

# High school baseball coach is electrocuted

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“Coach Blake Crowe was the epitome of what it means to be a great husband, son, brother, and father. We, as a baseball community, proudly stand by the Estill County Engineers as they face this heart-wrenching journey. You are not alone. Today, we are all Engineers,” stated Powell County’s baseball team page.

“You will always have a seat in the first base dugout, buddy. We will miss you,” it added.

Breathitt County changed their profile to a picture of Coach Crowe standing by the side of a Breathitt coach.

Powell County added a blue circle with Crowe in the center and his number 3 below it on their profile.

Owsley County High School also changed their profile to honor Coach Crowe.

“He was truly a sincere young Chris-

tian-led gentleman,” stated Chris Winkler, pastor of Williams Memorial Baptist Church. “Blake was an outstanding math teacher, baseball coach, and mentor to the kids of Estill County.”

Crowe was a member of Mount Carmel Christian Church.

He was in his seventh year teaching math. He spent six of those years at the high school and was in his first year at the middle school.

Winkler is a retired principal of Estill County High School.

“Our community has lost a great young man, a loving son and brother, dedicated husband and father, friend and an aspiring baseball coach,” shared the Estill County Engineers baseball team.

“He reminded his team to be humble, love one another, be family, and live for today. Tomorrow is never promised,” the team added.

High school students and parents were notified Monday of Crowe’s death in a letter. The school has utilized the district crisis team to be available. They also listed mental health agencies which were available to students.

Crowe’s death comes exactly one month after the death of a well respected high school teacher. Jon Potts, art teacher, died of natural causes on April 9.

Crowe’s death also came about six weeks after that of a former high school baseball player.

Austin Dunn was one of six seniors on Coach Brian Crowe’s team four years ago. Blake Crowe was then his dad’s assistant coach.

After Dunn graduated, he enrolled in Berea College. He was diagnosed with cancer.

Although Dunn was no longer playing for the Engineers, the Crowe family

rallied behind him and his family. They organized prayer groups, fund-raisers, or anything they thought the family needed.

Dunn’s cancer went into remission, but it returned this spring. He was awarded his diploma from Berea College before he passed away March 21.

Superintendent Jeff Saylor told one of the TV stations that Coach Blake Crowe had a family of 14,000 here in Estill County.

Crowe was taken to Marcum & Wallace Hospital Sunday night where he was pronounced deceased. The cause of his death remains under investigation. Warren F. Toler Funeral Home was handling the arrangements, which were not available at press time.

Crowe, 28, is survived by his wife, Jordyn, two sons, his parents, Brian and Kristi Crowe, and other many other family members.

# Ravenna council discusses ordinances, suspected drug activity, and financing another police officer when chief is off

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Councilmember Budd Tucker suggested that they borrow a copy of the city of Irvine’s ordinance and use it as a guideline rather than spending money on the lawyer.

The ordinance pertaining to dogs was discussed at great length and the council ended up removing several items from the current ordinance. One important line that was removed from the ordinance was pertaining to the type of breeds of dogs that would be allowed within the city.

“We are not going to single out one breed over another,” stated Tammy Howell.

Mayor Flinchum said that she had recently witnessed some suspicious activity at the park and on one of the streets in Ravenna. She said that she suspected it was drug activity.

After crunching numbers realized that the city is only protected for 1,832 hours out of the year leaving 6,928 hours when there is nobody to oversee what is going on in the city.

She added Police chief Ken

White’s salary is \$52,000 out of the budget each year and asked for suggestions from the council to get more police protection while White is off duty.

Tucker asked how Flinchum knew that there was a drug deal going on when she saw the individuals that she mentioned. Tucker said that you couldn’t make assumptions based on what people looked like.

Chief White confirmed that the individuals in question were suspected in participating in illegal activity. He could get more stern with individuals but asked the council to back him up when someone complained on him.

Mayor Flinchum added that the city of Irvine had recently joined a task force with 70 other areas and suggested that would be something to look into.

In the meantime, she asked that council members try to figure out a way for the city to be able to hire another officer to patrol on White’s days off.

The council discussed looking into available grants that would pay the salary of another officer,

but White said those grants usually come with a stipulation that the city would have to keep the officer employed for another two years after the grant was expired.

Tucker said that there were a lot of things in the city that needed to be done, and he felt like that was the responsibility of the city employee. He asked how many hours a week the employee worked, and who decided what he would be doing each day.

Mayor Flinchum said that the employee never works over 40 hours a week, and that she is the one who decides what his duties will be for the day.

City clerk Angie Napier said that he has been spending a lot of time at the park in the morning cleaning up garbage that has blown over from the Dollar General.

Tucker said that there are shrubs that need trimmed around the memorial site, and weed eating that needs to be done inside the park.

He also suggested issuing a fine to the Dollar General if they did not get their lot cleaned up and mowed in a timely manner.

# Burglary Arrest

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The man also had two walkers and an electric wheel chair. The value of the items is unknown.

Officer Marshall charged Donald Fields, 59, of Church Street, Irvine with third degree burglary.

The citation states that Fields told the officer he had been inside the building. He had also changed coats and left his on top of the storage box.

# Irvine Police Activity

Chasity Murphy, 34, of Plum Street, Irvine, was charged with alcohol intoxication in a public place (first and second offense) on May 5.

Sgt. Stuart Morris said he received a complaint from Estill County 911 about an intoxicated female on N. Madison Ave. She was arguing and screaming at multiple persons.

When Sgt. Morris ar-

rived on the scene, he said Murphy was screaming.

The citation states that she had a strong odor of alcohol on her person, was unsteady on her feet, and had a slurred speech.

An Estill County arrest warrant was served by Officer Jason Conrad May 3 on Mikal Adams, 21, of N. Plum Street, Irvine. The warrant says Adams failed to appear.

# Rock Fill Needed

American Legion Post 79 on Millers Creek Road is in need of rock (no trash) to fill in a slip. The Legion has obtained a state permit. For more information, please call Ralph Martin at (606) 723-3149.



Larry Gordon was selling vegetable plants over the weekend on the Richmond Road. He has several varieties of tomatoes, cabbages, and other vegetables. He has grown the plants himself.

# Congratulations Class of 2021!



*The Estill County Tribune* will be printing a special section with photos of the 2021 ECHS and home-school graduates on Wednesday, May 26. Please submit color photos of graduates to [news@estilltribune.com](mailto:news@estilltribune.com) for the best print format by May 19. Thank you!

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

