Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Friday, December 23,'2011

The Good News

by Jeff Vittatoe

"The Christmas Edition"

What tops your list of priorities as Christmas Day quickly approaches? Is it cooking, cleaning, last minute shopping, decorating or traveling? Have you been stressing the many places you need to go or the things you need to do? Do the responsibilities of preparing for Christmas seem to overshadow the joy of Christmas in your family? Maybe you have been worried about financing the necessary gifts for your friends and family?

I have been guilty of worrying about each of those in my life as well. As a parent I have always worried that I wasn't buying enough for my children or my spouse, so I would spend all that I had, charge what I didn't have, try to buy for everyone that I came in frequent contact with and worry all the while that it wasn't enough. I guess I felt somehow that the importance of my gifts were a reflection of my feelings for that person. Then there were all of the family gatherings; immediate family, in-laws, out-laws, work parties, and on and on and on! If you have experienced divorce with children then you also

know about scheduling around two families and how that never works out to please everyone,

By the time Christmas usually gets here I am tired, broke and ready for it to be over. My family always reads the Christmas story as a tradition but I didn't enjoy it with a thankful heart and true reverence as I should. I was usually too busy "Doing Christmas" to appreciate Christmas. Sound familiar to anyone?

A year has almost passed since I surrendered my life back to Jesus and He forgave me for being such a wretched sinner for so long. Angie and I have joined a Spirit-filled church and have tried to walk daily in the will of an Almighty Savior. Although we have been criticized as hypocrites by some, received hurtful emails from others, and lost some friends; we have also gained many new friends, experienced true forgiveness and Christian growth as individuals and as a married couple. We have seen Christians sacrificing selflessly for our Savior and have witnessed God working in poverty stricken

(see CHRISTmas pg. 5)

THP Remind Holiday Celebrants: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over

trol is once again participating or Get Pulled Over." State Troopers will join local law enforcement agencies across the state to encourage safe driving habits and remove impaired drivers from Tennessee family and friends," Departroadways this holiday season.

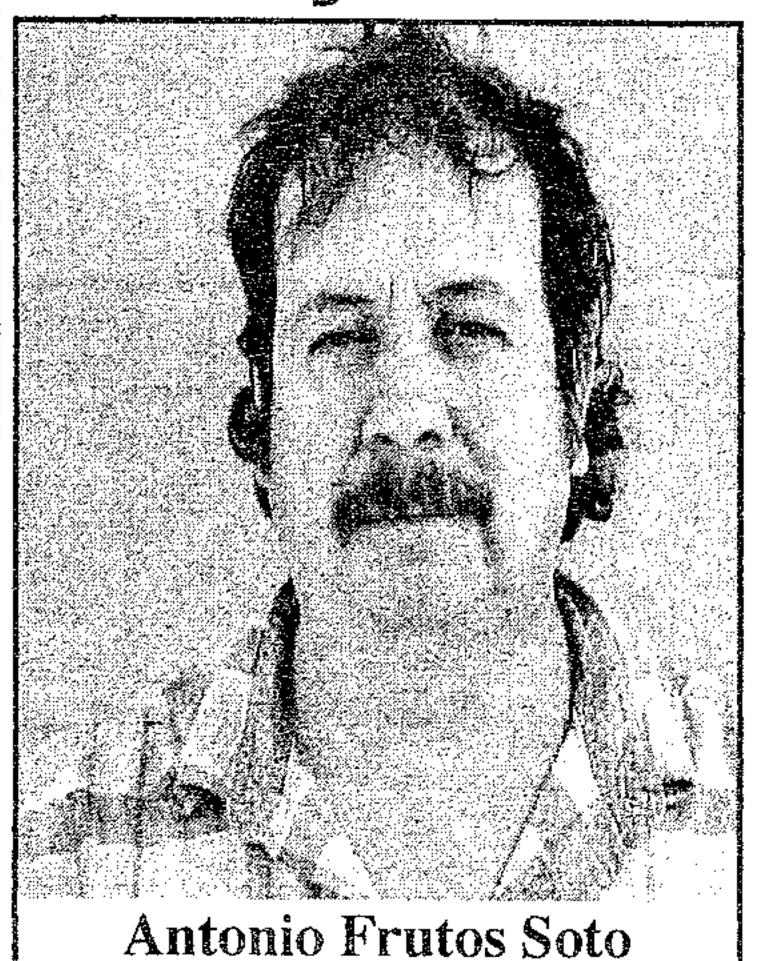
The 2011 Christmas holiday period begins at 6 p.m. on Friday, December 23, and is for motorists to reach their runs through 11:59 p.m. on

