

Donations needed of non-perishable food items for local food bank

For some Estill Countians, this may be a "hard candy Christmas," said Susan Dick, director of the food bank in Ravenna.

Dick said the food bank started eight years ago this month, and the food supply is at an all time low.

She estimates that 100 families are depending on the food bank this Christmas.

Families who qualify can go to the food bank six times a year. Dick said that many of those families will save one of their six visits to go to the food bank in December, to use the food at their holiday meal.

Food is distributed the third and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Those who are pre-qualified can go to the food bank the third Tuesday, as long as they have not already been six times this year. The next food distribution is December 15.

Dick said the fourth Tuesday is used to give food to referrals or families who are referred to them during emergencies.

"We (the community) have to raise the funds for the referrals," she stated.

The support of the community is needed to make

sure the food bank stays afloat.

A fund raiser is planned for December 1 at Pizza Hut, where a percentage of sales that day will be donated to the food bank. If you plan to eat at Pizza Hut that day, please stop by Pickers Paradise and pick up a voucher to use.

The Estill Arts Council will be accepting donations for the food bank at their Arts and Crafts Fair on Saturday, December 5 being held at the Central Office gymnasium. A can of food will be accepted for the food bank as admission, or you can pay \$1.00. If you would like to help the food bank more, you can bring a bag or box of canned foods to the crafts fair.

Dick said the food bank will accept canned vegetables and fruits, or any non-perishable item that does not have to be refrigerated. Besides vegetables, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, and peanut butter are always welcome items.

Individuals, churches, and groups who would like to donate to the food bank can call Dick at 723-9786. She may be able to arrange a pick-up of food items.



Kaitlyn Bledsoe and Havyn Renolds, students in Mrs. Bonny and Mrs. Lena's kindergarten class. Photo Submitted

South Irvine P-K Center staff and students are thankful for the veterans and their families who came and shared with them on Veterans Day this year. The staff and children at South Irvine would like to thank the following people for coming and sharing with us.

Stephanie Johnson and her kids came and shared what it is like to be a military family.

Readers were the following: Leah Williams, Don Richardson, Dessa-Lena Kerby, Sonny Muncie, Tommy Lisle, and Tracy Snowden.

Annual Hospice Remembrance Tree Ceremony Set For Dec. 6

Hospice Care Plus' annual Remembrance Tree ceremony is set for Sunday, December 6, 2:00 p.m., at Richmond Mall inside the former JC Penney's.

The event is a long-standing tradition for Hospice Care Plus and the community, bringing hundreds together for more than 20 years.

The Remembrance Tree ceremony gives the community a chance to remember loved ones during the holiday season by placing a personalized memorial ornament on a tree.

After an opening prayer and holiday music, the memorial list of names is read. Guests place their personalized ornament on the Remembrance Tree when they hear their loved one's name. If no one is present to place the ornament on the tree, a hospice staff member will do so.

Refreshments are served following the ceremony.

The Remembrance Tree will remain on display throughout the holiday season at the Compassionate Care Center on Isaacs Lane

in Richmond. Guests who wish to take their personalized ornament home with them may do so immediately following the ceremony or anytime during the tree's display period.

To request an ornament, contact Hospice at hospice@hospicecp.org, 859-986-1500, or 1-800-806-5492. Donations for ornaments can also be made online at Hospice's website: hospicecare-plus.org. There is no charge for the ornaments or for the ceremony, but the organization does suggest a donation—of any size—when requesting the personalized ornament. Proceeds from the event fund all of the programs offered by Hospice Care Plus.

Hospice Care Plus is a non-profit organization serving Estill, Jackson, Lee, Madison, Owsley and Rockcastle counties. Services include hospice care, palliative care, bereavement outreach, and hospice inpatient care at the Compassionate Care Center. All services are provided regardless of ability to pay.

Operation Gratitude Can't Do It Alone

VETERANS POST by Freddy Groves

In just one week recently, Operation Gratitude received requests for 11,124 packages to be sent out. There was no panic -- its 322 volunteers went into action and got it done, and someone even managed to shoot a short video of their assembly line. The dilemma: It costs \$15 to mail each and every box.

While many items in the boxes are donated by corporations, the shipping costs are all on us, people who send a few dollars to help them get the care packages to those who need them. This year OpGrat's goal is to send out

150,000 packages.

Operation Gratitude started in 2003 as a kitchen-table project by one woman, Carolyn Blashek. Because it was a great idea, people and corporations stepped up to help.

They now send care packages to Wounded Warriors in hospitals and transition units, veterans in Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals and group homes, caregivers, individually named service members overseas, Battalion Buddies (the children of deployed military personnel), military and veteran families who are facing hardship, and new recruits. In 2013, it passed the 1 million care-packages mark.

If you're into the math, Operation Gratitude is a

501(c)(3) non-profit. Its financials are an open book (with auditor reports posted on the website), and it carries a 5-star rating from Guide Star charity watchdogs. Each care package contains donated goodies in the \$75-\$100 range.

Ready to open your wallet and help? You can donate online at www.operation-gratitude.com (look for the "Donate" button), or you can send a check to Operation Gratitude, P.O. Box 260257, Encino, CA 91426-0257.

If your group wants to help, the website has a long list of ways you can participate. Want to see the little video and lots of great pics? Check Twitter @OpGratitude.

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Dewayne and Allison Banks invite the public to the Eagle Scout Award Ceremony of their son, Tyler Price Banks, on Sunday, November 29, 2 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church. Tyler is a member of Troop #144.

Give yourself and your family a Christmas gift that keeps on giving!
Earn your GED!!

What will this gift cost you? Nothing!!

Both the GED Ready pretests and the actual GED Tests are now free at the Estill County Adult Learning Center.

Future Test Dates

Madison County	Powell County
December 1, 2015	December 12, 2015
December 16, 2015	

Contact the Center at 606-723-7323 for more information.

Deputy seeks vehicle after hit and run wreck

Three women have been injured in wrecks over the past week including a woman was transported to Marcum and Wallace Hospital on Saturday night after she was involved in a one-vehicle collision on Pea Ridge Road.

Deputy Randy Farthing said that Kimberly Riddell of Stacy Lane failed to negotiate a curve when she apparently lost control of her 2000 Lincoln Towncar due to a wet road.

The Towncar left the roadway and struck a fence owned by Larry Riddell of Pea Ridge Road.

The vehicle received minor to moderate damage to the front. Kimberly Riddell had no passengers in her auto.

Two women were injured Monday, November 16 during a hit and run collision on Hargett-Parvin Road.

Kimberly Tipton of EK Power Lane, Irvine was traveling up Hargett-Parvin Road when her vehicle rounded a curve.

Deputy Russell Morris said that an unknown vehicle sideswiped Tipton's vehicle and left the scene.

Tipton's vehicle traveled off the road and struck trees head on.

Tipton, and her passenger, Jennifer Puckett, also of EK Power Lane were both injured and were transported to Marcum & Wallace Memorial Hospital for treatment of their injuries.

Tipton's 2011 Nissan Versa received severe damages to the front.

Anyone with information on the vehicle that struck Tipton's can contact the sheriff's department at 723-2323.

The Estill County Tribune

Estill County	Adj. Counties	Kentucky	Out of State
1 year \$16.04	1 year \$26.42	1 year \$30.19	1 year \$32.00
Sales Tax 0.96	Sales Tax 1.58	Sales Tax 1.81	Sales Tax 0.00
Total \$17.00	Total \$28.00	Total \$32.00	Total \$32.00

**Seniors, 65 and older, may deduct \$2.50 from above totals

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Send this form with proper payment to:

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