

Students
paint mural
for hospital
Page 13



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Bell Co.
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The Estill County Tribune

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"Lunch with Santa"



Andrew and Cassie Bottorff and their boys visited with Santa at "Lunch with Santa" on Sunday afternoon. They posed for a photo in the historical steam engine, C&O 2716, at Ky. Steam Engine Historical Corporation in Irvine. The event raised over \$3,400 for the non-profit corporation.



Kora Lee enjoyed her lunch with Santa on Sunday afternoon.



Former Estill Lady Engineers Softball Coach Shirley Bear brought her family to see Santa Claus.

Missing man is found safe after spending hours in cold

A missing Estill County man was found safe but cold last Wednesday evening.

Irvine Chief of Police Brad Smith described the man as lucky after being outside in the cold, overnight temperatures.

The missing man was identified as Louis Woosley, who had been living sometimes with a family member on Laurel Street and other times with a friend on Lamata Lane, off New Fox Road.

On Tuesday, Woosley had been treated and released from Marcum & Wallace Hospital.

That night, he was a passenger in a vehicle. Smith said Woosley jumped out of the vehicle.

Kentucky State Police had even checked on Woosley, Tuesday night. They offered him a ride to wherever he was going because of the cold temperatures and his illness. He refused.

Friends and relatives became concerned about Woosley when he didn't show up at either location. They called to report him missing around 1 p.m., Wednesday.

The Irvine Police

Department, Hunter's Hounds, Estill County Rescue Squad and others began a search on New Fox Road and Lamata Lane.

The hounds picked up Woosley's scent along New Fox Road up to Lamata Lane.

Ronnie Riddell, EMA director, said that was the route that Woosley had walked to reach Lamata Lane at other times.

IPD searched the area for about four hours, until Estill Dispatch received a 911 call.

A woman on John Rawlins Road called to say a man was sleeping on her porch that she didn't know. It was Woosley.

Continued on Page 2



Lewis Woosley

Early Deadline
Next week!
Items and ads
are required by
Sunday. Thank
you and Merry
Christmas!

Obituaries

Angela Alcorn, 45
Carolyn Cox, 86
Tony Watts, 59
Declan Sparks, infant
Devlan Sparks, infant
Patricia Golden, 67
Michael York, 70
Garey White, 93
See Page 6
New Obits at
EstillTribune.com

RN reports on needle exchange program Vouchers for free dumping are illegally copied and passed out

It's been almost six months since a needle exchange program began at the Estill County Health Department, and Mandy Watson, RN, reported on the program at Monday's fiscal court meeting.

The program began July 1. As of Monday, Watson said the program had 30 participants.

She added that most of the participants have brought their needles back. Participants are also given information on how to safely dispose of their needles at home. A few have entered rehab with the information made available to them.

Watson stated there have been 85 new cases of HIV in Grant County, which is not that far from Estill County.

"There are cases of HIV in this community,"

she stated.

Watson said there have been over 100 cases of drug overdoses in Estill County this year. She said EMS responded to 91.

"The number of overdoses doubled this year alone over last year's," Watson said.

She added that does not include all overdose cases, because Narcan can be used in homes and other settings.

She said the state is in the process of creating an app that will track the Narcan doses which are used. Narcan doses will soon be made available to more Estill Countians.

According to Watson, help is also available at FindHelpNowKy.org.

Watson said the health department watches drug trends from Cincinnati down I-75 and to

Richmond. Eventually, it is going to trickle down to Estill County.

"I still have mixed feelings about it," Judge/Executive Donnie Watson stated.

"I can't stop these drugs," Nurse Watson replied. "If I could, I'd be standing on the street corner now."

She said the goal of the needle exchange is to prevent diseases, such as HIV or hepatitis, which is done by providing clean needles.

The fiscal court asked if any diabetics were getting needles through the program. Nurse Watson said the health department is unable to give diabetics needles, but there are other programs which can do that.

She said they are looking to get sharps contain-

ers for the road department and gloves for the sheriff's department who deal with used needles.

Tommy Mullen gave a report on the Estill County Animal Shelter.

A recent free spay and neuter program was postponed because the veterinarian had emergency surgery and will be off six to eight weeks.

He estimates the event may be rescheduled in February. Ninety animals were signed up for that date. The grant will provide for a second free spay and neuter day.

Mullen, the county's solid waste coordinator, reported on the free December dumping at the landfill. A few people have abused the situation.

Mullen said it was intended for a small trail-

er load, but one person went in with a large fifth wheel horse trailer load of garbage.

Then a few people have made copies of the vouchers for free dumping and have been passing them out.

Mullen said this will be remedied in the future, because the county has a stamp to use on the vouchers.

He added that a list of all people who signed up for the vouchers is at the landfill. Those people will have to provide identification when they dump. If a person's name is not on that list, they will be turned away.

Sheriff Chris Flynn said he wanted to recognize two employees who had really helped him during his first year in office.

Continued on Page 2