

Trial on TENORM to begin January 14

A trial will begin January 14 over alleged TENORM that was brought into the Blue Ridge RDF as early as 2015.

Attorneys for Estill Fiscal Court filed two motions on TENORM which were heard Thursday by Special Judge Jean Chenault.

In the first motion, Mike Stag, attorney for the fiscal court, compelled the landfill to say if there was TENORM in the landfill or not.

The landfill's attorney quickly said there was none there.

The fiscal court's second motion was for a summary judgment saying there was TENORM in the landfill.

Stag presented an affidavit from Curt Pendergrass, PhD, stating the material was TENORM.

Pendergrass' affidavit was based upon the source the material came from in West Virginia.

The suspected TENORM was diluted

with sawdust at Ashland, Ky. before being delivered to the local landfill.

The landfill lawyer said they had tested air and water at the landfill and the radioactive level was within background limits, but they had no affidavits from a professional saying there was no TENORM in the landfill.

Because the landfill insists there is no TENORM there, Stag said it would be too expensive for the fiscal court to do its own drill testing.

Judge Chenault denied this motion.

Stag then asked her to set a trial date for January 14. It will be a bench trial meaning no jury will be called.

The judge said she expects the trial to last four to five days.

At the request of County Attorney, Rodney Davis, a pre-trial conference will be held on July 18 at 10 a.m.

Judge Chenault will also hold a status hearing on the case on Dec. 12 at 10 a.m.



A state highway front-end loader unloads trash into the bed of a highway truck on Friday morning. The trash was then taken to the landfill when the truck was filled. Another truck was waiting to be filled during the county-wide clean-up Friday.

Local police Activity

Timothy J. Purdue, 37, was charged with carrying a concealed weapon and public intoxication on March 25 by Officer Brian Cloyd.

The citation states that Purdue was seen walking on Liquor World property after business hours.

A search of Purdue's backpack yielded two large knives, according to the citation. Brass knuckles were found in Purdue's pants pocket.

The citation states that Purdue said he had the weapons for defense.

Officer Cloyd said that Purdue was jittery and spoke rapidly.

Jeffery Berryman, 22, was served with an arrest warrant from Estill Circuit Court on March 22 by Officer Colton Lewis.

The warrant states that

Berryman was placed in a deferred program on Nov. 16 on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine).

Judge Michael Dean signed the warrant saying that Berryman had failed to appear. No bail was set.

Randall Joe Willis, 19, of Third Street, Ravenna was arrested for alcohol intoxication in a public place on March 23 by Officer Lewis.

The officer said he saw Willis walking west on Broadway. He was unstead on his feet and was using a fire hydrant for balance.

Willis reportedly failed the portable breathalyzer test.

Officer Lewis issued a second citation on Willis while they were waiting for jail staff to transport him to

Three Forks Regional Jail in Beattyville.

This citation charged Willis with disorderly conduct second degree.

It says that Willis began to beat his head on the cage inside the cruiser. The officer said once he removed Willis from the cruiser, Willis began shouting profanities and causing a public alarm.

James Bradley Tipton, 46, of Elm Street, Ravenna was arrested by Trooper J. Northern on a warrant obtained by Ravenna Chief Ken White.

The warrant says on Nov. 10, Tipton received \$1,510 in property which belonged to his mother. The warrant adds that Tipton intended to dispose of the items.

Tipton was charged with receiving stolen property, under \$10,000.

Irvine Council Meeting

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This issue was also tabled.

A privilege license was approved for Tina Schurck to open T'Z Colorbar Salon on River Drive.

At the close of the meeting, the mayor commented on the Estill County Engineers' trip to the state. He said this had made him and others really happy.

Man charged with deceiving residents

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The victim later determined that Harrison had overcharged him for materials. When asked about it, Harrison stated that he would return the \$2,400 back to the victim's bank account and fix the initial charge for a new lower cost.

According to the citation, Harrison told the homeowner that he had returned \$2,400 back to his bank and the new cost would be \$950. Harrison allegedly did not return the \$2,400 to the man's bank, so the victim paid a total of \$3,350 to Harrison.

Harrison is also charged with deceptive business practice in this case. The charge is a misdemeanor.

Both warrants were signed by Madison Judge C. Hardin.

Troopers charge female passenger with methamphetamine possession

A female passenger was arrested March 22 after a traffic stop by KSP Trooper C. Caudill.

The citation states the trooper was given consent to search the vehicle and the woman's purse.

Inside her purse, the trooper said he located a syringe with a clear liquid, which he was told was meth.

The citation adds that three small baggies of meth were also found on the woman.

