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Dogs Locate  
Lost Child  
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# The Estill Tribune **EstillTribune.Com**

VOLUME 38, NUMBER 9 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2019 IRVINE & RAVENNA, KENTUCKY 40336 16 PAGES

## Ravenna woodcarver to receive artist award



Tim Hall, woodcarver of Ravenna, was photographed with First Lady Laura Bush in 2007. Hall's art was chosen for the White House tree in 2002.

When home interest rates shot up in the late 1970s and early '80s, framing carpenter Tim Hall found himself out of a job.

He literally carved himself a new career, though, drawing his inspiration from nature.

Hall is a fisherman. His first carving was a duck decoy made from wood, which he found a little heavy. Today,

he uses basswood.

He sold his first decoy for around \$200 while he was without a carpentry job.

The Estill County resident turned to his hobby of carving birds and wildflowers, and began his career as a full time artist in 1982, when he exhibited at the newly created Kentucky Crafted Market. He has never missed a Mar-

ket since, and he was recognized in 2007 for exhibiting 25 years there.

Hall's work has been purchased by Kentucky governors and presented to visiting dignitaries to the Commonwealth, including Queen Elizabeth II.

One of his ornaments hung on the White House Christmas tree of President George W. Bush. Hall has

served as an arts ambassador for Kentucky, demonstrating his wood carving techniques in Japan.

Hall's work has been exhibited at shows with the Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen and many other events. He has created more than 1,900 pieces, each numbered and signed "Made by Tim Hall with God's Help."

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Hall starts his woodcarvings from a block of basswood. He observes birds and flowers before he starts carving them.

Hall carved the goldfinch and flower pictured at the right. To see more pictures of Hall's woodcarvings, you may check out his webpage at [timhallwoodcarvings.com](http://timhallwoodcarvings.com).

He will be honored with the Artist Award Tuesday at the Capitol at 10 a.m.



## 7th annual Revive River Drive was a success



Hundreds of people turned out on Saturday night for the annual Revive River Drive. Folks had a good time cruising up and down the road and stopping occasionally to visit with friends.

Photo by Cathy Dawes



Antique car owners proudly drove up and down River Drive on Saturday night.

Photo by Cathy Dawes

## State Auditor releases report of former county clerk

State Auditor Mike Harmon has released the audit of the 2018 financial statement of former Estill County Clerk Sherry Fox.

State law requires the auditor to conduct annual audits of county clerks and

sheriffs.

Auditing standards require the auditor's letter to communicate whether the financial statement presents fairly the receipts, disbursements and excess fees of the former Estill County Clerk in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The former clerk's financial statement did not follow this format. However, the former clerk's financial statement is fairly presented in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting, which is an acceptable reporting methodology. This reporting methodology is followed for all 120 clerk audits in Kentucky.

As part of the audit process, the auditor must comment on noncompliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. The auditor must also comment on material weaknesses involving the internal control over financial operations and reporting.

The audit contains the following comment: The

former county clerk's office lacked adequate segregation of duties: This is a repeat comment and was included in the prior year audit report as Finding 2017-001. The former county clerk's office lacked adequate segregation of duties.

According to the former county clerk, due to a small staff size the responsibility

of receiving, recording, depositing, disbursing, reporting, and reconciling funds were delegated to the same individual. The former county clerk prepared all weekly and monthly reports, signed all checks, performed all bookkeeping duties, and prepared all bank reconciliations.

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### Obituaries

Judy Causey, 74  
Leo Horn, 77  
Tonia Henry, 44  
Richard Lynch  
Ashley  
Richardson, 28  
Edna Rucker, 90

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New Obits at  
[EstillTribune.com](http://EstillTribune.com)

## Firefighter waives preliminary hearing; the case will transfer to the grand jury

An Irvine firefighter made his final appearance in Estill District Court last Wednesday.

Christopher Chad Neal appeared for a preliminary hearing.

Neal was charged July 2 by the Irvine Police Department with first degree wanton endangerment and third degree terroristic threatening.

He was also charged in a separate citation with two

counts of theft by unlawful taking over \$500 but under \$10,000.

Neal was arraigned at an earlier date where he pleaded not-guilty to the four charges.

On Wednesday, he waived his right to a preliminary hearing and the case will go to the Estill County Grand Jury.

In high profile cases, such as Neal's, it is not unusual for a defendant to waive

their case to the grand jury.

During a preliminary hearing, the arresting officer presents the evidence he has against the defendant.

By waiving his right, the public did not learn about what evidence there is against Neal with the exception of what was written in the police citation.

The grand jury usually has 60 days to indict an individual after a preliminary hearing is held. Be-

cause Neal is free on 10% of a \$20,000 cash bond, the grand jury may not indict within 60 days. The grand jury may also decide their is not enough evidence and not return an indictment.

If a defendant is in jail and not indicted within 60 days, the case against him can be dismissed. However, a later indictment by the grand jury reinstates the charges.

Neal currently has no

scheduled court dates. If he is indicted, his next appearances will be made in Estill Circuit Court.

After Neal was charged on July 2, he was placed on administrative leave at the Irvine Fire Department.

He also worked part-time for Estill County Emergency Management Agency (EMA). He was placed on leave without pay from that position pending the outcome of his case.