

## Eddie Simpson seeks Re-election.



From left Shannon Littleton, Road Superintendent Eddie Simpson, Rebecca Aikens and Jeffery Feike

(see Simpson pg. 2)

## Child Sexual Exploitation Ring Collaborative Law Enforcement Efforts Dismantle Conspiracy

In late 2015 through early 2016, vulnerable girls as young as 14 and 16 were being exploited as part of a sex trafficking ring run by a group of conspirators in Ohio and Indiana.

But thanks to a joint law enforcement effort conducted by the FBI-led Toledo Child Exploitation Task Force, the ringleader of the conspiracy as well as the other six participants were eventually brought to justice and sentenced to lengthy federal prison terms.

The case started in December 2015, when the Lima (Ohio) Police Department began investigating

allegations of human trafficking and forced prostitution involving a juvenile victim. One of the Lima officers who originally interviewed the victim was also a member of the Child Exploitation Task Force. That officer—based on his previous task force experiences—understood that the interstate aspects of the case made it a good candidate for federal jurisdiction, which often results in enhanced investigative resources and stronger criminal justice penalties.

So the case was referred

See Trafficking P.5

## Aggravated Burglary plus 2 more charges



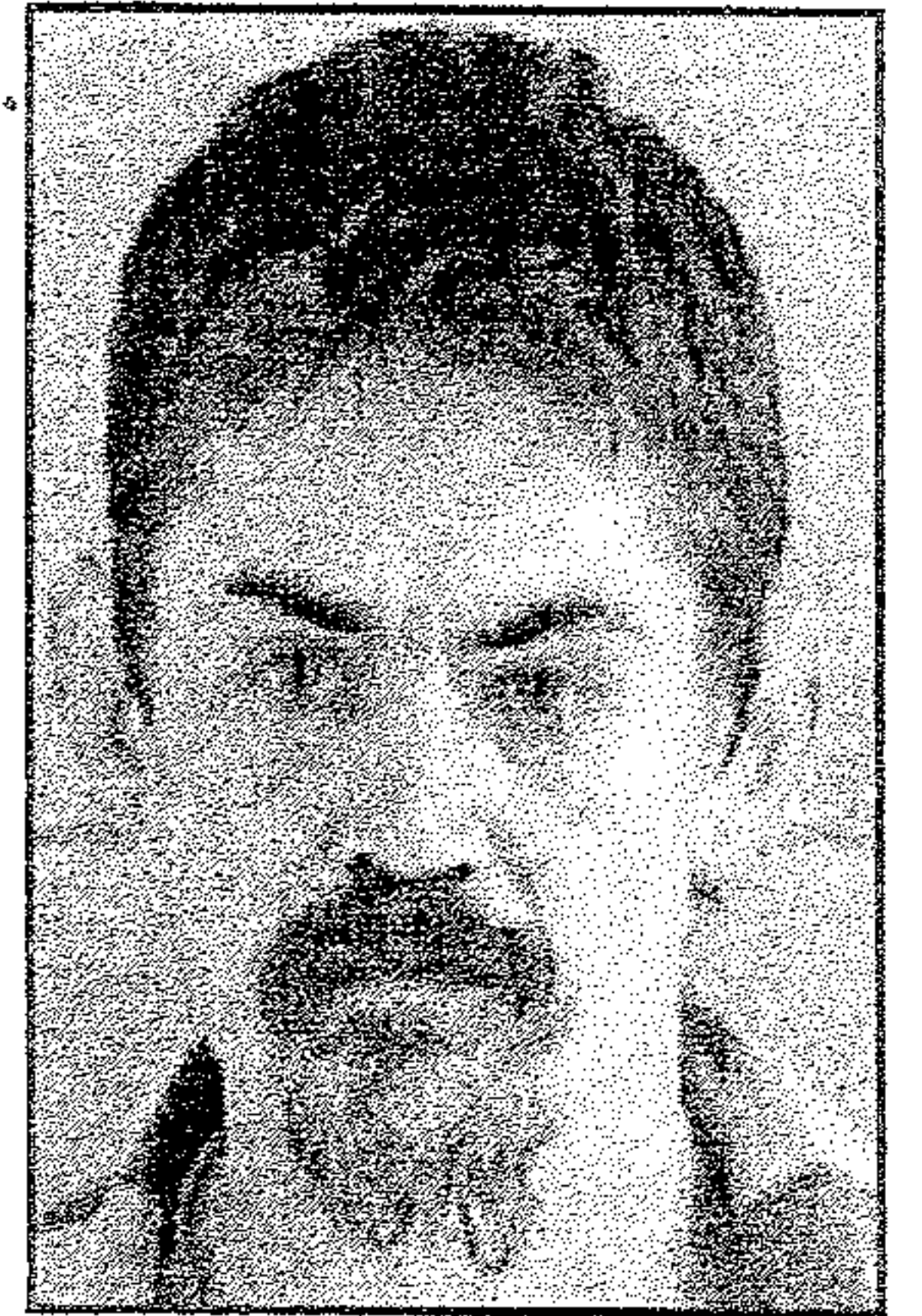
Craig Barnes

see Charged p.4

## Swinging a knife is not a good idea



Mary Jones



Dalton Major

see Knife pg. 3

United States attorney J. Douglas Overbey supports the priorities and initiatives of the department of justice in the fight against opioid abuse and addiction resulting in multiple overdose deaths

