

DAILY EDITION

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, February 5, 2007

Drug sting nets 2

Police arrested two persons Wednesday during a drug sting at a local residence where a large amount of cocaine base was found. One of the persons was found in her vehicle in the alleged dealer's driveway during the sting and was

(see Sting pg. 4)



Grubb



Cannon

Speeding driver goes to jail

A speeding Knoxville woman was jailed after she was clocked

by LPD Officer April Farmer driving 66 m.p.h. in a 45 m.p.h.

zone.

The report stated that Officer Farmer

(see Jail pg. 7)

DA announces membership in DTF

Russell Johnson, District Attorney General for the Ninth Judicial District, announced that all four sheriffs' offices and

all nine municipal police departments within the four-county district have joined forces with the District Attorney to reorganize

the DTF from the previous membership of three agencies to full representation from all agencies in the four counties. Gen-

(see DTF pg. 9)

Public meetings slated

The Lenoir City Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 6:00 p.m. February 6, 2007 at Lenoir City Hall with the Lenoir City Board of Zoning Appeals immediately following.

(see Lenoir City pg. 8)

The Loudon Regional Planning Commission will meet at 12:30 p.m. February 7, 2007, at the Courthouse Annex with the Loudon Board of Zoning Appeals immediately fol-

(see Loudon pg. 10)

Phone stolen

A Loudon woman called police Monday to report her cell phone stolen over the last two weeks.

According to reports, Deputy Brad Rayfield, LCSD, responded to

(see Phone pg. 6)

Wreck results in arrest

A Greenback woman was jailed after she was involved in a wreck on Hwy 411 South near Hwy 95.

The report stated that LCSD Deputy Steve Helm was dispatched to a wreck on Hwy. 411 in Greenback where he came in contact with Mistina

Epperson Bowman who was one of the drivers that was involved in the wreck.

When Deputy Helm called Bowman's information through NCIC, it was discovered that her license had been suspended due to failure to satisfy citations. Bowman

(see Wreck pg. 10)

Icy roads cause crash

A Loudon woman lost control of her vehicle due to icy road conditions and careened into a ditch.

No injuries were reported, but the woman's vehicle may have sustained damage in the mishap.

(see Crash pg. 6)

Fishing with Gus

Old Delmer jumped out of the boat; the water was just over his belt. Everyone else in

the boat was watching as if they knew something big was about to happen.

(see Fishing pg. 3)

Letter to the Editor

Arp Doesn't Want You to Know!

(see pg. 11)

Editor: Daily Edition; It appears that Mayor Doyle Arp is at it again. Your right to know is at jeopardy. At the last workshop

meeting and with NO public discussion, Mayor Doyle Arp presented his latest seven-page public records resolution. This

Verse of the day

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. James 1:5

Obituaries

Edna Martha Jones Rogers

Weather:

Today: Snow showers at times. Highs in the upper 30s.

Tonight: Lows in the

upper teens.

Tuesday: A few clouds. Highs in the upper 30s and lows in the low 20s.

Wazzup

Hey Tim, Butch and Mary are just friends,

don't you wish you had one!

Horoscopes:

Aquarius

(Jan 21-Feb 19)

Your spirits need a boost. It's time to take yourself out. You can

go solo or not, but it's important to get out there and have a fantastic time. You'll find inspiration for so many other parts of your life too.

(see Horoscopes pg. 2)

Horoscopes

Pisces

(Feb 20-Mar 20)

Less is more? Phooey on that. You know that you need extravagance to really appreciate moderation. If one is fun, give two (or a few more) a try. You have such panache that you make excess seem like the right way to go.

Aries

(Mar 21-Apr 20)

Your audience just loves it when you keep them guessing. Heck, you're starting to get pretty fond of yourself. When you have no expectations, oftentimes you end up surprising yourself with the results.

Taurus

(Apr 21-May 20)

You just love being master of revels, especially when a physical activity is involved. So take your crew skiing, snorkeling -- whatever it is that gets your heart racing and keeps your mind on red-alert.

Gemini

(May 21-June 21)

Explore the unknown. Maybe that means spending more time inside your own head. Maybe that means getting out of the neighborhood or even out of the country. It's up to you. Just make sure you expand your boundaries.

Cancer

(Jun 22-Jul 22)

Things can get heated on the work front. You know it's

time for your star to shine, but someone else may not be in total accordance. Find a neutral spot and discuss the situation. You can work it out.

