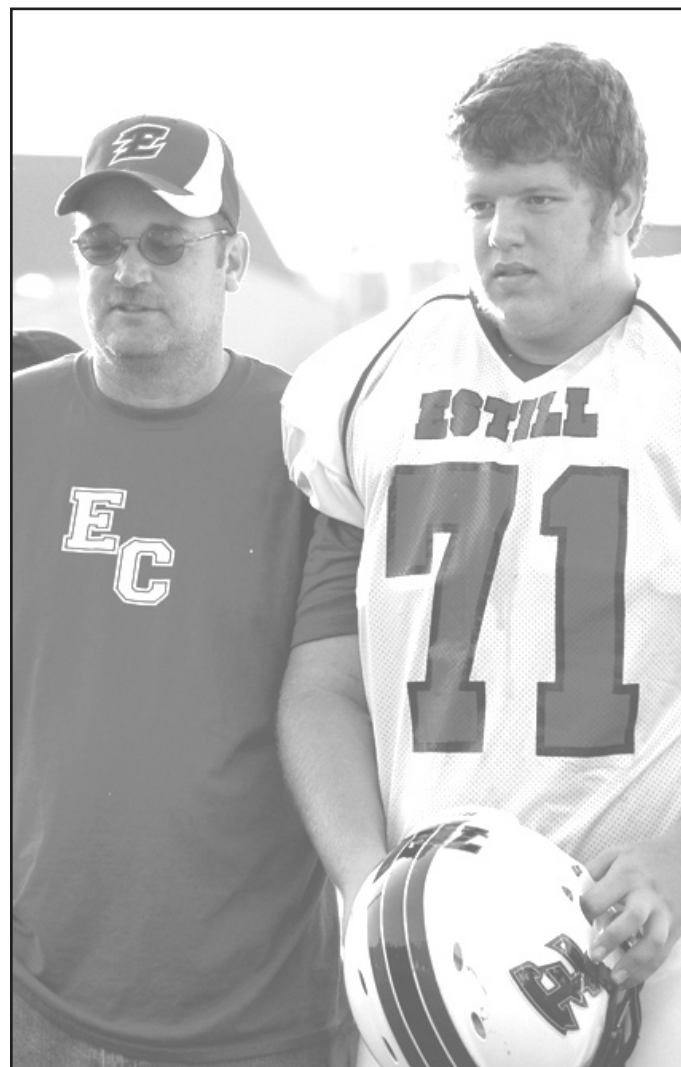




The descendants of Sanford & Dora Ann Dickerson Patrick held their annual reunion at the Aldersgate Camp at Fitchburg on Saturday, August 23, 2014. Among those attending early and in the above photograph are, left to right, front: Phyllis Johnson, Margie Fielder, Delores Rowland, Sue Frazier, Kathy Cooper with daughter, Emily Cooper, a grandchild and Phyllis' great grandson; Elizabeth Rogers, Glenda Abney, Tom Fox. Back row: Jim Fielder, Tony Covey, Angie Rogers, Opal Covey, Elwood Patrick, Johnny Patrick, Mary Abney, Michael Cummins, Amanda Patrick, Hannah Patrick, Henry Patrick, Jerry Eltzroth, William Rogers. Others arriving later were Johnny and Jackie Patrick, Ryan and Alex; Sue Patrick, Clyde Patrick, Darrell Johnson, Jean Evans and a friend.



Former Estill Engineer Jeff Cole and his stepson, Estill sophomore Jaideen McFerron, pose for a photo before the start of the Estill-Morgan game at West Liberty.



The Estill 8U Girls Softball All-Star team competed in the "Morehead Slugfest Tournament" this past weekend. They walked away with another 2nd place finish! They girls played awesome, fought hard and represented our county very well, showing great sportsmanship against things way beyond their control. Everyone should be very proud of them! Show left to right, front: Hailey Baskin, Cassidy Barnes, Jadelyn Neal, Lexi Muncie, Marlo Puckett, Bat Boy Cameron Barnes. Second row: Alyssa Muncie, Jessie Tuttle, Rylee Friend, Alli McCreary, Piper Samples, Baylie Jessie. Back: Coach Robbie Muncie, asst. coaches Jimmy Doug McCreary and Ronnie Riddell. Photo courtesy of Melissa Neal

The Mystery of the Bluebird

by NINA RILEY

Is it possible that some birds know the months of the year? My experience one year with a bluebird left me with some explanation.

