

# Superintendent Jeff Saylor responds to incident Occuring during 56<sup>th</sup> District Tournament - Page 2

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# The Estill County Tribune

EstillTribune.Com

VOLUME 37, NUMBER 35 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2019 IRVINE & RAVENNA, KENTUCKY 40336 14 PAGES

## Flood is 8th worst in Estill history

The weekend flood of 2019 has made Estill County history. According to records, it moves into the 8th spot of the ten worst floods since records have been kept beginning in 1913. It replaces the flood of 2015 for that position.

It followed several rain and flooding events over the past week. Flood waters were actually abating when heavy rains moved in Friday night.

The weekend flood caused Estill County Schools to cancel on Monday and Tuesday. Staff had a workday on Tuesday.

These days off came after students were not in school on Thursday and Friday for the flu.

People were asking then if the students were out for the flu or the flood.

Carhartt's sewing plant was also closed Monday, because of an overflow-

ing pond at the intersection of Coal Wash and Stump Roads.

"People pretty well heeded our advice," stated Lucas Barnes of Estill County Emergency Management Agency. "It was a little larger 'flood' for us."

The driver of a truck was forced off the Winchester Road Friday evening. The vehicle went into a flooded bottom at Callaways Creek, just past the high school.

Barnes said the driver was able to get out of his vehicle without assistance from emergency personnel.

The truck was towed from rising flood waters on Saturday morning.

On Saturday, there was flash flooding all across the county.

Stopped up culverts caused roads to flood in places where the roads don't normally flood.

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Water had started to cover Maupin Hill Road Sunday afternoon. Most vehicles chose not to travel through the water. High winds were creating large waves in the flood waters.

## Contract of schools' superintendent is renewed

by CATHY DAWES  
Tribune Staffwriter

On February 21, members of the school board met in regular session to discuss the superintendent's contract, get updates on the construction projects, recognize Mountain Movers, as well as many other topics. After the board recognized the Mountain Movers they moved into closed session to discuss the contract of Supt. Jeff Saylor. After almost two hours in closed session, the meeting reconvened.

Board member Donna Isfort made a motion to renew Mr. Saylor's contract for four more years with Board member Jenny Jo

Niece seconding the motion. The vote was three to two with new board members Bryan Covey and Sheila Samples voting no.

Chairperson Rhonda Hardy stated that the contract renewal was for four years with a base salary of \$124,000 per year.

Hardy also stated that the board had discussed the contract at length and they felt like Mr. Saylor had worked hard in the past four years and had accomplished all the goals that he had set out to achieve. Those included the nickel tax, reducing the budget, getting grants for the tech school, and the construction projects within the district.

"I promise you this, you will not have anybody work harder for you than I will work in the next 4 years," Saylor stated.

Construction updates were heard on Estill Springs and the Estill County Middle School. A change order was approved by the board for approximately \$34,000 because the flooring that was supposed to be put in the kitchen at Estill Springs will not be installed due to possibly voiding the warranties on some of the equipment.

Mr. Saylor said that it actually worked out for the best because the hot water heater needed replaced and with that money they would be able to purchase a new hot water

heater and also fix the areas in the floor that needed repaired.

The site selection for the new bus garage has not been selected at this time but Mr. Saylor said they would have an update at the next meeting. He added that the site that was chosen for the garage would be the most cost effective.

Travis Curry, project manager, from Codell Construction said they would start accepting bids on the upcoming projects in phases. He said that these would be bid in several different phases and hoped to have those documents ready by March 8.

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A refrigerated box truck hauling Uncle Charlie's Meats left the Winchester Road Monday morning and went into a ditch line. The driver was reportedly uninjured and the truck had minor damages. Traffic was tied up for several hours until the truck was towed.

## Irvine approves agreement to take over RPD Two new businesses coming to Irvine

by CATHY DAWES  
Tribune Staffwriter

The Irvine council met on Monday night and approved two privilege licenses for new businesses to open up within the city.

The first license was granted to Jacqueline Riddell and Megan Gross to operate an antique and odds and ends store locate at 100 River Drive.

The second license was granted to Eddie Crouch to open an antiques and lamp shop on Main Street where the Lunchbox Deli used to be.

Councilman Ernest Farmer said that there are rules in the city when it comes to planning and zoning and no matter who opens a new business they must comply with those rules.

City Clerk Robin Powell said that there are quite a few businesses within the city have not paid their privilege license yet. She said that according to the ordinance the mayor has the right to close the doors on any business if that fee has not been paid

within 30 days of January 31st. She added that she had received a few phone calls about the delinquent licenses but no payments had been made yet.

Powell also said that she was getting together a list of property owners who have not paid their property taxes for 2018 and would have a list of those ready to be mailed out soon.

Powell also asked the council for permission to pay any reoccurring monthly bills without the approval of the council. She said that the issue she is running into is that some bills are due before the council can approve them, and the city is having to pay late fees on those delinquent bills.

She said that she could make two spread sheets for the council each month to view; one would show the reoccurring bills such as electricity, gas, internet, and line of credit payments and that they had been paid. The second spread sheet would reflect bills that had occurred during the month that the

council would need to vote on.

An inter local agreement was approved by the council for the Irvine Police Department to take over the Ravenna Police Department

City Attorney Rodney Davis highlighted some of the areas of the agreement. Davis said that the IPD would take possession of all equipment and cruisers belonging to the city of Ravenna.

The Ravenna Police Department would no longer be in control of the city of Ravenna; that would fall under Police Chief Brad Smith's command. Davis said that they would not be taking over any evidence files, and to his knowledge there has always been an inter local agreement between the two cities. This would just mean that the city of Irvine would be compensated for responding to calls in Ravenna.

The city of Ravenna currently employs one officer and he will have the option to work for the IPD.

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### Obituaries

Elmo Ray Cole, 60  
Charles Crowe, 41  
Russell Harper, 89  
Virginia Prewitt, 100  
Glen H. Watson, 95

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New Obits at  
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## Fiscal court keeps payroll tax at 2%

Estill County's occupational tax ordinance was reviewed at Thursday's fiscal court meeting.

Judge/Executive Donnie Watson said the tax was scheduled to go off on June 30.

"There is no way the county can make a budget with it going off," Watson stated.

The fiscal court gave first reading to an ordinance which would keep the tax.

Last year, the fiscal court made up of a different judge executive and three different

magistrates had increased the payroll tax from 1.5 to 2 percent. Their desire then was to look at the tax and possibly rolling it back.

At that time, the county was over \$1 million behind in debts. That fiscal court borrowed money to pay off those debts which will be repaid over the next several years.

Tyler Hensley briefly addressed the fiscal court about Mt. Springs Road, which the county filed a lawsuit to keep it open.

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