

Warrants, drugs and 16x charges



William Power

William Power, 37, Alameda Drive Knoxville, was charged with Theft of Property, Man/Sell/Del/Resale Sch. II, Forgery x6, Theft of Property x 2, Poss. of Drug Para., Violation of Probation, Driving on Revoked/Suspended License, Identity Theft, and Contraband in Penal Institution. Deputy Rodney Parton LCSO, responded to

see Charges pg. 2

Loudon man charges with felony assault



Jason Mealer

see Assault pg. 3

Child Sex Tourism

Florida Man Who Traveled to the Philippines to Exploit Children Sentenced to 330 Years in Prison

A 56-year-old Florida man who frequently traveled to the Philippines to have sex with children—and make video recordings of the abuse—will be spending the rest of his life behind bars for his crimes related to child sex tourism.

David Paul Lynch was convicted on

multiple counts of producing and receiving child pornography and traveling with the intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct. A federal judge recently sentenced the Venice, Florida resident to 330 years in prison.

Evidence in the case revealed that for more than a decade begin-

See FBI P.4

The Good News

By: Rev. Dr. Julius McCarter

Scripture: 1 John 3:16-24

Even though I am familiar with this passage of scripture, somehow this is the first time I really noticed the phrase, "God is greater than our hearts" (Verse 20). I'm sure we are all familiar with the counsel that when

See TGN p.4

Justice department announces nationwide initiative to combat sexual harassment in housing

On April 12, 2018, as the Department of Justice recognized the 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced the nationwide rollout of an initiative aimed at increasing awareness and reporting of sexual harassment

in housing. The announcement included an interagency task force between the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Justice Department to combat sexual harassment in housing, an outreach toolkit, and a public awareness campaign. This three-pronged

(see Harassment pg. 5)



Verse of the Day

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. — 1 Corinthians 1:18

Obituaries

See P.4

Wazzup

Early voting has already started. Everyone make sure to get out and VOTE!

Weather

Today: Rain. High of 59F.

Tonight: Rain. Low of

49F.

Tuesday: Rain High of 67F.

Tuesday Night: PM Rain. Low of 52F.

