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Friday, April 25, 2008

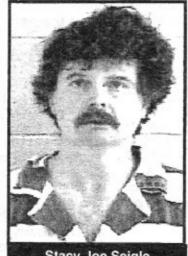
indicted, faces 16 counts

Diligent police work paid off for several communities when an accused scam artist was indicted by the Loudon County Grand Jury and charged with sixteen counts of theft.

The case of Stacy Joe Seigle came to light in November 2007, when a Tellico Village resident filed a theft report against him, claiming she had paid Seigle \$800 to work on her lawn.

Donna Reid told Detective Lt. Jeff Vittatoe, LCSD. Seigle informed her she had a mole problem that required immediate action before her lawn died. Reid got a second opinion and soon learned Seigle was taking her for a ride.

The lawman contacted Seigle and Seigle promised to do the work or return Mrs. Reid's money. Several weeks went by, however,



Stacy Joe Seigle

did he make an effort to return the money.

In January 2008, a warrant was issued for Seigle's arrest and when the detective called him to inform of it, Seigle said he would turn himself in. Again, Seigle failed to keep his word and did not show up.

Les Blair, another Tellico and Seigle did no work, nor Village resident, contacted (see Siegle pg. 4)

Credit card fraud

Police were called to investigate the fraudulent use of a local man's credit card Wednesday.

Patrick Mayfield, Shaw Ferry Road, went to the Justice Center where he told Detective Jason Smith, (see Fraud pg. 3)

Verse of the day

Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more

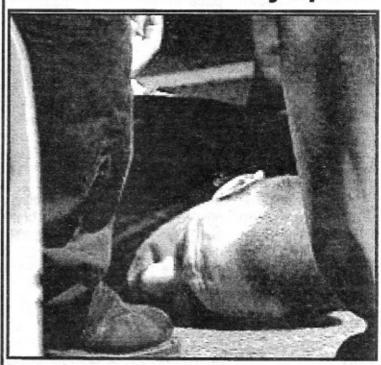
value than many spar-rows. Matthew 10:29-31

Obituaries

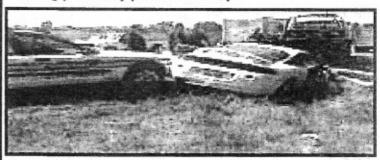
Henry Charles Foster Harry H. "Butch" McWilliams III Alberta E. Welch Kathryn Viars Brown Donna Lou Vangel Weather:

Today: Variable clouds with

Accused landscape scammer Local man leads police on chase after robbery spree



Loudon County resident Joseph Duggan, 30, is taken into custody after he lost control of his vehicle during an early morning pursuit by police Thursday.



A second person apprehended in the Eclipse was being questioned by police at press time (see Robbery pg. 7)

thunderstorms, especially in the afternoon. Warm. High near 80. CoR: 50%.

Tonight: Low near 60. Saturday: A few thunderstorms possible. Highs: low

80s; Lows: low 60s. Sunday: A few thunder-

storms possible. Highs: low 70s; Lows: low 50s.

Wazzup

Happy belated Assistant's Day to office workers everywhere!

Horoscopes Taurus.

(Apr 21-May 20)

Listen carefully to those (see Horoscopes pg. 2)

Fraud

LCSD, he discovered his FSG issued credit/ debit card had been

taken from his wallet and the keys to his Lexus also were missing.

Mayfield said he

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contacted FSG Bank and learned his debit card had been used at several locations including Lenoir City and Knoxville.

The lawman noted the card was used at Rocky Top Shell in Lenoir City at 12:27 a.m. for an amount of \$102 and Mayfield did identify a suspect in the theft.

Police Beat

Julia Rhea Hawkins. of Corinth Road, Loudon, was charged with disorderly con-

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duct and resisting ar-

According to the report, Deputy J. Goddard, LCSD was dispatched in Loudon on a possible fight call. Upon arrival there were several subjects standing outside the residence and there was screaming coming from inside.

Julia Hawkins was identified and was arauing with her brother about his girlfriend. Both were separated and Ms. Hawkins went to a different room and had blood coming from her mouth and stated he had a seizure and fell on the floor.

