

The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Friday, July 17, 2015

Ain't nobody gonna make me go to my room! New room provided

Brett Gerth, 20, Unitia Road Lenoir City, was charged with Domestic Assault. Deputy Kevin Dailey LCSO, responded to Unitia Road in reference to a domestic disturbance. Upon arrival Deputy came in contact with the victim who was visibly upset with the offender Brett Gerth over trying to get victim pain medicine that

(see Assault pg. 7)



Brett Gerth

Video don't lie! Thief viewed stealing from sausage plant



Jacob Myers

(see Thief pg. 4)

Three more sentenced in large A-PVP conspiracy

On July 14, 2015, Desera Jade Allen, 27, and David Michael Stallard, 20, both of Kingsport, Tenn., were sentenced by the Honorable R. Leon Jordan, U.S. District Court Judge, to serve 151 months and 56 months in prison respectively for their roles in an extensive a-PVP (alpha-pyrrolidino-pentiophenone) distribution conspiracy in the Sullivan County, Tenn., area. Additionally, William Aope Ward, 35, of Kingsport, Tenn., was sentenced on July 9, 2015, to serve 80 months in prison for his involvement in the a-PVP conspiracy.

(see A-PVP pg. 5)

Loaded gun found on speeding DUI driver



Jose Rodriguez

(see DUI pg. 2)

Cyber Criminal Forum Taken Down

Members Arrested in 20 Countries

It was, in effect, a one-stop, high-volume shopping venue for some of the world's most prolific cyber criminals. Called Darkode, this underground, password-protected, online forum was a meeting place for those interested in buying, selling, and trading malware, botnets, stolen personally identifiable information, credit card information, hacked

server credentials, and other pieces of data and software that facilitated complex cyber crimes all over the globe.

Unbeknownst to the operators of this invitation-only, English-speaking criminal forum, though, the FBI had infiltrated this communication platform at the highest levels and began collecting evidence and intelligence on Darkode members.

And today, the De-

(see Forum pg. 3)

Verse of the Day

The people served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and who had seen all the great things the LORD had done for Israel. — Judges 2:7

Obituaries

see inside **Wazzup**

Talk about some quick response, way to go local law enforcement on being on the lookout so dang quick! Ain't nobody getting through

this county bi golly!

Weather

Today: Sunny along with a few clouds. High 94F.
Tonight: Clear skies with a few passing clouds. Low 73F.
Saturday: Sunshine and

clouds mixed. High 94F.
Saturday Night A few clouds from time to time. Low 73F.
Sunday Partial cloudiness early, with scattered showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon.

(Continued on page 6)



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DUI

Jose Rodriguez, 30, Grace Lane Loudon, was charged with DUI, Possession of a Weapon while Under the Influence, and Violation of Implied Consent. Officer Benny Houser LPD, clocked a vehicle traveling 55 mph in a 45 zone on Hwy 72 at Maremont Pkwy. After stopping the vehicle on Steekee St. Officer

made contact with the driver Jose Rodriguez. Officer advised Jose why he had stopped him and asked for his license. Jose had a strong odor of an intoxicant about his person but stated to Officer that he had not been drinking. Jose spoke English but stated to Officer that he did not understand. Officer Houser contacted Deputy Robbie Lane LCSO, who

came to assist Officer Houser to translate. Jose did poorly on sobriety test and placed under arrest. Officer found in the vehicle a open beer and a loaded 9mm handgun in the center console. Officer Benny Houser LPD, made the arrest.

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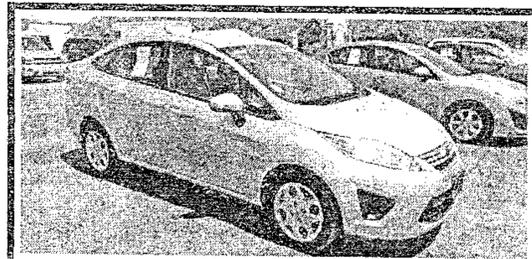
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2013 Caravan, Like New, Stow & Go, Luggage Rack, Rear A/C, Auto. Doors, LOW MILES!!