Leo

(Jul 23-Aug 23)

Flowers draw bees just by standing there, and you draw attention just by existing. Revel in the attention. If, however, some of this buzzing gets more annoying than flattering, be sure to put up your boundaries.

Virgo

(Aug 24-Sep 23)

Believe it or not, but you do have a say in the final outcome. In fact, people might actually be looking to you to see what they should do next. Assume the mantle of leadership. After all, you wear it so well.

Libra

(Sept 24-Oct 23)

Open yourself up to the divine flow and order of things. The universe will nudge everything that you need within your reach. It might sound too good to be true, but things don't have to be hard in order to be worthwhile.

Scorpio

(Oct 24-Nov 22)

Doing the right thing is a constant theme in your life, but taking advantage of your natural skills isn't leaving someone else at a disadvantage. It's time to let your personal star shine brightly.

Sagittarius

(Nov 23-Dec 21)

Some times you just know you're in the right place at the right time. The stars send you a confirmation of that belief right now. When you're in the moment, you're able to make the right choices for the future.

Capricorn

(Dec 22-Jan 20)

Luck is definitely a part of your day, so let yourself go. Serendipity takes care of most of your major

concerns. This isn't your usual mode, but could you get used to this kind of thing? Absolutely.

Helpful Tips

To remove those tough stains from the bottom of a glass

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Obituaries

Edna Martha Jones Rogers, age 90 of Lenoir City, passed away Tuesday, January 30, 2007. She was a member of Woodlawn Baptist Church. Preceded in death by husband, V. C. Rogers; sisters, Marie Bass and Jean Thornburg. Edna is survived by sons, Herschel W. Rogers and wife, Barbara, Kenneth Rogers and wife, Debbie; daughter, Joyce Justice and husband, Kenneth, Barbara Luttrell and husband, Joe, Betty Daniel and husband, Jimmy; 10 grandchildren; 8 great grandchildren; sisters, Helen Tipton of Knoxville and Carrie Shelton of Indiana; several nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Saturday at Click Funeral Home.

Funeral services will follow at 2 p.m. with Dr. Ronny Jones officiating. Burial will be private. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is serving the family of Edna Martha Jones Rogers.

Fishing

Delmer made his way slowly out towards the mouth of the creek; he said there was a huge log that had a whole the size of a 55 gallon drum wallowed under it. He dove down and was under several minutes, then we saw air bubbles exploding to the surface. Delmer's head shoots out of the water and he's screaming "O Lord it's got me," then back under the water

he went.

See, apparently Delmer found the entrance to a beaver dam and Mrs. Mama Beaver thought she could take Old Delmer and the fight was on.

Toad moved the boat closer using the paddle. Delmer came up for air again and saw Toad with the paddle. He said, "Hit this thing, lord it's a killing me."

Toad said "I can't I might hit you."

The next time Delmer came up for air he yelled, "Just swing that paddle anyway, one of us has got to go," and Toad swung.

They got the beaver stuffed. It sits above

the wader department at Toad's Bait Store; you'll recognize it. That happens to be the only stuffed beaver in Tennessee with a paddle screwed to his head. -Gus

Police Beat

Wesley Ryan Evans, 26, of Stockton Valley Road, Philadelphia, was charged with DUI.

According to the report, Officer Bennie Houser, LPD observed a vehicle on Grove St. in front of the nursing home driving on the centerline. After stopping the vehicle Mr. Evans had a strong odor of an intoxicant on his person and stated he had not had anything

to drink.

The officer then observed a 12 pack of beer sitting in the passenger's floorboard.

After getting Evans out of the vehicle he admitted to consuming two beers. He was taken to the ER for a BAC test.

Daniel Blake Akins, 21, of Vonore Road, Loudon, was charged with public intoxication.

According to the report, Akins was a passenger in the vehicle and had a strong odor of an intoxicant on his person and stated he had drank one beer. Officer Bennie Houser, LPD made the arrests.

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Sting

taken into custody when hard drugs and paraphernalia were found in her possession.

John Mitchell Grubb II, 21, Chestnut Ridge Drive, was charged with possession of schedule II oxycontin, possession of schedule II roxycodone, possession of schedule II cocaine base for resale, simple possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Ashley M. Cannon, 20, also of Chestnut Ridge Drive, was charged with possession of schedule II cocaine base, possession of schedule II oxycontin and possession of drug paraphernalia.