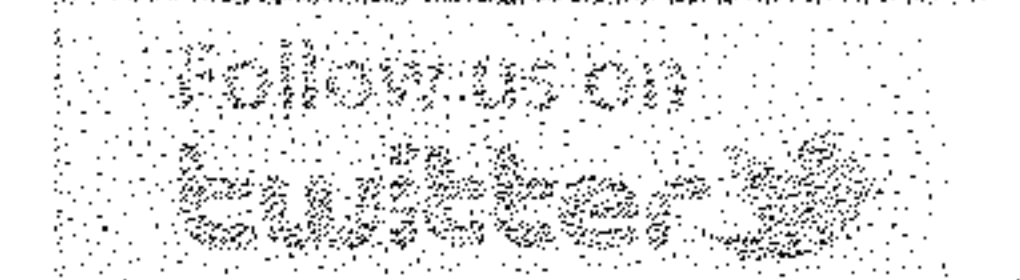
Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced today the creation of a new effort, the Department of Justice Prescription Interdiction & Litigation (PIL) Task Force, to fight the prescription opioid crisis. The PIL Task Force will aggressively deploy and coordinate all available criminal and civil law enforcement tools to reverse the tide of opioid overdoses in the United States, with a particular focus on opioid manufacturers and distributors.

The PIL Task Force will include senior officials from the offices of the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney

General, and the Associate Attorney General, as well as senior officials from the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, the Civil Division, the Criminal Division, and the Drug Enforcement Administration. The Task Force will coordinate the Department's many efforts and tools to combat the opioid epidemic.

"Over the past year, the Department has vigorously fought the prescription opioid crisis, and we are determined to continue making progress. Today, we are opening a new front in the war on the opioid crisis by bringing all of our

(see Opioids pg. 4)



### Verse of the Day

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. — 1 John 3:18

### Obituaries

See inside p.4

### Wazzup

It sure was great meeting everybody at the Kin-folks barn. They sure do know how to put out some food and wow what a great venue to meet at!

### Weather

Today: Sunny. High of 53F.

Tonight: Clear. Low of 31F. Saturday: Sunny. High of 54F.

Saturday night: Clear. Low of 31F.

