

# The Loudon County Grand Jury Report Inside Daily Edition

50¢

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Monday, December 15, 2014

## Former Jail Lt. charged after sealed indictment served

The former Lt. at the Loudon County jail has been indicted by the Loudon County Grand Jury after hearing evidence presented to them.

Theresa Ruthie Smith, 34, Old Hwy 95 Lenoir City, was charged with Criminal Court Capias. Cpl. Pam Snow LCSO, served a Capias Warrant on Ruthie at the Loudon Co Jail.



Ruthie Theresa Smith

## 2 charged by LCPD after vehicle burglaries



Jared Martin  
(see LCPD pg. 8)



Heather Hunter

## Ldn woman charged with DUI after hitting bike in wreck



Barbara Ritchey (See Charged pg. 5)

## Gun found after wreck; driver charged with DUI



Michael Bonds

## The Good News

by Jeff Vittatoo

### Proud Fathers, Best Gift



Have you ever been so excited about something that time seems to stand still before the thing you're excited about finally arrives? It's kind of like trying to go to sleep on Christmas Eve as a child knowing that "Santa" would hopefully make a stop at your home during the night and you will awake to find an

array of wonderful gifts under the tree with your name on some of them. I am experiencing such a dilemma this week on multiple fronts and thought I would share it here with you.

Tomorrow morning Blondie and I will board a plane in Bozeman, Montana, and will eventually arrive in Knoxville, Tennessee.

(see TGN pg. 3)

### Verse of the Day

When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. — Galatians 4:4-5

### Obituaries

see inside

### Wazzup

A special thanks to everyone who helped bring the Lenoir City Christmas Parade to a successful endeavor yet again!

### Weather

Today: Partly cloudy in the morning. Increasing clouds with periods of showers later in the day. High 59F. Tonight Steady light rain in the evening. Showers continuing late. Low near 45F. Tuesday Rain showers in the morning becoming more in-

termittent in the afternoon. High 52F.

Tuesday Night A few showers in the evening, then clear overnight. Low 32F.

### Horoscopes

Sagittarius 11/22-12/21  
You can talk circles

(Continued on page 6)

(See Gun pg. 2)



088805 93489 2



### Gun

Michael Bonds, 62, Oak Point Drive Fl, was charged with DUI, and Poss. of a Handgun while under the Influence.

According to the report, Officer Brandon Gentry LCPD, responded to a motor vehicle accident on Hwy 321 at Interstate 40. Officer arrived on

scene and made contact with Michael Bonds, who was involved in the accident. Michael was unsteady on his feet and smelled of an alcoholic beverage.

Michael refused sobriety test and stated he was drunk. A search of the vehicle revealed a handgun in the center console. Officer Brandon Gentry LCPD, made the arrest.

