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**Water Line Break
Causes Damage
To Courthouse
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The Estill County Tribune

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70 test negative in Estill for Covid-19, as of Mon. Fiscal court meets by teleconference

The Estill County Fiscal Court held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Monday by teleconference.

Due to the phone system being inoperable at the courthouse, the meeting was moved to the Emergency Operation Center on Broadway.

This did not affect participation in the meeting, because the fiscal court had advertised a telephone number and access code for residents to use to listen to the meeting.

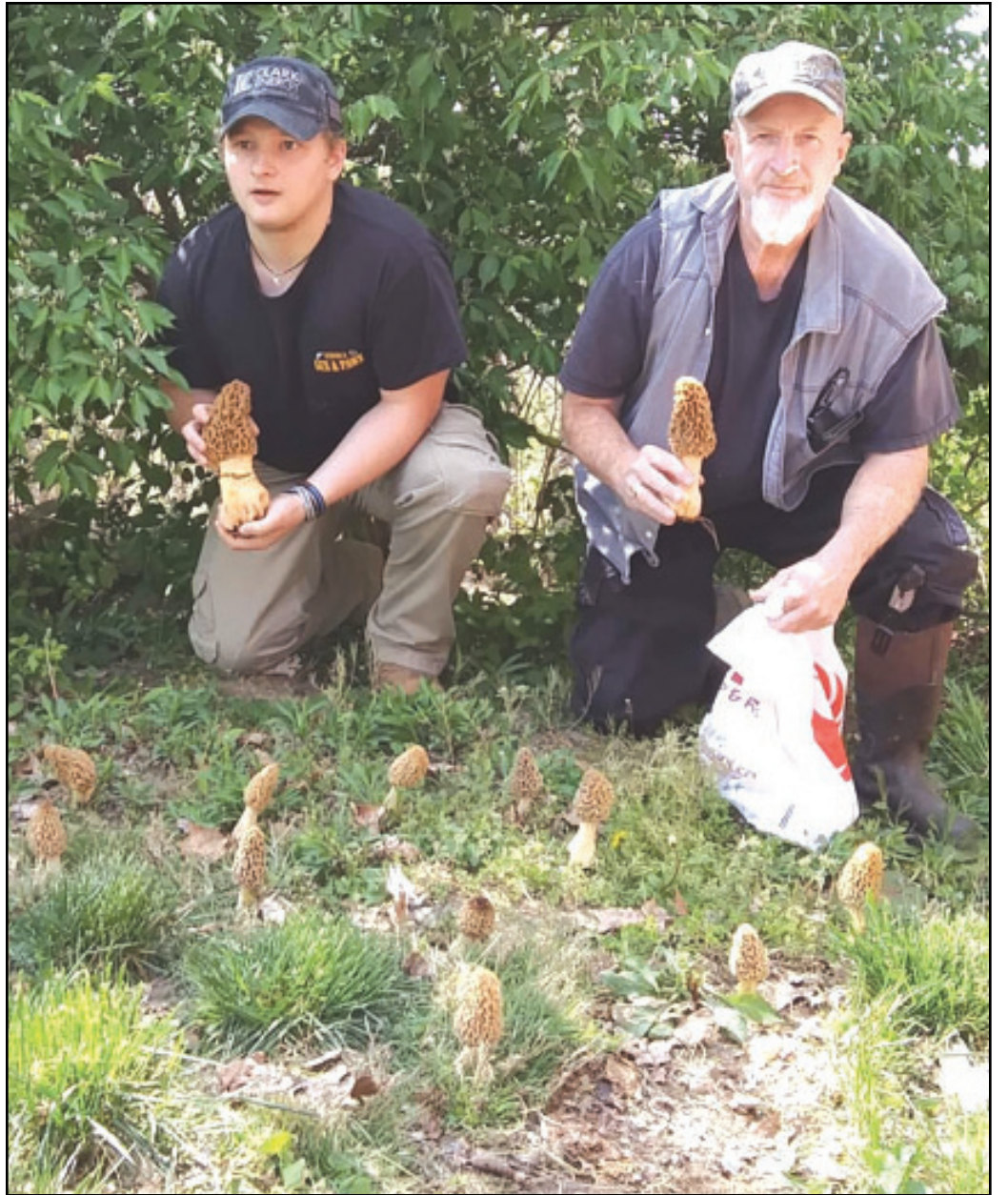
Judge/Executive Donnie Watson said as of Friday, 60 Covid-19 tests had been given to Estill County residents and all of them were negative.

Ronnie Riddell, director of Estill Emergency Management (EMA), said as of Monday, that 70 people had been tested with no positives.