### Horoscopes

Pisces 2/19-3/20

Creating a big to-do about nothing is one way to draw

attention to your plight. However, you are likely to be misinterpreted by a co-worker who thinks you just want to grab the spotlight. But personal recognition is not your primary motivation now; instead, you hope to

(Continued on page 6)



## Simpson

On Tuesday evening, Candidate for Loudon County Road Superintendent Eddie Simpson held a meet and greet at the Country Kinfolks on Hwy 321, Lenoir City. Numerous people showed up and gave their support to Simpson for his years of service to the community.

Eddie Simpson is seek-

ing Re-election as the Loudon County Road Superintendent. Eddie is also a Lenoir City Councilman serving the citizens of Lenoir City also for a number of years. Simpson also previously served as the Chairman of Lenoir City Budget Committee. Simpson is dedicated to keeping our road ways in good working order. Simpson has made many safety improvements, paving

and bridge projects to help improve our county. His mowing crews have also improved the way the ride-a-ways are being mowed and cared for. Simpson has also replaced around 800 tiles that have been rusted out or falling in, which help with all the flooding.

Eddie Simpson is a life long resident of Loudon County and business owner as well. Eddie has served the Loudon County community almost his entire life in some capacity.

Eddie has the privilege of being married to the lovely Carrie Simpson.

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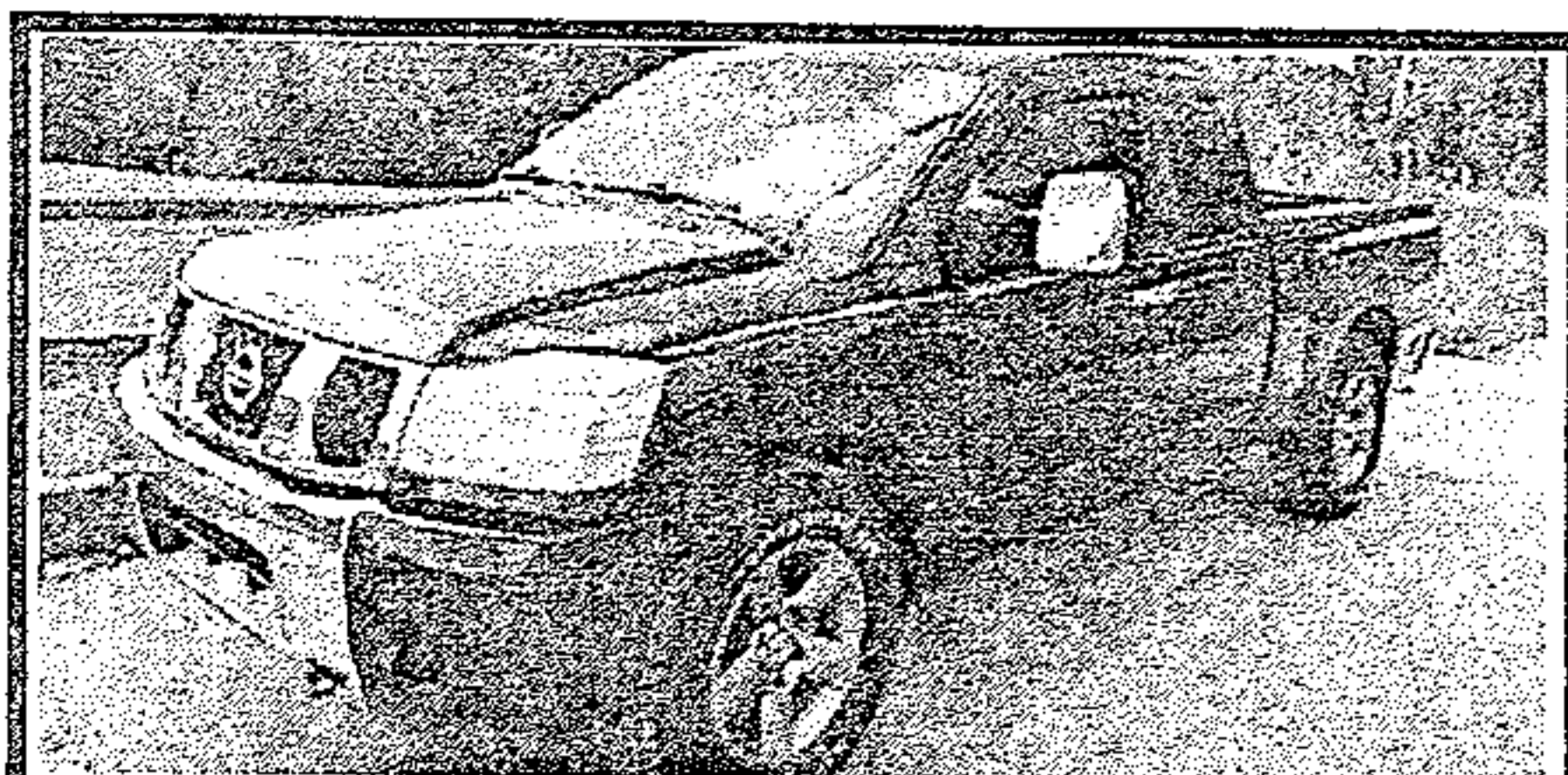
2013 Nissan Rogue AWD, PW, PL, PS, Sunroof, Alloy Wheels, V6, Luggage Rack