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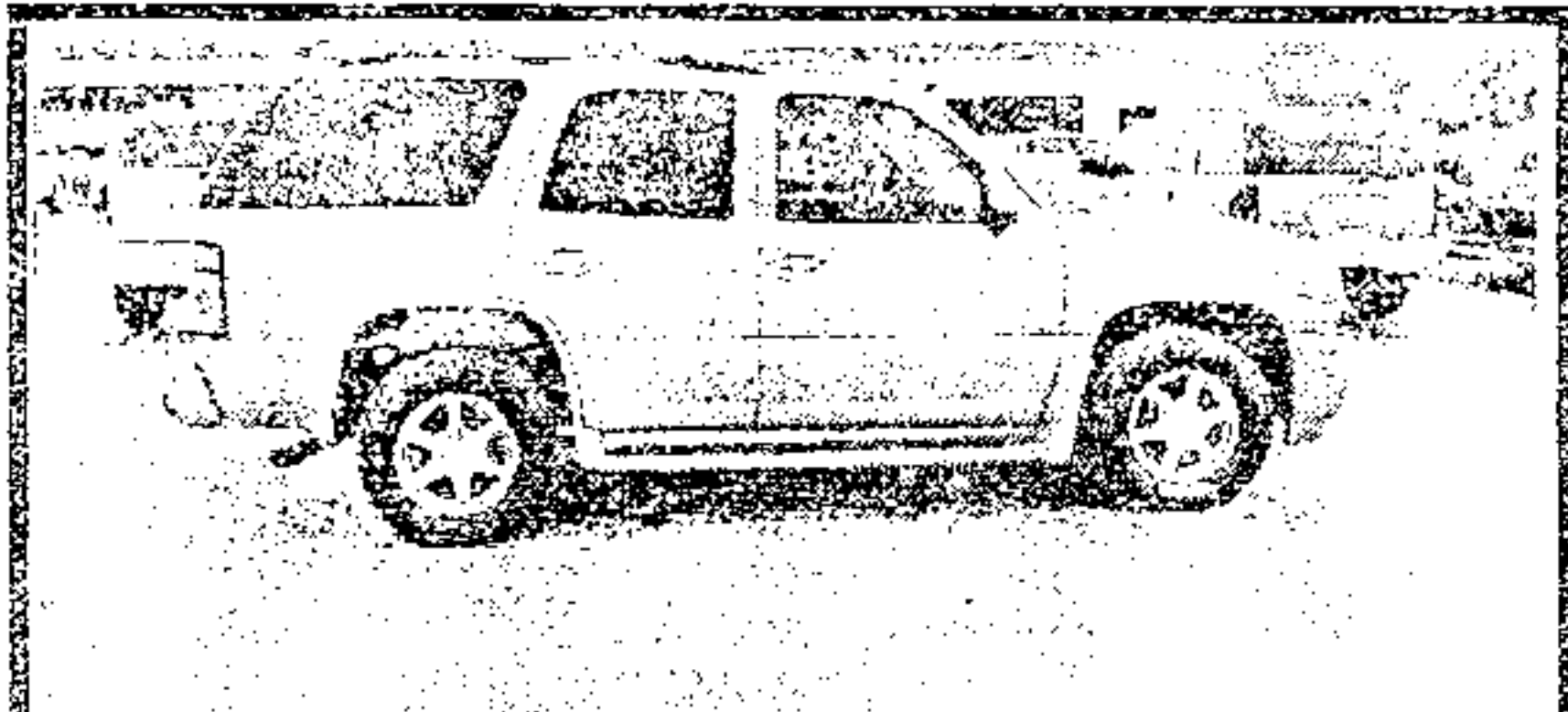
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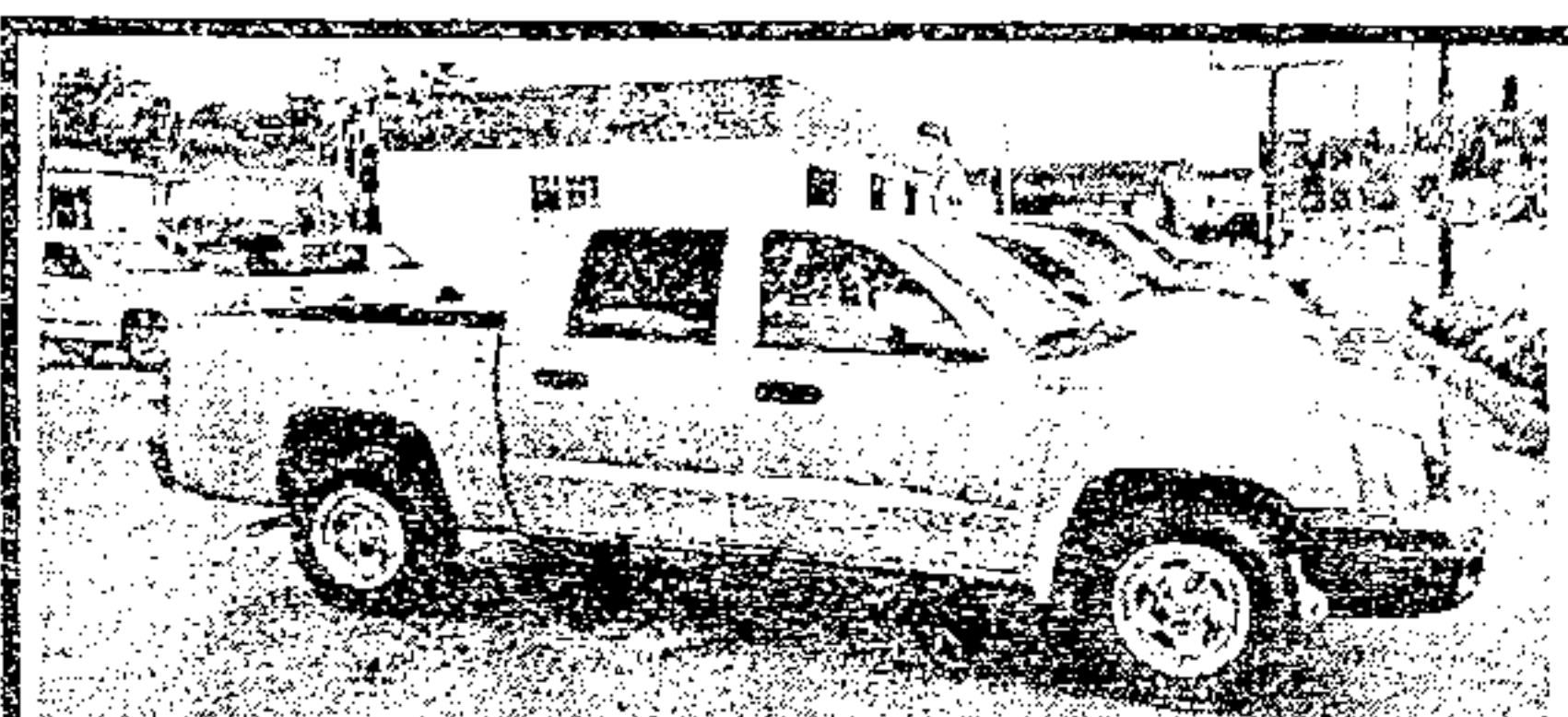
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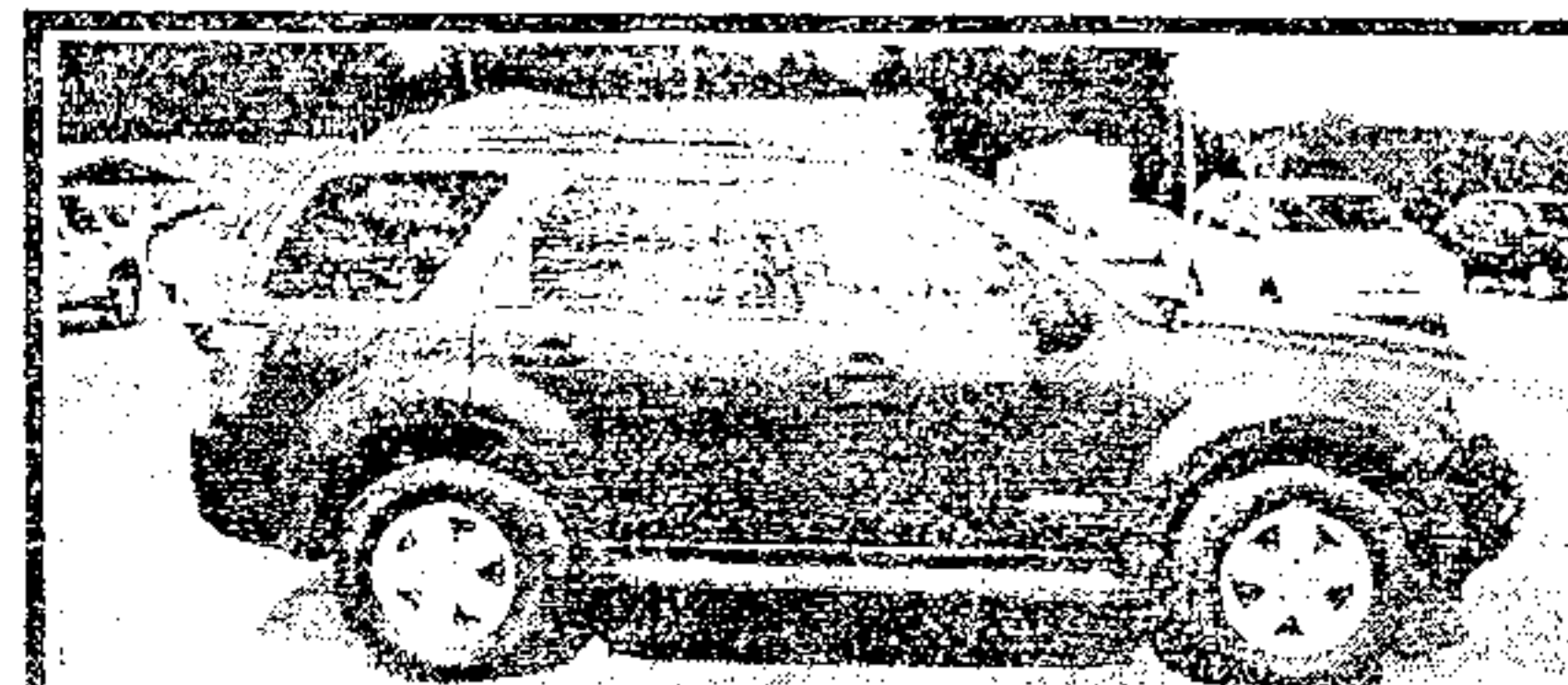
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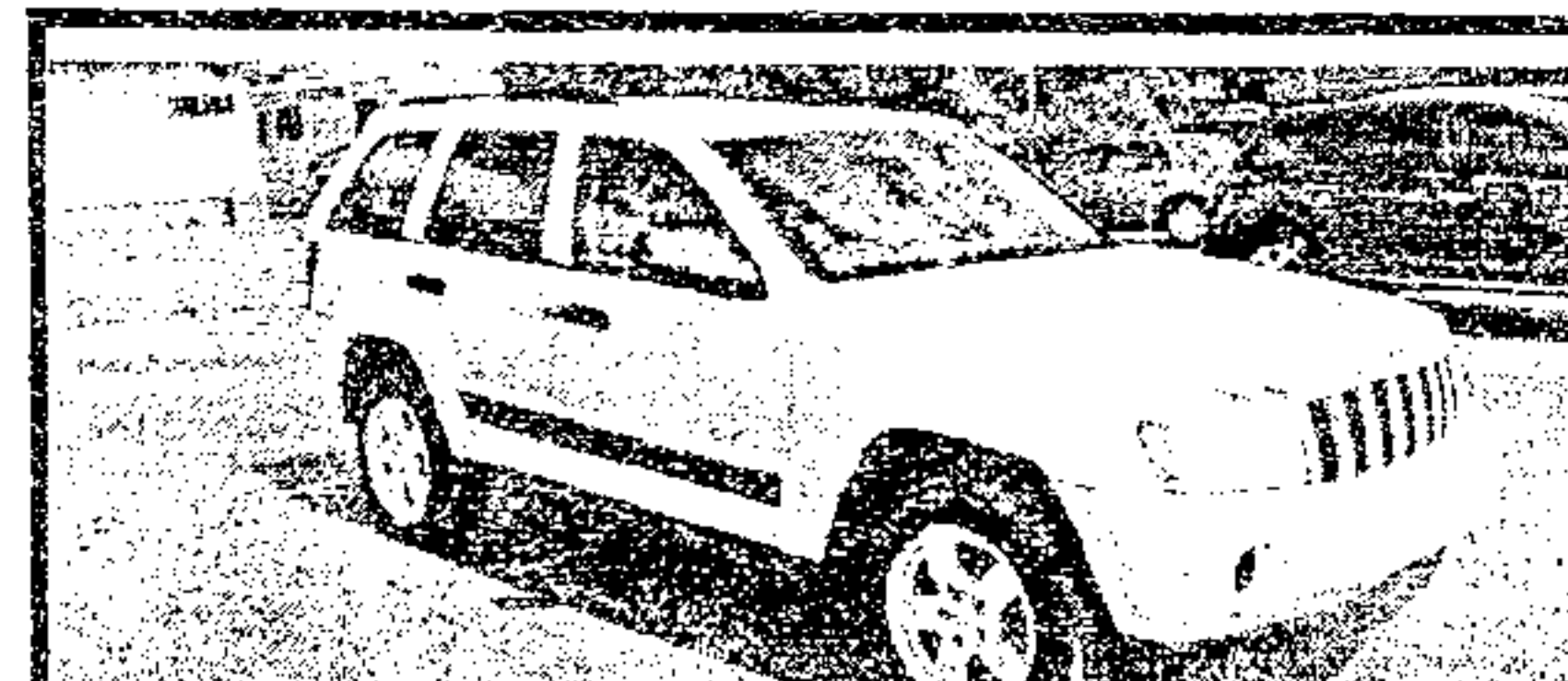
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**TGN**

