

Illegal dumping

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"As a parent, I would have been concerned."
"We work on emergency plans around the year," Ballard stated.

He stated during the press conference the school system is not prepared for an emergency if the high school and middle school have to close.

Ballard stated that would displace 1200 to 1300 students. "We will make a plan. We will make it happen pretty darn quick," he stated.

Taylor stated this NORM will probably not be removed until next summer when school is out.

Ronnie Riddell, director of Estill Emergency Agency, said that county has received apologies from the landfill and state because local leaders were not notified. He said the state has been investigating this incident for about two weeks.

Taylor said the state was expected to issue a citation to the landfill on Tuesday.

According to the host community agreement, the landfill must inspect the manifest of each Kentucky truck going into the landfill to see what is being brought into the landfill.

In 1997, just two years after the host agreement was passed, Waste Management applied for a permit to accept NORM at the landfill. There were picket lines at the landfill entrance, and the county filed a lawsuit.

The landfill was planning to accept NORM from the Martha Oil Fields operated by Ashland Oil Co.

The lawsuit was dropped after Waste Management agreed not to pursue the permit to take NORM. In exchange, the fiscal court allowed the landfill to accept more regular waste to make up for the financial loss of NORM.

(The host agreement also prohibits disposal of ash from incineration at Blue Grass Army Depot.)

The county does have a solid waste coordinator who can do inspections at the landfill at any time. The landfill must also submit quarterly reports to the fiscal court.

This batch of NORM was placed on a landfill liner and covered with soil. Landfill liners are guaranteed for 30 years.

The half-life of NORM is 1000 years. This means that about half of the radioactive ions break down in a thousand years. The other half of ions do not break down.

NORM also likes water. This caused a problem at Maxey Flat in Rowan and Fleming counties and made national news. That waste disposal site was started in the 1960's and was used for about a dozen years. Sealing off the waste is nearly completed, and the site will be sealed with concrete. The state is expected to monitor the site for 100 more years.



Terry Hammonds was a local winner in the H&R Block 1,000 win \$1,000 daily sweepstakes. He was presented a giant check at the local office on Richmond Road. Left to right are, Greta Hammonds, Terry Hammonds and Tim Stephens.

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Police Activity Log

A break-in has been reported by Jessie Thompson at his residence on McKee Road on February 19.

Thompson told Deputy Randy Farthing that he returned home and found three individuals running from the back of his house.

The three had forced their way inside by breaking the knob off the front door.

Thompson said that his arrowheads were missing.

- James Cahal, 50, was arrested at his residence on Sunday, Feb. 28 by Deputy Randy Farthing. Cahal was charged with assault fourth degree (domestic violence). His wife, Michell Cahal, said her husband hit her with his fists.

- Juanita Charlton, 27, of Stacy Lane, Irvine, was charged with public intoxication on Feb. 23 by Deputy Doc Morris. He said that Charlton was passed out in a car at Stop & Shop.

- Aman living on Sugar Hollow Road at South Irvine was arrested February 19 after schools in Ohio were placed on lock-down.

Mark Sturgill, 36, was arrested around 2:49 p.m. by KSP Trooper A. Brashear.

The citation states that Detective Shawn Terrell spoke with Trooper Brashear about Sturgill. Det. Terrell works for the City of Oxford Police Department in Butler County, Ohio.

The citation adds that Sturgill had contacted his sister, Valerie Sturgill, and his mother, Rebecca Dillhorff. He allegedly threatened to travel to Ohio and inflict bodily harm with a firearm upon them and their

children.

Multiple Ohio agencies were involved in the investigation.

Det. Terrell obtained a warrant for Sturgill on an aggravated menacing charge. He is seeking to extradite Sturgill to Ohio.

Sturgill was lodged in the Estill County Detention Center.

Local court records say that Sturgill was arrested on this offense while he had another case pending.

- A Beattyville man faces a felony drug charge in Estill County after being in a parking lot after the business closed on Saturday.

Trooper C. Royal said he noticed the vehicle was running. The business on Richmond Road was closed and the area is known for high drug trafficking.

As the trooper approached the vehicle, he said the driver and passengers looked as if they were trying to conceal illegal activity.

The driver, Seldon Everett Barker, 23, said he did not have a license.

