

THE WE HONOR OUR VETERANS TODAY 50c DAILY EDITION

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Tuesday, November 11, 2008

Manhunt ends with capture in joint FBI, LCSD effort

Authorities from numerous agencies including Federal Bureau of Investigation, Loudon County Sheriff's Department, Monroe County Sheriff's Department, Blount County Sheriff's Department, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Maryville Police Department, Roane County Sheriff's Office, Clinton Police Department, Lenoir City Police Department

(see Ellis pg. 6) Christopher Alan Ellis



Residence trashed, items stolen after eviction

A young local woman called authorities Monday when she discovered some former room mates had trashed her home and stolen some of her property after she asked them to move out.

Deputy Daryl Smith, LCSD, responded to the call and reported he spoke with an 18 year old Highway 72 North woman who advised five

people whom she identified had been living at her residence with her permission and after a disagreement over expenses she asked them to move out.

The young woman advised the parties moved out while she was at work and upon arrival home she found some of her property missing and the residence vandalized.

(see Residence pg. 7)

THP Terminates Trooper Marty Nix Following False Complaint

Nashville, - The Tennessee Department of Safety (TDOS) served Trooper Marty Nix with a "minimum due process letter for termination" Monday following an investigation into a false complaint Nix made against a THP Lieutenant in the Knoxville District.

"I recommended to Commissioner Dave Mitchell that Trooper Nix be terminated for conduct unbecoming," stated Colonel Mike Walker. "The recommendation to terminate was based upon evidence developed during

an investigation conducted by the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR).

The internal investigation revealed that on Friday, February 29, 2008, Trooper Nix made an anonymous phone call to Staff Attorney Deborah Martin, making serious allegations against a Lieutenant with the Highway Patrol's Knoxville District. As required by policy, investigators interviewed the female employee who was reported to be the victim of alleged sexual gestures by the Lieutenant. The female

(see Nix pg. 3)

Vehicle vandalized

Police were called to investigate the vandalism of a woman's vehicle while it was parked at the Justice Center Monday.

According to records, Cathleen Ramsey of Spring City told Deputy Bryan Blakney, LCSD, she was in court Tuesday and while in the courtroom someone keyed deep scratches all down the passenger side of her 2002 Nissan Quest van.

Ramsey identified several

(see Vehicle pg. 4)

Unlocked truck burgled

Thieves took advantage of an unlocked truck Tuesday when they pilfered the cab and took several outdoor items from it.

According to reports, Amber Goins, Caldwell Road, told Deputy J. Goddard, LCSD, she went outside around 1:28 a.m. to check on the chickens because they were making a lot of noise and while she was out she saw the doors on her

(see Burglary pg. 7)

Verse of the day

And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know. But if any man love God, the same is

known of him.

1 Corinthians 8:2-3

Obituaries

Bessie Lillian Bange
Armstrong
Carolyn Ann Montgomery Cook
Glen Gene Robinson

Weather:

Today: Mostly cloudy skies with a few showers later in the day. High near 60. CoR: 30%.
Tonight: Rain showers in the evening becoming more intermittent overnight. Low 42. CoR:

40%.

Wednesday: Showers. Highs: low 60s; Lows: mid 40s.

Wazzup

A big shout out to our friend Lisa, who works at the Shell Mart in Loudon!

Horoscopes Scorpio

(Oct 24-Nov 22)

Play the peacemaker today -- especially in conflicts involving you, directly or indirectly (see Horoscopes pg. 2)

Obituaries

Bessie Lillian Bange Armstrong, age 98, of Loudon, passed away Sunday morning, November 9, 2008 in Knoxville. She was born on February 11, 1910 in Baltimore, Maryland to the late George William Bange and Lillian E. Cain Bange. Her husband, Fred Armstrong; sons, Arthur and John Armstrong and her brother, Leonard William Bange, preceded her in death. She is survived by her daughter, Bettie Pifer of Crescent, PA along with 10 grandchildren and many great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren. Private memorial services will be held. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to your local Humane Society or Animal Rescue. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City serving the Armstrong

family. **Carolyn Ann Montgomery Cook**, age 59, of Lenoir City, passed away Sunday, November 9, 2008. She was a member of First Baptist Church and a former member of First Presbyterian Church both in Lenoir City. Carolyn was a former employee of K-25 in Oak Ridge. Her grandparents, John Floyd and Myrtle Conner; father, Bert Montgomery and brother, David Lynn Montgomery, preceded her in death. She is survived by her husband of 39 years, David B. Cook; mother, Manita Faye Conner Montgomery of Lenoir City; sisters, Beverly Adams and husband, Charles of Farragut, Linda Faye Patterson and husband, Johnny of Mobile, Ala.; brothers, Robert Eugene Montgomery and wife, Anita of Knoxville, John Conner Montgomery and

