

Kentucky Steam's Santa Drive-Thru
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Estill County Youth Salute
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The Estill County Tribune

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Animal control officer resigns

The Animal Shelter located on Cow Creek Road remains open

Friday was the last day at the Estill County Animal Shelter for its director, Tommy Mullen.

Mullen has been director of the animal shelter for seven years.

He was a bailiff at the courthouse when he was hired to work part-time at the shelter.

The director then, Sandy Clark, was in failing health and wasn't able to answer calls after hours.

When Clark retired in 2013, Mullen was hired as the director.

When Mullen first started at the shelter, it had the worst euthanizing record in the state. The rate was just under 70 percent for dogs, and 99.5 percent for cats.

To increase adoptions, Clark had actively started reaching out to rescue groups. She also sent Adopt A Pet pictures to the newspaper weekly.

Mullen said he started a Facebook page with pets that could be adopted. He also reached out to more rescue groups.

Presently, the shelter is using seven rescue groups.

In 2015, he was in contact with the Kentucky Animal Control Association. He and the shelter employees started going

to trainings.

This year, five spay and neuter clinics have been held with approximately 200 animals spayed or neutered.

Mullen said he has seen the numbers drop from 3,000 a year to 999 this year. Last year the shelter took in 525 cats and on Friday, it had housed 468.

"Next year, we should be way down with all the spay and neuters going on," Mullen stated.

The euthanization rate has been zero except when court-ordered for vicious animals.

Mullen was voted Employee of the Year for the state of Kentucky in 2016.

"I have an awesome team here, and it wasn't just me," he stated.

During 2017-18, Mullen said the Estill shelter was selected as best shelter because of its budget. In 2016, 17, and 18, it was selected as Top Shelter of the Year because of its best euthanization rate.

Mullen said when he first became animal control officer, the shelter was using \$350-\$400 worth of cleaning supplies each month. Now, those supplies are being donated to the shelter.

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Tommy Mullen stood in the door of the Estill County Animal Shelter on Friday. It was his last day as Animal Control Officer after seven years. In that seven years, the shelter went from having the highest euthanization rate in the state to being honored for three straight years. Grants were obtained this past year, and the shelter hosted five spay and neuter programs.

Ravenna to lose mayor, city clerk and 3 councilors

by CATHY DAWES
Tribune Staffwriter

The Ravenna Council met on Monday night via a telephone conference. This was not only the last meeting of 2020 but was the last meeting for Mayor Estine Tipton, city clerk Nancy Anderson, and councilwomen Vicki Horn, Beverly Thompson, and Brenda Abney.

December 31st will mark the last day for the five women to sit on the council and new members will be sworn in at the first of the year.

As for the city clerk, an advertisement for the position will be placed in the newspaper and the council will take on the task to fill the position of the mayor in January.

Councilwoman Vicki Horn told the council that she has been a second person to sign on the checks for the city of Ravenna, and that she would like her name removed as soon as possible due to the fact that she will no longer be on the council.

Mayor Tipton agreed and said that it did take time for the bank to add

and remove names to the accounts, and with the holidays coming up they needed to take care of that as soon as possible. Horn added that they couldn't leave the city hanging with bills unpaid.

Councilwoman Valerie Flinchum said that she thought with the mayor and clerk both leaving that they needed to step back and take a breath and not rush into anything because it was going to be a big transition for everyone.

The council discussed the possibility of purchasing a new computer for city hall. Flinchum said that she had talked to someone at Pro Silver, and he had recommended a lady that could work on the Quick Books program and try to work out the glitches that have been going on for several months.

Horn said the computer had a lot of issues itself and needed replaced. Mayor Tipton said the computers had been there since she took office in 2013 so she knew they were at least 7 years old.

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Irvine-Ravenna Kiwanis Club announce Light Contest winners

The Kiwanis Club of Irvine-Ravenna has announced the winners of the annual Christmas Light Contest.

The "Overall Appearance" Winner is Ashley and Tara Witt's home at 235 Main Street, Irvine. They were also the Grand Champion.

"Best Use of Lights" winner was Shaun and Pam Jones home at 7th and Elm Streets in Ravenna.

Josh and Kayla Wilson received the "Most

Creative" award for their home at 519 Elm Street in Ravenna.

Playtime Daycare at 67 River Drive, Irvine received the "Business" Award.

Winner signs have been placed on site of each of the winners.

The Kiwanis Club thanks all those who decorated their homes to bring some Christmas cheer to the community. The contest was open to the residents of Irvine and Ravenna.

Christmas Comes Early with Bicycle Giveaway at River City Music & Arts

River City Music & Arts will give away approximately 25 bicycles to children ages 14 and under this Saturday, December 19, from 12 noon until 4 p.m. or until bikes are gone.

The bikes will be donated on a first come, first serve basis.

The center wishes for

every child in the community to have a bike, but they can at least give these away.

They are all gently used bikes donated by Robert Durbin. Any repairs needed are being done at River City before the giveaway.

There will have candy bags for anyone who stops by.

Deadline Extended for Santa Letters



Santa is still accepting letters at The Estill County Tribune through Friday, December 18 from all good little girls and boys. You can send your letters to Santa by email to news@estilltribune.com or mail them to Estill Tribune, 6135 Winchester Road, Irvine, KY 40336.

Obituaries

Christine Bullock, 74
Nina Cannon, 78
Robert Flinchum, 70
Catherine Howard, 87
Cletha Richardson, 79
Kent Richeson, 57
Joyce Sewell, 73
Leslie Tipton, 83
Helen VanPoortliet, 76
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Jill White, 57
Kathy Wilson, 53
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Estill Co.
Covid-19 #s

Total Cases
583

Active -- 44

Recovered
529

Deaths 10

(As of 12/14/20)

MONDAY

Winter begins
Dec. 21



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