

O'Hair is Named Defensive MVP
Page 15



Bonny is Named 56th District MVP
Page 15



Betty Young's Times Remembered
Page 3



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Judge announces road work at court meeting

Judge/Executive Kevin Williams gave his first address Monday night since being appointed judge on January 1.

He described the first 50 days as a whirlwind.

The Main Street road project will be completed this spring, but Williams expects three other projects to be put on the six year road plan.

Projects he mentioned include the straightening of Highways 82 and 89 from Palmer to the county line, along with a hairpin curve near the golf course.

The Irvine bridge will be repainted after it gets new decking.

He congratulated the high school cheerleaders and boys basketball team for winning

the district.

He encouraged everyone to wear blue to support the varsity ball team, which plays Wolfe County in a regional match on Wednesday.

He asked everyone to get involved with the Read America project at Estill Springs on March 2.

Williams stated that Thursday was a statewide tornado drill.

Ronnie Riddell, director of Emergency Management, said the drill will be at 10:07 a.m. He added this comes on the first anniversary of severe storms that came through Estill County last March 1. The damaging storms were not considered to be tornados.

Williams said there has been some trash picked up. He encouraged everyone to

pick up in front of their properties and get things ready for the Mushroom Festival.

"We are paid up with Harp Enterprises so we can have elections," he stated.

Harp Enterprises prepares election materials and rents the voting machines to Estill County. There was no election in Estill County during 2017.

Williams also added the county has paid \$169,000 to Hinkles, the company which filed a lawsuit over an unpaid bill.

County Attorney Rodney Davis announced a court day has been scheduled for the lawsuit the county has against the landfill over TENORM. It will be at 9 a.m. on March 22.

Continued on Page 2



Connie Witt, chairperson of the Estill County Republican Party, asked the many children in attendance at Friday night's rally to help her lead the Pledge to the flag. Another rally is being planned for closer to the election.



Tom Bonny, Nelle Williams, and Ernest Farmer led the Pledge to the Flag at the Community Prayer Service Saturday. Each of them gave a short speech.

Many attend Community Prayer Service, Saturday

Several hundred people attended a Community Prayer Service Saturday afternoon which was organized by Pastor Bill Wesley of the Body of Christ Ministry in Irvine.

Wesley serves as Chaplain of the Ravenna Police Department.

The prayer service came after recent school shootings

in Kentucky and Florida.

Last week, two Estill students were also sent home for making threats.

Wesley stated the prayer service was for police officers, military, students, and our leaders.

The program began with music. Multiple speakers gave short speeches.

Former Irvine Mayor Ernest Farmer received a standing ovation when he said, "It's time we elected officials that have some kind of Christian values."

Tom Bonny, former superintendent of Estill Schools, is now a member of the Gideons.

Continued on Page 2

School board delays choice of 2018-19 school calendar

by CATHY DAWES
Tribune Staff Writer

Members of the Estill County school board met in special session on February 22nd and began by recognizing the Mountain Movers for the month of February.

Estine Tipton, mayor of Ravenna, was recognized as the Community Mountain Mover because of the volunteer work that she does within the school system and for also being a distinguished citizen of Estill County.

Samantha Rawlins was recognized as the Classified Mountain Mover of the month. Rawlins has worked as a clerk at the Estill County Middle School for three years and was nominated for her positive attitude and excellent service to the Estill County schools.

Jason Bowles was recognized as the Certified Mountain Mover of the month. Bowles was nominated for his creativity and strong leadership skills. He is the band director at the Estill County High School and has built the program from the ground up.

Superintendent Jeff Saylor also recognized Board member Rhonda Hardy for serving as director at large for a 3 year term for the KSBA (Kentucky School Boards Association). Saylor said that there are only nine directors across the state, and it's a huge honor for Hardy to be chosen for the position.

After the recognitions, the board moved on to discuss the construction time-line and project updates that will begin soon throughout the district.

"The people blessed this school district by passing the recallable nickel," stated Saylor.

Board members Donna Isfort and L.W. Beckley volunteered to serve on the steering committee for the new technical center.

A reduction in staff was discussed at length by the board. Saylor explained that six teaching positions would be eliminated next fall. He said that he had until May 15th to notify those that would not be returning in the fall of 2018.

Continued on Page 2

Obituaries

- Sally Hill, 95
- Timothy Jenkins, 59
- Nana Mastin, 86
- Alvin Pitts, 87
- Lucille Skinner, 72
- Bill Stephenson, 88
- Gracie Wilson, 84
- See Page 6

New Obits at EstillTribune.com

Estill County Engineers Win 56th District Titles



The Estill County Engineers, coached by Jon Bentley, won the 56th District basketball tournament last week with an easy opening-round win over the Lee County Bobcats, 62-22; then took a 64-45 victory over the Powell County Pirates in the championship. Estill will play in the second game of the first round of the 11th Region Tournament at Perry County Central on Wednesday, February 28, 2018, against the Wolfe County Wolves. Estill also won the regular season 56th District trophy and is undefeated, 8-0, against district teams. They are 23-7 overall.