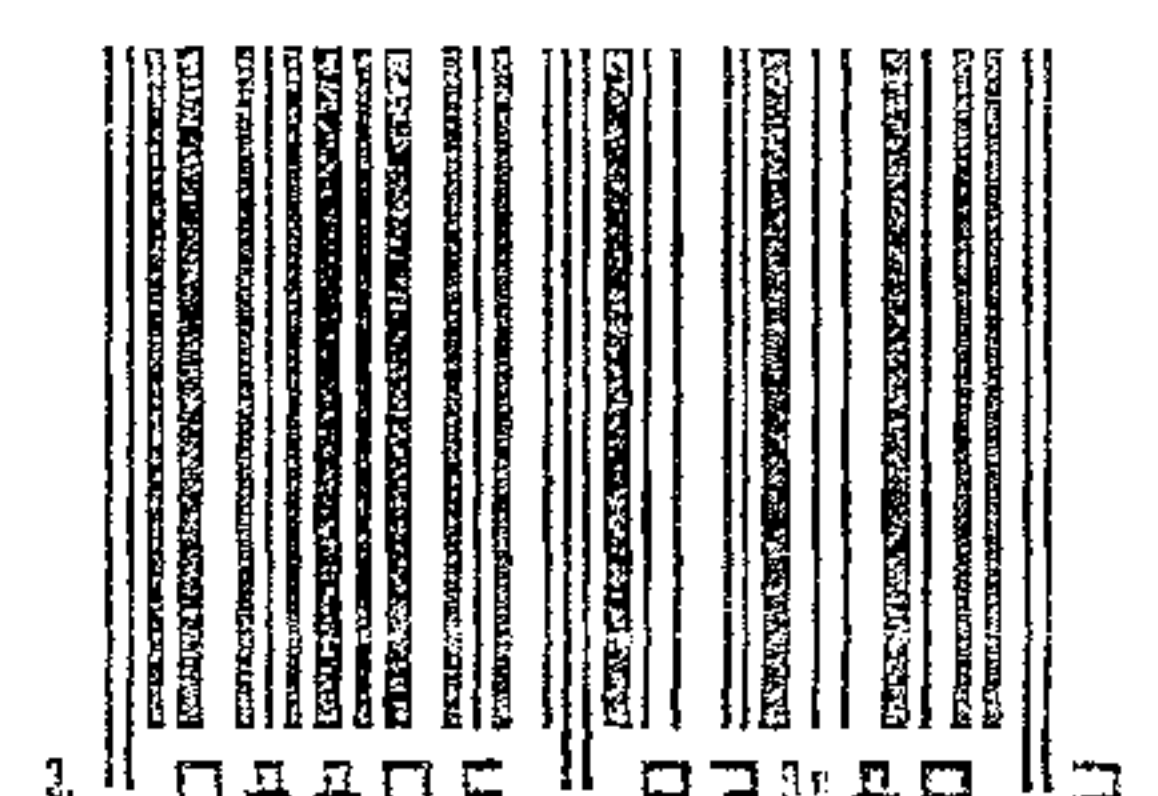
Horoscopes

Aries 3/21-4/19

You cant decide whether to push ahead against bad odds or if you should

pay attention to the signs, pack your bags and go home. Obviously, quitting is not in your best interest, yet acknowledging the current resistance in a calm manner can make a significant difference. Expect the seeds

(Continued on page 6)



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Trio
 a report of a vehicle theft. Deputy was advised by dispatch the owner of a stolen van was following it down Hickory Creek Road. Deputy then observed the stolen van in a driveway on Gladstone Drive. William Powers was walking in front of the vehicle and he was detained for questioning. Deputy advised Power his miranda rights he stated he understood. Power stated to deputy he had received a text to come get the van and fix it. A check through dispatch revealed Power to have an active warrant out of Loudon County. Deputy then placed Powers under arrest and recovered .07 grams of crystal substance believed to be meth, a broken glass pipe, and 2 checks in a female name. Deputy ran the vin number on the van dispatch advised it should have a Tennessee tag, a Alabama tag was recovered. There were 2 dirt bikes in the back of the van. Power was transported to the Loudon Jail.



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Assault

Jason Mealer, 39, Good Hollow Road Loudon, was charged with Domestic Assault Felony. Deputy Akins LCSO, was dispatched to Get Good Hollow Loudon TN, in reference to a Domestic. Deputy, arrived on scene and spoke with (Victim). She stated, Jason Mealer came home intoxicated and passed out on the recliner. Victim stated she was laying in bed and started getting text messages from a unknown female, accusing her of saying horrible things about the female. Victim asked the female where she had heard this from and the female stated Jason Mealer had told her husband and then her husband told her. Victim stated she woke Jason up and confronted him about the alleged allegations and that Jason became very upset and started pushing her down to the floor and would not let her up. Victim stated she was final-

ly able to make it to the bedroom and that Jason pushed her onto the bed and physically strangled her with his hands. Victim stated that he let her go and took the car keys, cell phone and unplugged the telephone from the wall. Victim did have a scratch on her arm and visible red marks around her neck area. Victim had a really low scratchy voice while speaking with her. Jason had left scene prior to arrival. The above incident did occur in Loudon County Tennessee.

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TGN

we are facing big decisions or feeling conflicted, we should "listen to our hearts". While this is not terrible advice, our human hearts are often deceived by our brokenness, imperfections, failures or guilt. Our hearts can lead us astray. The reading for today invites us into a deeper way of thinking about and responding to the relationships, words and actions in our lives. God is greater than our hearts. God still loves us and commands us to love one another not just in word and speech, but in truth and action. We have been given the perfect example of this divine, action-oriented love in Jesus and his sacrifice for us on the cross. We are called to follow Jesus, trusting that God is greater than even our imperfections and fears. Prayer: Expansive God, when we face difficulties and fears of failure, turn our hearts again toward the cross of Christ. May we feel your forgiving love calling us into deeper lives of service for the people and the world you love. Amen.

FBI

ning in 2005, Lynch made regular trips to the Philippines to have sex with children. Prior to traveling, he facilitated his illegal activity through online communication with individuals in the Philippines—in one case the mother of one of his victims.

Lynch produced child pornography of at least three Filipino children on his visits and also solicited child pornography via e-mail from a fourth victim. The FBI was contacted about Lynch's suspicious online behavior as a result of a longstanding partnership with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, which had received a tip from security personnel at the Internet sites where Lynch had posted pornographic images of children.

"He had no history of being a sexual offender," Ward said, "but the child pornography he was sending and receiving online caught the attention of officials at the social media platform he was using. There was no question that these were little kids."