The Tennessee Highway Pa- Monday, December 26, while the New Year's holiday period in the national holiday enforce- commences at 6 p.m., Friday, ment campaign, "Drive Sober December 30, and concludes at 11:59 p.m., Monday, January 2, 2012.

"This is the time of year when many people are traveling to share the holiday with ment of Safety and Homeland Security Commissioner Bill Gibbons said. "Our goal

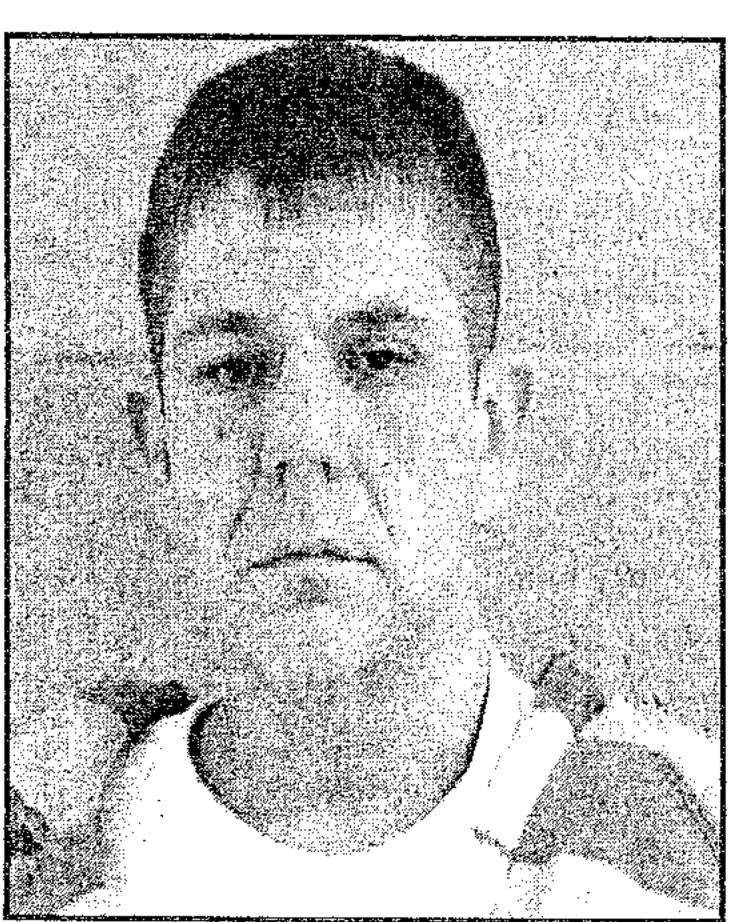
(see THP pg. 3)

3rd Dul for



(see DUI pg. 6)

Meth maker busted shoplifting at the Walmart



Aaron Jordan Barrick

(see Meth pg. 7)

Verse of the Day

You, Bethlehem Ephra- Obituaries thah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

Micah 5:2

Joseph Wayne Bolt Freta Eulene "Russell" Jenkins M. Laird Willson

Wazzup

All of us here at The Daily Edition would like to wish you and your family a very Meny Christ-

mas. Please be safe on the roads Saturday: Times of sun and this weekend and remember law enforcement is out heavy so don't drink and drive.