Trooper Caudill charged Matewood T. Kortbein, 40, with possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine), and drug paraphernalia - buy/possess.

The trooper transferred Kortbein to Estill County Jail staff to be transported to Three Forks Regional Jail in Beattyville.

During the transport, jail staff report-

edly observed Kortbein remove contraband from her bra and place items in her mouth.

Trooper C. Roark made contact with the jail staff and Kortbein on Millers Creek Road.

The citation states the white pills were identified as Lortabs.

Trooper Roark charged Kortbein with possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, first degree promoting contraband, and tampering with physical evidence.

Kortbein was arraigned March 23 in Estill District Court. She returned Monday for a preliminary hearing.

During her arraignment, she pleaded not-guilty to all charges.

Her bail was set at \$5,000 cash on each citation or \$10,000 total on the two citations.

IPD arrests Red Lick man on drug trafficking charge

Irvine Police charged a 26 year old Estill Countian with trafficking in drugs and other charges on March 20.

Sgt. John Sturniolo said he observed the man entering a residence at 238 Main Street through a front window. He located the man in the upstairs of the residence.

The officer stated the male tossed his backpack in an attempt to conceal it from law enforcement.

According to a citation, the man resisted officers and attempted to enable Sgt. Sturniolo while his backpack was being searched.

The officer reports that he confiscated a loaded handgun, digital scales, syringe, a tie-off strap, 29 grams of a white substance, and \$62.00 in cash.

Sgt. Sturniolo charged Caleb H. Cole of Red Lick Road, Irvine with trafficking in a controlled substance,

first degree and first offense, resisting arrest, menacing, carrying a concealed deadly weapon, tampering with physical evidence, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Cole pled not-guilty to the charges during his arraignment on March 21. A preliminary hearing was held Monday in Estill District Court.

Cole's bail has been set at \$20,000 cash.

Judge/Exec. candidate forum

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Dwight Richardson, 50, is district manager of Estill County Water District.

One of Richardson's goal was working with small businesses.

"Small business is our best opportunity," he stated.

Rhonda Childers, a democrat, faces no opposition in the May primary.

"I was discouraged with business as usual," she stated.

She added our economy is in decline and the county has a shrinking tax base.

She also mentioned TENORM was illegally dumped in our schools' front yard.

"We can't afford business as usual any more," she stated.

Following their five minutes, the candidates address questions which had been

presented before the forum.

This Thursday, from 6 to 8 in the high school auditorium, the candidates for sheriff will be spotlighted.

The forums were organized by the Estill County Public Library. They are being live-streamed by Estill Action Group.

SOLD THE FARM
Farm equipment for sale:
 Case 1180 tractor, 1952 Ford 8N tractor, Ferguson adjustable disc, Haystear, Fertilize spreader (cyclone), one-roll Ford cultivator with fenders, Ford 16" plow, 5 foot carryall, small trailer, boom, and wheelbarrow.
Phone: (859) 623-0971

Four waive indictments to go to Rocket Docket

Four more have waived indictments to the Estill Grand Jury to be sentenced under the Rocket Docket program.

Darrin Austin Harrison, 24, of N. Grand Ave., Irvine agreed to the charge of possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense.

The waiver says that Harrison had methamphetamine in his possession on March 2.

Shellena Stone, 33, waived two charges of criminal possession of a forged instrument, second degree to the grand jury.

The waivers state that

she had in her possession a check belonging to Tabitha Strange on Sept. 8 and one belonging to Sharon Parks on August 25.

Shawn Allen Hardy, 38, Hardy Road, Irvine waived an indictment on fleeing or evading police, second degree (on foot) and possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense (methamphetamine).

The events occurred on February 15.

There may be other charges against the individuals in these cases, but the Commonwealth will not seek to indict on those charges.



Nest Sweet Nest
 Birds are gathering material for their nests, and you can help. Put out soft stuff like string, yarn, (clean) dog hair or dryer lint. These items can be hung from tree branches or scattered on the ground. They'll be easy to spot and will provide extra insulation for new hatchlings.

E-mail: birdingbits@flr.com
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The Estill County Tribune

Estill County	Adj. Counties	Kentucky	Out of State
1 year \$16.04	1 year \$26.42	1 year \$30.19	1 year \$32.00
Sales Tax 0.96	Sales Tax 1.58	Sales Tax 1.81	Sales Tax 0.00
Total \$17.00	Total \$28.00	Total \$32.00	Total \$32.00

**Seniors, 65 and older, may deduct \$2.50 from above totals

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Send this form with proper payment to:

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