.

Jailer Bo Morris asked the fiscal court to look at giving raises for the jail transportation officers.

While the jail was open, those employees were deputy jailers and were making more money than they are now as jail transportation officers.

Thursday's meeting was a "clean-up" meeting for the outgoing fiscal court.

Three ordinances were given their second and final reading.

One ordinance abandoned county maintenance on 0.395 mile of Stewart Fork Road.

Another ordinance established a Railroad Advisory Committee, and Judge/Executive Kevin Williams appointed members to it.

The third ordinance changed the name of Moore Cemi Road to Moore Cem Road, with Cem being short for cemetery.

County Attorney Rodney Davis said the hearing in the landfill case has been postponed at the request of Waste Management.

He added the Rocket Docket application was due January 20.

Judge Williams also discussed Hollerwood Park, an adventure park in Estill, Lee, and Wolfe counties.

"Our biggest problem right now is to get a trail

head down hear," he added.

He explained that a trail head was important for Estill County to reap revenues.

Williams said the park opened several months ago and now had a fund balance of approximately \$30,000 from the sale of season passes.

Kenny Cole asked about signs being place to mark the trail. Williams said the state will come in and mark the area with brown tourism signs.

A change order and contract modification was approved for the EOC Center.

The addition to the center is paid for with CSEPP funds. It will provide space for 911 dispatchers during an up-to 250 mile per hour wind event, such as a tornado.

David Kemloch and Bob Fairchild of Hydro Partners, LLC updated the fiscal court on their plans at Lock 12 in Ravenna.

With completion expect-

ed in September, the project will generate power for 1,200 homes. The power will be sold to Jackson Energy.

"This is going to be a showcase that people all over the United States will come to see," said Kemloch. The company also has a permit and is working on a hydro electric dam at Heidelberg in Lee County.

A park is being created at the site, which will include a picnic area with restrooms, canoe portage, a fishing pier, six RV and 10 tent camping spots.

Before adjourning, the fiscal court approved bills. Williams said it included all except the jail claims.

The county had budgeted for 50 inmates a day. On Thursday, there were 81 in Three Forks Regional Jail. Jailer Morris said the number had grown to 84 on Monday, with nearly 30 arrests being made in the first week of

Police Activity Report

On January 4, 26 year old **Randall L. Hall**, of Pea Ridge Road, Irvine was charged with public intoxication and resisting arrest by Officer Colton Lewis.

A Madison District warrant and one from Estill were served on Hall.

• Four warrants were served on **Christy Henry**, 33, of Rosebud Avenue, Irvine, on January 3 by Officer Lewis.

Three warrants were from Madison County and one from Estill.

• **Jenna Lee Combs**, 33, of Rice Station Road, Irvine was arrested January 3, by Officer Jason Conrad.

Combs was charged with possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine), possession of marijuana, and drug paraphernalia - buy/possess.

• **Travis Cox**, 28, of McKee Road, Irvine was charged with possession of marijuana on January 4 by Irvine Officer Sean Davis.

• **Colleen R. Hadlock**, 39, of Lebanon, Ky., was charged with possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine) and drug paraphernalia - buy/possess by Officer Davis.

Hadlock's bail was set at 10 percent of \$1,000 cash.

• **Cody L. Isaacs**, 27, of Little Doe Creek, Irvine was arrested January 5 by Officer Lewis.

Isaacs was charged with no registration plates, failure of non-owner/operator to maintain required insurance, operating on suspended or

revoked operator license, menacing, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, second degree, and operating motor vehicle under the influence.

• **William Boyd Van-Winkle**, 41, of Knob Lick Road, Irvine, was charged with public intoxication on January 7 by Officer Lewis.

• **Jesse Bough**, 36, of Waco was charged January 2 with alcohol intoxication by IPD.

• **Makane Short**, 20, of White Oak Road, Irvine was arrested January 3 by Trooper Casey Caudill. He was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence, no tail lamps, reckless driving, drug paraphernalia - buy/possess, and trafficking in marijuana (8 ounces to five pounds), first offense.

• **Jalon K. Lewis**, 20, of D. McKinney Road, Irvine was arrested Dec. 28 by Trooper Caudill at a checkpoint. She was a passenger in a vehicle during a DUI arrest.

The citation states that Lewis had a dime bag of heroin and one of meth in her possession.

She was charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (heroin and methamphetamine).

Her bail was set at 10% of \$5,000 cash.

• Trooper Allen served an arrest warrant on **Jessica J. Wood**, 34, of Harris Ferry Road, Irvine on Dec. 31.

The warrant charges Wood with 14 counts of criminal possession of a forged instrument, second degree.

2019 began with Bible reading marathon

On December 31, most people are waiting until midnight to welcome in a new year. A week ago Monday, Estill Countians stayed up to begin a Bible reading marathon.

This was the first year for Estill County to participate KY120 which started just after midnight on January 1 in Irvine City Hall.

Misty Dehart, chairperson of Estill County's KY120, began the reading, in the book of Genesis. The oral reading of the Bible continued around the clock until Dehart ended with the last chapters of Revelation on Friday evening.

Prior to the new year, team captains were named who recruited individuals to read the Bible for at least one 15 minute slot.

The Bible readers came from all walks of life, from pastors to law enforcement to recovered drug addicts, and all ages, from students to those 80 and over.

Notable readers included Irvine's Mayor James Gross, Ravenna's Mayor Estine Tipton, and Sheriff Chris Flynn.

Downtown workers read the Bible on their lunch

breaks.

Members of the Christian Worship Center met at City Hall on Wednesday night to take turns reading the Bible.

Either Dehart or her assistant, Janice Dawes, stayed at City Hall the entire time. If someone didn't show up for their time slot, they read.

Jenell Brewer, founder of SPARK Ministries, introduced the KY120 to the Estill County SPARK Office, upstairs at the Christian Worship Center. Dehart is the coordinator of the local SPARK office.

Brewer lives in Powell County, which has been participating in KY120 for several years.

The goal of KY120 is to have all 120 counties in Kentucky to participate in the marathon Bible reading.

Noland said in previous marathons at other places, a couple met and are now married.

In another instance, two feuding families participated in the Bible reading and are now friends.

If you didn't get to read in this year's marathon, there will be another one next year.



Andrew Farmer and his friends each took a turn at reading the Bible during KY120. He read from the book of Nehemiah just before noon on Wednesday.



Jason Riley took the oath for Estill County Attorney on Sunday. His office will be located on Main Street across from the courthouse.

Clerk's Office Closed Jan. 9 & 10

County Clerk Brian Crowe has announced that the County Clerk's office in the Courthouse will be closed on Thursday and Friday, January 9 & 10 so that he and all employees can attend New Clerk's Training in Frankfort. The office will reopen for business on Saturday morning. Thank you.