

The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, January 26, 2015

Woman charged with credit card fraud at Inn of Lenoir

A woman reportedly used a victims credit card to fraudulently rent herself a room at the Inn of Lenoir on four separate occasions. The charges were made to the credit card without the victims consent or knowledge.

Belinda Vincent, 40, Hwy 321 Lenoir City, was charged with Illegal Possession/Fraudulent (see Fraud pg. 4)



Belinda Vincent

The Good News

by Jeff Vittatoc

A Redneck Moment



When Angie and I first moved out here to Helena, Montana, we quickly learned a few lessons in "Cultural Differences". The most notable, and still a daily topic of discussion, is that apparently we folks from the South talk a little differently! I'm told that we speak much faster and often use terms and phrases

that many locals are not used to hearing. Let me share an example or two:

Apparently, people in Montana do not refer to a four wheeled, hand operated mobile grocery container as simply a "Buggy", it appears they prefer the term "Shopping Cart". Angie and I both experienced

(see TGN pg. 3)

Indecent exposure call ends in charges for woman



Jessica Sanchez

(see PI pg. 3)

Federal Jury convicts Pain Clinics owner of drug trafficking and financial crimes

"Aunt Bea" operated two pill mills in Chattanooga

Following a 25-day trial in U.S. District Court that began on Nov. 3, 2014, a jury convicted Barbara Lang, a.k.a. "Aunt Bea," 60, of Rossville, Ga., of conspiring to illegally distribute controlled substances (oxycodone and Xanax) at Superior One Pain Clinic and Primary Care Pain Clinic, two pain management clinics owned and operated by Lang.

The jury also convicted Lang of operating drug-involved businesses at five of the six locations used by the clinics. Lang was also convicted of illegally "structuring" cash deposits into Primary Care's bank account at First Tennessee Bank in an effort to avoid triggering currency transaction reporting requirements. Altogether, she was convicted of two drug conspiracy charges; five maintaining a drug-involved business; and 14 structured transactions to avoid reporting requirements. She was acquitted of one count of maintaining a drug involved business, eight structuring counts, and

(see FBI pg. 5)

We've got a runner! Nabbed after theft



Dylan Hammons

(see Theft pg. 2)

Verse of the Day

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. -- 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

Obituaries

see inside

Wazzup

How 'bout the Sheriff's Department gonna be getting them a Facebook page? It still seems to be popular for some

reason...

Weather

Today: Cloudy. High around 40F.

Tonight: Partly cloudy skies early will become overcast later during the night. Low around 30F.

Tuesday Cloudy skies. High

42F.