2009 Ford F150 Crew Cab, XLT, V8, Auto, Tow Pkg, Bed Liner, AC, PW, PL, Alloy Wheels



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**Knife**

Mary Jones, 41, Crisp Road Lenoir City, was charged with Domestic Assault.

Daltone Major, 36, Crisp Road Lenoir City, was charged with Domestic Assault.

Officer Nick Halsey LCPD, responded to Crisp Rd Lenoir City, TN 37771 in reference to a domestic assault. Upon arrival Officer made contact with victim #1 Daltone B. Major. Mr. Major stated that he was attempting to fix a bedroom door that he broke the last time he and his fiancée/victim #2 Mary D. Jones, had an argument. He advised that Ms. Jones began to argue with him because an unknown white female by the name of Katie was at the residence and Ms. Jones didn't want her there. The two began to argue and Mr. Major stated that Ms. Jones grabbed a knife

and began swinging it in the air in his direction. Both parties stated there was no physical contact between the two but the visible markings on their arms told Officer something different.

When Officer was dispatched to the call dispatcher advised him that Ms. Jones told them it had been physical. Both parties were then taken into custody and transported to the Loudon County Jail without incident. All the above did occur in Lenoir City TN.

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\*A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and defend. There are even better, for a triple braided cord is not easily broken. - Ecclesiastes 4:12