wife, Becky of Knoxville; many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday with funeral services to follow at 8 p.m. in the Click Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Ed Umbach officiating. Family and friends will gather at the funeral home by 10:30 a.m. Wednesday and proceed to Loudon County Memorial Gardens for graveside services at 11 a.m. Brothers and nephews will serve as pallbearers. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is serving the Cook family. **Glen Gene Robinson**, age 83 of Ten Mile, went home to be with his Heavenly Father, Friday, November 7, 2008 at UT Hospital. Gene was a deacon and member of East Hills Baptist Church where he also served for many years as the choir director. Music was always a very special part of the Robinson family life and Gene played a variety of stringed instruments including guitar, fiddle, banjo and mandolin. Gene didn't take to well to retirement so he went to work for the Loudon County Highway department and also for Town & Country Motors. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Willie (Harold) Robinson; wife, Una Mae (Selvidge) Robinson; brother, John M. Robinson; sisters, Pauline, Jessie, Bea and

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Lee and granddaughter, Randi Halcomb. Survivors include his wife, Mary (Pyles) Robinson, Ten Mile; sons, Eddie Robinson and Terry Robinson; daughter, Sharon Robinson, all of Loudon; grandchildren, Sonya Justice, Jennifer Viars, Chastity Robins, Michele Smith and Ricky Robinson; great grandchildren, Josh Babb, Spencer Viars, Hunter Hembree, Logan Viars, Haley, Erica and Bryan Robins, Dylan and Kayla Smith, Braden Baum; brother Curtis Robinson; step children, Ray and wife, Cheryl Walker, Ginny and husband, Mike Williams, all of Ten Mile; step grandchildren, Dana Parks, Dawn Massey, Tommy Williams, Tony Williams and Ryan Muir; step great grandchildren, Laekyn, Cana, Raegan and Cy Massey, Layne and Landon Parks, Cale, Alli and Kanon Williams; numerous nieces and nephews. Funeral services 6:00 PM Sunday, McGill Karnes Chapel, Rev. Tommy Patterson and Rev. Jeremy Sexton officiating. Family will gather 10:00 AM Monday at the funeral home and process to the Loudon County Memorial Gardens for an 11:00 AM interment service. The family will receive friends Sunday from 3:00-6:00 PM prior to the service at McGill Karnes Funeral Home, Loudon.

Nix

employee assured the investigative panel she had not been sexually harassed. On Thursday, March 13, 2008, Trooper Nix confirmed that he had made the anonymous phone call. On Thursday, March 20, 2008, Trooper Nix was interviewed as part of an official internal investigation and claimed that another Trooper had provided information to him on the allegations. A polygraph examination of Trooper Nix indicated deception.

"The Tennessee Highway Patrol cannot and will not tolerate employees who are not truthful," stated Colonel Walker. "The Highway Patrol cannot tolerate an employee who maliciously alleges serious sexual misconduct violations against supervisors without any factual information to support the allegation."

Monday's recommendation to terminate Trooper Nix is based upon six viola-

(Continued pg. 4)

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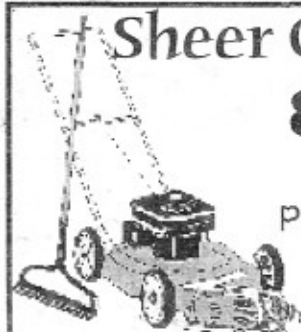
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Nix

(Continued from pg. 3)

tions of Department of Human Resources and Department of Safety rules and policies, including failure to maintain satisfactory and harmonious relationships with the public and fellow employees.

It is the policy of the Department of Safety to warn, suspend, demote or dismiss any employee whenever just or legal cause exists. Employees shall not commit any act that would reflect discredit upon themselves and/or the Department while on or off duty. Pursuant to Department of Personnel rules and regulations, Trooper Nix is entitled to due process.

The Tennessee De-

partment of Safety's mission is (www.tennessee.gov/safety) to ensure the safety and general welfare of the public. The department encompasses the Tennessee Highway Patrol, Office of Homeland Security and Driver License Services. General areas of responsibility include law enforcement, safety education, motorist services and terrorism prevention.

Vehicle

suspects and advised they, too had appeared in court on the matter and she had seen them around her vehicle earlier in the morning.

The value of the damage was estimated at \$3000.