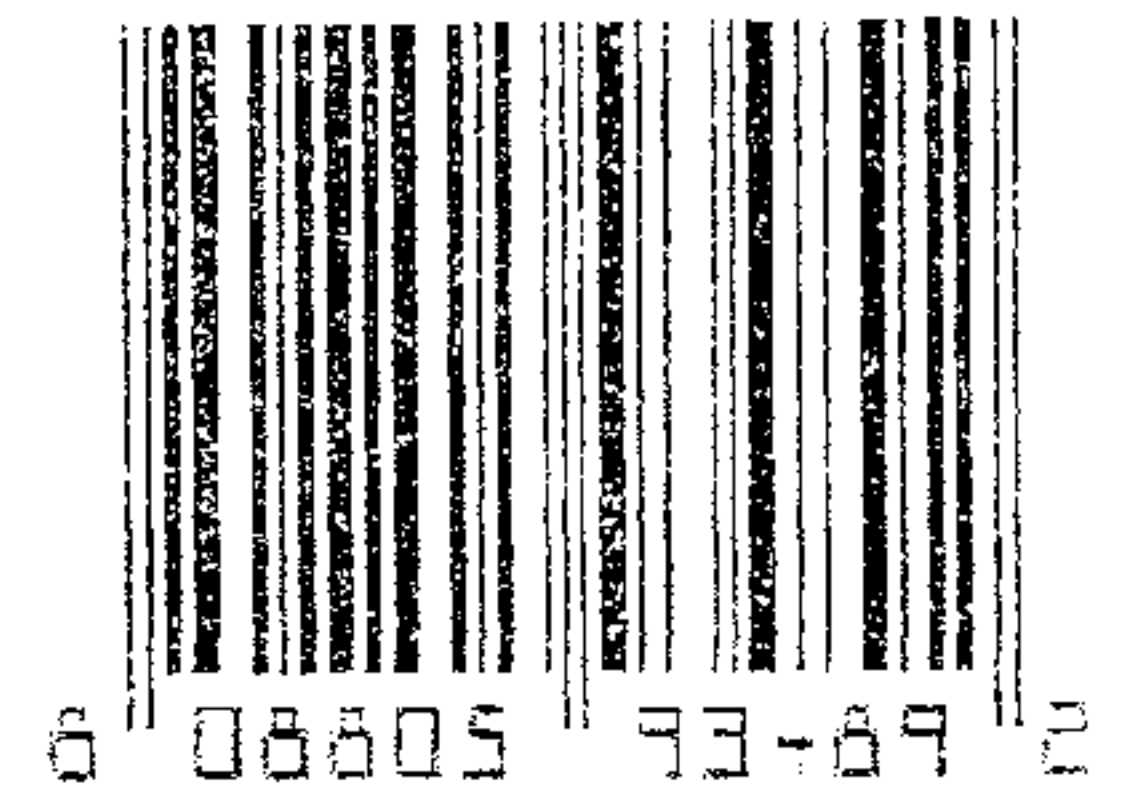
Tuesday Night Evening clouds will give way to clearing. Low 27F.

Horoscopes

Aquarius 1/20-2/19

Indulging in fantasies today motivates you to reach beyond your com-

(Continued on page 6)



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Theft

Dylan Hammons, 21, Robinson Road Loudon, was charged with Theft of Property. Officers were dispatched to the area of Walmart in reference to a shoplifter who ran towards Hwy 321 when Walmart Loss Prevention Personnel approached the male. Officers made contact with the male running in the area

of Cory Drive, and was taken into custody and identified as Dylan Hammons. Dylan was then taken to Walmart and identified as the offender. Dylan was placed under arrest. Officer Brandon Gentry LCPD, made the arrest.

