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to Sing Live In  
Concert at ECHS  
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**Jay Bicknell's  
Wanderings  
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## “This Land Is My Land”



Entertainers gathered at the end of the Concerned Citizens of Estill County (CCEC) rally on Saturday to perform a final song, “This Land Is My Land.” Pictured from left to right are, Bobby Crowe, Clayton Hedge, Mrs. Andy Blythe, Jillien McCommas, Mitch Barrett and Andy Blythe.

## Hundreds rally against dumping of radioactive wastes in landfill

Several hundred people rallied at the high school track and football field Saturday afternoon against the illegal dumping of NORM. The people not only came from Estill County but from cities across the state, including Richmond, Winchester, Morehead, Danville and even Louisville.

There is no Presbyterian church in the county, but many of the out-of-towners were Presbyterians. They own Camp Burnamwood which is close to the landfill.

The rally opened with

singing of “God Bless America” and closed with “This Land Is My Land.”

“(God), You’ve left us here to take care of this earth,” prayed Rev. Paul Groves, pastor of River Drive Christian Church and president of Estill County Ministerial Association. A man’s voice was loudly shouted from the audience, “That’s right! That’s right!”

Members of the Concerned Citizens of Estill County (CCEC) had already scored a minor victory. They were asking that Estill Countians be included in negotia-

tions between the state agencies and the landfill. The state agencies now say they want to include Estill Countians in those discussions.

“We don’t want to comment on something that’s been agreed to,” said Tom Fitzgerald of the Kentucky Resources Council.

“This is way over my head,” said Judge/Executive Wallace Taylor. He told the audience that he would much rather have an ice storm or a snow storm than radioactive waste.

The state agencies distributed press releases on Thurs-

day and Friday.

Taylor called those press releases very generic. He said some of them stated, “Those results have been shared with local officials. Absolutely NOT!”

Attorney General Andy Beshear stated that his office would not be seeking criminal charges against the corporations and individuals involved in bringing in the waste.

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## Irvine police arrest 2 for selling drugs

The Irvine Police Department reportedly made two more controlled drug buys which resulted in the arrests July 13 of two Estill Countians for trafficking in drugs.

A citation says that Jeff McCormick, 47, of Race Track Road, Irvine sold methamphetamine to a confidential informant on Independence Day.

The citation says that McCormick drove his wife’s vehicle to the location where the controlled drug buy was to take place. It adds that McCormick parked the vehicle on the street and put the hood up. He checked the oil in an apparent attempt to deceive public and law enforcement about the ongoing illegal activity.

As soon as the drug transaction was completed, the citation states that McCormick closed the hood and drove off.

Officer John Sturniolo says the drug transaction was recorded on both audio and video.

McCormick was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine, first degree and possession of drug paraphernalia.

When he was arrested, Sturniolo said a glass meth pipe was located in the vehi-

cle under McCormick’s seat at the time of his arrest.

McCormick was scheduled for an arraignment on July 18.

Court records say he was arrested on a new case while a charge was pending. His bond was set at \$5,000 cash.

The trafficking charge is a Class D felony, punishable by one to five years in prison.

Victoria Neal, 32, of Chestnut Street, Irvine was arrested at her residence by IPD on July 13.

Officer Sturniolo said that Neal sold a marijuana cigarette and a suboxone strip to a confidential informant for \$30 on July 6. The citation states the transaction was recorded on both audio and video.

When Neal was arrested, the officer said that she had 24 suboxone strips and 39 marijuana cigarettes in her possession.

She was charged with trafficking in suboxone, trafficking in marijuana, possession of marijuana, and possession of a controlled substance third degree.

Neal’s charges are all misdemeanors. She was scheduled to have been arraigned on July 15.

## Fiscal court files lawsuit against landfill & others

As far as NORM goes, Friday was a very busy day. Multiple state agencies released their reports, but local citizens called them generic in nature.

Judge/Executive Wallace Taylor filed a lawsuit in Estill Circuit Court while state agencies and the attorney general released press releases over the suspected illegal dumping of radioactive material at the local landfill.

Named as defendants in the lawsuit are Advanced Disposal Services Blue Ridge Landfill, Inc.; Waste

Management of Kentucky, LLC; Advanced Tenorm Services, LLC; BES, LLC; and Cory Hoskins of West Liberty, Ky..

The lawsuit states the Estill Fiscal Court and Waste Management entered into a contract known as the host agreement on November 2, 1995. The agreement provided for the ownership, operation and maintenance of a solid waste disposal facility located on Winchester Road.

The host agreement requires prior written consent of the Estill Fiscal Court for transfer or assignment of that agreement.

The lawsuit claims that Waste Management transferred and/or sold the landfill to Advanced Disposal without the consent of the Estill Fiscal Court.

The fiscal court says at some time in 2015, Advanced Disposal received shipments of TNORM, a radioactive waste, from out of state. The shipments were allegedly arranged by the defendants, Advanced TENORM Services, LLC; BES, LLC; and Cory Hoskins.

The lawsuit claims those

shipments were prohibited by the host agreement because the waste was accepted without approval from the Solid Waste Advisory Board or Solid Waste Coordinator from an out of state source.

The county enacted a Solid Waste ordinance on July 31, 1991 and amended it on July 4, 1997. It says the above shipments were also a violation of the Solid Waste ordinance, which provides for civil penalties of up to \$5,000 per violation for each day the violation exists.

The county has been told the NORM was brought to the landfill on 47 different occasions.

The Estill Fiscal Court is seeking a judgment against each of the defendants of \$5,000 for each violation and for each day the violation exists.

The fiscal court is also seeking costs and attorney fees, and any other relief to which they appear to be entitled.

A lawsuit only presents one side of an issue. The defendants will have an opportunity to respond to this lawsuit.



In its nearly 40 years of existence, the Estill County Ambulance Service, now known as Estill County EMS, has had six directors. Pictured above are, left to right, front row: Keith Moore and Bob Calder, the first director; second row: Jimmie Wise, the current director; and Ron Jackson. Howard Edwards (deceased) and Linville Harrison served as co-directors following Calder. Read the Ambulance Service’s history on Page 12.

### Obituaries

- David Campbell, 72
  - Jeffery Wayne Dixon, 53
  - Tina Renee Fugate, 49
  - William C. Hall, 76
  - Howard C. Mackey, 98
  - Helen Joy McGee, 86
  - Lonnie Smyth, 89
  - Paul G. Watson, 78
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