The anticipation surrounding this trip has been building for many years and this weekend it will actually take place in real time..... My little girl is graduating college!! It's true, Danielle Vittatoe is receiving an honors degree in nursing from East Tennessee State University in Johnson City and I would have walked from Montana to see it!!

In addition to seeing Danielle graduate, Blondie and I will get to see United States Army, 82nd Airborne Division Specialist Tanner Vittatoe, who I affectionately just refer to as "Chewy". I haven't seen my son for over a year now and he has fortunately obtained leave time from Ft. Bragg, N.C. to spend the weekend with us in East Tennessee. To say I'm excited would be a gross understatement!

Never has a father been more proud of two children than I am of these guys right now. Just writing about it brings tears of joy to my eyes. When our kids are little we

focus on keeping them safe, when they're teenagers we try to keep them away from trouble (And keep from choking them), when they're in college we just hope and pray that they take it seriously. When all of those phases of parenting are accomplished, we are finally able to take a moment, even if just a brief moment, and breathe!

I'm not, however, naïve to the fact that parents will always worry about their children and that things can happen. In a few short days I will again be 2000 miles away from my little girl and my son is preparing for a possible deployment to a hostile land where American soldiers top the "Most Wanted" list of many. But this weekend, this Christmas season, I choose to wallow in pride and thank the Lord Jesus Christ for all He

(see TGN etd. pg. 4)

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TEN etc. from pg. 3

has given my family. I am so blessed!!

While in town we also plan to spend time with my Dad and his wife Dale, my sisters, my mom, my Mamaw Vitatoo and several close friends that we have greatly missed. We will visit with Blondie's Mamaw Betty and eat some of her fine country cookin! We also plan to attend the children's Christmas program at our home church, New Providence Baptist, on Sunday evening, December 14th at 6:00 P.M., to which you are most cordially invited.

When I consider how excited we are to visit our children and how much we love our friends and family, I cannot help but ponder how much God loves each of us. He loves us so much that He gave His only Son, knowing the horrors that Christ would endure, so that you and I could have access to eternity with Him in heaven.

I boast of how proud I am of my own children, but how proud must God have been when Jesus was hanging on the cross of Calvary and proclaimed, "It Is Finished"! When Jesus had accomplished the

Father's plan and paid the sin debt for every-one on earth, although God was forced to turn away from the sight of our sins on Jesus' shoulders, I can imagine God nodding His head and smiling as would any proud Father!! Under his breath in a low voice as salvation was made available through Jesus, God may have proudly whispered, "ATTA BOY"!

Our salvation would not have been made available if God had not given His Son Jesus, through a faithful virgin named Mary, in a small town called Bethlehem, just a little over 2000 years ago. This is why we celebrate the season. Jesus was the gift that truly keeps on giving.

I encourage you this Christmas season to spend a little time with your family. Tell those close to you how proud you are of them and

how much you love them. Share the story of Christmas with your children and not just the one involving a bearded chubby guy in a red suit. If you only remember one line from today's Good News, let it be this one; Without Jesus there would be no Christmas!