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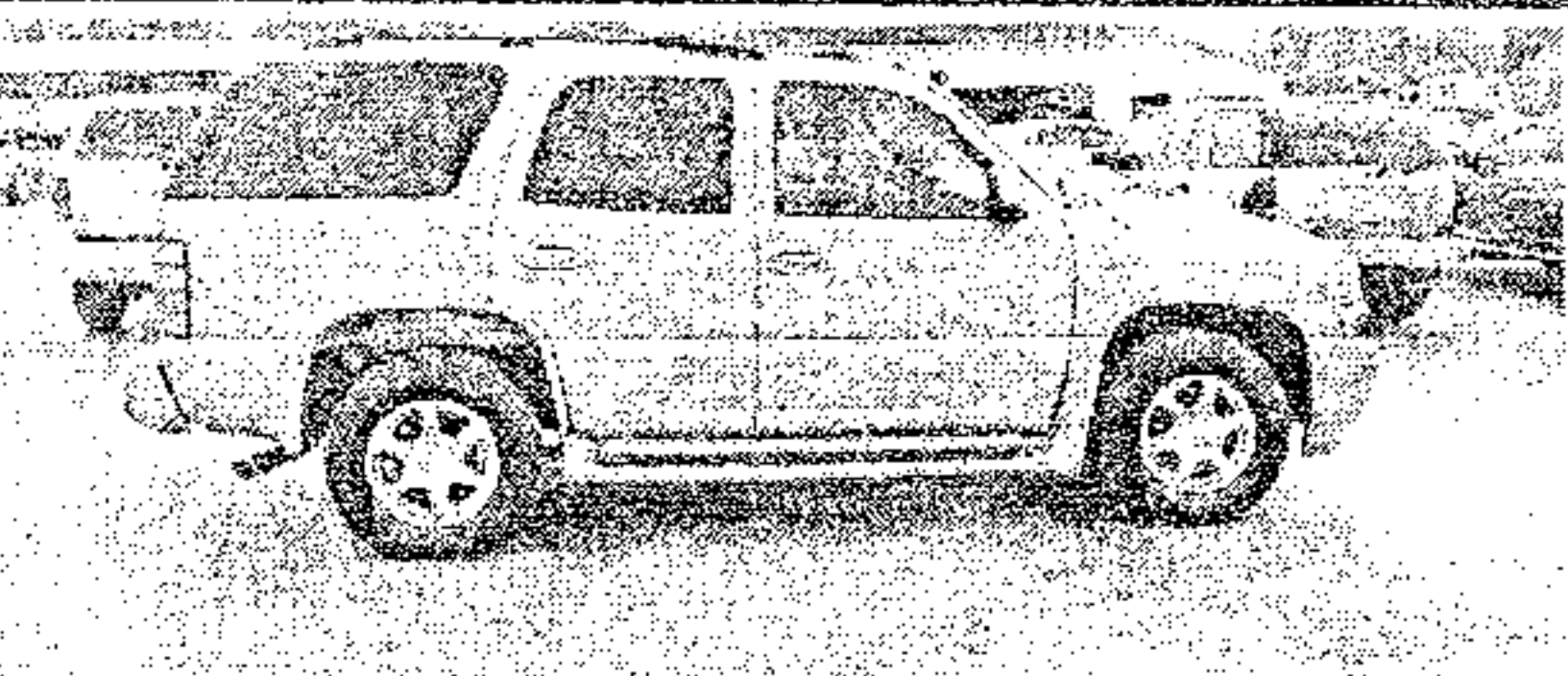
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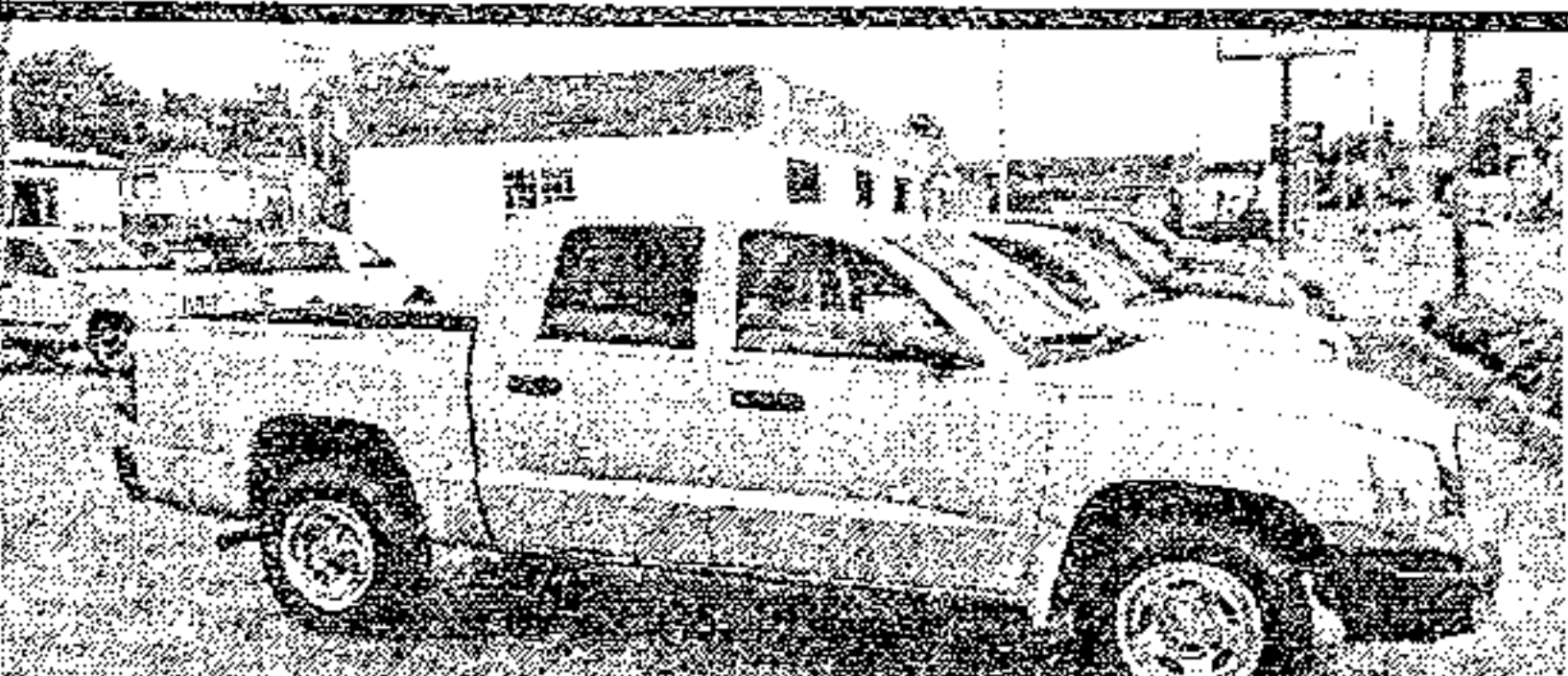
