

Estill Band gets ready for marching season



The Estill County High School Pep Band

As another school year draws to a close, the excitement of a new marching band season is in full swing! This entire school year has been full of musical activities and once again, band students throughout the county have excelled in every facet of our Music Education program. As soon as last year's marching shoes were stored away, the Engineer Pep Band hit the bleachers, bringing an added excitement to our home basketball games and the Irvine High celebration. The Concert Bands started working diligently throughout the winter and early spring semesters to prepare for their annual assessment event. ALL concert bands (grades 6-12) received distinguished ratings at their assessment, continuing the tradition of excellence of our concert band program. Several middle school band students were selected (through live auditions) to participate in the District 11 Middle School Honor band. These ensembles were made up of the best

of the best from over 20 surrounding schools. Several middle school band students were also selected to participate in honor bands at ECU. Many of our High School students were selected (again through live auditions) to perform with the Bluegrass All Regional Bands. This group of outstanding musicians from across the state performed at Madison Central and had the opportunity to work with nationally renowned conductors. One high school band member was also named to the University of Kentucky Honors Wind Ensemble.

All of these activities, along with holiday concerts and our upcoming spring concert, have made for a very busy yet productive "off season" for the middle school and high school bands. The truth of the matter is, the music in this program never stops and there is no such thing as an off season.....and the students and musical staff would have it no other way!

This past Tuesday, the Marching Engineers held their highly anticipated 2019 Show Reveal. The show title for the upcoming season is "THE CROSSING", which will start with a departure on a journey through the chaos of life, "Crossing" into the reflective stages of the afterlife, the uncertainty of what is to come, and eventually reaching a final destination of peaceful contentment. It seemed so fitting, as Engineers, to use a TRAIN as the metaphor to convey this storyline. The show will include giant train box cars, railroad tracks, tunnels, and the conductor's ticking pocket watch. There will be musical effects throughout the show that will resemble a train whistle (like the fight song intro), along with bells, crossing sounds, and the metallic clinking and clanking of a train racing down the tracks.

We will be posting our competition dates and locations very soon. These dates will include two out of state con-

tests as part of the Bands of America circuit, where the band will be competing against other bands from all across the nation. This is a new endeavor for the Marching Engineers as they make their debut onto the national scene. There will be many more details and updates on this new venture coming soon.

As always, we would like to thank the community for their continued support of our program. We encourage everyone to try to make it to a competition this fall to cheer on the Marching Engineers! The band will be hosting a dinner and silent auction on June 1st at the National Guard Amory. See any band member or booster for a ticket and more details. Also, anyone wanting to make a contribution to this amazing group of young musicians can contact Jason Bowles at the high school, or reach out to any of our outstanding Band Boosters. It's going to be another incredible season!! ALL ABOARD!!!!



Estill County Middle School's 7th and 8th grade Bands



Estill County High School Concert Band performing at spring assessment event



Middle School students at Holiday Concert (Caden Bowles and William Mullins)

Good Luck, Engineers and Lady Engineers in 14th Region Tournament



2019 ESTILL COUNTY LADY ENGINEERS SOFTBALL

Left to right, front: Vana Newton, Elizabeth Hardy, Neesa West, Maci Muncie, Lauren Farmer, Mariah Riddell, Emma Winkle. Back: Veronica Tipton, Amelia Farmer, Alexis Hall, Taylor Duechle, Peyton Maybriar, Katie Johnson, Katie Sparks, Kaylee Riddell, Rayleigh Jones, and Mia Hale. Not pictured, Henlee Hunter. Coaches: Amy Kaylor and Amanda Edwards.



2019 ESTILL COUNTY ENGINEERS BASEBALL

Left to right, front row: Kamden Powell, Thomas Forehand, Trevyn Niece, Luke Fletcher, Gabe Hall, Tanner Seales, Andrew Elam, Ty Niece, Hunter Cole. Middle row: Waylon Puckett, Dean Tucker, Rocky Hix, Gabe Brooks, Dalton McKinney, Benny Lay, Seth Masters, Brody Casey, Micah Adams, Lucas Flynn, Isaac Napier. Back row: Jonavan Miller, Conner Chaney, Dustin Warner, Parker McCreary, Justin Rison, Morgan Seales, Chase Wainscott. Coaches Brian Crowe, Blake Crowe, Cade Berryman, Boone Tucker and Robbie Hunter, Manager.