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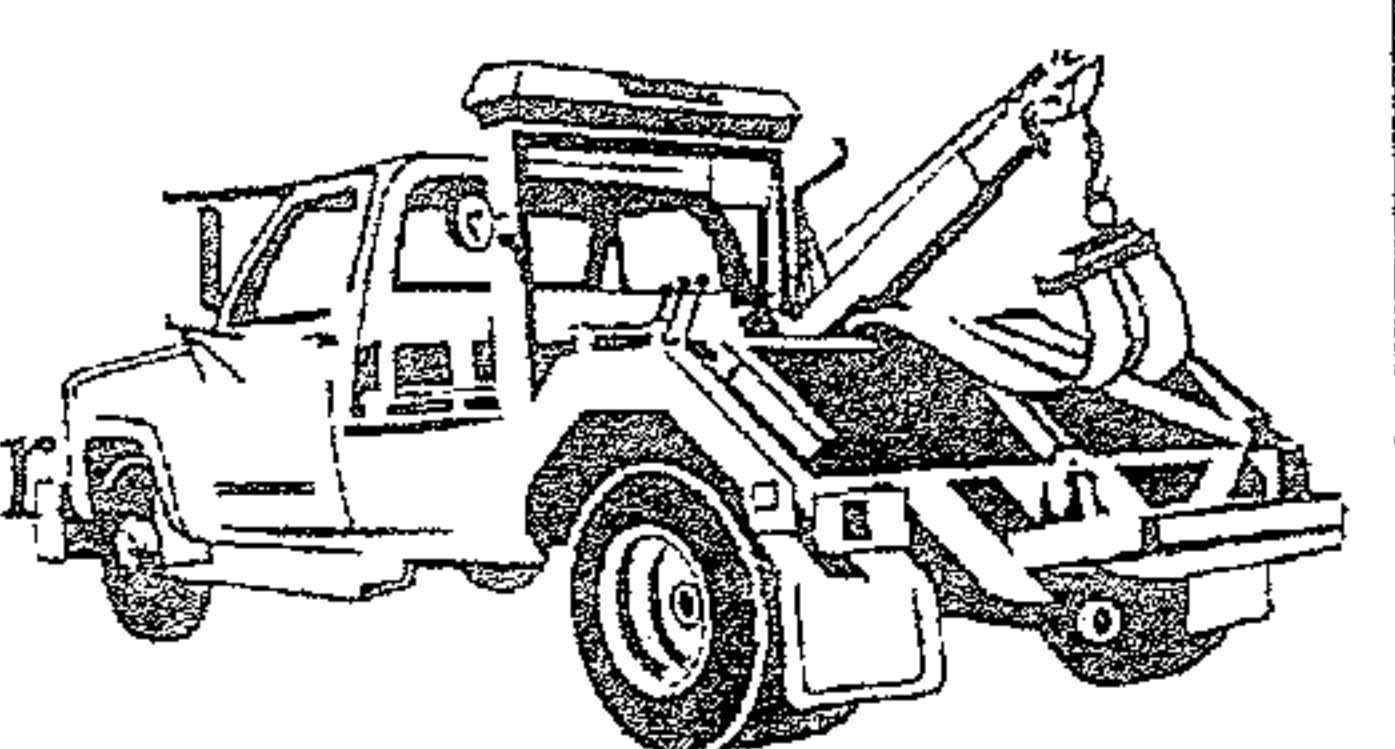
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\*note: the "Rotation List" is a list of wrecker services that provide service for wrecks, DUI's, breakdowns, etc. and are on an on-call basis for service. This list is approved by the Sheriff.

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**Drugs**

Craig Barnes, 41, Maple Valley Road Morristown, was charged with Aggravated Burglary, Theft of Property, and Contempt of Court. Deputy Chad Purdy LCSO, did serve an active Aggravated Burglary Warrant out of General Sessions Court docket 17-CR-1027 c1 and a Theft Under \$1000.00 out of General Sessions docket 17-CR-1027 c2 and also a Contempt Of Court Warrant out of Circuit Court docket 2008-CV-35 on Craig Allen Barnes. The above subject was then transported from the Sevier County Jail (Annex) to the Loudon County Jail by Deputy Purdy. This did happen in Loudon County, Tn without further incident.

**Opioids**

anti-opioid efforts under one banner," said Attorney General Sessions. "We have no time to waste. Every day, 180 Americans die from drug overdoses. This epidemic actually lowered American life expectancy in 2015 and 2016 for the first time in decades, with drug overdose now the leading cause of death for Americans under age 50. These are not acceptable trends and this new task force will make us more effective in reversing them and saving Americans from the scourge of opioid addiction."

"The nation is currently facing the deadliest drug crisis in American history. Unfortunately, east Tennessee is not immune to this problem. In fact, statistics show that Tennessee is a 'hot spot' for drug abuse and overdose related deaths in the country," said U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey. "In addition to working with our other task forces comprised of our local, state and federal law enforcement partners, the U.S. Attorney's office will work with the PIL Task Force to use all criminal and civil remedies available under federal law to combat this growing crisis. This includes holding drug manufacturers, distributors such as pharmacies, pain management clinics, drug testing facilities, and individual physicians accountable for their unlawful actions," added U.S. Attorney Overbey.