According to numerous records filed by Sgt. Billy Hall, LCSD LCND, at approximately 6:36 p.m. Wednesday, members of the Loudon County Narcotics Division including Lt. Jeff Vitatoe and Deputy Michael Watkins, served a search warrant at the Chestnut Ride residence where they

found Grubb outside the rear of the home. When the immediate area was searched, a white, rock substance believed to cocaine base was located and weighed 14.7 grams.

A search of Grubb's person reportedly produced a bag of pills identified as 2 green 80 mg oxycontin and 4 light green pills identified as roxycodone, less than three grams of what was believed to be marijuana, a metal pipe used to smoke cocaine base and a knife that had cocaine base on it.

Records indicate a search of the home produced scales, plastic baggie, cut plates, pill crushers, a .22 caliber handgun, one half of an 80 mg oxycontin and one half smoked marijuana cigarette.

The lawman reported Grubb admitted to selling cocaine base and using oxycontin.

Records further indicate when officials arrived at the location, Cannon was found in the driveway in a white, Chevy Cavalier. K-9 Officer Draga

was deployed around the car and alerted in the area of the passenger side door. A search of the vehicle produced a white substance believed to be cocaine base in a compartment under the radio.

Also found in the

vehicle was a purse that contained two pills believed to be 80 mg oxycontin, a metal hose clamp used to crush pills for consumption and a cut straw also used to consume crushed pills. Cannon identified the purse as hers.

Both 21 year old Grubb and 20 year old Cannon are unemployed.

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For Sale: blue Lazy Boy & maroon chair with ottoman. \$125 for both. Call 458-8504

Help Wanted: Exp. cook needed at Melton Hill Mkt. Apply in person.

For Sale: Boston terriers, champion blood line, parents AKC reg., 6 wks old, 1st shots, parents on premises. 423-836-3310

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Crash

According to records filed by Lt. Jeff Vittatoe, LCSD CID, Barbara Wells of Powell Drive was traveling on Pine Grove Providence Road at approximately 8:30 a.m. when she lost control of her 2006 Saturn View and came to rest in a ditch.

Wells' vehicle was towed with possible damage to front end and/or undercarriage. Wells was not injured.

Phone

Kerr Street, in reference to a stolen cell phone and upon arrival spoke with Priscilla Milian, of Industrial Park Drive who said sometime in the last two weeks someone stole her cell phone.

Milian reportedly advised she didn't know exactly when the US Cellular phone was taken but she had it earlier in the month.

Police Beat

David McKinley Stanley, 28, of Hidden Oaks Lane, Lenoir City, was charged with violation of probation.

According to the report, Mr. Stanley came to the Justice Center to turn himself in and a check came up with a VOP warrant.

According to the affidavit, Stanley was convicted of simple poss. x2 and was sentenced to probation for 11 months 29 days. Since then he has failed to report

to probation officer; failed to pay costs/fines, owes \$4033, failed to pay supervision fees, owes \$225; and failed to respond to notices.

Deputy Lonnie Gaut, LCSD made the arrest.

Victoria Medina, 19, of E Street, Lenoir City was charged with driving without a license.

Officer Blake Norman, LPD observed a white vehicle on Hwy 11 that was swerving across the roadway. The officer continued

to follow the vehicle and made a traffic stop.

The diver, Ms. Medina was found to be unlicensed. Israel Zavala Jimenes, 21, of E Street, Lenoir City was charged with public intoxication.

According to the report, Officer Blake Norman, LPD made a traffic stop where the driver was charged for driving without a license. He had a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage on his person and admitted to drinking.

Officer Blake Norman, LPD made the arrests.

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Jail

clocked a 99 Toyota traveling on Hwy. 72 going 66 milts per hour in a 45 speed limit zone.

Officer Farmer stated she pulled the vehicle over and identified the driver as Jessica Elizabeth Richards.

After running Richards information through NCIC it was discovered that her

license had been suspended due to failure to satisfy a citation and failure to pay child support.

Jessica Elizabeth Richards, 26, O'Barr Road Knoxville was charged with driving on a suspended license. Officer Farmer made the arrest.

Police Beat

Kenneth Edward Rhines, 71, of Grove Street, Loudon, was

charged with driving on revoked 2nd.