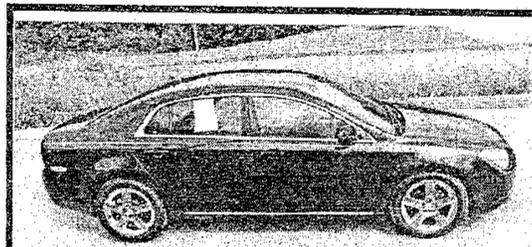
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Forum

partment of Justice and the FBI—with the assistance of our partners in 19 countries around the world—announced the results of Operation Shrouded Horizon, a multi-agency investigation into the Darkode forum. Among those results were charges, arrests, and searches involving 70 Darkode members and associates around the world; U.S. indictments against 12 individuals associated with the forum, including its administrator; the serving of several search warrants in the U.S.; and the Bureau's seizure of Darkode's domain and servers.

Domain Seizure Message on Darkode Homepage

The above message was displayed on the Darkode homepage after the FBI seized its web domain and servers.

Said FBI Deputy Director Mark Giuliano, "Cyber criminals should not have a safe haven to shop for the tools of their trade, and Operation Shrouded Horizon shows we will do all we can to disrupt their unlawful activities."

During the investigation, the Bureau focused primarily on the Darkode members responsible for developing, distributing, facilitating, and supporting the most egregious and complex cyber criminal schemes targeting victims and

financial systems around the world, including in the United States.

The Darkode forum, which had between 250-300 members, operated very carefully—not just anyone could join. Ever fearful of compromise by law enforcement, Darkode administrators made sure prospective members were heavily vetted.

Similar to practices used by the Mafia, a potential candi-

date for forum membership had to be sponsored by an existing member and sent a formal invitation to join. In response, the candidate had to post an online introduction—basically, a resume—

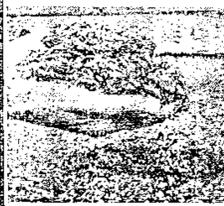
highlighting the individual's past criminal activity, particular cyber skills, and potential contributions to the forum. The forum's active members decided whether to approve

(see Forum ctd. pg. 7)

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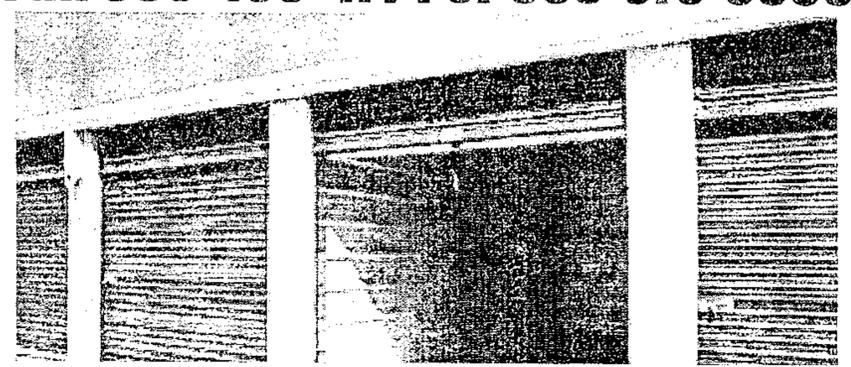


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Chief

Jacob Myers, 25, Reagan Mill Road Maryville, was charged with Theft of Property. Sgt. Jason Smith LCSO, responded to Wampler's Farm Sausage in reference to a theft. Upon arrival Sgt. Smith spoke with the victim who stated that on 7/7/15 installers had discovered an amount of copper wire had been stolen from an upstairs utility area. The copper was worth more than a 1000 but less than 10000. This copper was in a restricted area and monitored by camera. The camera was reviewed and on 6/27/15 the video showed Jacob Myers, an employee, walking in an awkward fashion. Jacob was then

seen holding a piece of copper wire that he had down his pants. On 7/5/15 Jacob was seen entering the restricted area again and coming down steps from the area with a coil of wire. A warrant was issued. Deputy Craig Brewer LCSO, arrested Jacob at the Hwy 70 West address, and transported to Loudon Jail.

