

## Estill foster family recognized by Governor & Mrs. Bevin

An Estill County family was recently recognized at a Foster Care and Adoption Appreciation Dinner hosted by Governor Matt and First Lady Glenna Bevin.

Doug and Bertha Newton of Irvine, have been fostering with DCBS since 2013, and are approved as an Advanced Care Plus and Medically Complex Home. They have always worked with children in some capacity, and feel that fostering has given them an opportunity to really help children and families. They have opened their home to numerous children, including siblings, teenagers, children with special needs, and children with complex medical needs. They not only take the children into their home, they take them into their hearts.

The Newtons make the children feel welcomed and comfortable in their home. These children are members of their family. They enjoy

taking the children on vacations to the beach so they can experience new places. They also support the children's involvement in extracurricular activities, and they work with them to develop new interests and encourage learning and individual growth.

Doug and Bertha's teenage foster child participated in the Upward Bound Program at ECU over the summer to prepare him for college. His younger sibling attended two summer camps in which he learned a lot of team building skills, and his self-confidence increased.

The Newtons work with the children to build self-esteem and develop independent living skills. The Newtons manage very well with all the appointments the children need, as well as going above and beyond in following any recommendations.

The Newtons seek out solutions to obstacles and barriers

so that the children's needs are met. A recent example of this was their consistent advocacy until needed services were in place for the children in their care. They did this while still being respectful and working in partnership with DCBS. They ensured the children were not overlooked during changes in staff.

The Newtons are dedicated foster parents that work well with the agency, birth parents, and community partners. They are open to adoption and currently in the process of adopting their youngest foster child. Doug and Bertha's focus is always on what is in the children's best interest.

The Commonwealth is honored to recognize Doug and Bertha Newton for their outstanding service and commitment to Kentucky's children in the DCBS Bluegrass Service Region.

*from Erin Mitchell, DCS Office of First Lady Bevin*



Doug & Bertha Newton of Irvine, at right, were recently recognized at the Foster Care and Adoption Appreciation Dinner hosted by Governor Matt & First Lady Glenna Bevin (back) for their work with foster children.

## Estill County Middle School Students of the Week



**Chris Riddell**

The Estill County Middle School Youth Services Center Student of the Week is Chris Riddell. He is the son of April and Scott. Chris is currently in the 8th grade and enjoys basketball, fishing, and hunting.



**Dakota Townsend**

The Estill County Middle School Youth Services Center Student of the Week is Dakota Townsend. She is the daughter of Rachel and Nathaniel. Dakota is currently in the 8th grade and enjoys rollerblading and swimming.

Students receiving this recognition are nominated by staff members at the Estill County Middle School for exemplary behavior, attitude, and/or citizenship.

Photos courtesy of Abby Winkle

## Marching Engineers are Reserve Grand Champions at MSU

The Estill County High School Marching Engineers traveled to Morehead State University this past weekend, September 24, 2016, to compete in the Blue and Gold Championship of Marching Bands. With six other AA bands in their class, the band would be facing the most competition of the season thus far.

After a solid preliminary performance, the band swept class AA, winning Best Color Guard, Best Percussion, and 1st place! Some overall awards were given after prelims and Estill's Color Guard placed 1st out of all 13 bands to win the Best Overall Color Guard Award!

The band advanced to finals competition and, after a much better performance, the Marching Engineers placed 2nd out of all of the finalist bands, earning the Reserve Grand Champion title.

This coming week the band will travel to Casey County High School to compete in their Marching Classic. Preliminary performance time is 1:45 p.m. and finals will begin at 6:45.



Posing with MSU's Dean of Music, M. Scott McBride, left, are Estill County Marching Engineers senior trumpet player MaKayla Horn, field commander Martina Sanders, and first year marcher, Maggie Elkins. (DR Horn photo)

## Volunteer Picnic in Ravenna



Volunteers carry donations and place them under a tent. The names of volunteers are drawn and they get to select a gift.



Left photo: Jr. Spicer carried a fall decoration from a trailer to the picnic area in Ravenna. Right photo: Ravenna's fire chief nearly cried when he opened the little fire truck with RFD on the rear.



Harvey's father was a long-time fire chief in Montgomery County. When he died, he had a fire truck like this one. Someone broke into Harvey's residence and stole the fire truck.



Children playing with their gifts.

**A moment of silence was observed in memory of Zack Clevenger, who died after volunteering at a house fire in Estill County last Dec.**

OPENING SEPT. 23

## Mercy Primary Care — Irvine Walk-in care

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**HOURS:**

Fri. 4-9 p.m.

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Mercy Primary Care — Irvine  
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For more information, call 606-723-7771.

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