Weather

Today: Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High 53F. Winds NNW at 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low 37F. Winds light and variable.

clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 40s.

Sunday: Clouds giving way to sun. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 30s.

Horoscopes Capricorn 12/22-1/19

Try to make sure that you're fo-(Continued on page 2)

THP

destinations safely. We take this responsibility throughout seriously the year, and especially holiday seaduring sons."

The holiday season is one of the deadliest and most dangerous times of the year due to an increase in impaired driving. During the 2010 Christmas holiday period six people were killed in traffic crashes Tennessee roadways. That represented one death every 13 hours. Alcohol was involved in 20 percent of those crashes and two of the five (40%) vehicle occupants killed were not wearing safety

restraints. According to department records, the fewest number of people were killed during last year's New Year's holiday period with six vehicular fatalities. Nearly 17 percent (16.7%) of those fatalities occurred in alcohol-related crashes.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), nationwide impaired driving fatalities have dropped from 10,759 in 2009 to 10,228 in 2010, a 4.9 percent decline. In 2010, 283 people

(BAC) of .08 or higher. That's a 5.4 percent decline from the 299 impaired driving deaths in 2009, and a 7.5 percent decline from the 306 impaired driving deaths in 2008.

"We are encouraged by the decline in impaired vehicular fatalities in Tennessee and nationwide," THP Colonel Tracy Trott said. "Our agency has placed a greater emphasis on identifying and removing impaired drivers from state roadways, increasing the number of DUI arrests by 38 died in Tennessee traf- percent since last year. fic crashes involving This holiday season a driver or motorcycle will be no exception. rider with a blood al- H we catch you driving concentration drunk, you will be arrested."

In 2010, there were 1,031 traffic fatalities in Tennessee, an increase of just over 4.5 percent from 986 fatalities in 2009. As of December 21, preliminary statistics indicate that 908 people have died on Tennessee roadways this year, a decrease of 109 deaths (10.7%) compared to 1,017 fatalities at this same time a year ago.

The Tennessee Highway Patrol recommends these simple tips for a safe holiday season:

·Plan ahead: Designate a sober driver before going out and give that person your keys...

·If you're impaired, call a taxi, use mass transit or call a sober friend or family member to get you home safely.

·Wear a seat belt in a vehicle or protective gear on a motorcycle. It's your best defense in a crash.

·If you see a drunk driver on the road, contact your local law enforcement immediately;

·And remember, "Drive or Get Pulled Sober Over". If you know someone who is about to drive or ride while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.

State Troopers will utilize several enforcement tools over the Christmas and New Year's holiday, such as saturation patrols, bar checks and driver license and sobriety checkpoints.