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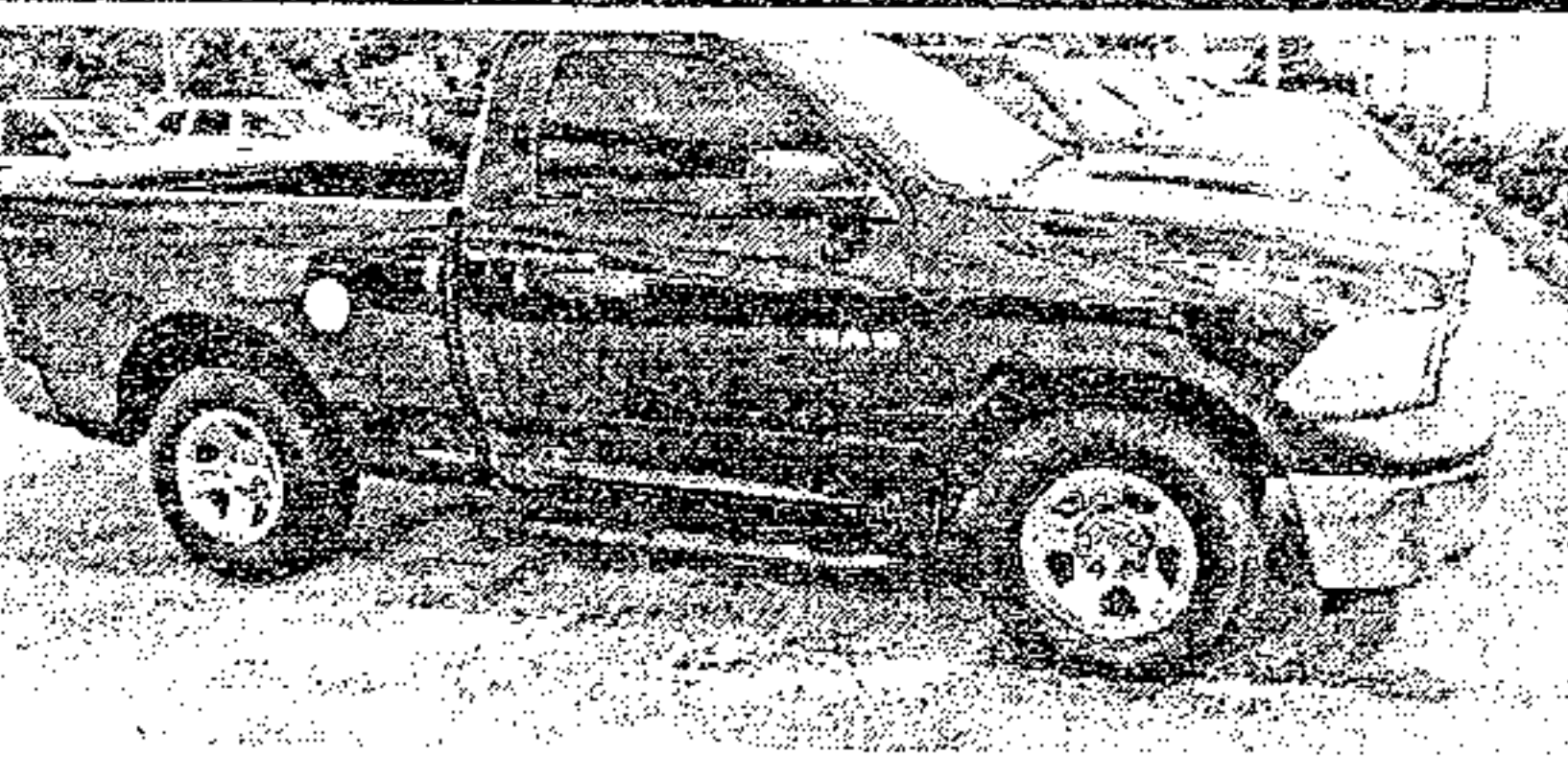
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Fraud