Obituaries

Richard (Dick) Witham - age 73 of the Tellico Village Community, Loudon, TN passed away July 6, 2015. Dick leaves behind his wife and best friend of over 40 years, Marlene Foster Witham. He also leaves behind; daughter and son in law Lori and Matthew Pense; grandson

Dakota Pense; sisters Arleen Richards and Carole Schmutzler and brother-in-law Bob, treasured nieces, nephews and cousins; and his beloved dog, Mari. Preceded in death by his parents, Irving and Marjorie Witham and brother in law, John Richards. Dick was raised in Dalton, MA and graduated from Springfield College and received his Master's Degree from Bowling Green University in Ohio. He retired from the Athletic Department at Syracuse University in 2004. In October of 2012, Dick and Marlene retired to Tellico Village. A celebration of Dicks life will be held at their home for family and friends on 23 July from 1-4pm. In lieu of flowers memo-

rials may be made to Tellico Village Volunteer Fire Department. Click Funeral Home & Cremations - Tellico Village Chapel is serving the family of Dick Witham.

Joyce M. Hardin - of Knoxville passed away Monday, July 13,

2015 at Roane Medical Center. She loved her family and especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Preceded in death by her parents, Clyde and Mattie Shepherd; brothers, Charles, Johnny, Jake

(see Obits etd. pg. 5)

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A-PVP

A-PVP is a synthetic drug, primarily ordered from China, which is commonly referred to on the street as "gravel" or "flakka." Common effects on users include: extreme paranoia; hallucinations; elevated blood pressure; extremely high body temperature; excited delirium; staying awake for days; hostility and having exceptional strength without apparent fatigue. These are many of the characteristics

of the drug that make it very dangerous for the user but also for law enforcement responding to people who are high on it.

According to plea agreements on file with the US District Court Clerk, Allen, Stallard and Ward conspired to distribute a combined aggregate total of approximately 11,400 grams of a-PVP.

Others who were previously sentenced in this a-PVP trafficking investigation include Austin Michael Stallard, Johnny Michael

Stallard, Phillip Wayne Mullins, Johnny White, Evelyn Vickers and Michael Ray Mangum, who were sentenced by the Honorable R. Leon Jordan, U.S. District Court Judge to 121 months, 180 months, 151 months, 120 months, 110 months and 120 months in federal prison respectively.

Law enforcement agencies participating in the investigation which led to the indictment and subsequent conviction of Allen, Stallard and Ward and their co-defendants include the

Drug Enforcement Administration; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; Homeland Security Investigations; Sullivan County Sheriff's Office; Kingsport Police Department; Hawkins County Sheriff's Department; Johnson City Police Department; Greeneville Police Department; Hendersonville, North Carolina Police Department; and Scott County, Virginia Sheriff's Office. Assistant U.S. Attorney Wayne Taylor represented the United States.

Obits ctd. from pg. 4

and Warren Shepherd; sister, Shirley Brown, and granddaughter, Sarah Pate. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, David and Cartha Hardin; daughters and son-in-law, Cindy and Johnny Pate, and Terry Sims; grandchildren: John, David and wife, Nikkie, Kellie and husband, Jason, and Ben; great-grandchildren, Hannah, Haylie and Logan; several nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 16th at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City with funeral services to follow at 7 p.m. Family and friends will gather at the funeral home by 9:30 Friday morning and proceed to the Lakeview Memory Gardens for 10 a.m. graveside services. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

Johnny Leon Hatley, 45 of Sweetwater, passed away suddenly at UT Hospital, Tuesday, July 14, 2015. Preceded in death by father, Ernest Paul Hatley. Survivors; wife, Robin Letsinger Hatley; children, Justin Hatley, Dustin Hatley and fiancée, Carrie Chesser and Kassye Hatley, all of Sweetwater; grandchildren, Summer Chesser and Aaron Humfleet; mother, Virginia Brummitt Hatley; brothers, Ernest P. Hatley, II and Clarence Hatley; sister, Teresa Sanders; nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held 6:00 PM Saturday, July 18 at Westview Community Church. Visitation will be 4:00 - 6:00, prior to the memorial service.

