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CEO asks council to help keep hospital open

by CATHY DAWES
Tribune Staff Writer

During the Ravenna council meeting on Monday night, CEO of Marcum and Wallace Hospital Susan Starling spoke to members of the council about the importance of the hospital here in Estill County. She said that she has been employed by the hospital for 26 years and that during her years of employment the hospital has grown and become a big asset to the community.

Starling said that many rural hospitals are shutting down due to budget cuts and most recently four hospitals in Kentucky

have been closed. She said that not only is Marcum and Wallace a big asset to the community because of the many services that it provides to its patients but last year alone an approximate 4 million dollars of the 8.6 million dollars in payroll went back into the local economy. She said that is a significant amount to go back in to the community.

Former police officer James Gross said that the local hospital saved his life. He said that he went to visit Dr. Goble and he along with hospital staff diagnosed the problem and he was then sent to Lexington. Gross said that he ended up having a kidney re-

moved.

Starling said that Pam Young who is the mother of Matt Young who had a horrible car wreck last month had posted on social media her gratitude to EMS and the hospital for saving Matt's life. She said cases such as this are one reason why it is of the utmost importance to have a hospital in the area and said that she wanted to urge everyone to reach out to the representatives and legislators on behalf of the hospital.

During the financial report Councilwoman Sharon Snowden questioned several discrepancies within the report. On the

payroll liabilities she asked why it is listed as income. She said that she felt like it gives them a false sense that the city has \$4,200 more than it actually does. City clerk Katie Moores said that she just plugs the numbers into Quick Books and the computer program does everything else.

Councilwoman Amy Crowe explained that the payroll liability is actually where the city matches FICA and other benefits and is an expense and not an income. Moores said she would take that off the financial statement to avoid any further confusion.

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Red Williams presented a bronze plaque from the Sweet Lick Creek bridge to the Estill County Historical Society. The plaque was graciously donated on behalf of Walker Construction Company located in Mount Sterling and the Walker family. The bridge was erected in 1930 by the WPA. Diane Arthur, president of the Estill County Historical and Genealogical Society, accepted the plaque.



The bronze plaque from the Sweet Lick bridge was mounted in wood and was presented to the local historical society.

Historical society gets plaque from WPA-built bridge

In 1930 the Works Progress Administration (WPA) built a concrete bridge over Sweet Lick Creek near Estill Springs Elementary.

Last year the bridge was removed by Walker Construction Company, the highway construction business which is widening and improving the northern end of Main Street.

Red Williams, a retired railroader and real estate agent, has lived nearby his entire life.

"I knew the plaque was on (the bridge)," Williams stated.

He added there were two bronze plaques on the bridge, one on the left side as you went toward Irvine and the other on the right side as you left town.

Williams approached Art

Walker, one of three brothers in Walker Construction, about donating one of the plaques to the local historical society.

When the plaques were removed, Walker gave one of them to Williams, who cleaned it up. It was then placed on a plaque to be placed in the historical society's museum. The plaque was paid for by Walker Construction.

Williams made the presentation last Tuesday at the historical society's annual cookout at the home of Gene and Eva Watson at McIntosh Hollow. Forty-nine people signed in. This included members and guests and also members of the Red River Historical Society in Powell County.

Local priest is recognized: he's been ordained 50 years

Last Wednesday, Father Al Fritsch, S.J., director of St. Elizabeth Parish in Ravenna, was recognized for being ordained 50 years.

Father Al is 83 years old and will soon turn 84.

He came to St. Elizabeth in 2004 to direct the local parish. He also pastors Our Lady of the Mountains in Stanton.

Between the two churches, he leads at least five

masses a week.

He says leading the two churches is only his half-time job. He is a Jesuit and the main work of Jesuits is research, so he spends his other half-time in research.

Father Al grew up on a family farm about a mile from historic Washington, Ky. The town is now incorporated with Maysville.

His great grandparents came to the Appalachian

region of Ohio from Germany and the Alcaee region of France to keep their sons from fighting in the war. While the great grandparents lived in two different countries, they only lived about a mile apart.

His grandfather heard that Augusta, Ky. was the best place in the world to grow grapes and moved the family there.

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Father Al Fritsch, SJ, director of St. Elizabeth Church was honored last Wednesday to celebrate his being ordained for 50 years. After the mass, he shook hands with Ann Miller and many others who wished him well..

Obituaries

- Ralph Bailey, 68
- Leonard Barnes, 82
- Eugene Crawford, 62
- Alma Donahue, 69
- Vesta Flannery, 79
- Howard Gross, 65
- Rev. Eugene Hampton, 86
- Albert Neal, 66
- Virginia Owens, 70
- Benjamin West, 35
- Anna Woods, 92

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SUNDAY
Father's Day
JUNE 18

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WEDNESDAY
SUMMER BEGINS
JUNE 21

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Waste Disposal Tire Disposal One Day Only: June 22

Estill County Judge Executive Wallace Taylor announces waste tires can be disposed of Thursday, June 22, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Estill Countians.

Tires can be disposed of at the county lot located on Cow Creek Road in front of the Animal Shelter.

This program provides a one-time opportunity for private citizens, farmers and some

businesses to drop off unwanted waste tires free of charges.

Tires on rims will not be accepted. Off Road Tires (OTR) and solid tires with pressed on rims will not be accepted. Tire retailers may not participate in the program.

For additional information regarding Estill County's Waste Tire Disposal Program, please contact Kim Dawes at 723-7524.