The new PIL Task Force will build on a number of other new initiatives begun by Attorney General Sessions over the past year that will help end the drug crisis. The Opioid Fraud and Abuse Detection Unit, a new data analytics program to help find evidence of over-prescribing and opioid-related health care fraud, was created

in August 2017. The Attorney General assigned 12 experienced Assistant U.S. Attorneys to opioid "hot-spots" to focus solely on investigating and prosecuting opioid-related health care fraud.

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Tennessee was one of 12, out of 94 districts across the country, chosen to participate in this program. The district received funding for an Assistant U.S. Attorney, for a three-year term, to focus solely on investigating and prosecuting healthcare fraud related to prescription opioids, including pill mill schemes and pharmacies that unlawfully divert or dispense prescription opioids for illegitimate purposes. The 12 districts selected represented areas with a significant prescription opioid problem, where the Department can effectively investigate and prosecute the medical providers that are contributing to this epidemic by unlawfully diverting or dispensing opioids outside the scope of professional practice and not for a legitimate medical purpose.

Assistant U.S. Attorney David P. Lewen, Jr., was selected to fill this position for the Eastern District of Tennessee. Working with the FBI, DEA and HHS, as well as our state and local law enforcement partners, Assistant U.S. Attorney Lewen will lead the district in the investigation and prosecution of opioid-related healthcare fraud cases involving doctors, pharmacies and medical providers who are furthering this epidemic in east Tennessee.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Lewen has served as a federal prosecutor in east Tennessee

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**Obituaries**

**Ronald E. Herzog** age 77 of Loudon, Tennessee passed away February 25, 2018.

He is preceded in death by his parents Henry and Helen Herzog, his brothers Richard and Gerald, and his sister Joann.

Ronald is survived by his wife Marsha A. Herzog. Survivors also include his daughter Stephanie (Steven) K. Daigle, his sons Scott (Holly) M. Herzog and David A. Herzog. He is also

lovingly remembered by his grandchildren Kyle L. Daigle, Kevin S. Daigle, Rachel C. Herzog, Trent M. Herzog and Jessica M. Herzog and many nieces and nephews.

Ronald was a proud US Navy veteran who served aboard a Destroyer during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. Ronald loved the sea, good friends, and family and will be dearly missed.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 1:30 pm on May 12, 2018 at Click Funeral Home - Tellico Village Chapel, 145 Chota Centre, Loudon, TN

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**Public Notice**

The Lenoir City Beer Board will meet, March 8, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Room to consider issuing an On-Premises Beer License Application for the following business: Stock Burgers 540 Highway 321 N. Lenoir City, TN. 37771

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## Trafficking

to the task force—specifically to Special Agent Devon Lossick, the task force coordinator who works out of the FBI Cleveland Division's Toledo Resident Agency.

According to Lossick, Lima resident Lorenzo Young was the leader of the group and was assisted, in varying degrees, by his longtime friend Aundre Davis, as well as by his girlfriend, mother, and three acquaintances. "Members of the conspiracy would go after vulnerable and trusting young girls—usually runaways and others estranged from their families—by promising them money and then coaxing them into posing for sexually explicit photos," Lossick explained. The photos would be posted to the adult entertainment sections of a classified ads website; when interested customers reached out, the girls would be transported to apartments in Lima or to motel rooms in nearby Fort Wayne across the Indiana state line.

"Especially in these kinds of cases, the victims always come first." Devon Lossick, special agent, FBI Cleveland (Toledo Resident Agency)

"And the financial proceeds of

the transactions would go straight into the pockets of Young and his co-conspirators," said Lossick.