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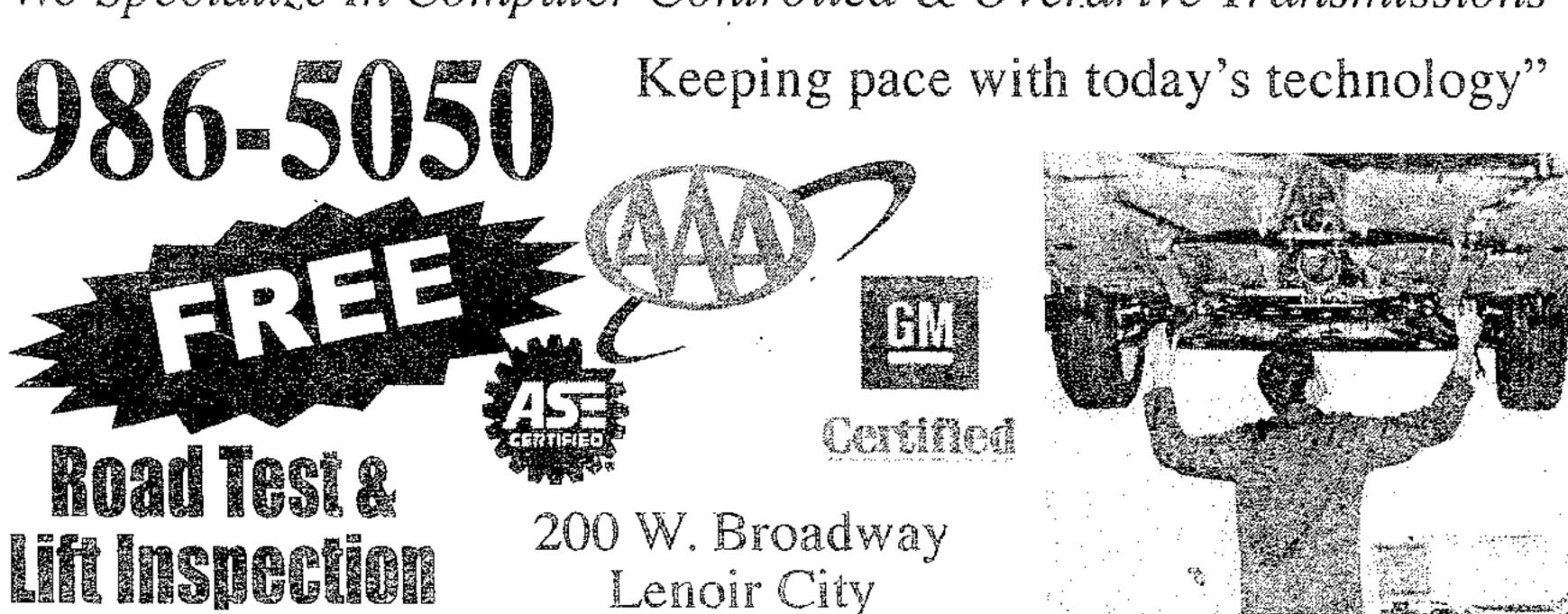
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CHRISTmas

places such as Guatemala. We have been blessed with opportunities to serve Jesus in our church, with the Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief, on mission trips across numerous states and countries and are blessed with The Good News Ministry. We serve a God that is bigger than what we can imagine. We serve a God that is able to forgive us, clean us up and send us out to do His work. We serve a God who gave us the gift above all gifts, the sacrifice above all sacrifices, a God who loves you and wants to be part of your life this Christmas.

This year, Christmas at our house will be more special than ever before. Although each of us have decided to spend MUCH less on gifts than in the past, we will take more time to thank Jesus for what He has done, is doing and what He will do in our lives.

John 3: 16-17 (NKJV) (16) For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not

perish have everlasting life. (17) For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

The birth of Jesus as described in the Gospel of Luke Luke 2:1-14 (NKJV)

(1) And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. (2) This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. (3) So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. (4) Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the lineage of David,(5) to be registered with Mary, his. betrothed wife, who was with child.

(6) So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. (7) And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger because

there was no room for them in the inn.

(8) Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. (9) And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. (10) Then the angel said to them, Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. (11) For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

(12) And this will be a sign to you: You will find a babe, wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger. (13) And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly hosts praising God and saying: (14) Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, good will toward men.

In verse 7 we read where Mary gave birth to Jesus, wrapped Him in Swaddling clothes and laid him

in a feed trough in a stable because there was no room for Him in the inn. This means that Jesus Christ, the Son of the Most High God, was actually born in a manure-filled stable because nobody wanted to make room for Him in their own lives. The people at the inn couldn't work out a room for an expectant mother who was probably in labor! How selfish!

Such is the case today! We as Christians too often put Jesus in the back room of our manure-filled lives and then try to claim Him on Christmas or on Sundays, and even then just in the morning between 11 and 12. We sing "Silent Night, Holy Night", but do we serve Him? Do we make Jesus the Lord of our lives? Do we seek His will and spread His Gospel to all nations? Do we care if our neighbor is lost and on his way to hell?