use of Credit Card x4. Belinda used victim's credit card at the Inn of Lenoir to pay for lodging without the victims consent or knowledge. Officer Tim Holloway did go to the Inn of Lenoir and obtain documentation detailing the unlawful transaction. Belinda was placed under arrest. Officer Tim Holloway LCPD, made the arrest.

Obituaries

Terry Lee "Bit" Daugherty - age 60 of Lenoir City passed away Thursday, January 22, 2015 at his home. He was a loving and caring husband, dad, papaw, brother, uncle and friend. Terry was a supervisor at Vytron for over 30 years. He was a member of Little Cove Creek Church. Preceded in death by his parents, Ed and Viola Daugherty; sister, Doris Goodman; baby brother, Donald Ray Daugherty and father-in-law, Carl Tackett. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Charlotte Ann Daugherty; children: Missy Harness, Michele Haynes and fiancé, Michael Shubert, Lee-Anne Lowe and husband, Shawn, T J Daugherty and wife, Sheena; 6 grandchildren: Trevor Amburn, Katie Clement, Katherine Boykin, Alicia Boykin,

Bryson Daugherty and Carlec Daugherty; sisters and brothers-in-law, Linda Lay, Judy and Avery Bunch, Rosemary and Steve Branum, Phyllis and Lynn Evans; mother-in-law, Ruby Tackett; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Carl Edward Tackett, James and Shonna Tackett; many nieces and nephews and a host of friends. We love you Daddy you can now rest in peace. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City. Funeral services will follow at 7 p.m. with Rev. Jeremy McNally officiating. Family and friends will gather at the funeral home by 10:30 Monday morning and proceed to the Lakeview Cemetery for 11 a.m. graveside services. Click Funeral Home, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