According to the report, Sgt. Kent Russell, LPD was dispatched to a possible reckless driver on Hwy 11. The officer observed the vehicle come across the bridge at a high rate of speed and cross the centerline.

After stopping the vehicle a check of Rhines license

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showed them to be revoked with a prior conviction out of Monroe County. Sgt. Kent Russell, LPD made the arrest.

David Earl Isaacs II, 40, of Lenoir City was charged with violation of probation.

According to the affidavit, Isaacs was convicted of SP and

sentenced to probation for 11 months 29 days.

Since then he has failed to report to probation officer; failed to pay costs/fines owes \$643.50; failed to pay supervision fees, owes \$1465; and failed to respond to notices.

Corporal Teresa Smith, LCSD made the arrest.

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Lenoir City

Planned LBZA Agenda items include:

Request consideration of approval of 8' 8" height variance (from 30' to 38'8") for sign located at 149 Kelsey Drive, referenced by Tax Map 15, Parcel 177.03, Zoned C-3, Highway Commercial District. Owner: MSM Development

Request consideration of front yard setback variance of 18' (from 30' to 12') due to donation of a portion of property to the city for right-of-way for Adesa Blvd. at Loudon County Visitor's Center, referenced by Tax Map 15, Parcel 68.00, Zoned C-3, Highway Commercial District. Owner: Loudon County Chamber of Commerce

Request consideration of side yard variance of 1' (from 5' to 5') for property located at 308 Waller Street, referenced by Tax Map 20N, Group C, Parcel 44.00, Zoned R-2, Medium Density Residential District. Owner: Larry Jones and Mike Musselman

Request consideration of approval of rear yard variance of 13' (from 20' to 7') and approval of accessory structure in side yard for property located at 451 Bethel Drive, referenced by Tax Map 15L, Group B, part of Parcel 21.00, Zoned R-4, Residential District. Owner: Habitat for Humanity

Request consider-

ation of approval of accessory structure in side yard for property located at 485 Bethel Drive, referenced by Tax Map 15L, Group B, part of Parcel 21.00, Zoned R-4, Residential District. Owner: Habitat for Humanity

Request consideration of approval of accessory structure in side yard for property located at 490 Bethel Drive, referenced by Tax Map 15L, Group B, Parcel 19.00, Zoned R-4, Residential District. Owner: Habitat for Humanity

Planned LCRPC Agenda items include:

Request consideration of approval of special exception to have law office at 205 Kingston Street, referenced by Map 20K, Group H, Parcel 36.00, Zoned R-3, High Density Residential District. Owner: Gary Fox

Request consideration of final plat approval of 3 lot subdivision re-plat for property located on Bethel Drive, referenced by Tax Map 15L, Group B, Parcels 37.00 & 21.00, Zoned R-4, Residential District. Owner: Habitat

for Humanity

Request consideration of approval of revised preliminary plat Water's Edge Development, a 30 unit condominium development, on 13.29 acres of property on Riverview Drive with access provided from Industrial Park Blvd., referenced by Tax Map 26, Parcel 58.00, Zoned R-2, Medium Density Residential District. Owner: Water's Edge Development

Woman assaults husband

A Loudon woman was charged with assault by domestic violence after she reportedly hit her husband several times in the face and cut the phone cord when he tried to dial 911.

The report stated that Deputy TJ Scarbrough, LCSD, was called to a Hwy 72 residence in reference to a domestic assault.

When Deputy Scarbrough arrived he reported finding the husband of Laura Ann Monks, who stated that Laura had hit him several times in the face and cut the phone cord when he tried to call 911. Laura's husband reported to Deputy Scarbrough

that Laura also hit him with a belt.

Deputy Scarbrough's report stated that red marks were visible on the husband's neck and arms.

Laura Ann Monks, 35, Hwy 72 North Loudon was charged with assault by domestic violence. LCSD Deputy TJ Scarbrough made the arrest.

Underage drinker

A Lenoir City man was arrested after he was pulled over for speeding and the officer noticed a strong odor of alcoholic beverage on his person.

According to the report, LCPD Officer Jason Butler clocked a vehicle traveling on Old Hwy 95 doing 42 in a 30 mph zone. When he stopped the vehicle, he reported he noticed a strong alcoholic beverage smell about the driver's person who allegedly had slurred speech and red blood shot eyes.

Officer Butler stated he then asked Bran-

don Michael Haynes to perform field sobriety tests, in which he performed poorly and was arrested.

