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90 yr. old's death ruled accidental drowning

Kentucky State Police and Estill County Coroner Tony Murphy are continuing their investigation into the death of a 90-year-old Estill County woman who was found in a cistern at her home on Monday evening.

The woman was last heard from on Sunday morning, and authorities said her daughter found her around 7 p.m. in a cistern on her property on Sarvice Hollow Road. This is about 10 miles south of Irvine in the Barnes Mountain community.

State police say the cistern is eight feet deep and had a 20 inch by 20 inch opening. It contained about 18 inches of water.

The victim has been identified as Mary Osborne. She was taken to Toler Funeral Home in Irvine.

Coroner Tony Murphy has ruled the cause of death as a drowning.

According to state police, it appears that Osborne fell accidentally.

Red Lick Bluegrass Music Festival



The annual Red Lick Bluegrass Music Festival was held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at the Tracy Jenkins Festival Grounds on Red Lick Road. Above, the local Red Lick singers opened the festival on Thursday following a soup bean dinner. Below, festival goers enjoyed the weather. Many camped out on the grounds.



Irvine police charge man with 9 counts of drug trafficking

IPD confiscates pills worth \$13,157

It started as a traffic stop for no-tail lights at 00:07 a.m. last Wednesday by Sgt. Mike Gross of the Irvine Police Department.

Before the morning was over, the Irvine Police Department confiscated over 1,000 pills estimated to be worth more than \$13,000 in street value.

Sgt. Gross had first observed the 2013 silver Ford Focus on River Drive and followed it onto Richmond Road before pulling it over for no tail lights.

A press release from IPD states that due to suspicious circumstances, the Irvine officers felt like there was contraband in the vehicle.

Both men in the car told police they did not rent the car in Michigan and could not give IPD permission to search it.

The driver of the vehicle, Kimberly Mark Ledbetter, 55, of Detroit, Michigan was taken into custody on multiple failure to appear warrants from Michigan. IPD says Ledbetter also did not have an

operators' license. Ledbetter was charged by IPD with no tail lights and no operators license.

IPD obtained a search warrant for the vehicle. During the search, IPD confiscated 207 oxycodone pills in 30 mg, 15 mg, and 10 mg strengths; 361 xanax pills, some were footballs, others 2 mg; 280 lorazepam in 7.5 mg and 10 mg; and 73 citalopram 40mg, all worth an estimated \$13,157 on the street.

IPD also reports they confiscated two syringes containing clear liquid and \$300 cash. Police say the money was mostly in \$20 and \$10 bills.

After the search of the vehicle was conducted, Ledbetter was charged with two counts of trafficking in a controlled substance (TICS), first degree, first offense; four counts of TICS, second degree, first offense; one count of TICS, second degree, second offense; trafficking in legend drugs, first offense; and drug paraphernalia, buy/possess.

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Richmond resident led police on Saturday pursuit to Wall St.

The Irvine Police Department reports they pursued a vehicle for a short time on Saturday afternoon.

According to IPD, the pursuit began on the Winchester Road and ended on Wall Street, a narrow road off the Winchester Road.

Officer Jeffrey Knuckles stated that he observed a vehicle traveling on the Winchester Road and turning onto Wall Street at a high rate of speed.

Knuckles activated his emergency equipment, but he said the driver continued to travel extremely fast on Wall Street.

After the vehicle was stopped, IPD charged John Russell Dunaway, 22, of Richmond with expired registration plate, operating

on a DUI suspended license, fleeing or evading police first vehicle, and reckless driving.

The citation states that Dunaway was driving a 2004 Chevrolet, and the car's registration had expired in July of last year.

Dunaway was also charged with no insurance second offense and three counts of wanton endangerment first degree of a police officer. Knuckles was assisted by Sgt. Michael Gross and Ravenna Chief Ken White.

The charges against Dunaway include two traffic violations, two misdemeanors and four felonies. Dunaway pleaded not-guilty to the charges during his arraignment Monday in Estill District Court.

Bail for Dunaway has been set at \$5,000 cash. A preliminary hearing for Dunaway has set for August 7 in Estill District Court.



John Dunaway



William VanCleve listened intently as Shannon Chaney from Citizen's Guaranty Bank explained to the Ravenna City Council about the consolidation of three loans on Monday morning during a special-called Council meeting.

Ravenna consolidates loans, makes cuts to balance budget

by CATHY DAWES
The Estill County Tribune

The Ravenna City Council met in special session on Monday morning, July 29, 2013, to discuss three bank loans that the city has been struggling to pay.

Two of the loans are through Citizens Guaranty Bank in the amounts of \$17,285.48 and \$6,800. The third bank loan is through BB&T in the amount of \$6,487.88.

The loans had been obtained over the years to cover expenses at the park, insurance premiums, and budget shortfalls.

City clerk Susan Lay told council members that by consolidating the three loans the city would make one monthly payment of around \$300 and she felt

like that amount could be worked into the budget easily.

"We don't have Kim's salary in the budget because I took a lot less pay than she was making so I feel like we can budget it. There is over a \$200 per month difference between mine and Kim's salary," Lay added.

Mayor Estine Tipton stated that she had also taken a major cut in pay from what the previous mayor had been making and that would help the city's budget as well.

Shannon Chaney from Citizen's Guaranty Bank told the council that she would do everything she could to help them out. She said that the type of loan that the city would be obtaining is called a CRA loan and it is basically for governing

bodies, fire departments, and other agencies. The interest rate on a CRA loan is much lower than on personal loans and that she based the loan amount on what Lay had told her the city would be able to afford.

Some of the council members were concerned about the interest rate being 4.5 percent and Chaney said that she would work on the interest rate and try to lower it as much as possible.

"I am willing to donate my council pay back to the city," stated Jim Richardson.

Other members of the council agreed that they would be willing to donate their council pay back to the city as well if it would help pay the loan off quicker.

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Obituaries

- Michael Barnes, 55
- James Dickerson, 78
- Ronnie Jordan, 63
- Geneva Lawson, 77
- Neal Johnson, 91
- Helen M. Long, 96
- Carol Tuttle Perkins, 54
- Gerry W. Puckett, 53
- Mattie Richardson, 83
- Orville Richardson, 93
- Archie F. Walling, 91
- Leoma Woosley, 94

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2 charged with robbery

Deputy Randy Farthing had obtained warrants for the couple after investigating a robbery on July 19. The couple was identified as Rachel S. Crouch, 21, of Hall-Abney Cemetery Road, Irvine and Chad A. Crouch, 22, of Sharpsburg, Ky.

The warrants charged both Crouches with wanton endangerment, first degree; robbery, first degree; and endangering the welfare of a minor.

The deputy says the couple approached Melissa Lewis on July 17 to give her a ride. While Lewis was leaning in the window with \$95.00 in her hand, Farthing said that Mrs. Crouch grabbed Lewis' wrist while taking the money.

He added that Mr. Crouch accelerated the vehicle while dragging the victim at least 100 feet down a gravel road. Lewis had injuries to her back and head.

Farthing said the act occurred while the couple's two small children were in the back seat.

KSP Trooper J. Carpenter also served a bench warrant on Chad Crouch issued for non-payment of fines.

Chad and Rachel Crouch each pleaded not-guilty to their charges in Estill District Court on Monday.

Bail for Chad Crouch has been set at \$25,000 cash.

Both defendants will appear back in court on August 7 for a preliminary hearing.