Once the task force was on the case, investigators began to question some of the victims, gathered motel records and receipts, reviewed video surveillance, and conducted physical surveillance and court-authorized electronic surveillance on the suspects.

At one point, Young suspected he might be under federal investigation and began instructing his mother to delete text messages and e-mails related to the criminal activity. Young also directed others in the conspiracy to post threatening messages on social media to discourage the victims from talking to law enforcement.

By June 2016, investigators had enough evidence, and seven individuals—including Young—were charged by a federal jury in Ohio. Five were indicted on human trafficking charges, and two on charges related to obstructing the investigation. Five subjects eventually pleaded guilty and were sentenced, but Lorenzo Young and his friend Aundre Davis opted for a trial. Both were convicted at trial in May 2017, and in December 2017, Young was sentenced to life in prison, while Davis received a 30-year term.

Lossick firmly believes that the successful outcome of this case was the result of "strong and collaborative relationships between the FBI and the law enforcement agencies on the task force—especially the Lima Police Department, who we worked with closely on this particular investigation."

And of the ongoing work of the Toledo Child Exploitation Task Force, Lossick says that "it continues to be successful at getting kids out of harm's way and giving victims the support they need to get on with

their lives." In the Lorenzo Young case, FBI victim-witness specialists from both the Cleveland and Cincinnati Divisions worked with the juveniles exploited by Young and his crew, providing them with emergency support, crisis intervention help, social services referrals, information about their case, and other victim assistance services.

"Especially in these kinds of cases," explained Lossick, "the victims always come first."

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opioids conc. from pg. 4

for nearly 10 years. Prior to that time, he served on active duty for five years in the U.S. Army JAG Corps, serving in Korea, Hawaii, and Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Assistant U.S. Attorney Lewen has experience in prosecuting a wide range of federal crimes, including large-scale drug trafficking and money laundering organizations, violent crimes, public corruption, and complex white-collar and corporate fraud crimes. Two of the higher profile defendants Lewen has prosecuted in U.S. District Court include former Knox County Criminal Court Judge Richard Baumgartner and bank extortionist Michael Benanti.

In November 2017, Attorney General Sessions ordered all U.S. Attorney's Offices to designate an opioid coordinator to be responsible for facilitating intake of cases involving prescription opioids, heroin, and fentanyl; convening a task force of federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement to identify opioid

cases for federal prosecution, facilitate interdiction efforts, and tailor their district's response to the needs of the community it serves; providing legal advice and training to Assistant U.S. Attorneys regarding the prosecution of opioid offenses; maintaining statistics on the opioid prosecutions in the district; and developing and continually evaluating the effectiveness of the office's strategy to combat the opioid epidemic. Assistant U.S. Attorney Tracy Stone was chosen to fill this position for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2006, Assistant U.S. Attorney Stone prosecuted state felony cases as an Assistant District At-

torney in Tennessee's Fourth Judicial District. For the first few years with the office, he was assigned to the Violent Crime Unit, investigating and prosecuting violent offenses such as carjackings, interstate kidnappings, bank robberies, Hobbs Act robberies, and firearms offenses.

As a veteran prosecutor currently assigned to the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force, Assistant U.S. Attorney Stone investigates and prosecutes drug trafficking organizations and other criminal enterprises operating within the Eastern District of Tennessee and elsewhere. The bulk of his caseload is devoted to combatting pill mills and the opioid scourge ravaging people,

families, and communities within the Eastern District of Tennessee.


In conjunction with the announcement of the PIL Task Force, the Department also announced today that it would be filing a Statement of Interest in a multi-district action regarding hundreds of lawsuits against opioid manufacturers and distributors.

The plaintiffs include nu-


merous cities, municipalities, and medical institutions that have borne the costs of the prescription opioid crisis. The plaintiffs seek to recover the costs associated with providing treatment and public safety measures relating to the opioid epidemic from those who allegedly used false, deceptive, or unfair marketing practices for prescription opioid drugs.

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