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**Youngsters join in on rock painting – Page 15**

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# The Estill County Tribune

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## Police say a local woman's boyfriend planned "to go out guns blazing on cops"

A Spencer County man reportedly had plans to "go out guns blazing on the cops" in Irvine on July 14.



**David Earl III**

The early morning started when Officer Colton Lewis observed David Thomas

Earl III, 27, of Mount Eden, Ky. arguing with his girlfriend at the corner of River Drive and Kirkland Ave.

The officer said he turned his cruiser around, but Earl took off running down the railroad tracks adjacent to River Drive.

Deputy Daniel Smith found the man's clothing on the railroad tracks.

Earl's girlfriend told the officer that Earl had held a knife to her throat.

A confidential informant located Earl at 294 Turner Avenue, Irvine. The informant said that Earl planned to "go out guns blazing on the cops."

Officer Lewis said that Earl resisted commands to get on the ground and put his hands behind his back.

During a search, five small baggies, a glass vial, a contact case with filters, and a large hunting knife were found in his pants.

Earl was charged with public intoxication, fleeing or evading police second degree, disorderly conduct, second degree drug paraphernalia - buy/possess, and possession of a controlled substance, second offense (methamphetamine).

He was also charged with carrying a concealed weapon, resisting arrest, assault

fourth degree, and menacing.

A Spencer County arrest warrant was served on Earl from June 7.

It charges him with manufacturing methamphetamine, trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, possession of a controlled substance, first offense (methamphetamine), and drug paraphernalia.

A parole board warrant was also served on Earl. It says he absconded parole supervision, used a controlled substance (Marijuana), and failed to report to his parole officer.



**Magistrate Gerald Rader**

## Retirement forces Rader to resign as magistrate

First District Magistrate Gerald Rader read a letter of resignation at Monday's fiscal court meeting.

Rader's resignation takes effect on July 31.

After reading his letter, Rader explained why he was resigning just over half way through his third term.

His position at CSX Railroad is being eliminated. Because he is 60 years old, he is eligible for retirement.

One of the stipulations of the railroad retirement is that he has no other job. After he starts his retirement, he can work at a position that he has not held before.

"Everybody I've worked with has been a pleasure," Rader stated.

"You're a fine colleague," Judge/Executive Wallace Taylor said. "I've enjoyed working with you. We appreciate your service."

Taylor said he has already received several

inquiries from those interested in filling the magistrate's position.

"I'm not the one who appoints them," he stated. "The governor is the one who appoints them."

This is the second magistrate to resign in under a year. Second District Magistrate Gerry Flanery resigned last November after he moved out of his district.

Gov. Matt Bevin appointed Bill Eldridge to replace Flanery.

To be a magistrate, a person must be at least 24 years of age and a resident of Kentucky for at least two years.

Anyone interested in the magistrate vacancy may apply online to the governor. They must be a resident of District 1 which includes voters in the Irvine precincts, Ravenna, and South Irvine.

An announcement of Rader's replacement is expected in August.

## Latest local fad involves painting and hiding rocks

by **CATHY DAWES**  
Estill County Tribune

In less than a month a group that started on Facebook with hardly any members has grown to close to 1,000 members and has people of all ages painting and hiding rocks throughout Estill County.

Amber Benton is the founder of the group and with help from her husband Adam they have started a craze that has people going out at all hours to hunt for rocks.

Benton said that her sister lives in Washington State and they have a similar thing going on there. After talking with a few people that showed interest she created the Facebook page 'Estill Rocks' and the rest is history.

The game is similar to Pokemon Go that had people out searching for virtual characters a couple of years ago but this is even better because if you find a rock you have the choice of keeping

it or hiding it in a different location for someone else to find.

The rocks are hidden in different locations across the county and the person that hides them posts a picture and a clue on the Facebook page. Once that rock is found the person that found it will leave a comment under the picture that it was found.

The Bentons said that they felt like this was a good way to get kids out of the house during summer break and it's something clean and fun for them to do.

"It's promoting positivity. Someone may find a rock with a Bible verse painted on it that might make them have a better day," said Adam Benton.

Amber paints her own rocks to hide and says that she spends hours painting on one rock. She plans to have painting sessions at the park in Ravenna where everyone is invited to attend.

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**Berkley Lovin hides a rock at the Mexican restaurant on River Drive.**  
Tribune Photo/Cathy Dawes

## Obituaries

**Virginia Henderson, 98**  
**Millard Henry, 70**  
**Delbert Isaacs, 46**  
**Melinda Painter, 69**  
**Henry Price, 74**  
**Roger Riddell, 62**  
**Louise Rogers, 83**  
**Hubert Sparks, 86**  
**Gladys Still, 82**  
**See Page 6**  
**New Obits at EstillTribune.com**

## Interfaith Wellness Ministry Celebrates Twenty Years



**Bishop John and Sister Loretta Spotila posed for a photo at Sunday's Celebration of Interfaith Wellness' 20 years in Estill County. Sr. Loretta started Interfaith Wellness and has remained active in achieving its goals. The non-profit provides health services to local churches and the community at little or no charge. These services include wellness education/resources, health counseling/blood pressure checks, body fitness exercise classes, and programs on diabetes, arthritis, weight control and blood pressure.**

## Powell is willing to take Estill's inmates in Aug.

The Estill Fiscal Court discussed a jail contract with Powell County to house all of Estill's inmates there when a new wing housing 100 prisoners opens at the Stanton jail.

Judge/Executive Wallace Taylor said he liked the idea of all prisoners being at the same location.

Powell County is also willing to take females from Estill. Currently, females are incarcerated at either Clark or Casey Counties.

The new Powell wing is expected to open in August. Taylor said it is now undergoing inspections and must be given a final approval by the Department of Corrections.

"I'm hoping one of these days there might not be 30 people at a time," Magistrate Gerald Rader stated.

"I don't see our jail opening up at this time and day," he added.

County Attorney Rodney Davis says Estill County has 50 to 70 inmates on most days.

The fiscal court discussed some points in the contract they did not agree with. One of them was a price of \$37.50 per day per inmate.

Taylor said the county is paying less than that price now, but Three Forks Jail is raising their rate. The county also pays \$100 a day per female at Clark County Jail.

Rader said even paying \$37.50 a day per inmate to Powell County and paying local jail staff to transport, it adds up to about \$1 million a year. In recent years, the Estill County Jail was slightly exceeding the \$1 million.

Davis said that since Rocket Docket was implemented on July 1, there have been 14 people to make pleas on two court docket days.

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