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Several apply for vacant school board seat

by CATHY DAWES
The Estill County Tribune

Superintendent Jeff Saylor reported Thursday night during the monthly school board meeting that several people had picked up applications for the vacant seat on the school board.

The deadline to apply for the position was last Monday and although Saylor didn't have an exact number of applicants, he said that he knew for certain that several people had picked up applications at Central Office as well as applying online.

Saylor said that John Thomas from the Kentucky Department of Education had told him that a new board member may be selected as early as April but there would

definitely be someone in the vacant seat in May.

Board member Jon Bicknell made a motion for Dr. L.W. Beckley to fill the open position as vice-chairman. Patty Hood seconded the motion and Beckley accepted the nomination. The vice-chairman position became available after Amy Thomas resigned from the board in February.

Mr. Saylor said that it was a long standing tradition for the board to pass a resolution acknowledging the untimely death of a student that attended school in the district. On March 16th Christopher Lee Gregory, a student at the Estill County High School, passed away after a short illness. Saylor said that Gregory would always be remem-

bered as a dedicated student at the high school.

"We do offer our sincerest thoughts and prayers to the family of Christopher," added Saylor.

The board approved revisions to the personnel policy which Saylor deemed as beneficial to employees all while staying within the guidelines of what the law allows. Saylor said in the past anyone who is classified as 261 day employees, such as custodians, maintenance, mechanics, and four clerks, were allotted three emergency days per year upon approval from the superintendent. He said that he felt like changing those emergency days to personal days would benefit the employee and would also

eliminate anyone having to stretch the truth to get approval for an emergency day. He went on to say that if the employee didn't use the three extra personal days each year then they would roll over into sick days.

Under the revised policy all full time classified employees (185 day employees) are now entitled to three personal days per year. Those days will also roll over into the employee's sick leave account if they are not used throughout the year.

Saylor explained that if an employee has accumulated 35 days off during the year that on June 30th they will lose 5 of those days because they can only roll over 30 days of sick/vacation time to the next fiscal year.

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Egg Hunt

The Joan Hunt Richardson Memorial Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday at 1 p.m. in Veterans Memorial Park in Ravenna. Children 12 years of age and younger may hunt eggs.

Woman charged with possession of 8 oxycodone

A Ravenna woman was arrested last Wednesday morning on River Drive by the Irvine Police Department.

IPD Officer John Sturniolo said a black Ford was seen swerving while headed west on River Drive.

He added the driver failed field sobriety tests, and the K-9 Fritz alerted on the vehicle. The driver reportedly gave consent for officers to search the vehicle.

Sturniolo said that during a search, eight 7.5mg. oxycodone were located under the driver's seat. He added mirror in a purse had white powder.

The officer charged the driver, Skye Lee Greene, 28, of Poplar Street, Ravenna with driving under the influence, no operators license, possession of a controlled substance, first degree, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Greene's bond was set at \$2,500 cash. She was released on bond on Monday.

Ravenna Officer James Gross assisted with investigation.



Irvine's K-9 unit, Fritz, was a big hit on Saturday when Girl Scout Troop 7182 hosted Cookies, Cops and First Responders at Estill Springs Elementary. The dog is handled by Officer John Sturniolo, at left.



Trooper Robert Purdy is KSP's Public Information Officer, but on Saturday he mentored children during Cookies, Cops and First Responders. The event worked two ways. The scouts honored the cops and other first responders. The officers let the children know they should not be afraid of them and were there to help them.

NORM, jail expenses discussed

Radioactive waste at the landfill and the county jail budget turned into lengthy discussions at the Estill Fiscal Court meeting on Monday.

"We'll be talking about this (radioactive waste) six months from now," stated Judge/Executive Wallace Taylor. "This is not like a snowstorm, an ice storm."

The county is going to install cameras at the landfill where they can view trucks coming into the landfill from the judge/executive's office. Radiation detectors are also expected to be installed at the landfill.

Taylor said the National Guard had come in and tested at the request of the state Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Those test results will be available in a few

weeks.

The judge added that he had met with a group of concerned citizens on Friday.

He said the fiscal court receives a quarterly report from the landfill. Most of the landfill's waste comes from Madison and Estill counties.

"This came in as sludge material which is wet," Taylor stated.

He is pushing for the landfill to be tested for radioactivity many feet down.

If it has to be removed, he said it will be removed when schools are closed during the summer. Taylor said hundreds and hundreds of truckloads will be shipped out of here.

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State to meet about landfill violations

by CATHY DAWES
The Estill County Tribune

On March 18th Lanny Brannock, spokesperson, for the Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection stated that the investigation into the dumping of low level radioactive waste at the Blue Ridge Landfill is moving forward. Brannock stated that the landfill had received their notice of violations earlier in the month and the case has been turned over to the division of enforcement.

Brannock said that landfill officials are set to meet with the division of enforcement later this week to determine what measures need to be taken to fix the situation. He said that possible penalties as well as modifications to the regulations that the landfill follows are a good possibility. Removal of the radioactive waste is still an

option but leaving it is also an option.

"We are looking at every option with this material that went into the landfill," stated Brannock.

Advanced Tenorm LLC was also issued a notice of violations from the state but Brannock was unable to comment on that investigation. Advanced Tenorm LLC is the company based out of West Liberty who is responsible for dumping the waste at the Blue Ridge Landfill.

Preliminary test results showed normal results in the air and water samples in and around the landfill including the two schools located across the road. A team from the National Guard performed air and water tests on March 12th but the results for those tests are not expected for a couple of weeks.



Jamie Lynn Spears played mini golf on Saturday during Cookies, Cops, and First Responders. Her Girl Scout Troop 7182 gave each officer and first responder who attended a gift bag to show them they cared. Boy Scout Troop #144 also assisted the Girl Scout Troop with the event.

Obituaries

- Dessie Burton, 85
 - Elby Jett Cox, 80
 - Anna Embry, 69
 - Christopher Gregory, 19
 - Georgia Kirby, 83
 - Henrietta Lynch, 64
 - Shirley Meadows, 71
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