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## "High Five" Class of '16



Graduates walked down the long hallway of South Irvine P-K Center on Thursday morning. The hall was lined with students and staff who gave the grads a "High Five" as they walked past.



Class officers were first off the bus and lined up with their classmates behind them before entering South Irvine. Left to right are Emily Walton, treasurer; Hayley Puckett, secretary; Devin Frazier, vice president; and Timbre McCoy, president.

Wearing caps and gowns on Thursday, the 2016 grads boarded three buses and went to West Irvine, South Irvine, Estill Springs and Estill Middle School to start a new school tradition, the "High Five."

Students from those schools lined both sides of the hallway. As the grads walked by, they were able to get two "High Fives" at the same time, one from a student on the right side and the other from a student on the left side of the hallway.

Charlotte Sutter, director of the Youth Service Center at the high school, said she saw the idea of "High Five" on Facebook.

"I felt our students had endured a lot of changes, and had been thinking of a tradition they could start," Sutter said. "I wanted them to be able to start a new tradition."

She said the reason for the High Five was to show the younger kids what they were working toward.

The students read what the different CCR medals represented. The grads' V stoles are based upon students' GPAs. CCR is College and Career Ready.

"We want the younger students to come back at the end of their senior year with more medals and more gold stoles," Sutter stated.

## Gun is taken in burglary; deputy arrests neighbor

A male resident of Dark Hollow Road has been charged with first degree burglary.

Billy Richardson, also of Dark Hollow Road, reported May 20 a burglary to the sheriff's office that occurred on May 19. He said that a 32 Smith and Wesson revolver was missing from his home.

Deputy Doc Morris said that on May 20,

Richardson called him. The citation states that Richardson said that Justin Babb was at his house. Babb reportedly told Richardson and his son where the gun was.

Deputies Morris and Smith recovered the weapon the same day.

Morris charged Babb, 28, with first degree burglary.

## County may be hiring up to 15 more dispatchers

Budget was approved as presented in April, but no date was set for closing the county jail

Estill County could be hiring as many as 15 dispatchers, Judge Executive Wallace Taylor announced at Monday's fiscal court meeting.

Taylor said the salaries of the additional dispatchers will be paid for by CSEPP.

The county will advertise the positions "in house" first. Any county employee who meets the qualifications will be given preference before applications are taken from the general public.

Taylor said that 911 has three part-time dispatchers whom he expects to move up to full time positions.

Currently, one dispatcher works a shift. This will allow two dispatchers per shift.

Renaye Merrill, 911 supervisor, presented the court with new operating procedures. She said it was similar to the past but new situations have been added, such as a child locked in a vehicle, unresponsive people, and ping of cell phones.

Merrill said the two dispatchers would be

helpful. She added that when there is a wreck, there are usually at least ten calls made as well as radio traffic.

The magistrates voted to approve the budget as is, with no definite date for closing the jail.

Taylor said the jail is one of the state's "unfunded mandates." He added that not one inmate in the jail was there because they had broken a county law. The inmates are charged with breaking state laws.

The judge said the county and all across the state and county are looking at a drug problem, which drives up the inmate population.

He looked at Sheriff Freeman. "If you arrested everybody that's on drugs, we need 200 beds," he said.

"It wouldn't start with (200 beds)," Freeman stated.

"If you save \$200,000 a year, that's a lot of money," stated Magistrate Darrell Johnson.

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## School board stays busy

by CATHY DAWES  
The Estill County Tribune

Members of the Estill County School Board met on May 19th for a special board meeting at South Irvine Elementary. Newly appointed board member Jenny Niece was sworn in by Felicia Campbell after the meeting was called to order. Board members then toured the school to examine all of the renovations that have been completed by Riddell Construction in the past year.

Roland Mueller, of Ross & Tarrant Architects said the new ceilings and light fixtures in all the classrooms and the library. He said the ceilings made a big impact on the noise reduction and light levels. An addition to the kitchen area was also added so a cooler or a freezer could be placed there.

Superintendent Jeff Saylor commended Charlotte Sutter for starting a new tradition

with the graduating seniors at the Estill County High School. On Thursday morning all graduates travelled to the elementary schools and did a walk through where they were greeted by the younger students. Saylor said he thought it was a great idea for the younger students to see what their future looks like and thanked Sutter for the wonderful idea.

Amy Farmer, a math teacher at the Estill County High School, was recognized for 23 years of dedication to the school system. Farmer is involved with the Beta Club at the high school and the Backpack Buddies which is a program that sends food home with needy children each week. Kim Roberts, a para-educator at South Irvine, was recognize as the classified Mountain Mover for the month of April. She was nominated for always putting the students first and

Shonna Ballard said that Roberts is her right hand in the classroom.

Jim McClanahan, retiring energy manager for the Kentucky School Board Association, informed the board that two of their schools were in the top 25 percent of schools in the nation and were now ranked as 'Energy Star' schools. McClanahan said that the changes that the schools made over a period of time had contributed to the two schools becoming more energy efficient. Principal Chris Winkler and Principal Tim Burkhart accepted awards on behalf of the Estill County High School and the Estill County Middle School for becoming 'Energy Star' schools.

McClanahan added that there were steps that needed to be taken at the other schools to get them to where they need to be.

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## Obituaries

Troy Byrd, 38  
Daniel Birchfield, 72  
Florence Covey, 90  
Paul Parsons, 82  
Dwight Rison, 68  
Ernest Snowden, 91  
William Wood, 92  
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**LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL**  
**RESPECT • HONOR • REMEMBER**

"Officer Down!" When those words blaze across a police band radio, they cause a stirring in the soul. Those words hopefully will never be heard in our community ever again. However, there have been those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in our past. Let us as a community come together and remember those who have died in the line of duty. Also, let us join together with our Law Enforcement Officers who are serving us now, to have a better town and county. Everyone is respectfully requested to attend the upcoming **Law Enforcement Memorial 2016 on Tuesday, May 31st at 6:00 p.m.** in front of the Estill County Courthouse, to remember those who have given and support those who are serving now.

**God Bless, Chaplain Chris Carlyle, Irvine Police Department**