Brandon Michael Haynes, 20, Old Midway Road, Lenoir City was charged with underage driving while impaired.

Officer Butler assisted by LCPD Officer Nicholas Lawson made the arrest.

Police Beat

Anita M. McCollum, 30, Jim Hartsook Drive, Lenoir City was picked up on criminal responsibility warrant after she reported to officials that her husband assaulted her, but that she had an order of protection against him, but still yet she reported they were trying to work things out.

The order of protection was said to have been for no contact, in which McCollum had violated by having contact with her husband.

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eral Johnson stated that "full membership in the DTF was one of my main campaign goals and we achieved that at our first organizational meeting." The DTF is fully operational with the assistance of TBI and its drug agents. The offices and training room for the DTF are located in the District Attorney General's Office in Kingston.

The DTF staff is headed by Director BR Ladd. Ladd and his staff appreciate the cooperation and participation from

Loudon County Sheriff Tim Guider, Lenoir City Chief Don White and Loudon PD Chief James "Bear" Webb in the joint operations. "Oftentimes we use officers from other agencies for these operations and the DTF supplies equipment or other assets that only the DTF can obtain using its 'district-wide umbrella of operation'," Ladd explains, "but without the support of these three agencies in Loudon County we could not be as effective in combating the drug trafficking problem." Using

the assistance of TBI and its own Hispanic DTF agent, the DTF is concentrating on the growing problem of drugs being brought into the area by illegal aliens or the Hispanic drug network.

Since its reorganization the DTF and its agents have participated in Drug Interdiction Initiatives for Appalachian High Intensity Drug Trafficking Agency (A-HIDTA) along Interstate 75 in Loudon County. On three separate occasions participation has included officers or agents from the Loudon County Sheriff's Office, Lenoir City Police Department and/or Loudon Police Department. These interdiction efforts have resulted in several major arrests of individuals moving marijuana and other illegal drugs through or to Loudon County and the other counties of the Ninth Judicial District. The DTF is constantly

working with TBI and other local agencies in cooperation on drug enforcement operations, including a take down of three high drug traffic locations on Friday, January 5th in Roane County in operation "Dinner Out" which resulted in arrests of three major alleged drug traffickers. DTF operations have also included recent operations in Harriman and Loudon where cocaine and crack were found and property seized from alleged drug dealers.

The DTF welcomes confidential information about illegal drug activities. To report this information or for more information on the 9th Drug Task Force or the Office of District Attorney General Russell Johnson contact DTF Administrative Assistant Angie Housley at 865 376-2145 ext. 152 or at ashousley@tndagc.org

No brake lights, No license = jail

A Lenoir City man was arrested after he was pulled over for not having any brake lights on his vehicle and was found to be unlicensed.

According to the report, LCSD Deputy Chris Jenkins was on routine patrol when he noticed a vehicle traveling on Hwy 11 with no taillights.

When the deputy stopped the vehicle and made contact with the driver, he was identified as Michael John McLemore.

Once discovering that McLemore's license had been suspended for failure to satisfy citations back in 2005, Deputy Jenkins charged Michael John McLemore, 26, 2nd Ave. Lenoir City with driving on suspended.

Driving on revoked

A Loudon man was arrested once more for driving on revoked license after he was recognized by a LPD officer.

The report stated that LPD Officer Brad Parks noticed Walter Brian Underwood behind the wheel of a vehicle at the intersection of Vale and Highland Avenues.

Officer Parks recollected having knowledge of Underwood not having a license, and performed a traffic stop.

Underwood openly admitted to the officer that he did not have a driver's license and was out on bond for a previous driving on revoked license charge.

Walter Brian Underwood, 44, Vale Street, Loudon was charged with driving on revoked license.

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Loudon

lowing.

