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Bridge dedicated in firefighter's memory



On Sunday afternoon friends, family, and local firemen gathered at the Estill County Courthouse and dedicated the bridge along Highway 52 to Captain Zachary Chase Clevenger who passed away in 2015 after battling a fire in Estill County. Clevenger was a part time firefighter with the Estill County Fire Department and was employed as a full-time fireman in Mt. Sterling. His widow has set up a scholarship fund for college bound students who are seeking majors related to fire fighting.

Photo by Cathy Dawes



Man indicted for kidnapping

A single indictment was returned Friday by the Estill County Grand Jury. The grand jury indicted Michael Lynn Smith, 49, of Winchester Road, Irvine for kidnapping - adult and resisting arrest. The indictment states that on March 19, Smith restrained a female, and he intended to terrorize her by shooting over her head. It adds that he also threatened to kill her. According to the indictment, Smith tried to prevent a police officer from arresting him. The arresting officer was Deputy Sheriff Daniel Smith.

Jailer, fiscal court agree to plan to transport inmates

Thursday afternoon, the Estill Fiscal Court and County Jail drew closer to adopting a transportation plan for inmates. The plan was ordered by Circuit Judge Michael Dean, and members of the fiscal court are scheduled to be in circuit court this Thursday for contempt because they did not adopt the plan by Judge Dean's deadline. County Judge Wallace Taylor had presented a plan from another county. It was suggested that he do this because the state Department of Corrections did not have a transportation plan. The plan Taylor presented, drew criticism because it called for deputy jailers to be on call and be paid for the time they worked. "I'm not going to be on call and not get paid," said Deputy Jailer Chad Smith. "I'm going to get paid for what I do or I'm going to find something else." Irvine Police Chief Brad Smith could foresee getting another call while waiting on a jailer to arrive to transport his inmate. "I can't take that prisoner on call with me," he stated. The jail presented another transportation plan, and Taylor said he was impressed with the plan. That plan was the collaboration of Deputy Jailers Smith and Angie Brewer. Jailer Bo Morris said it needed a little tweaking before final approval. The fiscal court was to go back into session Tuesday afternoon to approve the transportation plan and the fiscal year budget. **Continued on Page 13**

Five graduate from Drug Court

Jocelyn Lee could be a poster child for Drug Court with her latest accomplishments. "I started when I was 14, dabbling in drugs," she stated. She said she lost control of her life when her father passed away. She inherited \$15,000 and spent the money on drugs in two months. She was dating a guy who was on hard drugs. She also had a bunch of friends who overdosed on heroin. "Drug Court has given me a second chance in life," she stated. "I thought you died or went to jail." She said she has met a bunch of new friends in Drug Court who have held her accountable. "I didn't know I was an artist," she stated. She now has her own tie-dye and jewelry business. She is enrolled in college and making straight A's. She hopes to attain her master's degree in social work so she

can help others who have had drug addictions. Lee and a friend started Narcotics Anonymous in Estill County. She said 22 people showed up for the first meeting. "Drug Court has really changed my life," Lee said. Lee was not one of the five graduating from Drug Court last Wednesday. There are steps the enrollees must complete to be eligible for graduation. The participants say it takes at least two years. Another participant, Britany Perdue from Owsley County, told a story, very similar to Lee's. She and her boyfriend made meth and did anything to support their habit. They went to a party and he overdosed. "I ended up in jail," she stated. She was eight months pregnant and had the baby in jail. Her baby died. "God, give me something

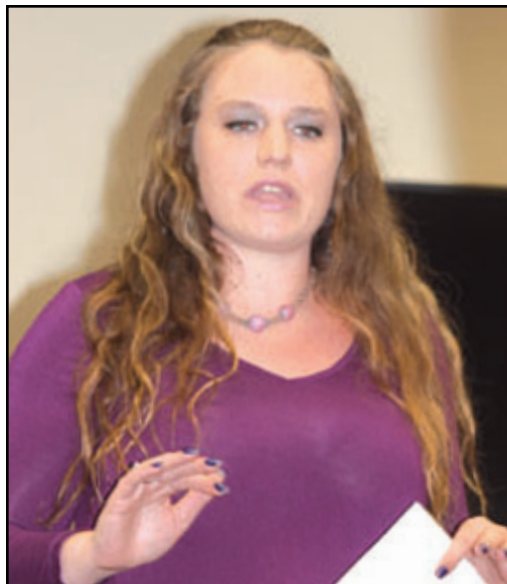


Circuit Judge Michael Dean presents a plaque to one of the five graduates of Drug Court last Wednesday.

good for once," she said she prayed. She is pregnant again, been clean since last November, and says she feels amazing. A former Drug Court graduate, Stevie LeMaster, said she wishes the program could be expanded to help more people. She said if a person robs a store, he or she is not eligible. Yet, she says they committed a crime to support their habit. After graduating from Drug Court, the participants, like LeMaster, never really leave. **Continued on Page 13**

Obituaries

- Duke Brinegar, 70
 - Donald Campbell, 85
 - Helen Deering, 87
 - Bill Dixon, 69
 - James Luster, 75
 - William Steele, 84
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Jocelyn Lee of Irvine shared her success with Drug Court last Wednesday. She now owns her own business and is an A student at college.



28th District Circuit Judge David Tapp spoke at the Drug Court graduation at Estill County Courthouse last Wednesday morning.



Boy Scouts from Troop 89 presented the colors and led to the pledge of the American Flag during Monday's Memorial Service in Veterans Memorial Park in Ravenna. More photos on Page 2.