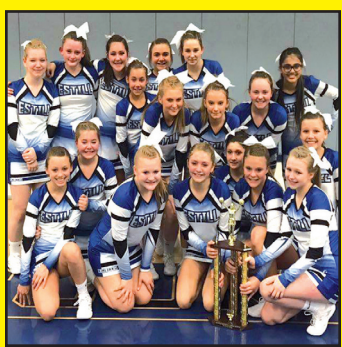


3 Weeks Until
Lunch
with
Santa
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The Estill County Tribune

EstillTribune.Com

VOLUME 38, NUMBER 21 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2019 IRVINE & RAVENNA, KENTUCKY 40336 16 PAGES

Head-on collision claims life of Marine veteran

One driver was killed and the other was injured during a head-on collision on Spout Springs Road last Wednesday morning, November 20.

The collision occurred just after 7 a.m.

KSP says a 2015 Chevrolet Silverado operated by Kelsey Wheeler, 20, of Beatyville was traveling south when she lost control of her vehicle in a curve. Her vehicle crossed the center line and collided with a 2006

Dodge Caravan driven by Justin Carson, 34, of Irvine, who was north bound.

Carson was pronounced deceased at the scene by the Estill County Coroner. Wheeler was transported to the University of Kentucky Hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Carson is survived by his wife, Kenra Henry Carson, and five children. He was a veteran of the United States Marines who served two

tours during the Iraq War.

Funeral services for Carson were held on Saturday.

This wreck occurred near the roadside pond which was discussed in last week's fiscal court meeting because of the number of wrecks occurring there. The pond is across the road from the famous spring the road is named after. (The spring is on privately owned property.)

Carson became the second fatality of Spout Springs

Road in 2019. He was also the second fatality reported on an Estill County road.

The other fatality occurred on Spout Springs Road, Wednesday, June 5. A vehicle driven by Hager K. Rice, 56, of Richmond, struck a vehicle head-on driven by Hayley Puckett, 20, of Irvine.

Rice was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident near the Trammel Lane intersection with Spout

Springs Road. Puckett and three teenagers in her vehicle were injured during the wreck.

Another fatality had occurred at the Trammel Lane intersection in 2018.

The pond and the Trammel Lane intersection are both located on straight stretches. Drivers coming from Clay City must go through a curve before entering either straight stretch.

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Justin Carson

Grand jury indicts firefighter on seven charges including wanton endangerment, theft



Christopher Chad Neal

Photo/Three Forks Regional Jail

A former Irvine firefighter was indicted Friday by an Estill County Grand Jury for theft by unlawful taking

and other charges.

The indictment was returned against 28-year-old Christopher Chad Neal of Millers Creek Road, Ravenna.

The indictment charges Neal with first degree wanton endangerment, third degree terroristic threatening, two counts of theft by unlawful taking or disposition (\$500 or more but under \$10,000), theft by deception under \$500, theft by deception over \$500 but under \$10,000, and first degree official misconduct.

According to the indictment, Neal brandished a

loaded firearm at Logan Beckler on March 13. It adds that he then threatened Beckler.

Between December 1, 2017 and January 31, 2018, the indictment states that Neal unlawfully took two sets of emergency lights (valued at over \$500) intended for vehicles belonging to the city of Irvine. He reportedly sold the lights to an individual(s) without authorization or knowledge of the City of Irvine.

The indictment says that between January 1 and 31 of this year, former firefighter

Continued on Page 4

Sheriff arrests two people at Hargett over warrants

Two people at Hargett Road were arrested on Sunday by Sheriff Chris Flynn and Trooper John Northern.

The sheriff said he was trying to locate Timothy Cody McKinney, 22, of Redbud Lane, Irvine, who had two active warrants. He went to the home of Jamie Prather, 30, on Hargett Road.

He had advised Prather several times that McKinney was wanted for parole violations. He added that if McKinney was found at Prather's residence, she would be charged. She denied knowing where he was staying.

