

# November Was National Book Month

November was National Book Month. In recognition of this month, the Estill County Middle School Youth Services Center sponsored a poster contest at ECMS where all students were encouraged to create a poster depicting the importance of reading books.

The purpose for the contest was to get students and their families to thinking about the importance of reading on a regular basis. When families read together, children get the positive message that a love of books can mean a lifetime of adventure and learning. Naturally, reading at home shouldn't be limited just to one month; the following

activities were encouraged to be introduced in November and then continued year-round.

- Make regular family visits to the local library to check out books, with parents and children each explaining why they picked particular books.

- Play family games with a literary twist. Turn "20 Questions" into a book quiz or make up a story, with each family member adding a segment in turn.

- For parents, read to your children every night. "The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children," the

National Commission on Reading noted in its report *Becoming a Nation of Readers*.

Despite noting gains in reading proficiency among American youngsters, the recent National Assessment of Educational Progress also highlighted a troubling trend. Among fourth-graders, 53% of girls and 39% of boys indicated that they read for fun almost every day. But those percentages declined steeply by eighth-

grade, with 25% of girls and only 13% of boys indicating that they read for fun almost daily.

Incorporating structured but fun reading activities at school – and encouraging similar efforts at home – may provide a buffer against that falling level of engagement as children become teens. As the National Book Foundation notes, November is a great time to "Fall into a good book."



Estill County Middle School student Destiny Sizemore with her 1st place poster created for National Book Month.

## Wanderings from the Woods & Water

by Jay Bicknell

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## Satan Dresses Like A Deer And I Am Blessed (Part 2)

So, last week I closed my column with Jake's prayer that we both kill a deer. I was a lot upset with myself for shooting a dink buck. Now that I see how gun season played out I am so glad God answered Jake's prayer.

Now that I was tagged out and Jake got a deer it was time to focus on Josh. Josh and I went to work trying our best to get him a deer before the end of gun season. We spent a lot of hours together either in a stand or a blind. Hours spent in God's awesome creation with my son.

On Friday the 20th a good friend of mine, Billy Martin, and I hatched a plan to take the kids hunting. The plan was to go Saturday morning. He and his daughter Keely were going to sit in my pond stand. The boys and I were going to sit at the lot blind. We were all excited about Saturday morning.

Dark and early we all were headed to our hunting spots. It wasn't too long into the hunt I got a text from Billy - "buck down I am shaking so bad I can't move. Keely got her first deer!" The boys and I weren't seeing anything and we couldn't wait to see Keely's buck. So we loaded up to see Keely's buck. Plus, I was worried Billy might fall out of stand because he was so excited.

I met Billy and Keely at the house and wow those two were excited! They loaded up in my truck to go get Keely's first deer. It was awesome to listen to them tell the story. We got to the deer and Billy started gutting the buck as the kids watched intently. When Billy finished he handed me his knife and said it's yours. He said the knife meant a lot to him. His uncle gave him the knife when he was 9 years old. Billy told me you don't even know how much this hunt meant to him and the knife was to show his appreciation for letting them hunt. What a memory!

Josh and I finished out gun season with no deer for him. We have already made plans

for the December youth season. We are hoping Josh gets a deer. He has been telling Jake he is going to shoot a bigger buck.

So Jake prayed that I would get a buck in Pendleton County. I got one and it wasn't even close to the buck I wanted. Turns out it was the perfect buck! If I had not killed the dink then I would have focused on getting one. I would have missed out on some serious blessings.

If not for the dink buck I would have missed out on spending hours with Josh. If not for dink I would have missed out on being a part of Keely's deer. I would have missed out on a treasure, a knife that means so much to me now.

A little boy's prayer yielded so much for his dad. Don't ever underestimate the power of prayer. I have had the best deer season ever! I have got to spend hours and hours in the stand with the boys. I got to be part of Keely's first deer. I am so blessed to have a neighbor like Lonnie Reynolds who loves my kids like family and helped get Jake his first buck. The boys and I are blessed to have the girls put up with our hunting craziness! Thanks Mom and Sisters!

"Give Thanks in everything for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Until next week, get out and enjoy God's creation!



**Gift Ideas**  
Give a little sunshine to the bird lover in your life. Consider these bird-themed items: coloring books, T-shirts, wall calendars, pocket planners, journals, sketch books, note cards, coffee mugs, jewelry, fun plastic plates, tote bags, field guides, binoculars and on and on. Be creative. Enjoy the holiday season!  
E-mail: birdingbits@clrr.com  
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Jake and Josh with first coon of trapping season!