**Obituaries**

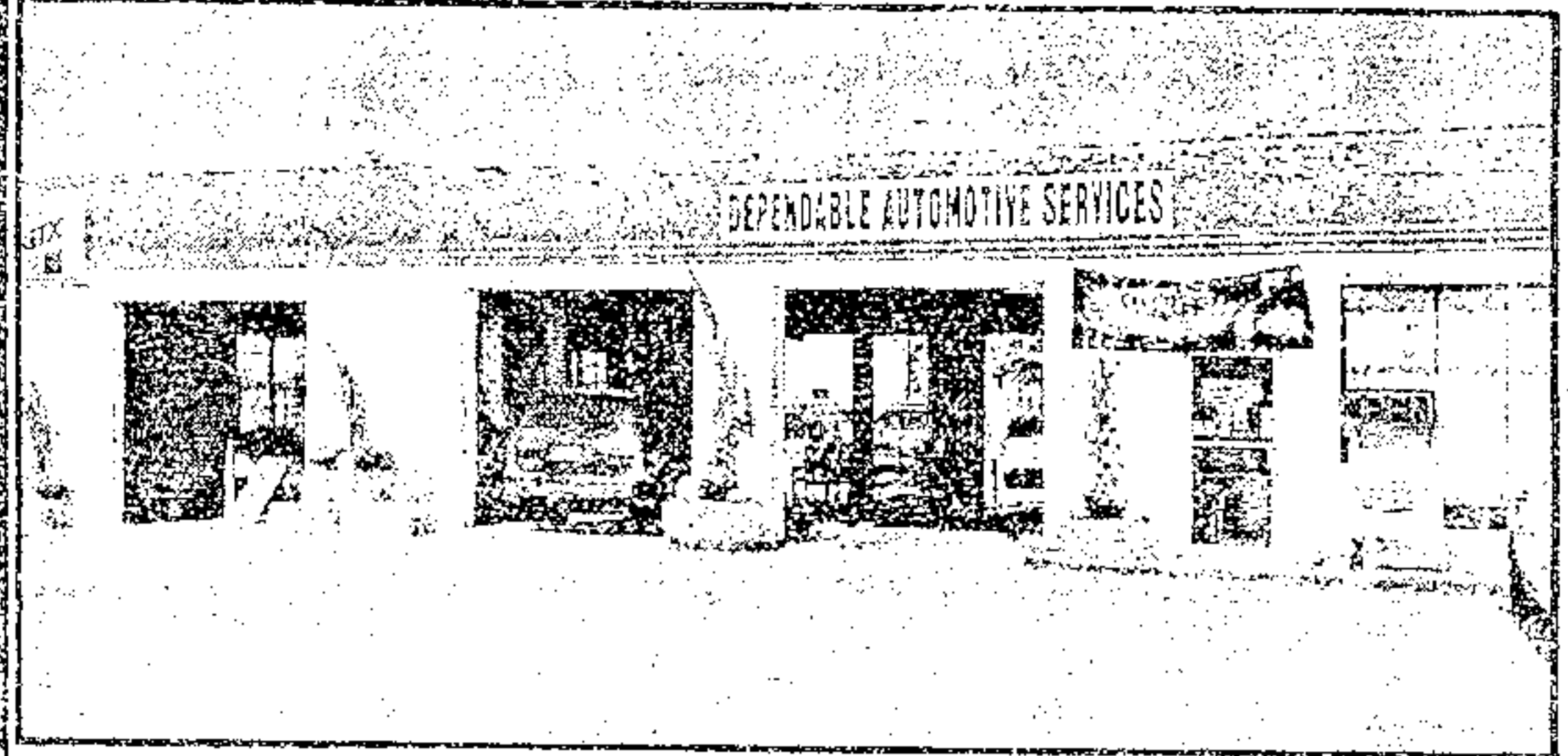
Debra Jackson, 54, Allison Drive Harri-man, was charged with Worthless Check. Deputy Daniel Ferguson LCSO, served Debra with a Warrant at the Roane Co. Jail and transported to Loudon Jail.

Jason Holland, 37, Petterson Road Lenoir City, was charged with Driving on Revoked License. Deputy Brian Smith LCSO, observed a red vehicle traveling on East Coast Pkwy at 60 mph in a 45 mph zone. Upon stopping

vehicle Deputy made contact with the driver Jason Holland a check of his information revealed Jason license were suspended for failure to satisfy citation. Deputy Brian Smith LCSO, made the arrest.

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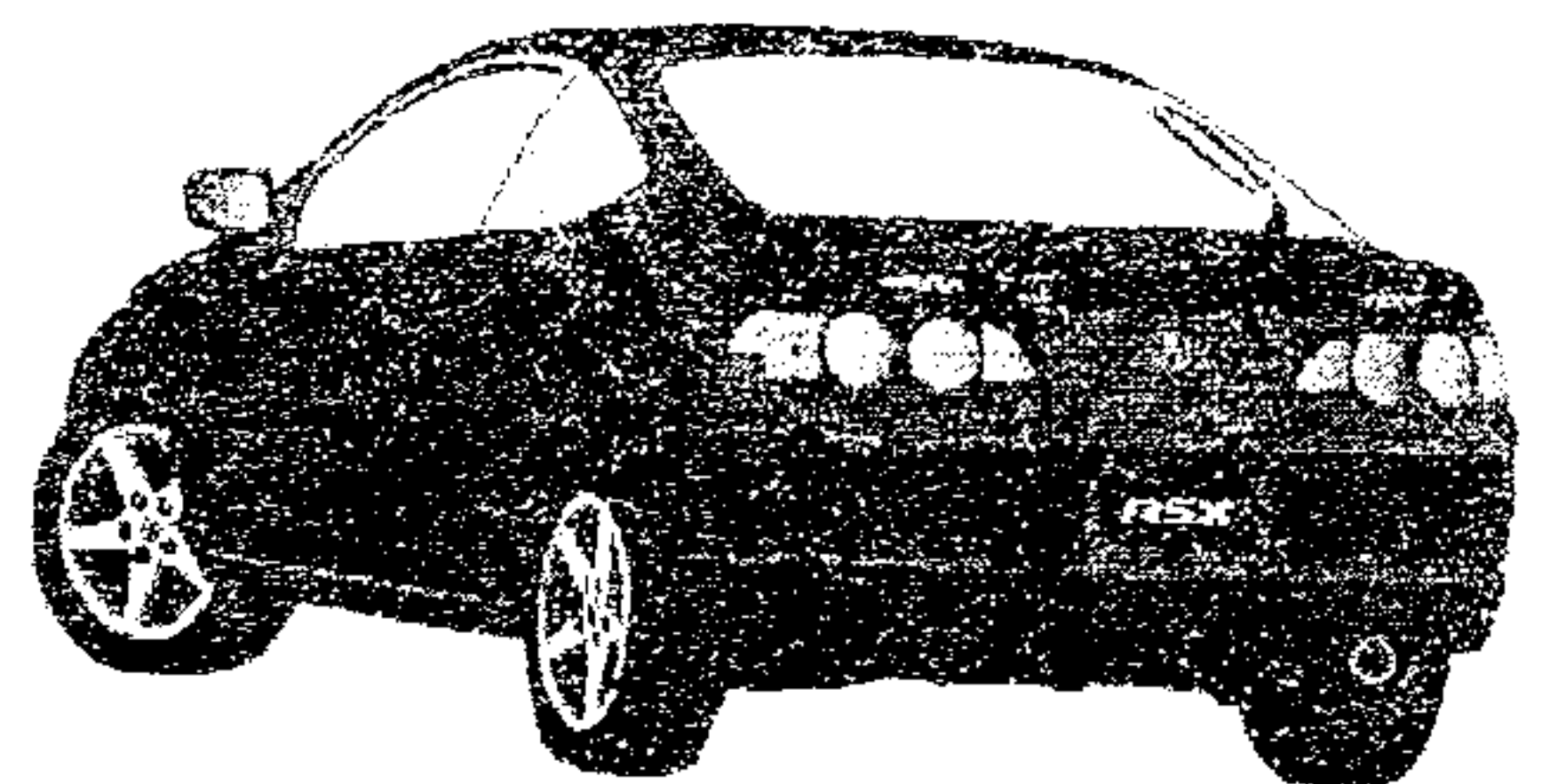
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**Charged**

Barbara Ritchey, 58, Myrtle Road Loudon, was charged with DUI. Officer Keith Sennett

LCPD, was dispatched to a Wreck on Hwy 321. Officer arrived on scene and made contact with Barbara Ritchey, who was involved in

the accident. Barbara was attempting to make a left turn onto City Park Dr when she lost control of her vehicle and ran into a motorcy-

cle. While Officer was speaking with Barbara she had slurred speech and smelled of alcohol. Barbara admitted to Officer that she had drank some alcohol and taken her medication earlier that day. Barbara failed sobriety test and placed under arrest. Officer Keith Sennett LCPD, made the arrest.

to Columbia, South Carolina to retrieve a personal vehicle for Mayor Loveless.