Barker failed field sobriety tests. The citation states that he stated he had taken a suboxone.

Barker refused a chemical test at Marcum & Wallace Hospital. The citation states that he was afraid his probation would be revoked due to suboxone in his system.

He was charged with no registration plates, no registration receipt, operating on suspended or revoked operators license, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol and failure to produce insurance card.

Trooper Royal said he placed Barker under arrest because of the DUI charge and lodged him in the Estill County Detention Center.

The officer stated that he performed the standard check of the back seat where Barker had been placed. He noticed a clear baggie with a crystal substance suspected to be methamphetamine in the floorboard. Barker stated that it was not his.

The trooper charged Barker with possession of a controlled substance, first degree, first offense.

Barker's bail on this felony charge was set at \$2,500 cash. Bail for the traffic related offenses was set at \$650 cash, or a total of \$3,150 for all charges together.

- Three warrants were served on Nina Johnson, 36, on February 23 by Capt.

Adrian McKinney.

A Madison District warrant charges Johnson with theft by unlawful taking or disposition by shoplifting.

The warrant states that on December 24, 2015, Johnson drove two unknown subjects to Belk in Richmond and waited at her vehicle at the curb while the two unknown subjects went inside. The two unknown subjects stole \$199.99.

Once the subjects left the store, the warrant states they got into Johnson's vehicle and fled from the store. The merchandise was not recovered.

Johnson's bail on this charge is \$500 cash.

An Estill district warrant charges Johnson with leaving the scene of an accident and failure to render aid.

Mary Turpin stated that on December 30, 2015, Johnson backed into her vehicle while she was leaving Pea Ridge Grocery Store.

Turpin also said that she saw Johnson hit her car and leave the scene failing to render aid or assistance. The incident resulted in damages to Turpin's car to be \$613.06.

Johnson was placed on the fugitive document in Franklin District Court. That warrant says she failed to appear on Sept. 1, 2015. Her bond was set at \$600.00 cash.

- Rebecca G. Miller, 51, Estill Ave., Irvine, was arrested February 26 on Main Street. She was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence.

- Randall Jones, 27, of Red Lick Road, Irvine, was served a bench warrant for failing to appear in Estill District Court on Feb. 17 to answer charge of operating on suspended or revoked license.

- Randel C. Jones, Turn-

er Ave., Irvine was served a bench warrant for failure to appear in Estill District Court for an arraignment on theft by deception, including cold checks.

- Dana C. Riddell, 46, of Rosebud Ave., Irvine, was issued a bench warrant for failure to pay fines. She was found guilty of failure of non-owner/operator to maintain required insurance on Aug. 12, 2015. No registration plates and no registration receipt were dismissed in Estill District Court.

- Clarence Ervin, 53, of Collins Street, Irvine was arrested on River Drive by Officer John Sturniolo on February 27. He was charged with alcohol intoxication.

- Kathi N. Richardson, 38, of Geneva Avenue was served a warrant for theft by deception including cold checks under \$500.

On June 18, 2015, the complaint states that Richardson wrote a check to Howell's Food Mart, knowing it would not be honored.

The check was for \$12.27. Fees added will be \$130.00 to make a total of \$142.27.

Cookies, Cops, 1st Responders

Our Girl Scout Troop #7182 wants to invite everyone to come celebrate Cookies, Cops, with First Responders on Saturday, March 19, starting at 11 a.m. at Estill Springs Elementary.

For more information, contact Emma Day @ 606-975-9037 or by face book. Invite a police officer you know or just invite your friends to come celebrate our fine officers!

School News

Tuesday, March 8th

Estill Middle SBDM Council Meeting

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Estill County Middle School SBDM Council will take place Tuesday, March 8th at 4:00 p.m. in the school conference room. This meeting is open to the public.

Attention Veterans

A Veterans Benefits Field Representative will be at the National Guard Armory, 335 Cow Creek Road, Ravenna, on Thursday, January 7th and normally the first Thursday of each month. The hours are 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Veterans and their dependants will receive assistance filing for Federal and state veterans benefits. This service is provided free of charge by the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs. To apply, veterans need to furnish copies of pertinent documentation to verify eligibility. For further information, please call toll free within Kentucky, 1-866-376-0308, to speak with a Veterans Benefits Field Representative.

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