



America's Heartland
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Good manners mean never using the refrigerator as a restroom

ther's relationship with God. He told me how when he gets up at night to use the bathroom, poof, the light comes on, and when he'd done, poof, the light goes off."

"Oh, no," the daughter exclaimed. "He's using it in the refrigerator again."

The older I get, the more I appreciate "old people" humor. Let's face it, all of us of the AARP generation do things, quite unintentionally, that can make young people laugh. But, the Bible clearly lets us know that we are a people of purpose, that it is our jobs to let the younger generation know of God's great power.

"When I am old and greyheaded, O God, forsake me not until I have shewed thy strength to this generation and thy power to everyone who is to come (Psalm 71:17).

By the time a person reaches 90, he or she has seen so many incredible things that could only be wrought by God himself. They've seen the world through the eyes of a child, marveling at simple things, like a colorful butterfly floating on a breeze or lightning bugs that flicker in the darkness

even though they have no obvious power source. They have known the love of a spouse and of children. They have felt their hearts turn to mush when they held their first grandchild in their arms. They have felt the comforting arms of God wrapped around them when they've had to say goodbye to the ones they love. And, through it all, they have felt the mighty presence of the Lord right there with them.

So, yes, senior citizens can tell you lots about the goodness of the Lord. They have decades of wisdom stored away and they're ready to share it with the younger folks around them. All anyone has to do is to ask.

If once in a while, we make you laugh by what seems to you like odd behavior, well, we're fine with that. After all, the Bible tells us "a merry heart doeth good, like a medicine."

But one word of warning: When we come to visit, you may want to put a lock on the refrigerator at night.

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A pastor was talking with a 90-year-old member of his church about things eternal.

"How is your relationship with the Lord," the pastor asked.

"Oh, we're on great terms," the old fellow said. "He couldn't be any better to me. Why, he has even fixed it so that when I get up in the middle of the night to use the bathroom, all I have to do is open the door and, poof, the light comes on. When I'm done, poof, the light goes back off."

"Wow," the pastor said, "that's incredible."

Later in the day, the pastor called the old fellow's daughter and said, "I'm in awe of your fa-

Library Happenings

Estill Public Library

by Shannon Horn

Another week has come and gone and I can't believe that a month of Summer Reading has passed. It flew by last year, but I thought it was because we had so much going on. Who am I kidding? We still have had a lot of fun stuff going on here at the library even though our Summer Reading Program had to be virtual this year.

First, I want to let everyone know that we are getting closer and closer to opening. We are still waiting for the internet to be hooked up. I'm typing this on the 26th, so hopefully by the time this paper is printed we will have internet or they will be working on it. Fingers crossed!! We know that the community is really excited to see the inside of the building and we can't wait to have you. We want to say thank you for your patience and understanding.

I have had several people ask over the last weeks if we are open to check books out, and while we are not open for people to come in and browse we are doing curbside pickup. While this may sound odd, it is really rather easy. You can call in with a list of books that you would like to check out, or we could pull books for you based on things you like. We then take those books from Broadway to Main Street to check them out and you pick them up there. All of the books are being cleaned before they leave and when they return. Just call us at 723-3030 if you would like to get some books.

I would just like to take a moment to thank some of the amazing community members that have helped us out this last week with our virtual programming. I want to say thank you to Tony Horn for being our special guest reader this last Monday. I really enjoyed hearing him read the story of John Henry. Shout out to Michael Stallings for an awesome virtual Pickin' in the Park concert. Nelle Williams provided a wonderful program on making t-shirt quilts and Ms. Sandy Savage joined us to host an online art class on perspective. We are so blessed to have an amazing community that has rallied together to provide quality educational and entertaining programming for people while they must stay at home.

We have so much going on here at the library. We plan on continuing that through the month of July. Can you believe it? I said July. We are over halfway through 2020. Thank goodness. We'll make it through this weird year and we will come out better for having been through it. One of my favorite book quotes is from Peter Pan. He said, "To live will be an awfully big adventure." I feel like 2020 has been a whirlwind, but I've learned a lot this year. While it has been a strange and difficult time I'm glad that the library is able to provide things for our community to help us all get through it.

I hope you all have a good week. Check out our Facebook page or read next week's article for more information!

Estill County Schools Re-entry Survey

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Estill County School district has been monitoring all guidance that will allow us to make decisions which prioritize the health and safety of our students, families and community. The development of best practices through this frequently changing health crisis is a historic undertaking, but we are committed to returning stronger in the fall.

With the recent release of the "TEAM KENTUCKY: Healthy at School" document from the Governor's office, we know it will be necessary to operate differently when our campuses reopen.

With that in mind, the input of our families on how we re-imagine education is critical to this process because our plans must be responsive to the needs of the students and parents/guardians we serve.

Starting later this week our district will be conducting a re-entry survey that takes less than 10 minutes to complete. This will allow families to share their responses on important factors related to the reopening of schools.

The district will use this information to develop our final re-entry plan for the safe return of our students and staff.

INSPECTION PERIOD FOR THE PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT ROLL

The Estill County real property tax roll will be opened for inspection from July 6 through July 20, 2020. Under the supervision of the property valuation administrator or one of the deputies.

This is the January 1, 2020, assessment on which state, county and school taxes for 2020 will be due in the Fall of 2020.

The tax roll will be available for inspection by appointment only between the hours of 8:00 to 4:00 Monday through Friday and 8:00 to 12:00 on Saturday.

Any taxpayer desiring to appeal an assessment on real property must first request a conference with the PVA or a designated deputy. Due to the current COVID-19 crisis, we recommend all conferences be held by phone. If you would like an in-person conference, you will need to contact us for an appointment at 606-723-4569. When calling the PVA Office, if your call is not answered, this means all lines are busy or we are assisting other customers, please leave a message with your name and number and we will return your call as soon as possible. Documentation supporting your opinion of value will continue to be required; however, you will receive specific instructions on the best method to submit your documentation after contacting our office about your intention to have a conference.

Any taxpayer still aggrieved by an assessment on real property, after the conference with the PVA or designated deputy, may appeal to the county board of assessment appeals.

Your appeal must be filed with the county clerk's office no later than one workday following the conclusion of the inspection period. Please contact the county clerk's office to receive instructions on the method that office is using to accept appeals this year and to obtain a form that can be used to file you appeal.

Any taxpayer failing to appeal the county board of assessment appeals, or failing to appear before the board, either in person or by designated representative, will not be eligible to appeal directly to the Kentucky Claims Commission.

Appeals of personal property assessments shall NOT be made to the county board of assessment appeals. Personal property taxpayers shall be served notice under the provisions of KRS 132.450(4) and shall have the protest and appeal rights granted under the provisions of KRS 131.110.

The following steps should be taken when a taxpayer does not agree with the assessed value of personal property as determined by the property valuation administrator.

- (1) He or she must list under protest (for certification) what is believed to be the fair cash value of the property.
- (2) A written protest must be filed directly with the Department of Revenue, Office of Property Valuation within 30 days from the date of the notice of assessment.
- (3) This protest must be in accordance with KRS 131.110.
- (4) The final decision of the Department of Revenue may be appealed to the Kentucky Claims Commission.

Jeff L. Hix
 Property Valuation Administrator
 Estill County

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