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Man federally charged in E'town teen's overdose death

BY THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE

LOUISVILLE – A Louisville man has been federally indicted in relationship to a fentanyl overdose death in Hardin County.

A federal grand jury in Louisville, returned a superseding indictment Wednesday charging a Louisville man with distribution of fentanyl resulting in death.

Tyler Wayne Cull, 25, was charged with distributing a mixture and substance containing fentanyl Dec. 14 in Jefferson County and Hardin County, which resulted in the death of a victim, according to his indictment.

“Today marks the first step in the formal process of holding Tyler Cull accountable for pushing poison into

our commonwealth, causing the death of a remarkable person,” U.S. Attorney Kyle Bumgarner said in a news release. “Our office will aggressively pursue this prosecution to ensure justice for the victim’s family and to put all others in the commonwealth on notice that you will face the weight of federal prosecution if your cavalier drug distribution kills one of our brothers or sisters.”

Cull’s offense came four days before a 17-year-old boy was found dead at an Elizabethtown resident of a suspected fatal drug overdose.

Damian Scott Felker, 18, of Elizabethtown, and a juvenile, later identified as Aadyan Kristophe-Nelson Durbin, 17, were charged locally in the case where they are suspected of distributing

Percocet 30 tablets laced with fentanyl. The investigation is linked to the death of Elizabethtown High School senior Hayden Russell Willett, who died Dec. 18, although authorities have not publicly made the connection outside of using Willet’s initials in the indictment.

Durbin has been charged with first-degree manslaughter, first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance and trafficking in marijuana.

Felker was charged with first-degree trafficking in a controlled substance, trafficking in marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Both have entered not guilty pleas.

Cull previously was indicted April 2, 2025, for possessing with the intent to distribute 40 grams or more of a

mixture and substance containing fentanyl. This occurred on March 26, 2025, in Jefferson County.

On June 12, 2025, Cull was ordered detained by a U.S. Magistrate Judge in the United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky. He remains in federal custody pending trial.

If convicted of distribution resulting in death, he faces a minimum sentence of 20 years in prison and a maximum sentence of life in prison. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the sentencing guidelines and other statutory factors.

“This federal indictment is what zealous collaboration looks like,” Kentucky Attorney General Russell

Coleman said in the release. “Those Kentuckians who we have a duty to protect, and one particular grieving family in Hardin County, deserve no less.”

There is no parole in the federal system.

This case is being investigated by the DEA, Kentucky Office of the Attorney General, Lyndon Police Department and Elizabethtown Police Department.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Joshua R. Porter and Frank Dahl III are prosecuting the case with assistance from paralegal Aaron Cooper.

Bumgarner, Coleman and Special Agent in Charge Jim Scott of the DEA Louisville Field Division made the announcement.



GINA CLEAR/The News-Enterprise

The remains of an antique 1941 Howe engine, an operational pumper truck and a brush utility truck are seen Wednesday morning after a fire broke out after 2 a.m. at the Vine Grove Fire Department building on North Mill Street.

Vine Grove Fire building housing antique, pumper trucks burns

Sentimental value of vehicles irreplaceable, chief says

BY GINA CLEAR
THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE

An overnight lightning strike is believed to be the cause of a “devastating” fire that consumed one of three locations for the Vine Grove Fire Department.

Standing outside the burnt out cinder block building on North Mill Street alongside the railroad tracks, Mayor Pam Ogden, Fire Chief Matthew Haddle and former fire chief Steve New among others were surveying the damage.

“Chief has looked back on the camera and they kind of know that there was a lightning strike,” Ogden said as she pointed to the back right corner of the building. “That antenna was on the side of the building over there, the one that’s fallen off.”

The official cause of the fire will be determined by the state investigator,



GINA CLEAR/The News-Enterprise

The side of the Donna Joy, a fire truck turned breast cancer tribute, and tire was damaged in the fire. The side had signatures of breast cancer survivors when the department would take it to events.

Haddle said.

The department was dispatched at 2:20 a.m. Wednesday, but it was after someone from a nearby apartment building saw the flames, Haddle said. By the time the department arrived, the building was fully engulfed.

“It took us about probably 45 minutes to get it under control,” Haddle said.

The morning left a building, one of three for the department, without a roof and all the vehicles inside

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GREG THOMPSON/The News-Enterprise, file

The Elizabethtown High School Marching Band performs for the crowds during last year's Heartland Homecoming Parade. The parade returns Saturday.

Heartland Homecoming Parade returns for long-standing tradition

BY KODEE BRINEGAR
THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE

A long-standing community parade is returning to flood the streets Saturday.

The Heartland Homecoming Parade is set to begin at 10 a.m. in Public Square in Elizabethtown and travels north on West Dixie Avenue and end at St. John Road.

“The Heartland Homecoming Parade is a beloved tradition in our community,” City Events Manager Beth Pyles said. “It was originally

a part of the Heartland Homecoming Festival organized by the Chamber of Commerce and, while that festival is no longer held, the City of Elizabethtown still carries on the tradition of the parade.”

Pyles said this year’s event features more than 75 entries that will walk or ride in the parade.

“The entries include floats, marching bands, fire trucks, big inflatable balloons,

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Millpond Business Center going to the dogs

BY GREG THOMPSON
THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE

Ruffle Girl in Radcliff’s Millpond Business Center is getting a neighbor.

After going into closed session for a short time during Tuesday’s regular meeting to discuss the acquisition or sale of real property, Radcliff City Council gave unanimous approval for Mayor J.J. Duvall, on behalf of the city, to negotiate and enter into a contract for the sale of property to Mid-Kentucky Kennel Club, Inc.

“We do that for the

purposes of economic development, for purposes of Mid-Kentucky building a corporate headquarters and exhibition space,” City Attorney Michael Pike said, requesting a motion from one of the council members.

The property is around 10 acres in Section 2 of the Millpond Business Center off Ky. 313, Joe Prather Highway.

Ruffle Girl has been the only occupant of Millpond for about 10 years.

Duvall said he will keep the council updated as the

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SINCE YOU ASKED

Results of The News-Enterprise online poll as of 5 p.m. Wednesday:
QUESTION: Do you regularly post to social media?
Yes, personally: 19.9% • Yes, for my business: 0.6% • Yes, both: 2.3% • No: 77.2%
TODAY’S QUESTION: Have you ever signed up for a free trial with an intent to cancel it but forgot?

COMING FRIDAY

Church celebrates its founding with deed burning ceremony

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