

# School Board chooses site for vo-tech school

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The board was asked to approve two BG-1s for a HVAC system at Estill Springs and roofs for both Estill Springs and the middle school.

Board member L.W. Beckley cast a no vote against both projects. Beckley was not opposed to the two projects, but voiced his concern about the funding and a declining enrollment.

Mueller told the board the architect's plans for the projects will be ready in April. At that time, they can decide to bond or not.

The district is looking at a geothermal system at Estill Springs. They chose steel roofs for both the middle school and Estill Springs with 20 year warranties.

The board also heard from the auditor who gave the board of education a clean opinion for the district.

However, there were a few problems with activity funds at the schools which totaled \$436,000 in cash and/or checks. The auditor said there were five or six different treasurers over those accounts.

Saylor said a few individuals were buying items and then obtaining a Purchase Order number and refund later. He said those individuals will be given a warning. If they continue to do that, he stated those individuals will be paying for the items.

High school principal Chris Winkler was given approval to declare one of the cabooses at the football field. The caboose will be sold as scrap because of its deteriorating condition.

Approval was for the eighth grade class to take a trip to Pigeon Forge, Tenn. In the spring.

The superintendent announced personnel actions.

Curtis Cole was named as middle school custodian.

Whitney Williams was hired as a substitute bus assistant.

Cory Stringfield was named as athletic director for the district. Margaret Wood was chosen as head athletic director while Drew Barnett will be the assistant athletic director at the high school.

Victoria Barnett (science) and Tim Potts (arts and humanities) will serve as Core Content Leaders. Potts will also be serving as School Technology Coordinator at the high school.

Sophie Bays will serve as assistant girls soccer coach, and Lance Patterson was named Raider Coach at the high school.

Tierra Murphy will be an assistant cheerleading coach at the high school and Kara Singleton will be an assistant cheerleading coach at the middle school.

Amy Arvin resigned as assistant volleyball coach at the high school.

Cecilia Howe retired from teaching at West Irvine Intermediate.

Howe was honored at the board meeting on her retirement along with Rick Chaney and Arthur Ballard. Chaney was teaching music at West Irvine when he retired.

Ballard's career began as a teacher and ended after 33 years, including coaching and administration duties.



ANNUAL WILL WISE TOY DRIVE

Every year our hearts are full from the all the kindness, encouragement, donations, our local businesses, and those who work to make Christmas special for sick children at our local hospital all in memory of our precious Will. Once again the Estill County High School Cheerleaders and Coaches Sarah Young and Tierra Murphy took time out of their busy schedules to shop and deliver this years toys to Marcum and Wallace Hospital. Also in the photo are Class of 2011 President, Terra Durbin, who works every aspect of the toy drive and Will's classmate, Kelby Robinson. Our community is absolutely amazing and our family is very humbled and thankful for you all. (Dixie Wise photo)

# County to increase payroll tax

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After the second reading, the ordinance becomes effective upon publication. With the holidays, newspaper deadlines may also be untimely.

Judge/Executive Wallace Taylor also stated that Monday was his last fiscal court meeting.

Employee layoffs, particularly of jail employees, have been rumored for several months now.

Deputy Jailer Chad Smith asked Monday when would

jail employees know when they would be laid off. Smith was told that would happen when the fiscal court adopted an amended prisoner transportation plan.

That plan was tabled at Monday's meeting because Powell County Jail will not be able to take Estill prisoners until January.

Taylor said the delay is because of SAP, a Substance Abuse Program.

As of Monday, Jailer Bo Morris said there were 52 Estill inmates in the Clark

County and Three Forks Regional Jails.

"We've already surpassed the budget for the jail," said Magistrate Snowden. The budget started July 1 at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Animal control officer Tom Mullen reported to the fiscal court about the shelter.

Mullen said he had to let his office worker go because things had slowed down at the shelter.

He said the shelter has taken in 140 dogs less than last year but more than 200 cats have been dropped off there.

Mullen stated that two counties are not using the shelter after new rates went into effect this year, but he expects Wolfe County to start using the shelter again.

Magistrate Bill Eldridge

asked the fiscal court to adopt the road to Ingram Cemetery on Barnes Mountain.

After a discussion, Taylor said the road committee would look at the road and cemetery and would make a recommendation to the fiscal court on adopting the road.

County attorney Rodney Davis updated the court on the lawsuit with Mt. Springs Road.

A single bid for an addition at Estill County Emergency Operations Center was opened. The fiscal court accepted the bid contingent upon it meeting federal specifications. The addition will be paid for with CSEPP money.

The budgets and employee salary caps of Sheriff Gary Freeman and Clerk Sherry Fox were accepted.

# 4 arrested for meth trafficking

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Sgt. Sturniolo arrested the front seat passenger, who was identified as Timothy Brown, 23, of Trenton, Ohio. Brown was charged with trafficking in a controlled substance, over two grams of methamphetamine.

Chief Smith arrested the other two passengers, Ronald E. Kamieniecki, 36, of Huntley, Illinois and

Rebecca Howard, 35, of South Lebanon, Ohio. Each of them were charged with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree, first offense over two grams and drug paraphernalia.

Chief Smith stated that Howard and Kamieniecki both appeared to be under the influence of methamphetamine.

Smith and Howard were incarcerated at the Clark

County Detention Center. The two males were taken to Three Forks Regional Jail in Beattyville.

Bail for each of them has been set at \$50,000 cash.

The four were arraigned Friday in Estill District Court where they all entered not-guilty pleas. District Judge William "Bo" Leach scheduled a preliminary hearing for Wednesday, Dec. 20.

The trafficking charge is

a Class C felony because the officers say the methamphetamine weighed over two grams. If found guilty of a Class C felony, each of the four can be sentenced to five to ten years in prison and possibly fined.

IPD will also look at forfeiture of Ms. Smith's vehicle.


Officer Jason Conrad assisted with the investigation.

**The Garden Bug**

**New Year traditions**

In Spain, New Year's Eve revelers consume one grape during each toll of the midnight hour. The taste of each predicts the fortunes of the coming twelve months: sour or sweet. Some cultures prepare and eat greens such as kale, cabbage, collards, and chard to represent the "green" (wealth) desired for the new year. Beans, peas, and lentils are symbolic of coins and wealth. In the Southern U.S., black-eyed peas are served to bring good luck.

Source: www.epicurious.com



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**Sheriff Gary Freeman**

**Deputies & Office Staff**



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