As of Monday, Estill was one of only 13 Kentucky counties which have no confirmed cases of the Corona Virus. Lee County, which adjoins Estill also has reported no confirmed cases.

"We have been blessed," Watson stated. "It's been hard on everybody, but we will get through it."

He added that everyone will keep their distance, follow the guidelines of the CDC and governor, and pray to "get back to some degree of normalcy."



Christopher Johnson and Daniel Johnson found over three pounds of mushrooms (morels) over the weekend. They are holding up the two largest ones while others they found are standing on the ground. The Johnsons graciously shared mushrooms with their neighbors. Photo Submitted



The old silos on Wisemantown Road provide a scenic view with leaves budding. Photo Cathy Dawes

School board discusses updates on construction

by Cathy Dawes
Tribune Staffwriter

A virtual school board meeting was held on Thursday night to provide updates on construction projects as well as take care of the regular monthly business.

Jeremy Faulkner of Codell Construction said that they were making good strides on the technology center considering what they have been dealing with. He said that on May 1st they would begin working on the walls of the new building.

Architect Peter Fisher said that he was very

pleased with the progress that had been made on the site and was excited to see it start coming out of the ground. Faulkner added that they would soon begin working on the area where the pedway will connect the high school to the technology center.

Board member Bryan Covey asked how that would affect the drainage problem in the band room considering it had flooded several times in recent months. Superintendent Jeff Saylor said that it should fix all the drainage issues.

Board members were

able to experience a virtual tour of the technology site as well as the location of the new bus garage. Fisher said that even though it was a slow start on the bus garage site the construction company had gotten a lot of work done in the past month.

Even though there is a projected decrease in revenue due to COVID-19 for the upcoming year the board approved for additional staff to be added at the middle school and the high school.

Saylor explained that there is always a summer slide each year where students are home for two months. With them being out since March he definitely does not want to see any students slide because of this situation. That's why there has not been any cuts made to the staff.

Saylor provided an update on the school meals that are being provided to students. He said that they had stopped the door to door deliveries because he didn't want to put employees in any compromising positions.

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Ravenna mayor sews and donates masks to hospital



Ravenna Mayor Estine Tipton took her sewing machine to city hall where she sews masks for employees at Marcum & Wallace Hospital.

She is the 81 year old mayor of Ravenna, and you will find Estine Tipton in city hall five days a week during regular business hours.

During the Corona Virus social distancing, the doors to city hall are locked. If someone needs to do business with the city, such as paying taxes, they must knock on the door. All business is then conducted curb-side like most other businesses in Ravenna and Irvine.

Mayor Tipton could have had a lot of free time on her hands.

Just before the social distancing began, the mayor made her first face mask from fabric. She used a medical mask for a pattern. She inserts a small piece of floral wire

for the nose piece.

She's been making masks ever since. She brought her Singer sewing machine to city hall, and she sews masks when she's not busy with city work. As of Friday, she estimated that she has made at least 100 masks.

Mayor Tipton got a lot of sewing experience while employed at Carhartt Manufacturing before she retired 19 years ago.

She stated that she had a stash of fabric at home that she had accumulated over the years. Since she started sewing masks, people she knows have donated fabric and elastic to make them.

When she retired from Carhartt in 2001, she became a member of

the Hospital Auxiliary at Marcum & Wallace Memorial Hospital. She and other auxiliary members are donating the fabric masks to hospital employees.

Tipton's granddaughter, Deanna Seale, is the head of nursing at Marcum & Wallace Hospital.

She said the hospital staff use the fabric masks over their medical ones which can match their scrubs. The fabric masks are washed daily in hot water.

Tipton hopes to give the hospital staff more masks so that each will have more than one. The ladies like floral and colorful ones, but Tipton is using her solid colors for the male employees.

"I give all (my masks) away. I have not sold one," she stated. "I've always helped people."

She has also made masks for the Ravenna City Clerk Ashley Moore and her children. All of the mayor's grandchildren have a 'granny-made' mask.

Another member of the hospital auxiliary, Ruth Stocker, gave Mayor Tipton another mask pattern to try out.

When Tipton leaves city hall at quitting time, she cuts out fabric to make more masks.

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Obituaries

Jewell Fox, 89

Charlie Isaacs, 79

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Obituaries at

EstillTribune.Com

Irvine Council to meet Monday by Teleconference

The Irvine City Council will meet Monday, April 27 at 7 p.m. in city hall. The meeting will be conducted by teleconference.

Residents who are interested in the meeting may call (786) 525-3211 and enter an access code of 978-613-421.