

THE **DAILY EDITION** 50c

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Wednesday, August 27, 2008

## Day care center shut down, owner, companion charged

A Loudon County day care center has been shut down and the owner has agreed to a suspension of license following complaints of inadequate supervision and the arrests of the owner and her boyfriend on drug charges.

Meredith Preston, 41, owner of Discovery Depot Learning Center on High- (see Center pg. 4)



Meredith Preston



Decker Hicks

## Another sleeping mom busted



(see McKelvey pg. 7)

Sara McKelvey

## LPD nabs man with felony possession of marijuana

Officer Bennie Houser, LPD was dispatched to I75 for a possible drunk driver in a black vehicle with an Alabama plate. The officer made contact with the vehicle at the 72-exit ramp. The vehicle crossed the centerline numerous times and the officer engaged his lights and siren. The vehicle was

(see Bates pg. 3)



Thomas Jeffrey Bates

## Man charged after hitting kids and striking another with vehicle

According to the report, Officer Bennie Houser, LPD was dispatched to a fight call on Church Street in Loudon. Upon arrival the officer made contact with the victim who stated her boyfriend Steve Allen Cozart had choked her 9-year-old daughter, slapped her 11-year-old son and punched

(see Cozart pg. 6)



Steve Allen Cozart

## Burglary

A Davis Ridge Road man called authorities Tuesday when he returned home to find his television and sev-

(see Burglary pg. 7)

If you pull a log down the road....

## Ya might be redneck!

"On 08-19-2008, I Deputy B. Dixon responded to a suspicious vehicle call at Axley Chapel and Highway (see Redneck pg. 3)

## Early Goose Season Set For Sept. 1, Early Wood Duck/Teal Set For Sept. 13

Waterfowl hunters will have their first shot of the year at hunting birds when an early Canada goose season opens a half-hour

before sunrise on September 1, according to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

The early goose season (see Seasons pg. 2)

## Verse of the day

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16

## Obituaries

William R. (Roscoe) Hicks  
Ida R. Simmons

## Weather:

Today: Rain showers early with isolated thunderstorms developing later in the day. High near 80. CoR: 60%.  
Tonight: Scattered thunder-

storms in the evening, mainly cloudy late with a few showers. Low around 65. CoR: 50%.

Thursday: Partly cloudy. Highs: upper 80s; Lows: low 60s.

## Wazzup

Awesome apple dumplings

Annie, may we have some more, please?

## Horoscopes Leo

(Jul 23-Aug 23)

You're thinking more

(see Horoscopes pg. 2)

**Bates**

slow to stop but after stopping the vehicle the officer identified the driver as Thomas Jeffrey Bates. The officer smelled a strong odor of citrus coming from the vehicle. Mr. Bates stated he and his son had been to the race at Bristol.

Mr. Bates had a strong odor of an intoxicant about his person and stated he drank two beers before going into the race. Bates performed

poorly on sobriety tasks and gave consent to search.

While searching the vehicle the officer found 3 hand rolled cigarettes in a plastic baggie, 2 baggies with a green plant like material and approximately 8 hand rolled cigarette butts believed to contain marijuana. There was approximately 14 grams of marijuana. Also found was pill bottle with someone else's name that contained hydrocodone. There

were also 4 packs of rolling papers found. Mr. Bates stated they had drunk beer and smoked marijuana. After getting Bates to the jail he registered .05% on the intoximeter and was taken to Loudon ER for a BAC blood test.

Daniel Thomas Bates was passenger and was passed out. He had a strong odor of an intoxicant on his person and was very unsteady on his feet. Daniel Thomas

Bates, 23, of McEntire Street, Rainbow, AL was charged with public intoxication.

Thomas Jeffrey Bates, 47, of Greensport Road, Ohatchee, AL, was charged with DUI 1st, felony possession of schedule VI, possession of schedule III and possession of drug paraphernalia. Officer Bennie Houser, LPD made the arrests.

**Redneck**

95. The passerby advised it was a truck pulling a 30 foot log.

I observed marks on the roadway from Unitia Road all the way to Coytee Road to a camp fire.

I came in contact with a [man] and he advised these people at the camp fire came to his residence and took his 50 foot log.

I spoke to [woman] and she said that

she did not get the log. [The woman] finally admitted she got the log from [the man's] residence.

[The man] did not want to press charges - just wanted the log back.

[The woman] advised she was the driver of the vehicle pulling the log."

The officer reported while the log was being pulled down the road, it struck a stop sign at Axley Chapel and a mail box on Axley Chapel Road.

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

**Police Beat**

Brandon Shane Powell, 20, of Edgewood Way, Knoxville, was charged with failure to appear.

Deputy Rob Lane, LCSD made the arrest.

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**Center**

way 321 was charged with possession of a legend drug without a prescription.

Preston's boyfriend, Decker Hicks, 28, was charged with simple possession of marijuana.