Ms. Hawkins came out of her seizures and became combative wanting to fight everyone. She had a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage on her person and was cursing officers and the victim. When they tried to take her into custody she resisted and had to be sprayed to be cuffed and transported to the jail. Deputy Goddard made the arrest.

\$250 Reward

For information leading to the return of the following vehicles:

Juan Manuel Jimanez, driving a purple 2001 Ford Trac Peggy Brown or Paco Velasquez driving a Tan 1997 **Ford Explorer**

Jamie Jones, Blue 2000 Ford Explorer 1997 Chevy Astro, brown stolen by Merlin Raul Navarro

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Siegle

Lt. Vittatoe in March. 2008. Blair said he knew Mrs. Reid and was familiar with her case, and that he. too had been victimized by Seigle. He also told the detective another neighbor lady had been victimized by the alleged scam artist as well.

A March 5, 2008 meeting with Blair and Village resident Iris Spurior was scheduled and minutes after hanging up, Blair called back to report seeing Seigle at the Texaco station in Tellico Village.

Lt. Vittatoe had Deputy Mickey Patterson go to the location to secure Seigle on the warrant issued back in January. He and Mr. Blair then made arrangements to advertise information about Seigle through a Tellico Village newsletter in hopes of finding any more potential victims of Seigle's. WBIR was contacted about running a story on Seigle and others of his like and the story aired on March The Daily Edition also ran a wanted feature on Seigle.

The detective would soon hear a barrage of complaints against Seigle.

According to Vittatoe, newsletter and media efforts resulted in a flood of residents coming to his office from retirement communities including Tellico Village, Kahiti, Rarity Bay, Thunder Point and other areas in Loudon and Monroe Counties.

"One by one each person was contacted and their stories were all too familiar concerning dealings with Stacy Seigle. Victims emerged from 2004 to present with dollar values ranging from a few hundred dollars to several thousand dollars paid to Stacy Seigle for work that was never completed," the Lieutenant wrote.

"In most cases, Seigle did 'treat' the lawns with a substance before finding the bigger 'grub and mole' problems that required more work and much more money. I believe that although Seigle did spray the lawns with and unknown substance, he did not 'do any work.' I believe he, too, was familiar with civil law to an extent, and only wanted to relieve himself of any criminal responsibility.

"Stacy Seigle preys on senior citizens, mainly in retirement communities, with the same song and dance and the same motive: theft."

The officer's efforts paid off. Seigle, 43, of Melanie Way, Knoxville, was charged with a criminal court capias for 16 counts of theft of property \$1000-\$10,000.

Deputy Brian Smith, LCSD made the ar-



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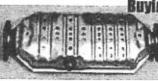
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Robbery

A local man suspected of robbing several area convenience stores was apprehended by police after he reportedly led officers on a high speed chase through at least three counties before the vehicle crashed at Campbell Station Road.

30-year-old Joseph Duggan was taken into custody at the scene of the crash and transported to a hospital to be checked for injuries. A second person in the vehicle, later identified as Vickie Hartline, was taken in for questioning.

Officials believe

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Duggan robbed the Mr. Gas at Kingston Pike and Watt Road Wednesday night when he went behind the counter with a pocketknife and told the clerk to, "give him the money; it wasn't worth dving for." Another clerk approached and was ordered back to the restroom before the first clerk was ordered to go there as well.

It is believed Duggan also robbed the Kenjo on Campbell Station Road just after 6 a.m. before robbing another Kenjo Market

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in Roane County as short time later.

The chase began when THP spotted the white Mitsubishi matching a BOLO description in Loudon County and tried to stop it. The vehicle was Hartline's white Mitsubishi Eclipse and the couple fled back into Knox County when the officer tried to initiate the stop.

KCSO investigators reportedly believe Duggan also robbed a Walgreen's in West Knoxville on Northshore Drive just before 9 a.m. Thursday.

Duggan was charged with armed robbery. fleeing and resisting arrest. Sources indicate Duggan is on parole for a 2001 rob-

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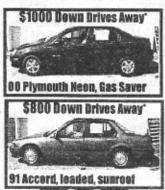
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