On the return trip to New Johnsonville the city truck broke down in Unicoi County, TN. Mayor Loveless engaged a towing service for \$990 and directed the city recorder to charge the city for the cost of the tow. The city truck, trailer, and personal vehicle were towed to Madison, TN where a new engine was installed in the city truck at a cost to the city of \$5,500.

**New Johnsonville Mayor Uses City Resources for Personal Benefit**

A special investigation by the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury reveals that New Johnsonville Mayor Lance Loveless directly benefited from the use of city personnel, city money, and a city vehicle.

Comptroller investigators determined the payroll, gasoline, and towing costs paid with taxpayer funds for the Mayor's personal benefit was at least \$1,732.

On September 6, 2012 the public works director and a city contract employee drove a city truck and a trailer

Although Mayor Loveless maintains he was unaware the public works director had taken a city truck on his personal errand, the public works director says the Mayor instructed him to use a city truck. Mayor Loveless acknowledges he knew the city truck was being used when he ordered the cost of the towing service to be paid by the city.

On December 1, Lance Loveless was

TCOT ctd. pg. 7

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TCOT ctd. from pg. 5  
indicted by the Humphreys County Grand Jury on one count of theft over \$1,000.

In July 2014 Mayor Loveless paid the city \$1,182, the cost of the towing and the fuel. The public works director's leave balance was reduced by two days. This occurred after the trip was exposed in a television news report.

"It is clear that Mayor Loveless abused taxpayer money," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "By the Mayor's own admission, he kept the true nature of this trip from the city council and the public."

To view the special investigation report online, go to: <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/ia/>.

If you suspect fraud, waste or abuse of public money in Tennessee, call the Comptroller's toll-free hotline at (800) 232-5454, or file a report online at: [www.comptroller.tn.gov/hotline](http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/hotline). Follow us on twitter: @TNCOT

**Kids First CAC Holds 10th annual Soup's On**

Kids First Child Advocacy Center will hold its tenth annual "Soup's On" fundraising event on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 in the Community Church of Tellico Village Community Center. Lunch will be served from 11 AM to 1 PM and dinner will be served from 4:30 PM to 7 PM. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at Kids First Child Advocacy Center, 887 Highway 70 West in Lenoir City, First National Bank, Village Salon, and United Community Bank

in Tellico Village, as well as United Community Bank, Highway 321 North in Lenoir City, beginning December 15.

**LCPD**

Jared Martin, 22, W 2nd Ave Lenoir City, was charged with Burglary of Motor Vehicle.

Heather Hunter, 30, West 2nd Ave Lenoir City, was charged with Forgery.

Detective Kevin Condee LCPD, conducted an investigation into a series of vehicle burglaries and vehicle theft in which Heather Hunter and Jared Martin were suspects. Heather and Jared was picked up at the Walmart in Alcoa in possession of the stolen vehicle. Both was placed under arrest by Alcoa police and

transported to Loudon Jail. Det. Kevin Condee LCPD, made the arrest.

**Police beat**

Sheena Horton-Reyes, 28, Homeless, was charged with Public Intoxication. Sheena was observed by Food City employee to be very intoxicated.

Upon interview the

officer reported Sheena stated that she had taken narcotics. Sheena was transported to Loudon Jail. Sgt. Eddie Range LCPD, made the arrest.

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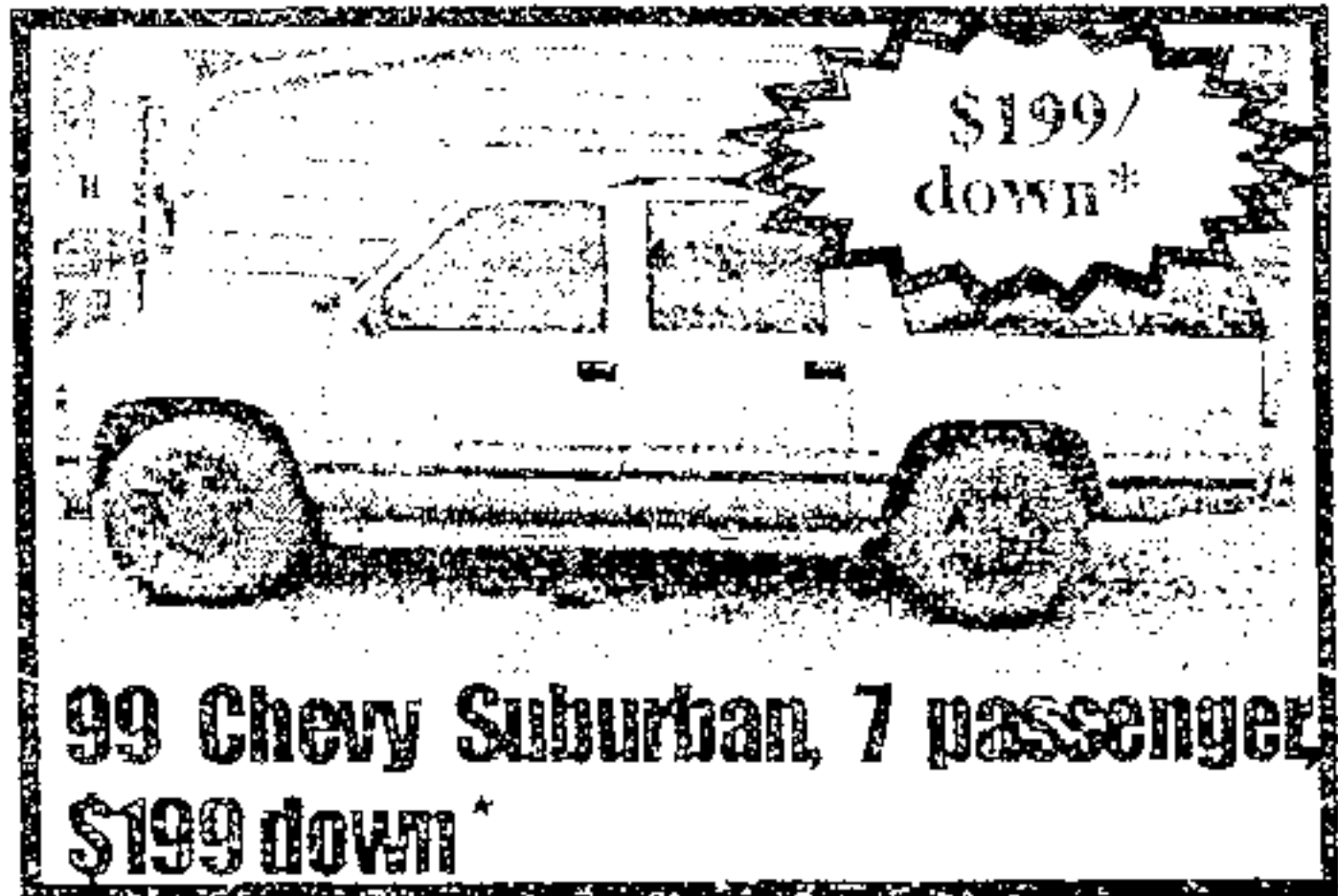

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**Police beat**

Michael Ross, 27, O street Lenoir City, was charged with Theft of Property.

According to the report, Michael was observed by Loss Prevention at Walmart conceal items without paying for them.

Officer Nick Halsey

LCPD, arrested Michael and transported to Loudon Jail.