The charges and suspension reportedly came after a parent who had come to pick his children found Preston on the back porch with Hicks who was smoking marijuana. Other day care workers also were present and the children inside are alleged to have been left in the care of a seven year old.

When questioned by police, Hicks was asked if he had any drugs on his person and he reportedly produced a small amount of marijuana.

Preston also was asked if she had any drugs in her possession and she reportedly produced percocet and xanax. Preston had a prescription for the percocet, but not the xanax.

Records indicate

DHS placed the day care center on probation in March after repeatedly being cited for failure to adequately supervise the children in its charge after workers reported finding unsupervised children at the day care on four separate occasions. The day care also has been cited for failure to maintain proper first aid certification, failure to keep an operable fire alarm system, failure to follow transportation rules, failure to keep rooms where children play safe of hazards, and improper child/adult ratios.

Discovery Depot opened in March, 2004.

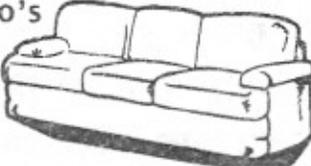
**Police Beat**

Sarah Elizabeth Tetro, 25, of Duff Road, Lenoir City was charged with theft.

According to the report, Officer B. Gentry, LCPD was dispatched to Walmart in reference to a theft.

Tetro was observed taking razors, scissors, and storage trays. Officer B. Gentry LCPD made the arrest.

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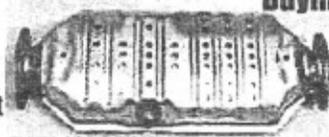
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# Obituaries

**William R. (Roscoe) Hicks**- age 87 of Lenoir City, passed away Monday, August 25, 2008 at the Baptist Health-care Center in Lenoir City. Roscoe was a member of Calvary Baptist Church, Lenoir City. He served 4 years in the military as an infantryman going from Ford Ord, California to see combat in many of the pacific islands. Roscoe served with the Tennessee Highway Patrol, Rockwood, TN before going to the Y-12 facility in Oak Ridge, where he worked as an x-ray supervisor until he retired. He and his wife owned and operated Mildred's Dress Shop, downtown Lenoir City for many years. He served as Grand Master of Kərbela Shriners. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jim and Alice Hicks of Niota; wife of 67 years, Mildred Dewitt Hicks; father and mother-in-law, Homer and Etta Dewitt formerly of Niota; brother, Jefferson

Hicks of Athens; several loved brothers and sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews. Roscoe is survived by his brothers, Wesley Hicks of Sweetwater, Tom Hicks and wife, Libby of Cleveland, TN; sisters, Gladys Baker of Niota and Eva Brakebill and husband, Jim of Niota; sisters-in-law, Joyce Hicks of Athens and Armenda Stinett of Woodruff, South Carolina; special niece, Susan Baker of Niota; special friends, Fred and Nettie Mae Sherwood of Farragut, special pal, Steve Blakney of Lenoir City; many devoted nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday with funeral services to follow at 8 p.m. in the Click Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Raymond McJunkins and Rev. Mike Schrimphser officiating. Family and friends will gather at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in the Lenoir City

Cemetery for graveside services. Nephews will serve as pallbearers. Military honors will be conferred by the Loudon County Veteran's Honor Guard. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is serving the Hicks family.

**Ida R. Simmons**- age 84 of Lenoir City, TN formerly of Sandlefoot, FL passed away Thursday, August 21, 2008 at the Parkwest Hospital. Ida loved to garden and cook. Her husband, Jack Simmons; daughter, Rose Castrogiovanni; parents, Felix and Rose Centi, preceded her death. Ida is survived by daughter, Theresa Acker of Lenoir City; grandchildren, Christopher Todd of Farragut, TN, Michael Castrogiovanni of Coral Springs, FL and Linda Bartoli of Boca Raton, FL; great grandchildren, Krista and Michael Castrogiovanni and Daniel Bartoli. The family will receive friends from 5 to 6:45 p.m. Tuesday with funeral services to follow at 7 p.m. in the Click Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor James Clayton officiating. Family and friends will

gather at the funeral home by 10:30 p.m. Wednesday and proceed to the Lenoir City Cemetery for 11 a.m. graveside services. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is serving the Simmons family.

**Cozart** her other daughter in the face. All three children live at the residence.

Mr. Cozart then left in his truck and struck another individual with the vehicle causing a laceration to the back of his head. Mr. Cozart drove to his aunt's house on Ferry Street and then walked back to the residence on Church Street and started with the other individual again and while they were trying to restrain him his left ankle was broken. Mr. Cozart and the two

children were transported to the Loudon ER.

Mr. Cozart stated he had been drinking all day and had done nothing wrong, he just drove to his aunt's to get away but he walked back to the residence.

Cozart was unable to perform sobriety tasks and refused a BAC test and stated the officer knew he had been drinking. A check showed his license to be suspended.

Steve Allen Cozart, 56, of Church St., Loudon, was charged with domestic assault x3, DUI 1st, aggravated assault and driving on suspended. Officer Bennie Houser, LPD made the arrest.

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