The FBI opened an investigation, and in December 2016, Lynch was arrested in San Francisco attempting to board a flight to the Philippines. A simultaneous search of his home in Florida uncovered dozens of self-produced images and videos of child pornography from his previous trips abroad.

"He used an online messaging platform to send and receive pictures and to arrange travel. Some of his victims were as young as 6 or 7 years old."

Daniel Ward, special agent, FBI Tampa. Megan Buck, a Sarasota Police Department detective and member of the Fort Myers Child Exploitation Task Force, investigated the case and arrested Lynch at the airport. "The Internet has made it relatively easy for people like Lynch to exploit children overseas," she said.

A member of the multi-agency task force since 2013, Buck also worked the investigation with other federal law enforcement agencies—including U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations—as well as international authorities. Florida police departments who are members of the task force, including the Cape Coral Police Department, the Bradenton Police Department, and the Lee County Sheriff's Office, also assisted the investigation.

Lynch was convicted by a federal jury in October 2017 on eight counts related to child sex tourism, and a judge sentenced him in January 2018 to 30 years in prison. "The sentence he received sets a precedent and really sends a message," Buck

said. "The community is not going to tolerate this kind of exploitation of children anymore."

Obituaries

Herman Lee (Dick) Ryan, Jr. age 78 of Loudon, passed away on Tuesday, April 17, 2018. This is a sad time for his family. Dick was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Ruth Akins Ryan; parents, Herman (Bud) Ryan and Ella Ruth Neeley Ryan, and brother, Jeffery Lynn (Red) Ryan. He is survived by his sons, Jason Lee Ryan and wife, Tina, and Matthew David Ryan; grand kids, Braylon Gossage, Connor, Lucy and Noah Ryan; sisters and brother-in-law, Sue Ryan Littlefield, Diane Ryan Coleman and Dan Coleman; his side kicks for the last couple of months, pets, Gibbs and Dinoozo; nephew, Scott

Littlefield (Nicole); brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Billy and Edna Russell, Bill and Polly Miller, and a host of other family members and friends. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, April 20th at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City. Funeral services will follow at 7 p.m. with Rev. Wilburn Clemmer officiating. Family and friends will gather at 10 a.m. Saturday morning in Mt. Zion Cemetery in Loudon for graveside services. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

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Public Notice

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Harassment

approach will strengthen the Department's efforts to combat sexual harassment in housing.

"Sexual harassment in housing is illegal, immoral, and unacceptable," said Attorney General Sessions. "It is all too common today, as too many landlords, managers, and their employees attempt to prey on vulnerable women. We will not hesitate to pursue these predators and enforce the law. In October, I ordered a new initiative to bring more of these cases, and we have already won relief for 15 victims. Today we announce three new steps to make the initiative more effective and to win more cases. I want to thank the dedicated and committed professionals in our Civil Rights Division and our

partners in the Department of Housing and Urban Development for their hard work in this effort. We will continue to aggressively pursue harassers, because everyone has a right to be safe in their home."

"All discrimination stains the very fabric of our nation, but HUD is especially focused on protecting the right of everyone to feel safe and secure in their homes, free from unwanted sexual harassment," said Secretary Ben Carson. "No person should have to tolerate unwanted sexual advances in order to keep a roof over his or her head. Part of our mission at HUD is to provide safe housing and we will remain diligent in this mission to protect those we serve. I look forward to working with Attorney General Sessions and the Department of

Justice as part of this task force to bring an end to this type of discrimination."