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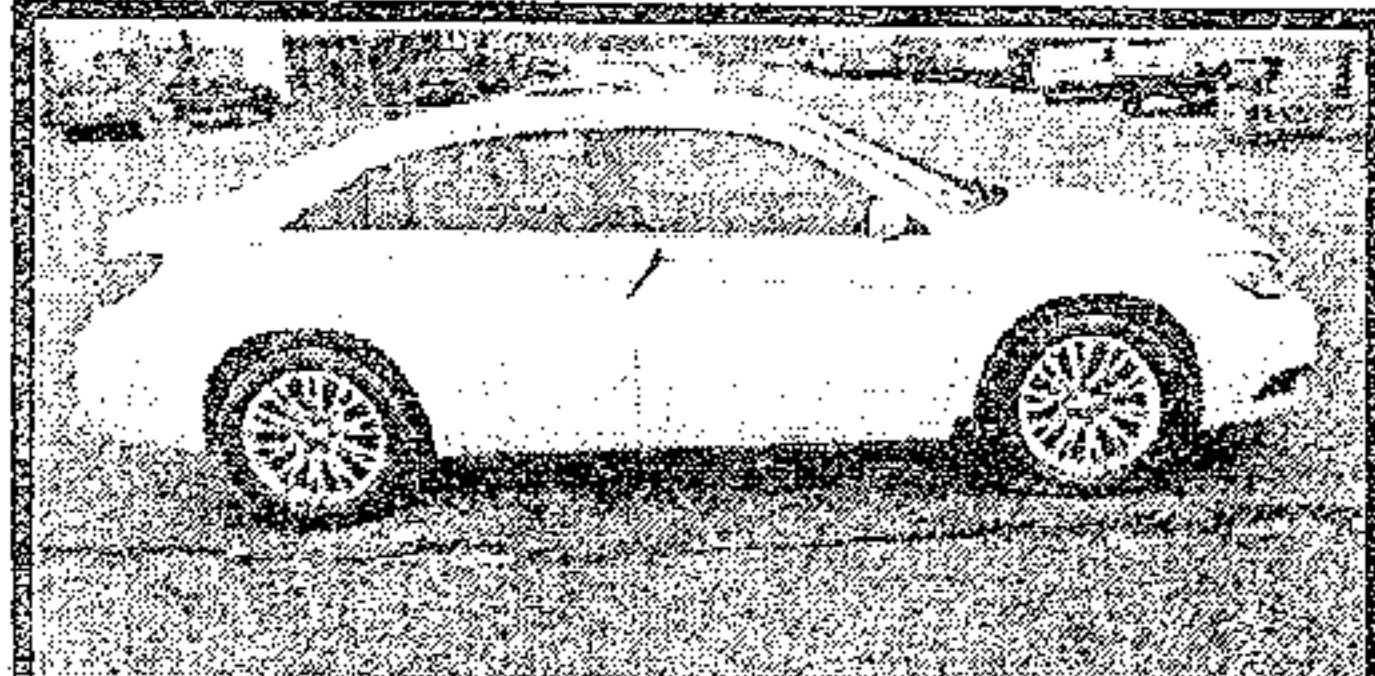
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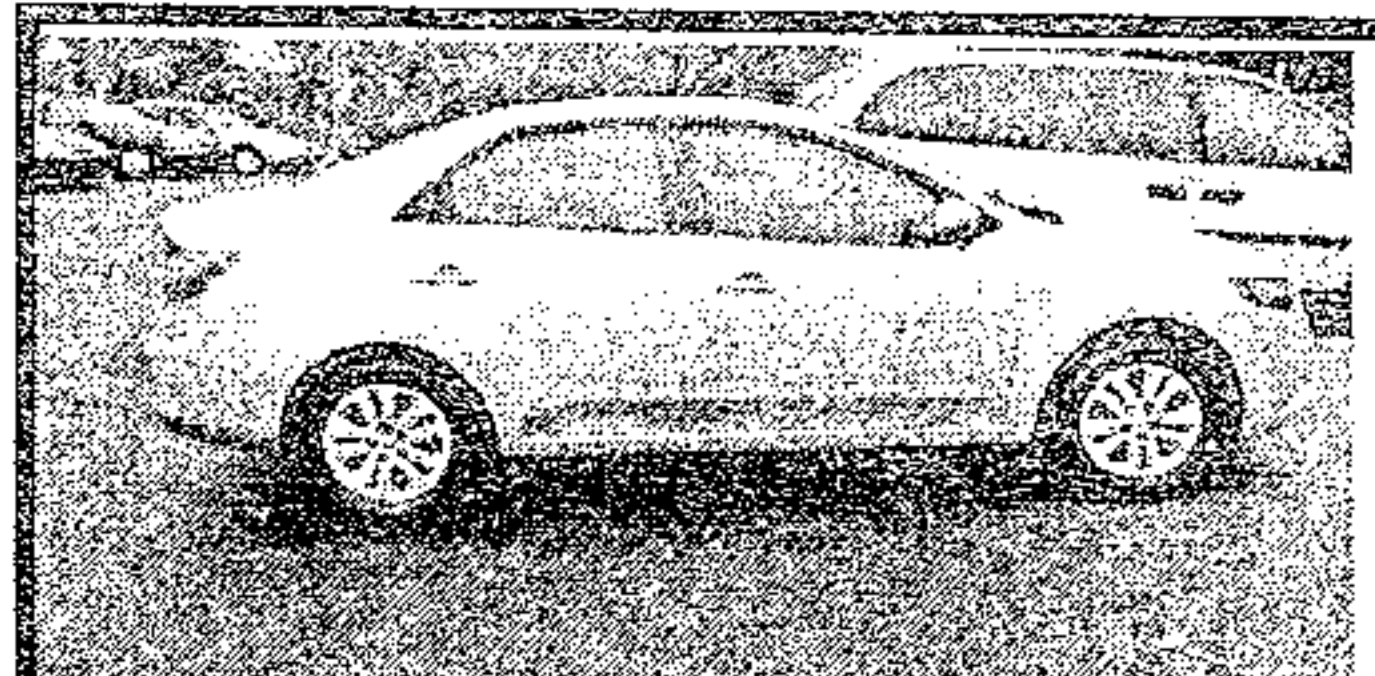
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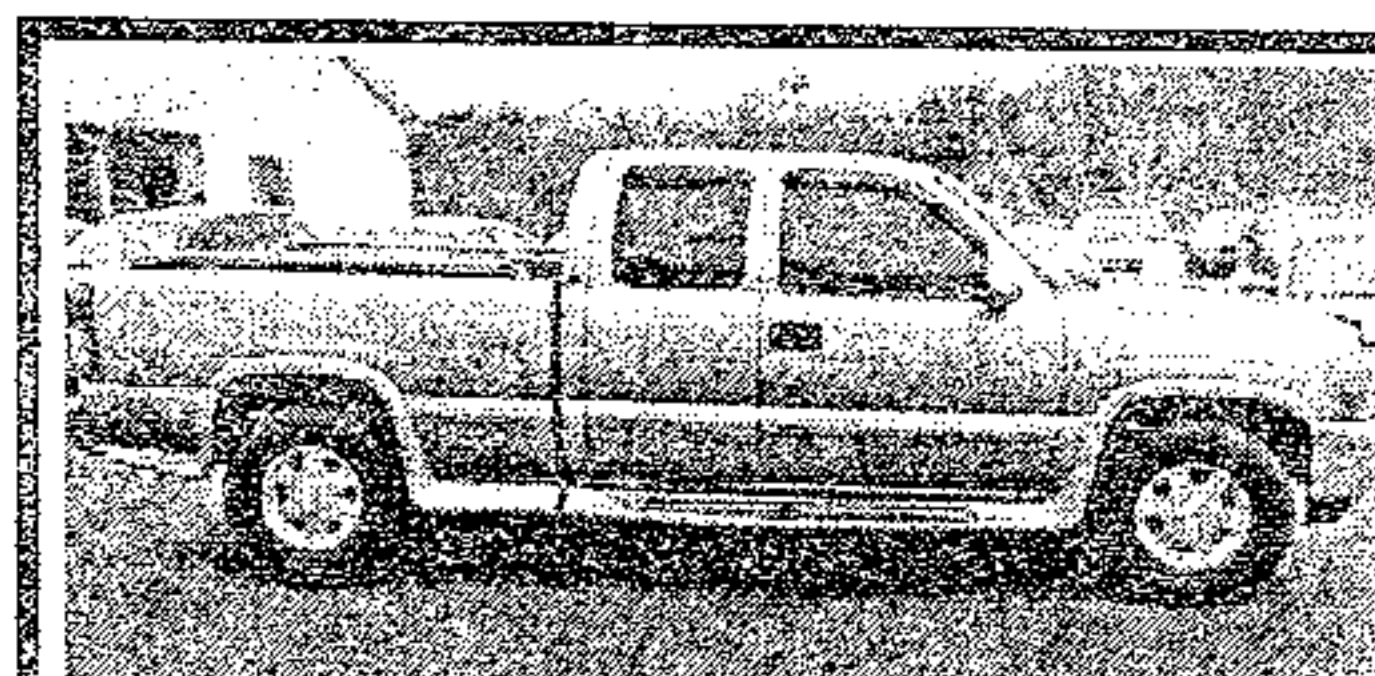
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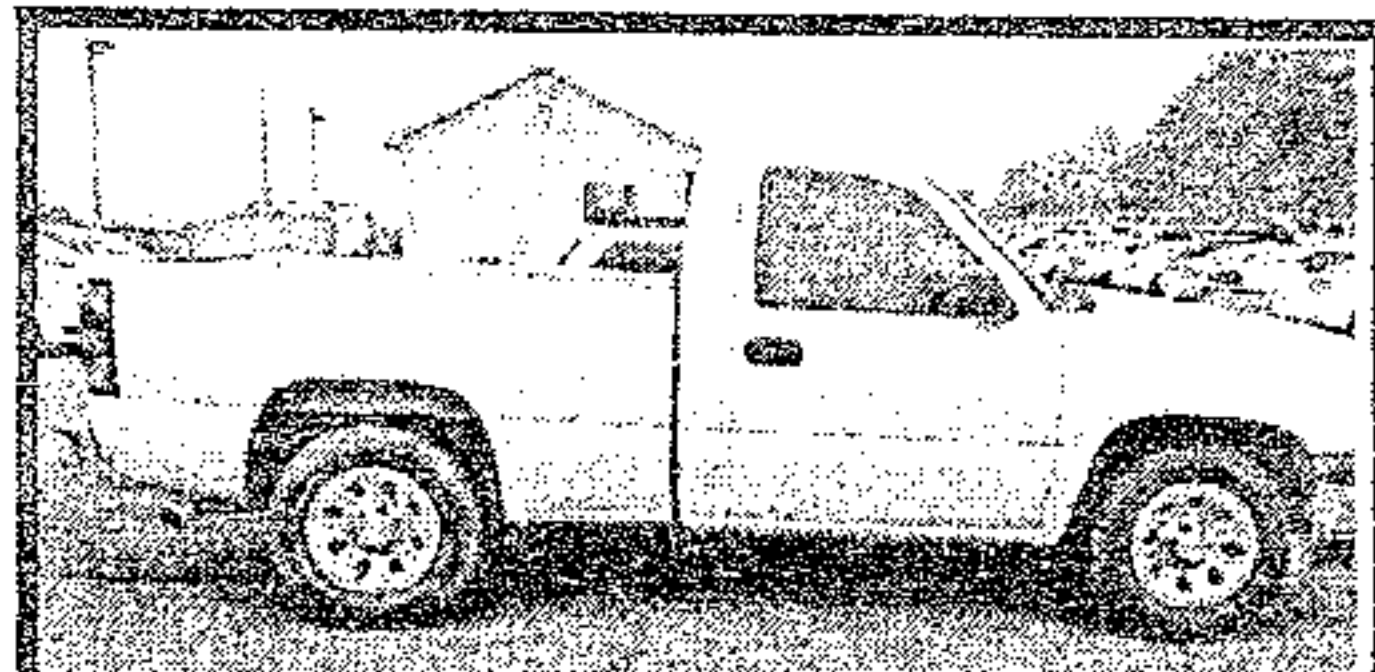
2010 Kia Forte Great Gas Saver 83k miles