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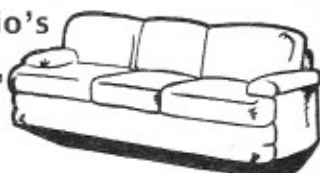
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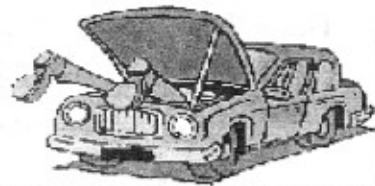
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Ellis

ment, Knox County Sheriff's Department, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms converged on the Bat Creek and Rarity Bay area of Monroe County early Sunday morning around 8 a.m. to search for Christopher Ellis who was wanted in three states and in Loudon County he was wanted for theft over \$1000, aggravated burglary, aggravated robbery and aggravated kidnapping and authorities have been searching for Ellis feverishly.

The manhunt came to an end when Sheriff Tim Guider, with very little notice, assembled nearly 150 law

officers from around the area to search for Ellis. On Friday night calls were received about the possible sighting of Ellis in Monroe County after the truck he stole from Loudon County was found. Over the weekend a person in Rarity Bay reported a bag of medical supplies was on his back porch. Several other tips were received as well including a woman who reported deer was spooked during the day and as a result of that tip authorities discovered a camping area where they believe Ellis had stayed prior to breaking into a home in Rarity Bay.

Just after 1 p.m.

Sunday officers found a home in Rarity Bay with a screen on the back of the house that was cut and when they investigated the home they found Christopher Ellis asleep in the master bedroom of the house. The homeowners have no connection to Ellis and in fact are in Illinois where they also reside.

Authorities first were on the lookout for Ellis after a carjacking in Atlanta Georgia where Ellis drove the victim to Loudon County where he entered the home of two Loudon County Deputies parents.

According to the reports, on Novem-

ber 3, 2008 at approximately 12:44 p.m. Christopher A. Ellis did enter the home of the victims on Trailview Drive in Loudon. Mr. Ellis then tied both subjects up with electric cord and telephone cords using a .22 caliber handgun as a weapon that was also taken from the victims. Mr. Ellis then after

tying the victims left with two guns, food, a cell phone and \$35 in cash from the victims home. Mr. Ellis also took a 1978 Chevy Scottsdale truck and left the scene. Mr. Ellis also told the victims he was Mr. Ellis.

Christopher A. Ellis, 31, of Dean Hill Road, Oneida, TN was charged with

(Continued pg. 7)



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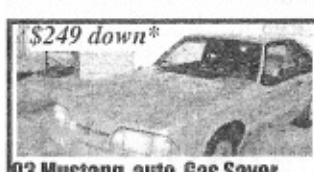
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theft over \$1000, aggravated burglary, aggravated robbery and aggravated kidnapping. Detective Sgt. Patrick Upton, LCSD CID filed the charges.

An FBI press release states, "Ellis was arrested on Federal charges filed in the Eastern District of Tennessee and faces possible additional charges for bank robbery."

Ellis is also wanted in Georgia on carjacking and kidnapping charges and in Kentucky for armed robbery and other charges.

Officers also wanted to say a Big Thank You to Extreme Powersports on Hwy 411 in Madisonville for donating 4-wheelers and Mules for them to use in the manhunt.

Residence

The officer reported he saw where pancake syrup had been squirted on the car-

pets in the bedrooms, living room, kitchen and hallway, as well as on the walls and furniture.

The woman further reported trash had been unloaded and piled in her yard, her propane grill had been overturned and thrown into the yard from her porch and her property had generally been ransacked throughout her home.

The deputy noted he did see evidence of disarray in multiple rooms throughout the residence.

Items missing reportedly include a Play Station 2, assorted tools, clothes, shoes, toiletries, baby towels, name brand makeup, Victoria's Secret lotions and a designer duffle bag, all which was valued at \$1225.

The case is under investigation.

Burglary

father's truck were open and the dome

light was on. She went back in to tell her dad about it and he went out to check and discovered several items missing.

James Goins reported when he went to lock the truck he found a pair of insulated camouflage bibs, an insulated camouflage coat and an Old Timer hunting knife with a 4" blade missing.

Mr. Goins further advised the truck had been unlocked when the burglary occurred.

The value of the loss was unknown at the time of the report.

Police Beat

Brian Matthew Abert, 18, of Little Emory Road, Harriman, was charged with disorderly conduct.

According to the report, Deputy Deland, LCSD was dispatched to Avery Circle to make a report of harassment. Upon arrival the victim stated while

she was at work her mother came to her residence demanding to take custody of her child. The child was being taken care of by her boyfriend.

After an altercation the mother left and said she was going to call DHS. Lenoir city was called to the mothers residence and they advised her Lindsey had full custody of the child and if the child was being taken care of there was nothing they could do.

Brian Abert told officers he was going to his girlfriends apartment and taking the child. Officers told him not to go.