Joyce Fritz Lewis, age 70 of the Tellico Village Community, Loudon, TN passed away January 22, 2015 at her home after a long fight against cancer. Joyce loved golf and playing cards with her family and friends. She also loved to travel. Preceded in death by her parents, Irwin & Marie Fritz of New Baltimore, MI and brother, Donald of Sterling Heights, MI. Survivors include her best friend and husband of 50 years, William (Bill) Lewis; son David (Kristie) Lewis and Dana (Garrett) Wedlick; grandchildren Josh and Justin Lewis and Abigail and Jacob Wedlick; brother and sister-in-law Ken and Valerie Fritz; sister-in-law Dottie Fritz; brother-in-law Bob (Dee) Lewis and Jim (Anita) Lewis and sister-in-law Maryann Chrisman; many loving nieces and nephews and very dear friends. The

family will receive friends on Friday, February 6, 2015 from 5 - 7:30 p.m. with a Rosary to follow at 7:30 p.m. at Click Funeral Home & Cremations - Tellico Village Chapel. Mass will be held on Saturday, February 7, 2015 at 11 a.m. at St. Thomas the

Apostle Catholic Church in Lenoir City, TN. Burial will take place at a later date in New Baltimore, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

(see Obits ctd. pg. 5)

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FBI
one charge of harboring a fugitive, her daughter, Faith Blake, who was also charged in this case.

Sentencing for Lang is set for 9:00 a.m., Apr. 9, 2015, in U.S. District Court in Chattanooga. She faces a maximum sentence of 210 years in prison and forfeitures of up to \$4 million. Approximately \$1 million has already been seized in the case.

Lang was charged along with three others who have all previously pleaded guilty. Lang's daughter,

Faith Blake, pleaded guilty to conspiring to illegally distribute drugs through Superior One medical clinic, a business she operated with her mother. Blake also pleaded guilty to conspiring to illegally distribute drugs through Elite Care, another Chattanooga pain clinic that she operated. Additionally, she pleaded guilty to obstructing the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and failure to appear for a federal court proceeding.

Dr. Jerome Sherard, Superior One's medical

director, pleaded guilty to conspiring to illegally distribute drugs at Superior One Medical Clinic and at the Sherard Clinic, his own practice. Charles Larmore, a nurse practitioner employed by the Lang at Superior One and Primary Care, pleaded guilty to conspiring to illegally distribute drugs at both those clinics.

Evidence presented at trial established that Lang and Blake operated Superior One as a "pill mill," a location where individuals could easily obtain

prescriptions for powerful pain killers such as oxycodone with little or no documented need. Armed guards patrolled the parking lots. Customers paid cash to obtain prescription drugs which were then abused and/or sold to others. Large doses of the drugs were routinely prescribed. Lang later opened Primary Care, and while she made some effort to present a more "legitimate" business, engaged in the several of the same illegal practices.

Records obtained from

the State of Tennessee showed that Sherard and Larmore prescribed more narcotics than all but about 10 of the more than 20,000 prescribers in the state and routinely prescribed dangerous amounts and combinations of opioids and other narcotics. The jury heard evidence from clinic landlords, neighbors, customers, medical providers, wiretaps, and law enforcement officials that drug-seeking customers
(see FBI conc. pg. 8)

Obits etd. from pg. 4

Martha Lou Bailey Tuck - age 77 of Lenoir City passed away Thursday, January 22, 2015. Martha was a member of My Father's House. She was preceded in death by her parents, Joe and Imogene Brady; son, Larry Joe Bailey, and brother, Cotton Brady. Survived by her husband, Carroll Tuck; daughters and sons-in-law, Vickie and Roger Moody, Robin and Bobby Jones, Terri and Kenny Covington; son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Heather Bailey; 8 grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren; 1 great-great grandchild; brothers, Kenneth Brady, George Brady and David Brady; sisters, Connie Brady and Joann Gideon; many nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Sunday at My Father's House in Lenoir City. Funeral services will follow at 3 p.m. with Rev. David Thompson officiating. Burial will follow in the Lakeview Cemetery.

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TGN ctd from pg. 3

claimed that I was only aware of one kind of tea. This teenage girl then began to educate me by announcing that I could choose between green tea, black tea, red tea or a variety of other teas. I responded, "I would like the kind of tea that comes in a Lipton tea bag like you get at the grocery store." She said, "Ok, that would be black tea", and pointed me to a wooden display box on top of the counter to collect a bag. As I began to sift through approximately ten different colored bags of tea I was forced to ask, "Which one of these colored tea bags would be the black tea Ma'am?" I could not help but laugh a little when she advised me that the black tea was in the red tea bag!! Really? I then chose

a red tea bag containing black tea and gave it to the patient gal. I was confident that she would then place it in a tall glass filled with ice water and I might even walk away with a slice of lemon if my luck held out. My luck did not, however, hold out!