Jesus was born to this earth so that He may give His life for our sins and offer salvation through faith in Him. How will you thank Him this Christmas? If you are a parent, isn't it your job to see that your children are exposed to the gospel of Jesus? Isn't that much more important than an XBOX from Santa? Please don't fail your children in this area, tell them about Jesus, take them to church, be an example.

churches Some closed on Christmas. New Providence Baptist Church will be worshipping Jesus on Saturday at 5:00 P.M. for a solemn assembly and communion, with worship services on Christmas morning at 10:45 A.M. Jesus will be there, Angie and I will be there, and you are welcome to worship with us. What better way to spend an hour on Christmas morning than to lift up the name of Jesus Christ.



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DUI

Antonio Frutos Soto, 51, Reed Springs Road, Philadelphia was charged with DUI 3rd offense.

Leonel Lopez Hernandez, 54, Maremont Parkway, Loudon was charged with public intoxication.

According to records, Saturday, around 5:00 PM, Officer Bennie Houser, LPD responded to West Side Terrace Apartments on a report of two men drinking in a blue GMC van. One of the men had gotten out of the vehicle and urinated in front of two kids on Summer Street and then drove to the apartments.

As the officer was pulling into the apartments, Mr. Soto and Mr. Hernandez were getting out of the van.

Mr. Soto had a strong odor of an intoxicant on his person and was unsteady on his feet. He told the officer he'd drank two beers.

Mr. Soto performed poorly on field sobriety tasks and was taken into custody. His passenger, Mr. Hernandez, also had a strong odor of an intoxicant on his person and he stated he'd drank six beers. Officer Houser felt it was unsafe to leave Mr. Hernandez in the public and placed him under arrest.

Once at the jail, the driver, Mr. Soto, was read the implied consent and agreed. His BAC was .12%.

Sgt. Bill Evans, LPD was also on the scene.

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Police beat

Joshua Lynn Russell, 38, Abbott Road, Lenoir City, was charged with DUI 1st offense.

Richard Joseph Culotia, 41, Hawkstowe Lane, Knoxville, was charged with public intoxication.

According to reports, Thursday, at approximately 4:15 am, Deputy James R. Bowman, LCSO, stopped a blue BMW for crossing the white and yellow lines several times on Highway 70 at Abbott Road. The driver, Joshua L. Russell, had a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage on his breath and person, red bloodshot eyes and slurred speech. Mr. Russell was very unsteady on his feet and performed poorly on field sobriety. He was read the implied consent advisement and agreed.

Mr. Russell's passenger, Richard J. Culotia, also had a strong odor of alcohol, red bloodshot eyes, slurred speech, and there was an open jar of moonshine setting between his legs that he was drinking from. Mr. Culotia was asked to step out of the vehicle and when he did, he almost fell on his face and could not stand or walk without help. He was intoxicated to a level

that he was deemed a danger to himself and others and was placed under arrest. Mr. Russell was transported to the Fort Loudoun ER for a chemical test, then on to the Loudon County Jail.

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Bright & Busted

Aaron Jordan Barrick, 28, Aldridge, Athens was charged with theft under \$500, crimi-

nal trespass, and promotion of methamphetamine manufacture.

vits filed by Detective

Officer Kevin Condee, LCPD; on or about According to affida- December 3, 2011, Aaron J. Barrick went to Walmart in Lenoir Officer Keith Sen-City and while there, Mr. Barrick took a wench totaling \$68.84. According to Walmart Loss Prevention, Mr. Barrick was advised on November 12, 2011, he was, not allowed in Walmart, anymore because he was banned due to shoplifting.

Officer Kevin Condee, LCPD was investigating the theft at Walmart where Mr. Barrick was placed under arrest and during

Jonathan Sartin and the pat down search, Officer Condee found a box of pseudoephedrine tablets in Barrick's jacket pocket.

