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# The Estill County Tribune

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## The Reason for the Season



Rice Station Christian Church presented their live nativity on Friday and Saturday nights. Above the shepherds visit Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus in Bethlehem. More photos of the live nativity by Tracy R. Patrick are on the Facebook page of *The Estill County Tribune*.

## Irvine council amends budget, renews a loan

by CATHY DAWES  
Tribune Staffwriter

Members of the Irvine council met on Monday night and got down to business by discussing the budget.

City Clerk Robin Powell informed the council that a line item was showing \$43 in the hole and that money would have to be transferred from another area within the budget to make it balance out.

Councilman Tim Burkhardt made a motion to move the money from the building and parks maintenance because many of the other areas of the budget can only be used for specific things.

Mayor James Gross said that he had been contacted by Irvine Municipal Utilities that one of the water commissioner's term was about to expire. Councilman Tobo Bryant made a motion for Johnny Shepherd to begin a new term as water commissioner from 2019-2021.

A bit of confusion on a loan at Citizen's Guaranty Bank on the fire truck resulted in the council agreeing to make a resolution to redo the loan.

Fire Chief Tony Murphy said that the loan was paid with grant money and although he had been in contact with someone at the

bank about the \$7,000 payment, the computer automatically generated a bill for that amount which included late fees and interest.

In order to correct the situation, the fire department was required to put up two trucks as collateral and to add another year to the loan. Mayor Gross said that the bank was willing to remove the late fees and interest from that loan.

Mayor Gross said that he was looking for someone to represent the city of Irvine at the Bluegrass Area Development. The vacancy would be for a three year term and the person would be required to attend four meetings per year in Lexington. He said that he had to submit names of anyone interested in the position by December 28th.

A bid was opened during the meeting for the property on High Street that the city has owned for quite some time.

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The three wise men departed from the stable after giving gifts to the Christ Child to go back to their own country another way.



At the end, all characters lined up in front of the stable and to the sides. This is only about half of the actors. Rice Station Christian Church then served refreshments to their audience.

## Officer says arrested man tried to bribe

On Friday, Dec. 7, Irvine Officer Colton Lewis saw Michael Shane Bishop, 23, of Eades Drive, Irvine walking near the intersection of Laurel and Rice Streets. A bench warrant had been issued for Bishop's arrest.

The officer stated that as he searched Bishop, he found two baggies of suspected marijuana in his coat pocket. Inside a baggie was Bishop's suboxone prescription, and the officer said in-

side the pill bottle was suspected methamphetamine.

While en route to the jail, Lewis said that Bishop stated, "Can I pay you to make the methamphetamine charge go away?"

Bishop was charged with possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine), possession of marijuana, and bribery of a public official.

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## Irvine alumni to be honored Monday night

Irvine High Alumni Night is planned for next Monday at Estill County High School.

It was 70 years ago that Irvine High won their only regional basketball championship.

To remember the event, Estill's players will be wearing black and gold uniforms during their game with Wolfe County.

The state runner-up Engineer band will play the Irvine High fight song during the game.

There will be both JV and varsity games with the Irvine High regional championship team being recognized at 7 p.m.

At least one player on Irvine High's team, Guy Strong, will be present. Strong went on to play two years for the UK Wildcats.

He left the university to serve in the Korean War. When he returned from the war, he transferred to East-

ern Kentucky University.

Strong coached basketball at Kentucky Wesley, Eastern Kentucky University and Oklahoma State, as well as Madison High, Male High, and George Rogers Clark.

Family members of players on that team can represent their loved ones during the ceremony.

Prior to the game, there will be a reception for Irvine High alumni only from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.

T-shirts are being sold. The shirts are black with a large golden "I" on the front.

The school's mascot was the Golden Eagle.

The Irvine School System consolidated with Estill County Schools in 1972. That was the year of the last graduation of Irvine High School.

The school's alumni are approximately between the ages of 58 and over.

To get a T-shirt, please call Tom Bonny at 723-5694.

## JROTC needs donations for Christmas food boxes

"Operation Santa Claus" needs a little community help this year.

The operation started several years ago with the JROTC at Estill County High School.

"It is a food drive we do every year," said Captain Shawn Richardson.

The JROTC donates food, supplies, and toys for families who really need those items.

In previous years, the drive at the high school has been successful with items donated by students and staff at the school.

By this time last year, Richardson said they had three or four boxes of canned goods. Last Thursday, he estimated they had collected 22 cans of food.

Captain J.D. Knopp said the group will accept any-

thing a family can use, including clothing and toys.

Their main goal is to provide a Christmas meal for ten families.

Knopp said the community can drop off donations at the front office of the high school. A box will be located in the lobby for those donations.

If you are bringing a perishable item such as a ham or turkey, please give it to someone in the office to refrigerate or freeze until the food boxes are delivered.

Money can also be accepted at the office to buy items with.

The captains said they need the food (and other donated items) by Friday, December 14. That is the date they plan to deliver the food boxes.

## Obituaries

Jesse Ashcraft, 80

Jennifer "Jenny" McBrayer, 43

Dana Spencer, 47

Clifton Toler, 86

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New Obits at  
EstillTribune.com



Capt. L.D. Knopp, left, Colonel Lance Patterson, center, and Capt. Shawn Richardson hold up a box they hope to fill with food for a needy family. Members of the JROTC at Estill County High will be distributing ten food boxes but need help this year with donations from the community.