Planned LRPC agenda items include:

Request consideration of final plat approval of 3 lot subdivision of property located at 822, 824, and 828 Commerce Street, referenced by Tax Map 41H, Group D, Parcel 11.00 & 12.00, Zoned R-2, High Density Residential District. Owner: Lynn & Phyllis Millsaps

Request consideration of preliminary plat approval of 159 lot subdivision of 81.50 acres of property, Rarity Landings, Phase 1, located on Poplar Springs Road, referenced by Tax Map 33, Parcel 80.00, Zoned R-1, Low Density Residential District. Owner: Tellico Lake Properties LLC

Request consideration of preliminary plat approval of 35 lots in Pod 1, Phase 1 in Tennessee National Golf and Residential Development, Zoned Planned Development District (PDD), located in Matlock Bend, referenced by Tax Map 23, part of Parcel 1.00. Owner: Tennessee National LLC

Request consideration of preliminary plat approval of 51 lots in Pod 8 in Tennessee National Golf and Residential Development, Zoned Planned Development District (PDD), located in Matlock Bend, referenced by Tax Map 23, part of Parcel 1.00. Owner: Tennessee National

LLC

Request consideration of approval of site plan for E-911 Communications Center located on Maremont Parkway, referenced by Tax Map 40, Parcel 55.00, Zoned R-2, High Density Residential District. Owner: City of Loudon / Applicant: Loudon County

Request consideration of release of \$100,000 letter of credit for Sweetwater Creek Phase I. Owner: Saddlebrook

Request consideration of reduction of letter of credit from \$46,397 to \$17,600 for Pod 6 of Tennessee National Development

Request consideration of reduction of letter of credit from \$153,500 to \$38,720 for Club Road of Tennessee National Development

Request consideration of release of \$74,836 letter of credit for Spine Road of Tennessee National Development

Request discussion of Bonds vs. Letters of Credit for future improvements in Tennessee National.

Request approval of Philadelphia Municipal Floodplain Ordinance

Planned LBZA agenda items include:
Request consideration of approval of extension of 18 month time period allowed for temporary structure located on Elizabeth Lee Parkway, referenced by Tax Map 39, part of Parcel 48.00, Zoned

C-4, Interchange Commercial District. Applicant: Tennessee National LLC

Request consideration of variances for properties located at 822, 824, and 828 Commerce Street: rear yard variance of 3' (from 15' to 12') for Lot 31R; front yard variance of 10' (from 25' to 15') for lot 25R; and side yard variance of 4' (from 10' to 6') for Lot 25R, referenced by Tax Map 41H, Group D, Parcel 11.00 & 12.00, Zoned

R-2, High Density Residential District. Owner: Lynn & Phyllis Millsaps

Request consideration of front yard variance of 10' (from 25' to 15') for property located at 401 Ward Avenue, referenced by Tax Map 41A, Group G, Parcel 20.00, Zoned R-2, Medium Density Residential District. Owner: Ken Brewster

Disturbance leads to PI charges

Two Lenoir City men were charged with PI after police were called to their residence in reference to a fight.

LCPD Officer Jeremy Dishner reported that he was dispatched to Ashe Avenue and found two men identified as Thomas D. Bryant a.k.a. (Daniel), 19, Turnman Drive Lenoir City and Robert L. Smith, 20, W. 1st Avenue, Lenoir City.

Both men were reported to be unsteady on their feet, had slurred speech and smelled of an alco-

holic beverage. Both men were charged with PI. Officer Dishner made the arrests.

Wreck

also could not provide proof of insurance of the vehicle she was driving.

Deputy Helm arrested Bowman and charged her with driving on suspended and gave her a citation for failure to provide proof of insurance.

Police Beat

Thomas Raddford Peters, 20, Buttermilk

Road, Lenoir City, was charged with driving on suspended license Friday.

According to records, Officer Mark Maxwell, LCPD, stopped Peters' vehicle after he clocked it on radar traveling 60 M.P.H. in a 40 M.P.H. zone along Highway 321 and upon checking is license learned Peters' driving privileges are suspended for failure to satisfy a citation.

RIDDLE

**Where will you find
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forests without trees
and cities without
houses?**

Look for answer in Monday's Edition



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and**

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Letters to the Editor

Arp Doesn't Want You to Know!



policy differs very little from his first policy.

Commissioners, please do not discourage citizens from seeking information. Our role as citizens is to participate in open, honest government based on democratic principles. Citizens have constitutional rights and freedoms.

This is not the first time that a mayor and commission have tried to strip citizens of their rights. Back in the 1990's commission tried to impose fees for actual personnel costs related to time spent retrieving, accessing and supervising public records based upon each involved employees effective hourly rate of pay including benefits. This was stopped dead in its tracks and your involvement made this possible. The policy was also determined to be illegal.

Last fall, Commissioner Bob Franke requested Mayor Arp follow the Open Records Law and that Arp

appoint a public records commission, as required by state law. To date, Mayor Arp has refused to do so.

