

Livingston County Jail reports more facility issues

News

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Even with the majority of the detainees having been moved from the Livingston County Jail in Chillicothe, facility problems continue. Sheriff Steve Cox reports that "what appeared to be smoke" seen on jail cameras was actually "steam from a ruptured hot water pipe". This incident happened in an area of the jail that remained in use as a holding area when arrests are made and the detainees are waiting transport to the Daviess-DeKalb Regional Jail in Pattonsburg.

By the time water was shut off to the pipe, water on the floor was "a few inches deep and flowing into another cell area". The 34-year old jail was closed in December due in part to major plumbing and sewer issues that would cost a considerable amount to repair and/or replace. The remainder of the jail, according to Sheriff Cox, could be used for storage by the Livingston County Sheriff's Department and the Livingston County Courthouse.

With the exception of temporary holding of detainees waiting for transport, the Livingston County Jail was empty as of Monday morning, when the last two detainees were transported to Pattonsburg. Sheriff Cox says two detainees, who have both previously earned "Trustee" status, were kept behind to assist with cleaning of the jail facility and to prepare for winterization.

The Livingston County Sheriff's Department has maintained a website that includes an inmate roster and information on suspects most wanted. With the closing of the jail, Sheriff Cox said people arrested will be booked into a jail management system sometime after information is received from the court and/or the Daviess-DeKalb Regional Jail.

Linn County prisoners will no longer be on the Livingston County website as the Linn County Sheriff's Department is now housing inmates at the Chariton County Jail. City of Chillicothe detainees will not be on the website, as they are not booked through the jail management system.

Sheriff Cox said his department's "website host" will be working with the records management provider for the Daviess-DeKalb jail in an attempt to have an automatic feed of booking information, including photographs, to go straight to the Livingston County Sheriff's Department website.