After the death of my husband, I lived alone for many years on our 25-acre farm at Winston, Kentucky in Estill County. In February, I became very ill with a case of bronchitis which left me with a cough for weeks. I learned from experience that I didn't cough as much at night if I slept on the couch in the living room with my head elevated on a pillow.

One morning I was awakened at 6:00 a.m. by a peck, pecking sound at the 8-foot-wide bay window located across the room where I was sleeping. To my surprise there sat a bluebird staring at me. It continued

pecking at the window until around 6:30 a.m. and then flew away. It arrived again later on in the morning and sat in the window for awhile before leaving again.

The next morning, it came at the same time and resumed its pecking; this occurred all through the first week in March. I decided I had to do something to scare it away to be able to sleep; so, I tacked an aluminum pie pan on the outside of the window where the March wind would create noise to scare the bird away. However, it didn't work. A friend said birds were afraid of snakes, and Wal-Mart in Richmond had some real-life-like rubbers ones; so, I traveled there and purchased two rubber rattlesnakes and placed them in the window. They had no effect on the bird. I finally removed the aluminum pie pan and the

snakes.

My daughter, Rebecca, who taught music in a public school in Cincinnati, called me one day to see how I was feeling after my illness, and I told her about my experience with the bluebird.

She said, "Mom, you know birds are considered birds of happiness and March is Dad's birth month. His spirit is somehow in that bird, trying to cheer you up, but when the first of April arrives, the bird will no longer appear."

Sure enough, after all those days in March, and the month of April came, there was no bluebird at the window and I never saw it again. I am still wondering today why it flew to my window during the month of March instead of February when I first became sick.

An old saying, "A good name is better than riches."

Colorful 5K Run Coming To Irvine

A new 5K is coming to Irvine on Saturday, October 11, 2014, and it promises to be one of the most colorful events of the year.

The Color of Hope Hospice 5K is a fun run/walk organized by a group of community members in conjunction with Hospice Care Plus and Citizens Guaranty Banks. Proceeds from the event will go to Hospice Care Plus.

The first Color of Hope 5K is scheduled for Sat., Oct. 11 in Irvine. Registration is available online at hospicecp.org, or in person at Citizens Guaranty Bank locations in

Richmond, Irvine, and Berea. Shelley Ward, director of development at Hospice, says the 5K is a celebration.

"It isn't a timed race, so the focus is all on fun," said Ward. "It's also great because people of all ages and abilities can participate. You can walk, run, skip, roll—whatever works for you. It's kind of a happy party atmosphere with balloons, music, and, of course, all the colors of the rainbow coming at you!"

At stations throughout the course of the 5K, volunteers will blast participants with brightly colored powders. By the end, most are wearing

a rainbow of colors. For this reason, light-colored clothing is recommended. Ward says the powders are non-toxic and non-permanent.

Those who register before Sept. 19 are guaranteed to receive a free Color of Hope tee-shirt and can take advantage of the early bird rate of \$20. After Sept. 19, tee-shirts can't be guaranteed and the price goes up to \$25. Children under 5 may participate for free.

For more information about the event, contact Shelley Ward at 859-986-1500, 800-806-5492 or visit hospicecp.org.

Birding BITS BY Cindy Brook

Window Strikes
One way to prevent birds from flying into windows is to place strips of tape or streaks of soap at least 1-inch wide and 10 inches apart on the outside of your window. Vertical lines work best. This helps break up the reflection, so birds are less likely to hit the glass.

E-mail: birdingbits@cflr.com
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Attention Veterans 

A Veterans Benefits Field Representative will be at the National Guard Armory, 335 Cow Creek Road, Ravenna, on Thursday, September 4, 2014 and the first Thursday of each month. The hours are 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Veterans and their dependants will receive assistance filing for Federal and state veterans benefits. This service is provided free of charge by the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs. To apply, veterans need to furnish copies of pertinent documentation to verify eligibility. For further information, please call toll free within Kentucky, 1-866-376-0308, to speak with a Veterans Benefits Field Representative.

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