

**The Estill
Engineers
continue
winning
Page 12**



Basketball & Band - Page 13

**Friday
night
PANDA
monium
Page 12**

**Betty
Young's
Times
Remembered
Page 3**

50¢
INC 3 TAX IN KY
0 4 8 7 9 2 0 4 5 5 8

The Estill Tribune **EstillTribune.Com**

VOLUME 36, NUMBER 28 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2018 IRVINE & RAVENNA, KENTUCKY 40336 14 PAGES

IPD seizes 9.7 ounces of pot

The Irvine Police Department seized 9.7 ounces of marijuana Thursday night.

Officer Brian Cloyd said he observed a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado traveling west on River Drive. The driver crossed the center line several times and was driving erratically.

Upon contact, Officer Cloyd said there was a strong marijuana odor coming from inside the vehicle. The driver also had slurred speech and spoke slowly.

The officer said he saw a large clear baggie of marijuana behind the passenger seat.

During a search of the vehicle, Cloyd said he located a small digital scale, a glass jar with residue, several large clear plastic baggies, and two black baggies with residue.

According to the officer, the driver failed field sobriety tests.

Lucas Sebastian Decker, 22, of Pea Ridge Road, Irvine, was charged with trafficking in marijuana (8 ounces to 5 pounds), first offense; drug paraphernalia - buy/possess; possession of marijuana; license to be in possession; reckless driving; operating a motor vehicle under the influence; and failure to notify address change to Dept. of Transportation.

Deputy Chris Coffey assisted Cloyd at the scene.

Decker was arraigned January 5 in Estill District Court. He entered not-guilty pleas to all charges. Judge Bo Leach scheduled a preliminary hearing for January 10.

Decker's bail was set at \$1,500.



Water Line Break

Broken water pipes were all too common with sub-freezing temperatures since the New Year. Above, four employees of Irvine Municipal Utilities (IMU) repaired a water line break Saturday morning on River Drive at the Irvine-Ravenna line.

Final approval for 2% payroll tax; employee's new raises are taken

A special fiscal court meeting was held Thursday afternoon.

"It's been a hectic two days to say the least," stated newly appointed Judge/Executive Kevin T. Williams.

The fiscal court voted to increase the occupational tax rate to two percent but with an expiration date of 18 months.

At that time, the next fiscal court will have to re-vote to keep the tax at two percent. Otherwise, it will go back automatically to the recent rate of 1.25 percent.

First reading was given to the occupational tax ordinance in December. The court had seven to 14 days to give it a second and final reading. The tax becomes ef-

fective upon publication of a newspaper ad.

The fiscal court, three of whom have been appointed, are facing a large county debt. One of the magistrates recently mentioned a debt of \$1.5 million.

Some county employees were apparently told they were receiving raises, and BJ McGee was named director of the senior citizens center before Williams took office on January 1.

But, County Attorney Rodney Davis asked the fiscal court to rescind those actions because they did not follow the county's personnel policy or administrative code.

"So, I'm not the director?" McGee asked the fiscal

court.

McGee was told that she was interim director until the proper procedure is followed.

The director's position will now be advertised in-house, by the county administrative code.

No one said which employees were told they were getting raises, but apparently it was the animal control officer, 911 dispatchers, and employees at the senior citizens center.

In 2016, then Judge/Executive Wallace Taylor said he was going to go through each department and recommend salary increases, which were given to the fire department, Emergency Operation Center employees, and road

department.

Employees of the county clerk and sheriff's offices are paid by those offices. Jail employees were never mentioned for raises.

Davis said a road department employee had received his CDL license. By the administrative code, he should be receiving a raise.

"I want to do things the way they ought to be done," Williams stated. "I want to do it the right way."

He said he will look at the personnel policy and administrative code a little harder.

The fiscal court discussed a bid of \$80,500 for an addition to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Broadway.

Continued on Page 3



Pictured above is the evidence, baggies of marijuana, that Irvine Police seized in a Thursday night traffic stop. Photo courtesy of IPD

New candidates file for clerk, magistrate, constable, and mayor

Candidates filing for office increased after January 1. The deadline to file is now less than three weeks away.

Candidates may file in the office of County Clerk Sherry L. Fox until 4 p.m. January 30.

Among those filing recently was CJ "Taylor" Neal, a republican who filed to run for county court clerk.

Roy Embs, a democrat, filed to run for magistrate in district 1.

Earl Young Jr. and Paul Tipton, both republicans, filed to run for magistrate in district 2.

Gary W. Robinson filed to run for magistrate in district 3 on the democratic ticket.

Jackie R. Rogers filed to run for constable in district 2 on the republican ticket.

James Edward Gross, a republican, has filed to run for mayor of Irvine. Gross is a former police chief in Irvine.

U.S. Sixth District Congressman Andy Barr filed for re-election on Jan. 4 in the Kentucky Secretary of State's office in Frankfort.

Reggie Thomas and Theodore David Green, both democrats and of Lexington, also filed to run for congressman.



Everything around the spring on Tipton Ridge Mountain froze up, but the spring kept running through the sub-zero temperatures. This is an example of running water doesn't normally freeze.

Woman cited to court is put in jail hours later

An eighteen year old female from Louisville had run-ins with the Irvine Police Department twice on Sunday.

Stephanie Cheyanne Lewis was a passenger in the back seat of a vehicle when Officer Brian Cloyd saw her at 3:19 a.m.

The owner of the vehicle gave permission for Cloyd to search the vehicle, according to a citation. IPD located several needles, wrapping papers, a glass smoking pipe, and various other drug paraphernalia in Lewis' handbag.

Cloyd cited Lewis with drug paraphernalia - buy/possess. She was to appear in Estill District Court on Feb. 21.

At 10:28 p.m. the same day, Cloyd said he was with a male on Broadway when Lewis approached officers on the scene.

He stated he saw a needle in plain sight in Lewis' purse. She told him that she had various items of drug paraphernalia in her purse.

IPD recovered two syringes, alcohol pads, and two metal containers with residue. Lewis allegedly told the officers the items were used for methamphetamine.

The citation adds that she also pulled out wrapping papers and a clear baggie containing nine oval pills. Poison Control identified the pills as Neurontin.

Officer Cloyd arrested Lewis after charging her with public intoxication - controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, prescription of a controlled substance not in proper container, and possession of a controlled substance third degree.

Chief Ken White of Ravenna Police Department assisted with the arrest.

Obituaries

Ledford Cox, 74

Richard Embs, 53

Verna Estes, 56

Doris Fortney, 76

Wilma Turner, 88

William R. Witt, 94

See Page 6

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