

Kenton Bray Memorial Wounded Warriors Hunt (Part 1)

Wanderings from the Woods & Water
by Jay Bicknell
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Where do I start? There are so many stories rolled up in one that I am going to have to break it up into multiple stories. I do know this was the best Wounded Warrior hunt ever! The hunt was a complete success because of all the great people of Estill County!

Let's rewind a bit during the planning stage of the

2014 hunt. The Estill DAV chapter let me know after the 2013 hunt that they would support this year's hunt financially. The DAV's support is crucial for the hunt.

Then, there is the NWTFF chapter Estill County Longbeard's who pledged their support. Then, I got an unexpected email from the Twin City Cruisers wanting

to help. This kind of support makes planning easy!

During the planning stage I asked the Twin City Cruisers if they would escort our Wounded Warriors into Estill County. They Graciously agreed!

The plan was set in motion for them to meet the soldiers with a few cool cars at Waco Post Office and escort them to Providence Baptist.

So, now fast forward to April 16th, the day the soldiers are to arrive. I got a phone call at 5 p.m. from the guy that was going to do a devotional and sing at Providence Baptist. He told me he couldn't make it. After the phone call, I said a little prayer, asking for some help! I am going somewhere with the prayer just keep reading!

I drove to Waco Post office and to my surprise there

were two fire trucks, one state trooper, one Irvine police officer, and a bunch of awesome cars to escort the soldiers in. I was speechless when I saw this support!

The soldiers made it to Providence, and they were greeted by the church and a ton of food! I think everybody left Providence fellowship hall a few pounds heavier. It was a feed of epic proportion! A BIG thanks goes out to all my church family.

Now that everyone was stuffed it was time for us to head over to the church for introductions, devotional, and singing! My singer/devotional guy couldn't make it. So, we get over to the church and I do a few introductions and thank you's. I got the honor of presenting

Donna Bray, Parker Bray,

and Camden Bray with the 2014 Kenton Bray turkey call.

Then, I was struggling for words when I saw my good friend Jason Humble whispering "let me speak." Jason owns Brothers in Arms Game Calls. I call for Brothers in Arms and Jason was an answered prayer! I let him take the stage and WOW! Jason is a retired Marine Captain who was part of the initial push into Iraq. He gave a testimony about a battle he was in while in Iraq. I don't want to even try to tell his story, but it was so touching. He spoke of the power of prayer and God speaking to him while bullets were flying past him. Jason spoke of losing seven men under his command that day of battle.

Jason was mine and my wife's answered prayer. I

asked for a little help when I found out my speaker couldn't make it. My wife saw me struggling for words, and she started praying and that's when Jason got up to speak.

This is just day one and God is so good! Please read next week's part two to see the hand of God at work!

Don't Forget the NWTFF Banquet

THE BANQUET
-APRIL 26th 6 PM
-ESTILL COUNTY FAIR-GROUNDS
-FOR MORE INFORMATION AND EARLYBIRD TICKET PURCHASE CONTACT TEDDY HUNT 606-643-5473 OR EMAIL tedhunt@irvineonline.net

Until next week get out and enjoy God's creation!

Eight receive State FFA Degree

State FFA Degree is the highest award a student can achieve in the Kentucky FFA Association and this year, Estill County has eight students who has achieved that honor, the most in Estill County history.

Raven Kerby, Devin Wiseman, Makena Cox, Nicole Fox, Rebekah Hoffman-Verble, Chris Neal, Ryan Oakes and Michaela Walters have achieved the State FFA Degree.

Prior to the State Degree application, the student has to have achieved their Greenhand (freshman) and Chapter degrees within the local chapter. The State Degree requires a student to have been enrolled in agriculture classes for at least 3 years, and maintained membership in the student FFA organization for that same length of time.

The degree requires students to have a Supervised

Agriculture Education Program, an agriculture-related project in which they incorporate the agriculture instruction received in the school program and implement their experiences through the FFA organization. The student must have worked in excess of 300 unpaid hours in a project area, or have earned and productively invested \$1500 in their project area. The student must have also served in at least two leadership positions in the FFA and participated in at least two activities at the State and/or National FFA level.

Estill County FFA also has the honor of having an American FFA Degree recipient this year. Daniella Renae Powell, 2012 graduate of ECHS, will receive the American Degree this fall at the National Convention in Louisville. The American Degree requires a student to have obtained the State FFA

Degree, been out of high school for at least one year, and to have worked in excess of 900 unpaid hours or earned and productively invested \$7500 in their SAEP. Less than one percent of FFA members nationwide earn the Golden Key of the American Degree, and there are over half a million members Nationally in the organization.

Birding BITS BY Cindy Brook
A Warbler Affair
The other day I came home to a yard filled with warblers. There were three black and white warblers chasing each other around some pine trees. And my tray feeder had yellow-rumps, yellow-throated and pine warblers all eating sunflower chips. It was quite the sight!

E-mail: birdingbits@flr.com
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Engineers and Lady Engineers Each Have 13 Wins

The Estill County Engineers and Lady Engineers are on a roll this season with 13 wins each and are looking for a successful run during post-season.

The Engineers under new head coach Gene Combs opened up with their best start in several years to win seven games before running into one of the best teams in the state in the Bourbon County Colonels. The Engineers lost 9-2 in their first meeting and were shutout 10-0 in a second game last week.

Otherwise, 13-5 Estill is doing great against all competition with good wins over Breathitt, Jackson County, Madison Southern, Montgomery County and Powell (2).

Meanwhile fastpitch softball coach Shirley Beard is getting her team ready for another run at the state.

The Lady Engineers are 13-7 with their losses coming against some of the best teams in the area, including Lexington Catholic and North Laurel.

Signature wins have come over Madison Central, Rowan County, Madison Southern and Mercer County.

Estill looks to dominate the district this year with the Lady Pirates of Powell County being down.

Some teams to look at in the 14th Region are Jenkins and (surprise) 13-2 Wolfe.

Cub Cadet days

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