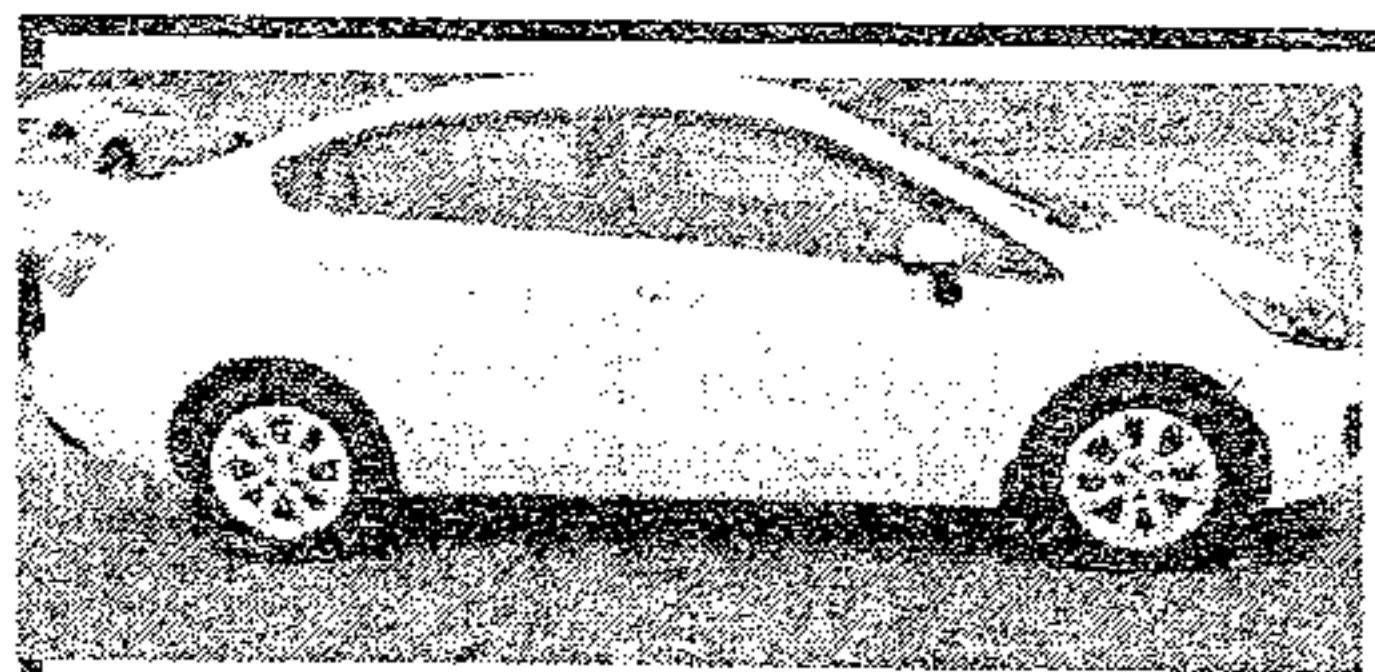
2002 GMC Sierra, 4WD, Ex. Cab, Clean Truck



