

# Social distancing forces veterans to change the way they do things

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had adopted cemeteries to place American flags on the graves.

Legion members Jack Chaney and Len Delaware went to 26 cemeteries in the Barnes Mountain and Buck Creek area to place flags on the graves.

Martin said that Earl Stone, also a member of the American Legion, went to some cemeteries at the Hargett area to place flags.

Legion members had announced they would be available on Saturday to pass out flags to family members of deceased veterans.

The Legion also had

a jar where donations could be made for the flags. Smaller donations were made, not including two very generous ones from local businesses.

Martin gave me a dozen flags which I took with me when I went to the Crowe Cemetery on Furnace-Junction Road on Monday. My brother had been there a day earlier, and he said there was a flag on Dad's grave. There is one every year before we get there.

While I was at Crowe Cemetery, Martin arrived with flags in his hands. He walked the cemetery over looking for grave markers of veterans. Before he

left, he stated that he had found one veteran's grave with a little flag on it, so he placed one from the Legion.

When I left there, I went to Kennon Cemetery in Powell County, where my in-laws were buried. I had already told Martin that I may use some of those flags at Kennon.

On Sunday, I had asked a nephew who is active with the AmVets Post in Clay City if they were placing flags on veterans graves this year. He said no because their post was also closed.

When I pulled in at that cemetery, I immediately noticed American flags on

the graves of those who were veterans. Many of them had been bought for \$2 each because they still had a price tag on them.

The social distancing has also affecting veterans funerals. A veterans salute cannot be performed at the funerals of veterans who have passed away.

Just in the past week, visitation has been opened up. Funeral homes are limiting the number of visitors at a time. Funerals remain closed to family members but is no longer limited to ten.

Special singing is still not allowed during funeral services.



**Leslie Rene Bicknell  
Class of 2020**

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." --*  
**Proverbs 3:5-6**

**We Love You So Much,  
Mom, Duane, Nana, Papa,  
Gary and Jackie**

## Courthouse could re-open on Monday

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The judges will also hold virtual hearings via Skype.

Filings and payments will continue to be made by phone, Drop Box, and by mail-ins.

Brinegar-Cassidy said the Department of Transportation and Kentucky State Police are working together on licensing new drivers. An official announcement is expected this week.

Regional offices will be set up to give drivers permits. Brinegar-Cassidy said that Estill County will not have a regional office

because it is so small. She does not yet know where local drivers-to-be will have to go for permit testing.

If your license has expired, Brinegar-Cassidy said that you can drive 90 days before renewing it.

When the office reopens to renew licenses, Brinegar-Cassidy said it will be done by appointment only. Lines will also be marked off in the circuit clerk's office to promote social distancing.

A court security officer is expected to remain in the downstairs foyer of the courthouse to di-

rect persons to the office where they need to go.

As of press time, 399 Estill Countians have been tested for the virus and 385 are negative. Fourteen test results are pending.

Estill, Lee, and Robertson counties have reported no positive tests for the corona virus.

Candie McMaine, Public Health Services Supervisor at the Estill County Health Department, recently stated that it takes about 24 hours to get test results back.

The Health Department reminds everyone

the COVID-19 testing is available to anyone who wants to be tested. Contact your primary care provider for more information or to schedule a time.

With more facilities opening up and summer travel increasing, the health department is asking all residents to keep gatherings to 10 or fewer people.

Other guidance includes wearing masks, maintaining social distancing of six feet or more, gathering outside instead of inside and washing hands frequently.

## Irvine Mayor presents budget

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Councilman Ernest Farmer asked about the ABC fund, which is revenue generated from the sale of alcohol. Farmer said he recalled from a previous meeting that the council had discussed the revenue being less because a few surrounding counties had voted to sell alcohol themselves.

Chief John Sturniolo said that alcohol sales had not decreased at all and that a liquor store between Irvine and Richmond had recently closed so people were buying in

Irvine instead of stopping elsewhere.

Mayor Gross reported that health insurance premiums for city employees had increased by \$7,000 since last year for the same amount of coverage.

He also said that the garbage truck had been worked on and was running good at this time.

Councilman Billy Arthur said as long as it is working he felt like they should use it rather than purchase a new truck like they had discussed during a previous meeting.

Councilman Tim Burkhart agreed but said he thought they should be setting money aside to purchase a new truck, because they all know it's just a matter of time before the truck will have to be replaced.

The council agreed to sponsor God's Outreach for a grant that they have obtained to build or buy a new food bank within the city limits. Gross said the food bank feeds about 7,800 people, and they are looking at one location in particular to put the food bank.

## Virtual Reading Begins June 1

Virtual Summer Reading at the Estill County Library will begin June 1st. Sign-ups are available on the library's Facebook page, as well as, on their website [estillcolibrary.booksys.net](http://estillcolibrary.booksys.net) under the Summer Reading tab. There will be virtual events as well as book challenges and outdoor activities to participate in. Sign your family up today and earn prizes throughout the summer! If you don't have internet access the library will have options available for you as well!

## St. Elizabeth Church Basement Sales

As you know the Pandemic Virus has put an end to our sales as we have been doing them. So this is how we will operate things for as long as it plagues us. If you need anything or can use things from the Basement, call and make an appointment and we will set a time when you can come and shop, on your own, to your hearts content. Just call (723 8216) anytime between 9:00 and 5:00 Monday thru Saturday. Sunday is the Lord's day!

## School Board Meets

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He added that if things were back to normal and they were able to have fall sports and activities then those coaches would receive one hundred percent of their pay.

Saylor said that any staffing cuts that had been made through the current budget had been done at Central Office. He said that students usually slide a little during the summer months and since they have been out of school since March he thought it was important to have all staff on hand to assist those who would need a little extra help when school resumes.

The board looked at the three options to the start of school that had been provided to them by the Kentucky Department of Education. Saylor said that he didn't feel like the calendar with the July start date was feasible.

The other option would put students starting back around Labor Day. It was definitely an option, but it would eliminate a lot of breaks that students have throughout the school year. He said there would be no Fall Break at all and Christmas break and Spring break would be shortened to ensure that students attended the amount of days that are required by the state.

Board member Bryan Covey stated that he wasn't a fan of Fall break anyway and asked if the district would be able to use NTI days on snow days. Saylor said yes that there were ten NTI days approved for the new school year.

## Irvine Police activity report

An Estill County warrant was served on Aaron P. Riddell, 37, of Pea Ridge Road, Irvine on May 21 by Irvine Officer Stewart Morris. The warrant was for a probation violation (for a felony offense).

Officer Morris also served an Estill County warrant on Crystal Rawlins, 42, of Campbells Branch, Irvine on May 21. Her warrant was for a probation violation (for a felony offense).

An Estill County warrant was served May 21

on Katherine Turner, 41, of Waco by Officer James Marshall.

Turner's warrant charged her with theft - receipt of stolen credit/debit card and fraudulent use of a credit card under \$500 within a six month period.

Officer Jason Conrad served an Estill County warrant May 20 on Paul A. Descoteaux, 52, of Edgewater Drive, Irvine.

There was no other information available in this case.



**Feed Those Babies!**  
It takes some time before parent cardinals bring their babies into my yard. They tuck them neatly away in an area behind my fence. I know they're there because I can hear them cry. That's my cue to put out extra high-protein foods such as sunflower chips and raw peanuts.  
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**Estill County  
Community  
Tire Amnesty**  
**Wednesday, Thursday  
& Friday  
May 27, 28 & 29  
9am-3pm**

**County lot in front of the Animal Shelter  
You must wear a mask and unload your own tires!**

**No Truck Loads!  
No Businesses!**