Sheriff Flynn said he observed McKinney working outside Prather's home. Mc-

Kinney entered through the front door and left it open.

Flynn contacted KSP Trooper Northern to assist him in arresting McKinney.

The citation says that McKinney was looking at surveillance cameras in the living room above Prather's residence. Flynn told McKinney to show his hands, but he said the man attempted to run out the back door.

Trooper Northern was at the back door and detained McKinney. The trooper charged McKinney with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree, first offense, and drug paraphernalia, buy/possess.

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Wives and girlfriends from VFW Post 8019 in Ravenna collected food for 15 food baskets recently at Price Less IGA. Pictured left to right are Marie Dooley, Peggy Arvin, Tom Gould – store owner, Britany Gross, and Rachel Barnes.

VFW 8019 starts new tradition of donating food to the needy

Fifteen families in Estill County will have a meal they are thankful for this Thursday.

VFW Post 8019 in Ravenna donated food baskets Saturday to those families which range in size from two people up to a family with seven children.

This is VFW's first year to donate food baskets, and the idea for the Thanksgiving baskets originated with Peggy Arvin. She ran her idea through the post commander, David Dooley. The post voted on it and thought it was a good idea.

Commander Dooley said they tried to include everything in a basket that other families would have for Thanksgiving. This includes a turkey, milk, eggs, potatoes, gravy, stuffing, eggs, and other items.

The VFW does not have a ladies auxiliary group, but they plan to start one now after all the work that the members' wives

and girlfriends did on the food baskets.

Besides Arvin, some of the women who helped out were Britany Gross, Rachel Barnes, Marie Dooley, Kim Pruitt, and others.

The women and VFW members went to Priceless IGA on Winchester Road and received donations from customers.

Chaplain Kevin Combs said the group especially wanted to thank the store's customers and its owner, Tom Gould for their donations. Not only did Gould let the group use his business to accept donations, but he donated himself. Combs estimated that Gould personally donated up to \$200 worth of groceries.

For Combs, the food baskets came at a deserving time. His nephew by marriage, Justin Carson, was killed last Wednesday in a vehicle accident.

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Obituaries

- Karen Alcorn, 72
- Justin Carson, 34
- James Chrisman, 74
- Gladys Davis, 69
- Earl Riddell, 78
- Anna Smith, 82
- Devella Smith, 81
- Ovie Tipton, 91
- See Page 6

New Obits at EstillTribune.com



Congratulations, to the Estill County Engineers Cheerleaders who were named runner-up in Saturday's KHSAA Region 7 Competitive Cheer, Large Division held at Corbin. Way to go girls!! The State Championship will be held at The Kentucky Horse Park, December 14, 2019. Regional cheerleading championships involve two regions and Estill competed in Region 7 which is comprised of Regions 13 and 14. Both the winner and runner-up advance to the State Cheer Championships, so make plans now to attend on December 14 to watch our Engineer Cheerleaders. Left to right, front, Kayle Henry, Emily Dennis, Natalie Dixon, Kristin Osborne, Jaclyn Centers, Victoria Elam, Ramzee Powell, Kennedy Gabbard, Cameron Friend. Back, Abby Henry, Brionna Adkins, Shaelyn Parsons, Karlee Richardson, Belle Prather, Zoe Abney, Jade Dixon, Kyra Farthing, Rayleigh Jones, Hayley Henry, and Kaylee Phillips. Not pictured, Abigail Arnold and Marlee Isaacs.

Doe Creek man charged by IPD with hit and run

A Doe Creek man was charged with leaving the scene of an accident - failure to render aid or assistance on Friday by Irvine Officer Sam Hensley.

The man was identified as Charles Clinton Taylor, 57, of Doe Creek Road, Irvine.

The citation states that he was involved in a single vehicle crash on Main Street. He left his vehicle and ran toward some nearby apartments.

The citation adds that during the crash, the vehicle struck a mechanical/electrical service box owned by Irvine Municipal Utilities. Damages are estimated to be between \$8,000 and \$15,000.

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