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Forum ctd. from pg. 3
applications.

Once in the forum, members—in addition to buying and selling criminal cyber products and services—used it to exchange ideas, knowledge, and advice on any number of cyber-related fraud schemes and other illegal activities. It was almost like a think tank for cyber criminals.

What's the significance of this case, believed to be the largest-ever coordinated law enforcement effort directed at an online cyber criminal forum? In addition to shutting down a major resource for cyber criminals, law enforcement infiltrated a closed criminal forum—no easy task—to obtain the intelligence

and evidence needed to identify and prosecute these criminals. And this action paid off with a treasure trove of information that ultimately led to the dismantlement of the forum and law enforcement actions against dozens of its worst criminal members around the world.

The case was led by the FBI's Pittsburgh Field Office, with assistance from our offices in Washington, San Diego, and a number of others around the country. But it wouldn't have happened without the support of Europol and other partners in 19 countries. And in addition to the FBI obtaining enough evidence for search warrants and indictments in the U.S., we shared information with our foreign part-

ners to help them make their own cases against the Darkode perpetrators residing in their jurisdictions.

Operation Shrouded Horizon is a prime example of why the most effective way to combat cyber crime—which operates globally—is a law enforcement response that also transcends national borders.

Assault

victim was prescribed. Deputy spoke with Brett who stated that he did not touch the victim but did get in her face and was mad because victim would not give him the medicine. Brett told victim he was going to make her day hell because she would not give him the medicine.

Victim told Brett to go to his room he refused and stated no one could make him not her his step dad or the cops, he would kick their butts. During the time Deputy was speaking with victim Brett began to act out and try to argue with the victim. At that time Brett was place

in the back seat of the patrol car to try and diffuse the situation. The victim stated that Brett has been arrest multiple time for domestic assault, and still continue to bully victim. Brett was placed under arrest. Deputy Kevin Dailey LCSO, made the arrest.

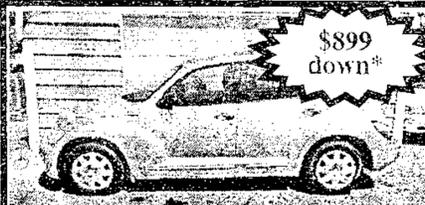
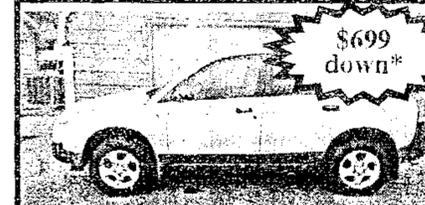
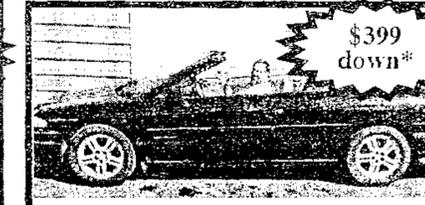
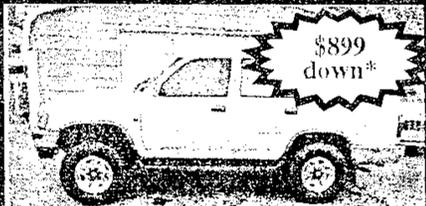
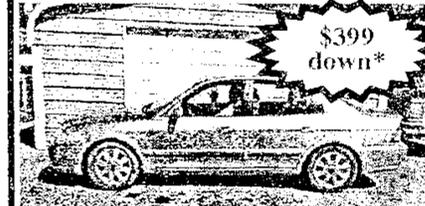
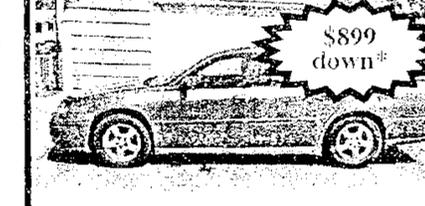
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