The Open Records Act states, "All state, county and municipal records... shall at all times, during business hours, be open for personal inspection by any citizen of Tennessee, and those in charge of such records shall not refuse such right of inspection to any citizen, unless otherwise provided by state law."

The mayor has complained about citizens requesting to see official records? What does he fear? The records belong to the people, not the office holder. "Unless public records are well organized, compliance with public records requests is difficult, undermining public confidence in government and hindering a county office's relationship with the citizens it serves." SOURCE: County Technical Assistance Services- University of Tennessee (CTAS, UT)

The mayor proposes outrageous fees for copies to discourage the free flow of public information. Copies at the local copy store are five cents a copy.

Why does the mayor feel that he has to gouge taxpayers? Taxpayers now pay about ninety percent (90%) of a county employee's insurance benefits while people in the private sector either have no insurance, pay higher premiums, reduced benefits and more out of pocket expenses.

Please commissioners, do not play follow the leader or violate the freedoms and rights of the people of our community. Thousands of brave service men and women have died on foreign land to spread democracy and to protect and uphold our rights and freedoms. As Americans, we must stand up for the principles set forth by our Founding Fathers. We must speak out when administrations seem set on an agenda to systematically dismantle our rights and freedoms, one by one. Officials that abuse their power and governmental authority keep secrets and endeavor to control the lives of others for private gain.

Your involvement CAN make a difference. Please contact ALL commissioners and voice your concerns about Mayor Arp's latest public records policy, which will do away with your freedoms and rights. A list of commissioner names, phone numbers and emails is provided to your readers below. Please come fill a seat and see your commissioners in action. YOUR elected representatives will vote for or against closed government on Feb. 5, 2007 (Monday), Annex (Loudon) at

6:00 pm.

Thank you,

Pat Hunter, Lenoir City

Loudon County Elected Representatives 2006-2007

Mayor Doyle Arp
Phone: 458-4664 office,
458- 3980 home, Email:
darp@loudoncounty.org

1st District - Nancy Marcus, Phone: 458-8581,
Email: kens300@aol.com

David Meers, Phone:
458-2414, Email:
dmeers2414@charter.net
2nd District - Earlena Maples - Phone 986-6772,
Email: emaples@lucub1.com

Shirley Reno - Phone
986-1256, Email: s_reno@bellsouth.net

3rd District - Bob Franke
Phone: 856-0303, Email:
rdfranke@msn.com

4th District Roy Bledsoe
(Chairman) Phone: 458-2829

5th District Harold Duff
- Phone 988-6647, Email:
superhbd@aol.com

Chris Park - Phone: 986-1229, Email: cwpark@cvs.com

6th District - Wayne Gardin, Phone: 988-4433
Email: wgardin@aol.com

7th District - Don Miller, Phone: 458-0658, Email:
tvdrmler@aol.com

Police Beat

David McKinley Stanley, 28, Hidden Oaks Lane, Lenoir City, was taken into custody after he turned himself into authorities at the Loudon County Justice Center on a warrant for violation of probation.

Stanley was placed on probation for simple possession x2 in January 2006, and has approximately \$4258 left in unpaid fines and fees.

LCSD Deputy Lonnie Gaut made the arrest.

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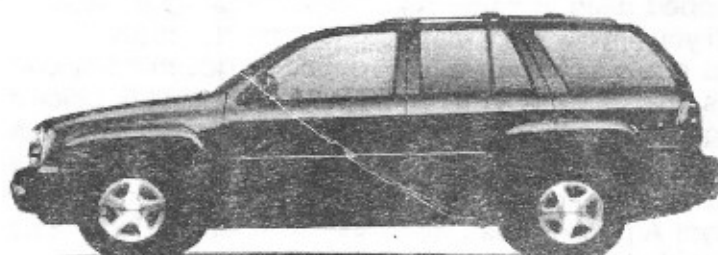
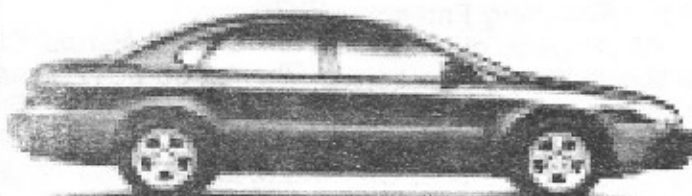
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