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The Estill County Tribune

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Grand jury indicts five on drug-related charges

Five people were indicted on drug related charges by the Estill County Grand Jury last Tuesday.

Jonas D. Townsend, a 40 year old homeless man of Irvine, was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree, first offense, and possession of a controlled substance, second degree.

The indictment states that on January 18 of this year, Townsend sold a 30 mg

oxycodone to a confidential informant. It adds that he also had suboxone strips in his possession.

Irvine Officer John Sturniolo conducted the investigation.

Connie Cornett, 53, of Poplar Street, Irvine, was indicted for trafficking in a controlled substance first degree, first offense, possession of marijuana, and drug paraphernalia buy/possess.

The indictment says that

on January 17, 2015, Cornett sold three 10 mg. oxycodone pills to a confidential informant. The indictment adds that a consented search of her vehicle turned up a marijuana pipe and rolling papers in the center console.

Officer Sturniolo also conducted that investigation.

Kevin Rose, 35, of Locomotive Street, Irvine, was arrested January 21 by Offi-

cer Sturniolo for alcohol intoxication in a public place.

When Rose was booked at the Estill County Jail, the officer said a 7.5 mg. oxycodone pill was found in his possession. As a result, Rose was also indicted for possession of a controlled substance, first degree, first offense and promoting contraband, first degree.

Christy Henry, 29, of Blanch Court, Irvine, was indicted on six charges.

She was charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense. The indictment says on February 27, 2015, she had 11 oxymorphone pills and 6.8 grams of methamphetamine in her possession.

She was also indicted for possession of a controlled substance, second degree (three suboxon pills) and third degree (14 Clonazepam pills and six Xanax

bars). The grand jury indicted her for attempted promoting contraband, first degree. The indictment says she attempted to pass dangerous contraband to an inmate at the Estill County Jail.

Additionally, she was indicted for having prescription drugs not in proper container, first offense.

Police Chief Brad Smith investigated.

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Bells Across The Land Remembering The Appomattox



Father Al Fritsch, parish priest at St. Elizabeth Church, rang the church bell Thursday as part of "Bells Across The Land," marking 150 years after the Civil War had ended.

by DELORES ROWLAND
The Estill County Tribune

A bell was rung at Appomattox, Virginia on Thursday, April 9, at 3 p.m. This was 150 years after General Robert E. Lee surrendered in the Civil War.

Fifteen minutes later, bells were rung across the United States, including Ravenna, Ky. The bells rang for four minutes, one minute for each year of the war.

Father Al Fritsch, parish priest at St. Elizabeth, rang the church bell.

He said other churches in the county do not have bells. Businesses and government buildings with bells were also asked to ring them.

Father Al said that over 600,000 men were killed in the Civil War. He added this was more than those killed in all the other American wars together.

The 81-year-old priest knows well the history of the Civil War. He grew up in Washington, Ky., in Mason County.

Washington, Ky. was named after the first president of the United States. Plans were to make it the capitol of Kentucky.

Father Al said he grew up on a farm which had been owned by General Henry Lee, a descendant of Robert E. Lee. When his earthly father passed away, he was carving a statute of Robert E. Lee.

The family of Father Al's mother was in favor of the Union.

General Albert Sidney Johnston was born and raised in Washington, Ky. He was killed at the Battle of Shiloh and was replaced by General Lee.

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A home-schooled student helped plant flowers at the Estill County Public Library last Wednesday. Before planting the flower, Children's Librarian Whitney Hayes taught the students about plant needs and composting using vermiculture.

Ravenna residents in rehab project to get moving and gas reimbursements

by CATHY DAWES
The Estill County Tribune

Bryan Kirby updated members of the Ravenna council on the rehab projects taking place within the city during a brief meeting on Monday night, April 13, 2015. Kirby informed the council that rent on the storage units for the participants had been extended until August due to inclement weather putting the project behind schedule.

Kirby was pleased to announce to the council that the state had allowed him to reimburse moving fees and gas money to those families who had been relocated during the renovation of their homes. He said the state had not allowed him to do this during phase one of the project which had taken place a few years ago. The state allowed Kirby to reimburse up to ten dollars per hour for moving fees

which he said is the standard rate set by HUD.

Bids were accepted by contractors who were interested in the construction of the new homes and Kirby said that one contractor had placed the lowest bid on several of the homes. He added that the contractor is required by the state to obtain a line of credit letter from a bank before the job can be given to their company. The bank will have a meeting on Friday and if approved by the board of directors, Kirby asked the council if they could set a date for a special meeting to approve the contractor.

The council approved a payroll ordinance for city employees despite the reservations of one council member.

Sharon Snowden said that to her understanding the timing of the ordinance was off and that it wasn't done

the way she believed it was supposed to be done. She said that she would have to call the Kentucky League of Cities before she would be able to vote.

Although Snowden abstained from voting the ordinance passed with all other council members voting in favor of the payroll ordinance.

Councilwoman Tina Johnson asked that something be done about a vacant home located behind her property. She said that the yard was out of control. Mayor Tipton stated that she would find out who the property belonged to and would get the issue resolved as soon as possible.

No financial report was available this month due to computer issues. City Clerk Jamie Hill said that she would have all financial reports ready for approval at the next meeting.

Obituaries

Faye Benton, 77
Ann Fern Murphy, 88
Helen Rose, 66
Daisy Shoemaker, 87
Mavis Marie White, 54
Nancy A. Williams, 52
Louise Witt, 102
See Page 6

Council addresses drainage problem

by CATHY DAWES
The Estill County Tribune

Dr. Vivian Ong addressed members of the Irvine city council on Monday night about an issue with excess water at the Children's Clinic located on River Drive. Dr. Ong stated that she had purchased the property adjacent to the Children's Clinic to allow staff and patients more room to park at the clinic. The purchased property has a creek that runs through it and the culvert has gotten

stopped up with fallen debris from the retaining wall and isn't allowing water to properly flow through. This is causing the water to run down into the parking lot which in turn is causing potholes to open up in the parking lot.

Ong went on to say that the holes had been patched but the heavy rains had already caused the patch to wash back off. She said she is concerned that one of her patients will fall into one of

the holes and become seriously injured. She added that she would greatly appreciate any help that the city is able to give her on this matter.

Mayor W.J. Noland said that Rodney Davis would take a look at the deeds and get back to her as soon as possible.

Bill Jones, a resident of Cantrill Street, approached the council about obtaining a variance to build a two car garage on his property.
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Miss Mt. Mushroom Festival Pageant

The Miss Mountain Mushroom Festival Pageant will be Saturday, April 18 7 p.m. at the Estill County High School auditorium. The age categories will be: 0-11 months, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-11, 12-15, and 16-21. All contestants must be residents of Estill County.

The entry fee of \$25 and application form are due no later than Thurs., April 16 by 4 p.m. at Irvine City Hall, 101 Chestnut St. Checks should be made payable to the Mountain Mushroom Festival Pageant. Rehearsal will be Friday, April 17 at 7 p.m. at the ECHS auditorium.

The admission fee at the door will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for children age four and up. FLO will be the recipient of the door profits.

Application forms are on the festival website, www.mountainmushroomfestival.org or at Irvine city hall.



The Irvine Fire Department filled a livestock watering trough Sunday to be used by the Christian Worship Center for baptisms.