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**Engineers lose Homecoming game to Bath County, 32-30 See Page 14**



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# The Estill County Tribune **EstillTribune.Com**

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## Homeless people flock to South Irvine

by **DELORES L. ROWLAND**  
**The Estill County Tribune**

The homeless population in Estill County is growing, and problems associated with that group of people are also growing.

For most of the homeless people, South Irvine is the community they call home.

They find an empty house, and "they just move in there," said a person who wishes to remain anonymous.

When renters moved out of one house, homeless people moved into it before the

new renters could move in.

Some houses have been foreclosed on and banks now own them. The group of homeless people then move into houses owned by the banks.

The anonymous source said in one situation, a husband died. His widow was unable to make the house payments and turned it back over to the bank.

The source says at least three families are now living in that house. One of the men said that he paid rent monthly to the widow

until the bank told him to stop.

To prevent crime and drug problems, South Irvine residents have formed a Neighborhood Watch. Most homes have signs in their yards.

Sheriff Gary Freeman was also called several times to South Irvine in the spring about members of the homeless population trespassing.

"The sheriff came over here, and they'd be back when he got out of sight," the source stated.

Then Deputy Russell "Doc" Morris arrested two or three of them who were trafficking in drugs.

That somewhat improved the problems that South Irvine was having, but it didn't eliminate them.

The source described the age of the homeless population as 18 or 20 and older.

"Everyone of them could be working," the source stated. "They just want to live off the system."

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## Board begins process of selecting an architect

by **CATHY DAWES**  
**Estill County Tribune**

Members of the Estill County school board met in special session on September 13th to discuss potential architects for the new technology center that will be constructed sometime in the near future.

Superintendent Jeff Saylor reported that seven different firms had turned in proposals before the deadline and that three of those firms had even come in to his office to discuss what exactly the board was looking for.

The board agreed to discuss each individual proposal and then narrow the

selection down to the best candidates.

Board Member L.W. Beckley said that a major concern he had with the construction of the new facility is the amount of change orders that happen during the project.

Beckley said he would like to see the board hire a construction manager. Mr. Saylor agreed and said that a construction manager would be on site and could potentially find issues before a change order was needed.

After several minutes of discussion on each proposal the board narrowed it down to four candidates. Those

four firms will be asked to attend the next board meeting and speak to the board members before an architect is chosen for the project.

Mr. Saylor stated that the fiscal court had originally planned to put in one million dollars on the new facility but he didn't think that was feasible at this time.

He said that he has plans to go after another grant which will offset some of that cost. He also added that many people will benefit from the career and technical center and he hopes that students from other counties will attend the facility once it is open.

## Fiscal hires employee and IT firm for CSEPP

Monday's fiscal court meeting was almost all about CSEPP.

The court's first action was to hire Levi Tipton, as a part-time employee for CSEPP. He will work 20 hours a week.

Judge Wallace Taylor said the position was advertised in-house, and Tipton is a volunteer. He is also pursuing a degree in emergency services.

Next, the court entered into a four-year lease on a 2018 Dodge Durango.

Ronnie Riddell, the director of Estill County Emer-

gency Services, said he expects to drive the vehicle about 7,500 miles a year.

He said CSEPP's service trucks are scheduled to be rotated out next year.

A two year bid for Information Technology Support was awarded to Stocker Service Co. of Berea. Riddell said he did that job before becoming director.

The court agreed to advertise for an architect to design a safe space for workers at the seven year old building which houses emergency services, including 911 dispatchers. An architect will be

hired in December or January.

The current building is seven years old and was designed to withstand winds up to 70 miles per hour. Similar buildings in other counties erected since then are designed to withstand winds up to 200 miles per hour.

On March 1, the building was not damaged during the winds which were estimated up to 100 miles per hour.

Riddell said the safe space may be as simple as a 450 square foot room added to the front of the building on Broadway

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### 2017 Homecoming Court



Lyndsey Isfort, daughter of John and Donna Isfort, was crowned Homecoming Queen Friday night at halftime during Estill's football game. Kaylee Covey, left, daughter of Brian and Tracy Covey, was second runner-up, and Lyndsi Brewer, daughter of Steve Brewer and Rhonda Watts, was first runner-up.



Left to right, Homecoming queen Lindsey Isfort daughter of John and Donna Isfort; Junior Princess: Scarlett O'Hair, daughter of Dwight and Beth O'Hair; Sophomore Princess: Elizabeth Tipton, daughter of Paul and LaVelle Tipton; and Freshman Princess: Kayle Henry, daughter of Wayne Henry. Photos by Cathy Dawes

### Obituaries

Charlotte Crowe, 90

Don McWhorter, 71

Michelle Meadows, 36

Fred Noland, 89

Tyler Riddell, 27

Roderic Rose, 77

Howard Rogers, 87

Everett Rucker, 81

"Cotton" Tipton, 88

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New Obits at **EstillTribune.com**

## Local VFW supports ladies veteran center



Commander Bob Fauste, left, and Adjutant George Kissick, right, of Disabled American Veterans Chapter 94 - Estill County, KY present a check for \$500 to Phyllis Abbott, founder of Lady Veterans Connect, Inc. and Wanda Martin, Clark County Co-ordinator. It will be a homeless and rehabilitation shelter for female veterans.

Photo courtesy of Lisa Bicknell

Just a few miles across the Red River and over the Estill County line, Trapp Elementary School is being converted into a homeless center for women veterans.

Lady Veterans Connect, Inc. will also provide some services for male veterans.

Trapp Elementary was sold to Bryan Howard and Allen Taylor after Clark County Schools redistricted about three years ago.

Phyllis Abbott, founder of Lady Veterans Connect, Inc. met Howard, who donated the use of the building.

"I worked as a volunteer with the homeless veterans for a while," she stated.

While there are homeless centers for male veterans, there are very few for female

veterans.

Abbott said there are 5,600 lady veterans now registered with the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs. She said women veterans are more likely to be homeless and have a higher risk of suicide and dying on the street than their male counterpart.

"Trapp has just welcomed us in," stated Wanda Martin, the Clark County coordinator.

Volunteers are at the school building each Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday where donations can be dropped off.

Martin said they take almost everything. What they cannot use, they sell at an inside yard sale.

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