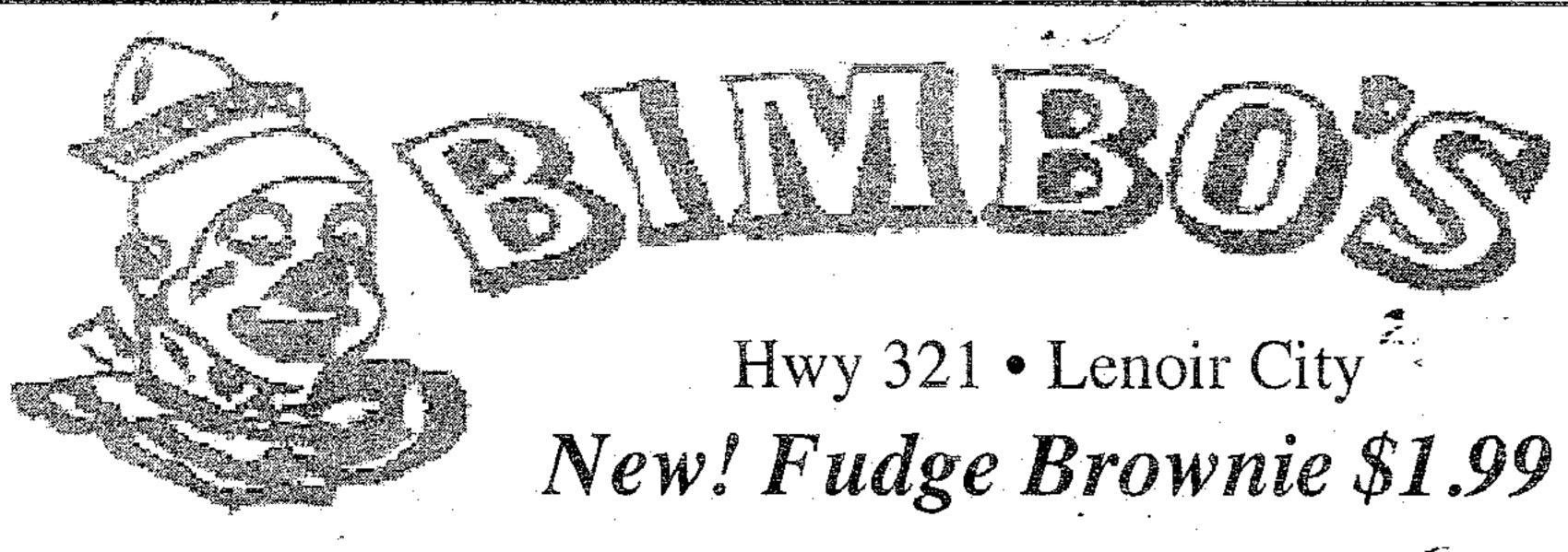
> nett, LCPD deployed K-9 Dagger and conducted a narcotics sniff on the outside of Barrick's vehicle.

K-9 Dagger gave a positive indication of the presence of narcotics inside the vehicle. A search of the interior of the vehicle was conducted and Officer Condee locted two additional methamphetamine precursor items in the form of an instatnt cold pack and two lithium batteries.

Detective Sartin and Officer Condee made the arrest Saturday.







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Police beat

Tyler Michael Svedberg, 27, Gay Street, Loudon, was charged with public intoxication.

According to records, Officer Brad Parks, LPD, was advised by Officer Buddy Bradshaw, LPD, of a domestic violence call on Gay Street, Monday, around 8:27 pm. Officer Bradshaw observed Mr. Svedberg and a woman in a verbal altercation on the curb outside the residence. There was no physical violence. Mr. Svedberg had an odor of an intoxicating beverage on his person and admitted to drinking earlier. He was deemed a danger to himself and others if left in his condition in public and was placed under arrest.

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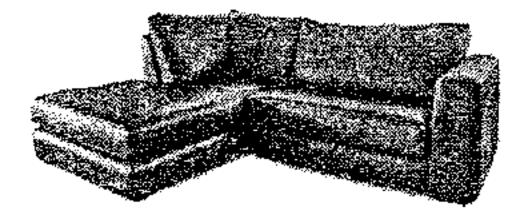
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