## Estill County Engineers 2015-16 Boys Basketball

Dec 1	Somerset	A	7:30
Dec 4	Wolfe County	H	7:30
Dec 5	Bell County	A	2:30
Dec 8	St. Patrick	H	7:30
Dec 11	Wolfe County	A	7:30
Dec 14	Madison Southern	A	7:30
Dec 15	Rockcastle County	A	7:30

### Elleman Contracting Garrard Holiday Classic at Lancaster

Dec 19	Union County	A	6:00
Dec 28	Clinton County	A	5:30
Dec 29	Tates Creek	A	7:30
Dec 30	Model	A	5:30
Jan 2	Owsley County	A	
Jan 5	Garrard County	A	7:30
Jan 8	Lee County	H	
Jan 15	Powell County	H	
Jan 19	Menifee County	H	7:30
Jan 22	Lee County	A	6:00
Jan 23	Letcher County Central	H	2:30
Jan 25	Model	H	7:30
Jan 26	Owsley County	H	
Jan 29	Powell County	A	
Feb 2	Buckhorn	A	7:30
Feb 5	Breathitt County	A	7:30
Feb 9	Jackson City	A	7:30
Feb 12	Berea	H	7:30
Feb 16	Breathitt County	H	7:30
Feb 18	Menifee County	H	7:30

Coach: Jon B. Bentley

## Estill Lady Engineers 2015-16 Girls Basketball

Nov 30	Model	H	7:30
Dec 3	Magoffin County	H	7:30
<b>PRTC Classic @ McKee</b>			
Dec 5	Jackson County	A	6:00
Dec 7	Menifee County	A	7:30
Dec 10	Buckhorn	A	7:30
Dec 12	Tates Creek	H	6:30
Dec 15	Rockcastle County	A	6:00
Dec 22	Leslie County	H	2:30

### Citizens National Bank Classic at West Jessamine

Dec 28	Barbourville	A	6:00
Dec 29	TBA		
Dec 30	TBA		
Jan 2	Owsley County	A	
Jan 4	Wolfe County	H	7:30
Jan 8	Lee County	H	6:00
Jan 9	Morgan County	A	7:30
Jan 11	Madison Southern	H	7:30
Jan 15	Powell County	H	
Jan 16	North Laurel	A	7:30
Jan 22	Lee County	A	7:30
Jan 26	Owsley County	H	
Jan 29	Powell County	A	
Jan 30	Hazard	H	4:00
Feb 1	Breathitt County	A	7:30
Feb 4	Model	A	6:00
Feb 6	Pendleton County	A	3:00
Feb 8	Jackson City	H	7:30
Feb 12	Berea	H	7:30
Feb 13	Knott County Central	A	3:00
Feb 16	Buckhorn	H	
Feb 18	Wolfe County	A	7:30

Coach: Brian Hall

## Estill Middle Engineers 2015-16 Boys Basketball

Nov 17	Richmond Model	A	5:30
Nov 19	Rockcastle County	H	5:30
Nov 23	Clark Moores	A	5:30
Nov 24	Garrard County	H	5:30
Nov 26	Madison Middle	A	5:30
Dec 1	Farristown Middle	H	5:30
Dec 3	Wolfe County	A	5:30
Dec 4	Menifee County	A	5:30
Dec 7	B. Michael Caudill	A	5:30
Dec 8	Foley Middle	H	5:30
Dec 10	Richmond Model	H	5:30
Dec 15	Rockcastle County	A	5:30
Dec 17	Clark Moores	H	5:30
Dec 18	Powell County	H	5:30
Dec 21	Sebastian Middle	A	5:30
Jan 4	Powell County	A	5:30
Jan 5	Garrard County	A	5:30
Jan 7	Madison Middle	H	5:30
Jan 12	Farristown	A	5:30
Jan 14	Wolfe County	H	5:30
Jan 19	B. Michael Caudill	H	5:30
Jan 21	Foley Middle	A	5:30
Jan 28	Sebastian Middle	H	5:30

## UK COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

University of Kentucky - College of Agriculture



**Estill County**  
**4-H Youth Development**  
**Isaac L. Hollon**  
**Estill County Extension Office**

Enter by Friday, December 11th

### 4-H Country Ham Project

In this project, youth ages 9-18 can cure up to two hams themselves and send one of them to the state fair to compete in the contest. This is a great opportunity to learn a new skill and have some delicious ham! Youth have the option of paying \$30 for one ham or \$60 for two hams. Certain criteria should be followed in order to complete the project. Youth must complete 6 hours of training under the supervision of a certified livestock volunteer. And, youth must give a 3-5 minute speech in January at the County Communications Contest as a practice run for the actual presentation at the Kentucky State Fair. More information and contracts can be obtained by contacting the Extension Office at 723-4557. Contracts need to be turned back into the Extension Office by December 11th.

Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

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Sausage	\$3 <sup>50</sup> /Lb.
(Hot, Medium or Mild)	
Whole Cured Ham	\$3 <sup>50</sup> /Lb.
(Sliced is \$4.00 per Lb.)	
Ham Steak	\$3 <sup>50</sup> /Lb.
Ham Cutlets	\$3 <sup>50</sup> /Lb.
(Similar to cube steak, only ham)	
Bacon	\$4 <sup>25</sup> /Lb.
Jowl Bacon	\$3 <sup>50</sup> /Lb.
Pork Tenderloin	\$4 <sup>50</sup> /Lb.
Pork Chops	\$4 <sup>00</sup> /Lb.
Spare Ribs	\$3 <sup>50</sup> /Lb.
Country Style Ribs	\$3 <sup>50</sup> /Lb.
Baby Back Pork Ribs	\$3 <sup>50</sup> /Lb.
Pork Burgers	\$4 <sup>00</sup> /Lb.
(Ground, pattied pork with no seasoning)	
Bratwursts	\$4 <sup>00</sup> /Lb.
<b>Bundle Packages</b>	
1/4 Processed Hog	\$115 <sup>00</sup>
1/2 Processed Hog	\$210 <sup>00</sup>
Whole Processed Hog	\$440 <sup>00</sup>