After a short wait and a \$3.50 tea tab, the young lady returned to the counter and provided me with a tall glass of almost boiling, hot tea! (Tea bag included) I asked if she had sweetener and was told there was a bottle of honey on the table if I chose to partake of the sweetener option. I felt like we had both just been through a lot

but I chose to push the envelope one last time by asking the question, "Could I possibly get a little ice for my tea?"

This girl just paused for a moment and looked at me as if I had just said, "You doing alright?" I was then provided with a small cup of ice that I took to my table while my tea cooled off enough that I could drink a little to make room for the ice!! I was physically and emotionally exhausted by this process and walked away

with a valuable lesson that will serve me well in the future..... Before meeting someone at Scenic Brew again it would benefit me greatly to stop by the golden arches drive through and purchase a tall, cold glass of sweet tea with lemon for just a dollar!!!

Thanks for allowing me to share a lighter moment with you today. God continues to

bless our lives tremendously here in Montana and it's events like these that make us laugh and appreciate the simple things in life. May God bless your family as He has ours!

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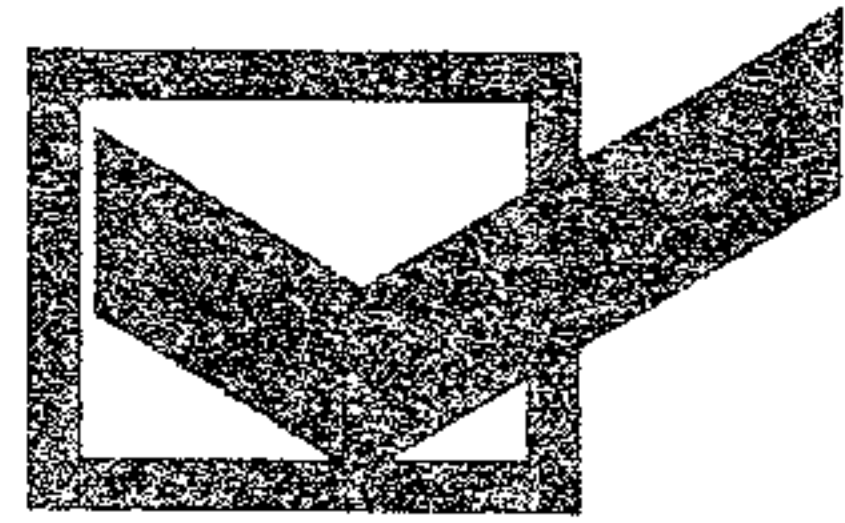
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Stone, from pg. 5

travelled hours to come to the clinics, engaged in drug activities around the clinics, and traded pills for cash. Customers could be given prescriptions even after they had failed drug tests, admitted abusing or selling drugs, or failed to document a medical need for the medication. During the seven

months that it operated, Superior One generated over \$2 million. During the 11 months that it operated, Primary Care generated approximately \$2 million. The jury

heard evidence that Lang "skimmed" approximately \$175,000 from Primary Care that she did not report to the IRS. When agents searched her house they found a money-counting

machine and \$234,333 in cash in a safe.

Law enforcement agencies participating in the joint investigation which led to indictment and subsequent conviction of Lang, Blake, Sherard and Farnore included the Drug Enforcement Administration, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Chattanooga Police Department, Roane County Sheriff's Depart-

ment, and Rockwood Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Gregg L. Sullivan and Michael D. Porter represented the United States at trial. Assistant U.S. Attorney Tracy Stone prosecuted other individuals involved in the drug conspiracies.

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