

**Marching Engineers Win At Southern Page 14**



**Betty Young's Times Remembered Page 3**

**50¢**  
INC 3 TAX IN KY

# The Estill County Tribune

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## Irvine Nursing & Rehab Has Been Sold

Facility has been turned over to a nursing home group in Buffalo, New York

The Irvine Nursing & Rehabilitation Center on Bertha Wallace Drive in Irvine has been sold and is now being operated by a nursing home group known as Sapphire (or Saffire) from Buffalo, New York.

A statement from the local facility on August 30, 2018 said, "Effective September 1st, 2018, Irvine Health Facilities, LP doing business as Irvine Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, will no longer operate the nursing facility located at 411 Bertha Wallace Dr., Irvine."

The transfer of the Irvine facility is part of larger transaction that involves 21 skilled nursing facilities in Kentucky along with a few from Indiana.

The move seems to be nearly unreported statewide although the group of nursing

homes is spread across the state of Kentucky and involves facilities in Richmond (Kenwood and Madison), Stanton, Somerset, and sixteen others.

According to Maggie Flynn, writer for Skilled Nursing News on July 31, 2018, the action was printed in the Wall Street Journal on Monday, July 30, 2018 that "Preferred Care Inc., which filed for bankruptcy in November of last year, has transferred its 21 skilled nursing facilities in Kentucky to Sapphire Care Group."

The action came following Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection filings by 33 of the Plano, Texas-based Preferred Care's facilities in the face of 163 personal injury lawsuits. Flynn says the largest involved a Kentucky facility and was for \$28 million.



According to the Journal, "Preferred Care has blamed tort law in the state for making it hard to turn a profit." WSJ says of the 163 lawsuits it faced, 97 were in Kentucky.

Judge Mark Mullin of the U.S. Bank-

ruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, signed the order to put the facilities under the control of Sapphire as of Friday, September 1, 2018.

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Friday night's Moonlight Market was well attended. The next one, which will be the last for 2018, will be in October. Vendors and entertainment are set up on Broadway.

SATURDAY

**Autumn begins Sept. 22**

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### Obituaries

James Cox Jr., 85  
 Kaydi Jo Dawes, Infant  
 Terina Griffin, 54  
 Mafrey Lamb, 86  
 "Nannie" Muncie, 86  
 David W. Taylor, 71  
 Shirley Williams, 72  
 Beverly Witt, 91  
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New Obits at [EstillTribune.com](http://EstillTribune.com)

## Irvine prepares for winter with salt and equipment

Winter preparations were discussed at Monday's Irvine Council meeting.

Mayor James Gross said he had been checking on the prices of salt. Because the city has nowhere to store salt, the city would have to order it in smaller quantities and each time they would have a haul bill.

For several years now, Ravenna has had an agreement with the county to purchase their winter salt.

Gross said this is also the cheapest route for Irvine. The city will reimburse the county \$86 for each ton used.

The county bids on salt each spring through a reverse salt auction.

The city employees will go to the county's salt pile where it will be loaded onto their trucks.

He recommended having two salt trucks equipped to scrape and salt the streets.

Gross said he recently visited the city building and it is in need of repairs. He had received one quote for the repairs.

He told the council that he will check around to get more estimates.

The cost is expected to be less than \$10,000 so bidding is not required.

The mayor also said the city needs to have a surplus property sale.

The city has been providing free trash pickups to residents on Thursday. They must call city hall to get on the list.

Mayor Gross said it appears the same residences are calling in multiple times.

He asked the council to limit the number of pickups or to charge.

Councilman Tobo Bryant said he believed there was an ordinance limiting the special pickups to twice a year.

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The Jenkins Twins provided music during Friday's Moonlight Market in downtown Irvine.

## Homeless couple breaks into homes

Two homeless people from Irvine have been charged in connection with a burglary by the city police department.

Irvine Police was dispatched to 294 Turner Avenue on Saturday night to investigate the burglary.

The victim stated his son saw a known male and female leave their residence through a back window.

An officer located Kenneth Stepp, 40, walking on Broadway and transported him back to the burglary scene.

The officer said that IPD then went to 301 Turner Avenue. This is an abandoned residence where Stepp had

been staying.

Inside that location, IPD said they located Stepp's belongings. But Officer Sean Davis said they also located property belonging to the residents at 294 Turner Ave. Some of those items had the names of victim's children on them.

An officer located Greta M. Brock, 36, at 213 Hood Avenue, where some property belonging to the victim was also found, according to the citation.

The owner of the 213 Hood Ave. location stated that Brock was not allowed inside his residence. The back door had been pried open.

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## Long Scores 1,000 Points



Jayci Long, a 6th grader at Estill County Middle School scored her career 1,000th point on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 against Owsley County's Lady Owls during the 8th grade game. She has played basketball for the middle school since she was in the third grade. "Very big accomplishment for this young lady." At right is ECMS head coach Cassidy Flynn. (Photo courtesy of Wendy Long)