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# The Estill County Tribune

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## The rain poured down and the flood came



This photo was shared on Facebook of Third Street in Ravenna, also known as KY 52. The Ravenna Church of God is in the front left. Michael's Restaurant on the corner was originally scheduled to reopen Thursday.

March 2021 definitely came in like a lion with the flooding of major roads, homes and businesses.

The heavy rains on Saturday and Sunday came at February's end to cause historical flooding.

Major roads which were underwater include the Winchester Road at the car wash and at Calloways Creek, Richmond Road at McDonald's and Walgreens, South Irvine Road, KY 52 at Third Street in Ravenna, and KY 82 at the Powell County line.

A portion of Ravenna, and the cities of Clay City and Beattyville were underwater.

On Monday, no major water rescues were reported in Estill County. The number of damaged homes and businesses will not be available until the water goes down.

Stacy Lane was one of the roads closed due to flooding. The Estill County Fire Department is located on a street off Stacy Lane, which required the fire department to relocate their vehicles in case of a fire.

Estill County Emergency Management did not have enough road closing signs to warn travelers about water closures. A flashing sign at the intersection of KY 89 and 82 warned motorists there was no access to the Mountain Parkway.

A mudslide closed Wagersville Road. Another mudslide knocked train cars off the track on Millers Creek.

The Kentucky River at Ravenna was expected to crest at 39 feet on Thursday. This is bigger than the 1957 flood when the river crested at 38.37 feet.

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The horse barn, entertainment stand, and concession stand, pictured, at the Estill County Fairgrounds flooded, along with the exhibit hall.



Water was still rising at the home of Larry and Lisa Stewart on White Oak Road. The Stewarts had raised their home up to prevent it from getting flooded.

Daylight Saving Time Begins  
SUNDAY, MAR. 14  
Turn clocks ahead one hour

### School board discusses safely reopening of county schools

by CATHY DAWES  
Tribune Staffwriter

During a special called meeting of the Estill County school board, members discussed the reopening of schools and how things will progress back to four days of in-person classes within the next few weeks.

The first week of March students will remain on the hybrid schedule with a group of students attending on Monday and Tuesday and then a different group of students attending classes on Thursday and Friday.

The following week, students at Estill Springs will begin attending classes four days a week with Wednesday being an off day so the school can be sanitized.

Other schools in the district will follow in transitioning back to four days a week, and the plan according to Superintendent Jeff Saylor is for all schools to be in person four days a week by March 15th.

Saylor said that from here on out closures will not be made on a district wide basis when someone tests positive for COVID-19. He said closures will be made on a school to school, classroom to classroom basis.

An example he gave during the meeting was if a 3rd grade student tests positive for the virus then only the student and those who were in close contact with that student would have to quarantine.

He said that the entire school would not be shut down unless there was a widespread outbreak.

Board member Bryan Covey expressed his concerns about students who have never turned in an assignment or made contact with their teacher during this school year.

Saylor said that Assistant Superintendent Tonia Isaacs and SRO Josh Rison had been doing home visits, and that principals from each school were going to start doing them as well.

He said the district was discussing summer school as an option to help them get caught up and they were looking at other avenues as well.

Saylor said he would do home visits himself if that's what it takes, but assured the board that if they heard from anyone that their student had been retained this year, then it was because they simply didn't put any effort into doing their assignments.

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### Man pleads guilty to bringing TENORM

The man accused of sending radioactive waste to Advanced Disposal in 2015 has entered a plea deal on his charges in federal court.

Corey Hoskins of West Liberty entered a guilty plea to two charges of shipping the waste without proper labeling last Wednesday. He will be sentenced in June.

By the plea deal, he is expected to be sentenced to five years in prison and fined up to \$250,000.

Hoskins was indicted last July on five counts of mail fraud and 22 counts of violating the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act. The charges that he did not plea guilty to will be dismissed by the plea agreement.

Hoskins formed a company called Advanced TENORM LLC and contracted with trucking companies in 2015 and 2016 to transport TENORM to the Advanced Disposal landfill in Estill County.

TENORM is an acronym for Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Materials. It comes from fracking waste in oil drilling operations.

According to the plea agreement, Hoskins did not tell the trucking companies the sludge was radioactive to get lower fees. The companies that he hired were not permitted to handle hazardous waste.

The trucks did not have signs on them identifying them as hauling hazardous waste.

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Andrew Begley, 81  
Estill McGee, 91  
Nora Tipton, 71  
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