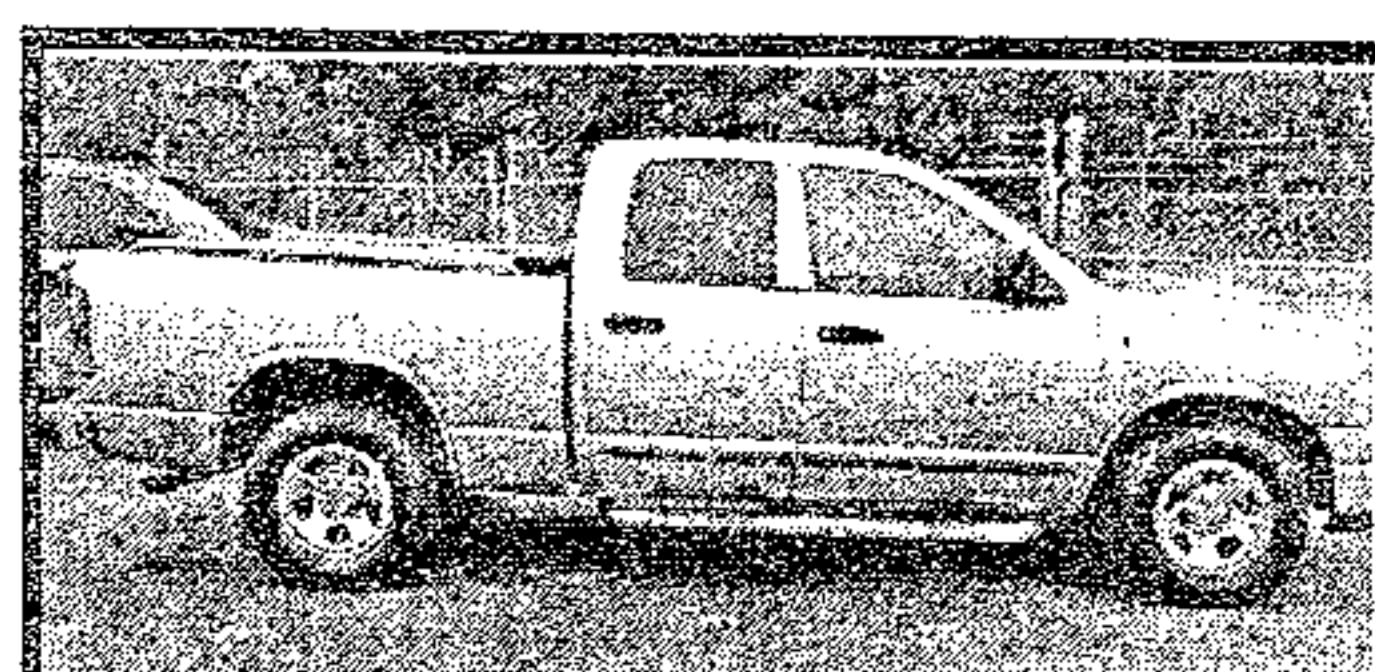
2005 Isuzu Ascender 3rd row, sunroof, clean, 117k miles



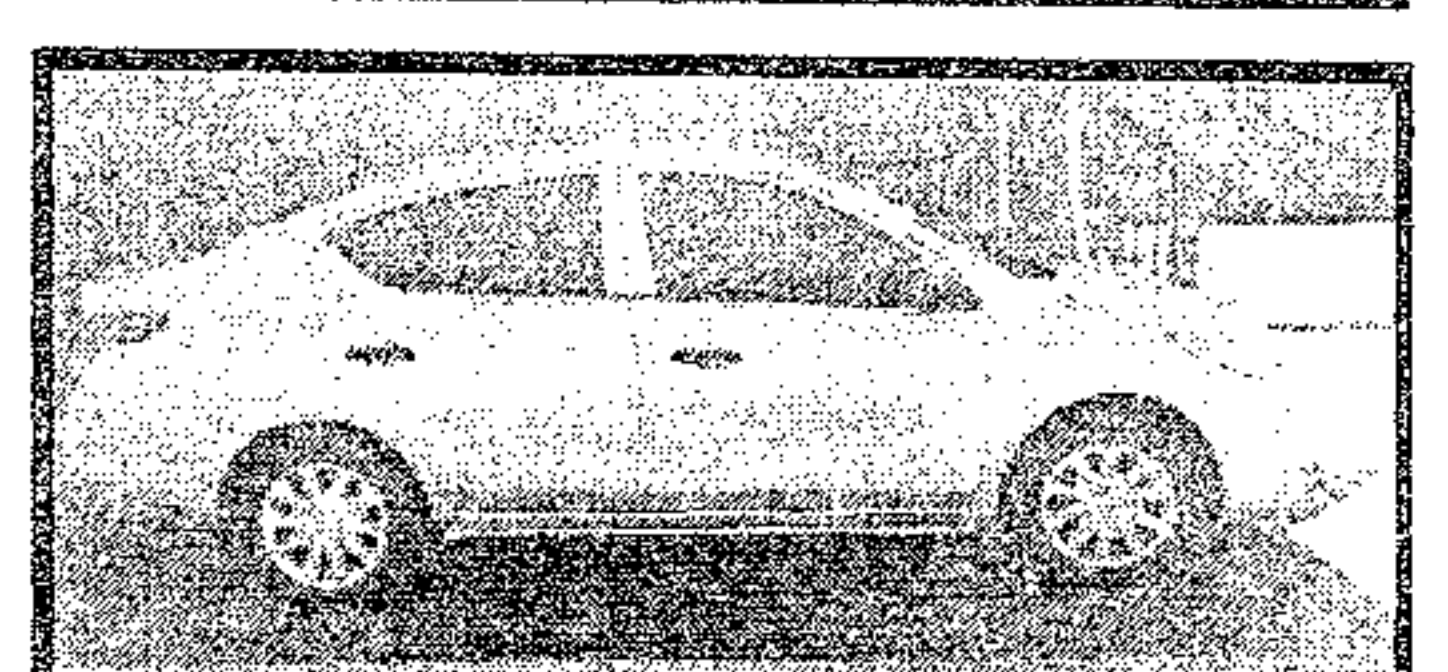
2006 Chevrolet Silverado, 109k miles, Clean Truck



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2003 Dodge Ram 1500, Quad Cab, Nice Truck



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