The officer checked the welfare of the child and the living conditions and everything looked fine. While on scene Brian Abert approached the officer outside and he was verbally combative toward officers. They advised him to leave or he was going to jail and he became more combative and was taken into custody. Deputy Deland, LCSD made the arrest.

Kevin Coleman Stewart, 34, of Fog Hill Lane, Lenoir City was charged with assault by domestic violence.

According to the report, Deputy Michael Watkins LCSD was dispatched to a domestic violence call and upon arrival

there were three subjects outside and the officer made contact with Kevin. He advised he and his girlfriend have a child together and had been in an argument.

Upon making contact with victim she reported, along with a 12 year old, that Kevin held the victim against the wall around the neck choking her.

Both Kevin and the victim were extremely intoxicated. Deputy Michael Watkins LCSD made the arrest.

Robert Edward Stusse, 26, of Church Street, Loudon was charged with driving on suspended and possession of schedule III.

According to the report, Officer Dewayne Williams, LPD stopped a vehicle for only one working brake light. Stusse was found to have a suspended license for failure to satisfy citation in Knox County.

An inventory of the vehicle produced a white pill believed to be hydrocodone. Officer Dewayne Williams, LPD made the arrest.

Jason Ray Ramsey, 34 of Sunshine Lane, Vonore, was charged with a criminal court capias for failure to appear.

Deputy L. Gaut, LCSD made the arrest.

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Get the Facts About Flu and Flu Vaccine

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Nashville, - Influenza season is here, and the Department of Health is urging Tennesseans to get vaccinated. Now is the best time to get immunized against the flu in order to be protected from infection throughout the entire flu season.

"The flu vaccine is the best way to prevent infection from influenza viruses," said Kelly Moore, MD, MPH, director of the Tennessee Immunization Program. "Science shows this vaccine is safe and effective, and we urge anyone who has not yet received a flu vaccination to get one."

As we enter flu season every year, it is not uncommon to encounter myths and misinformation about the flu vaccine. To learn the facts, contact your primary health care provider or visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site

at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>.

While most people who get the flu recover fully within one to two weeks, some people develop serious, life-threatening complications such as pneumonia. Each year about 200,000 people in the United States are hospitalized and about 36,000 people die because of the flu. An estimated 700 flu-related deaths occur each year in Tennessee.

A flu immunization protects not only the person vaccinated, but his or her family, friends and coworkers as well. Protecting yourself from the flu also shields those who may not be able to get a vaccine, such as young infants or people with certain medical conditions.

New recommendations this year from the CDC urge vaccination for all school-aged children through age 18. Past recom-

mendations included only children ages 6 months to 5 years as a high risk group. It is especially important for people at high risk for contracting the flu, or anyone who comes into contact with a high-risk person, to get vaccinated. In addition to children, those considered at high risk include:

- * Pregnant women
- * Anyone over 50 years of age

- * Anyone with a chronic medical condition such as diabetes or heart disease

- * Residents of long-term care facilities and nursing homes

- * Anyone living with or caring for young infants or anyone in the above mentioned groups, especially healthcare providers

In addition to immunization, it's also important to practice good hygiene and proper respiratory etiquette during flu season to protect yourself from the virus, and to help prevent spread-

ing illness if you are sick. Commonsense precautions include washing your hands or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer frequently, keeping hands away from your face, and covering coughs and sneezes with a sleeve or tissue.

"Anyone sick with flu or flu-like symptoms should also stay home to avoid spreading illness to others," said Moore. "These precautions can also help prevent the spread of other illnesses including the common cold."

Flu vaccine comes in two forms, a shot and a nasal spray, and is widely available throughout Tennessee at locations including county health departments, private physicians' offices, community clinics, pharmacies and grocery stores. Learn more about the flu and the flu vaccine by visiting the Department of Health Web site

at <http://health.state.tn.us/>. To get information about vaccine availability, contact your health care provider or your county health department. A complete list of county health department locations is available online at <http://health.state.tn.us/localdepartments.htm>.

Police Beat

Richard Jason Sinclair, 31, of Bird Road, Lenoir City was charged with assault by domestic violence.

According to the report, Deputy Shane Ezell LCSD was dispatched to a disturbance call. On arrival the victim advised Richard Sinclair had come to the residence and kicked in the front door. He then came to the bedroom where she and her son were sleeping and attacked her, grabbing her by the arms and throwing her around the room. She was able to get to the phone and call 911.

Mr. Sinclair then left the residence and was gone upon arrival.

The officer observed the front door had been kicked in and the door frame was busted. Deputy Olwin Norman, LCSD made the arrest.

Cory Mitchell Brown, 20, of Lakeland Estates Drive was charged with two warrants out of General Sessions.

Officer Jason Butler, LCPD made the arrest.

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