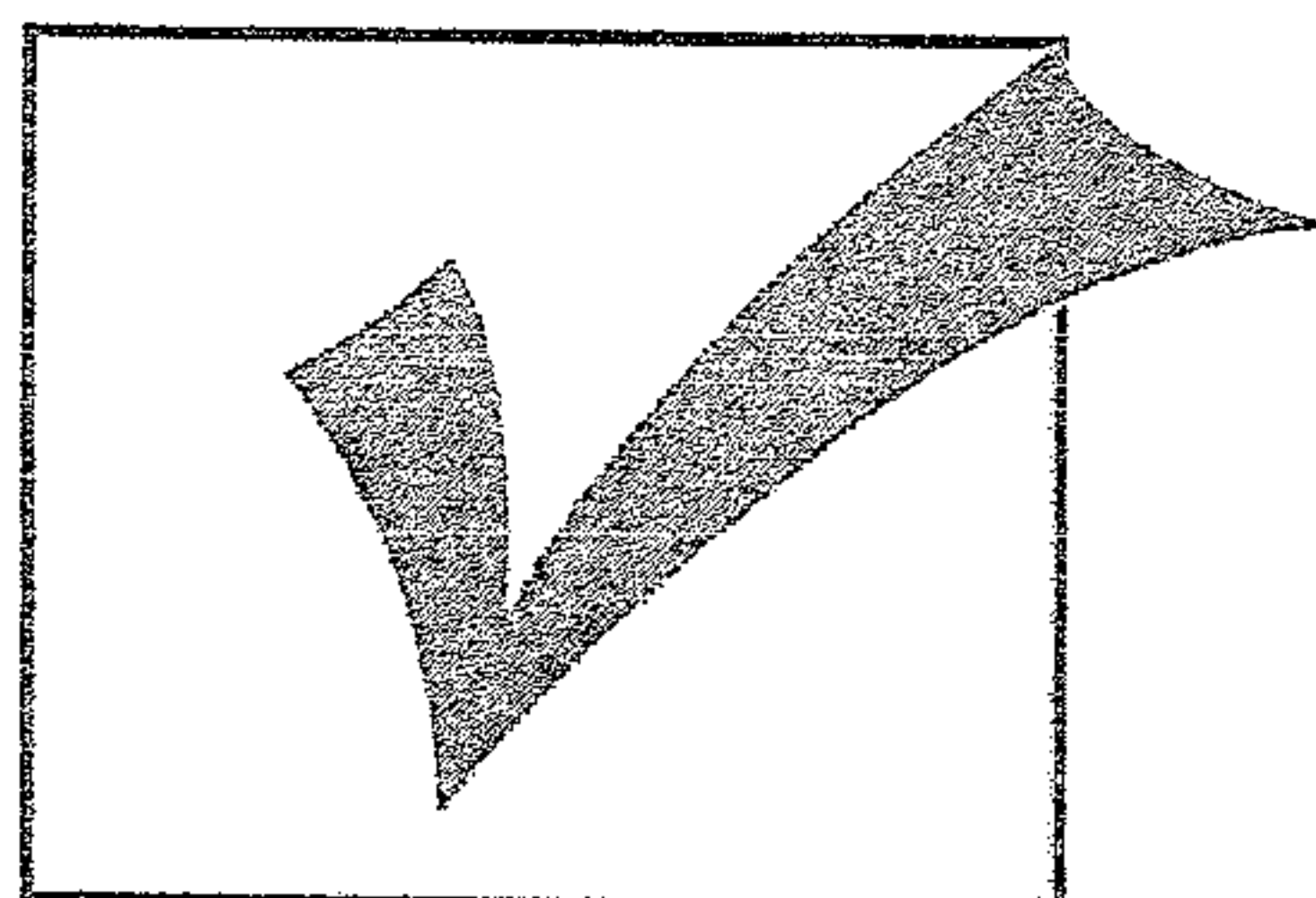
"The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Tennessee supports this important initiative of Attorney General Sessions and will work with HUD and our law enforcement partners to enforce the laws and ensure that these innocent victims are aware of their rights to have a safe and secure place for their families to live without fear of harassment or discrimination," said U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey, Eastern District of Tennessee.

In October 2017, the Justice Department announced an initiative to combat sexual harassment in housing and launched pilot programs in D.C. and the Western District of Virginia. The initiative

sought to increase the Department's efforts to protect women from harassment by landlords, property managers, maintenance workers, security guards, and other employees and representatives of rental property owners. During the pilots, the Department developed and tested ways to better connect both with victims of sexual harassment in housing and with those organizations that victims may turn to first for help – including law enforcement, legal services providers, public housing authorities, sexual assault services providers, and shelters. The Department also tested certain aspects of the initiative in other jurisdictions, including New Jersey, the Central District of California, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Michigan.

see Harassment ctd. pg. 7

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Harassment ctd from p 5

The two pilot programs generated an upswing in harassment reporting to the Department from both D.C. and the Western District of Virginia. In D.C., the Department generated six leads since the October 2017 launch. In Virginia, the Department generated three leads. While the Justice Department recognizes that leads and investigations do not always lead to enforcement actions, the pilot program's results—when extrapolated across all the U.S. Attorney's Offices across the country—could lead to hundreds of new

reports of sexual harassment in housing across the country.

Because of these promising results, the Department is rolling out three major components to the Initiative.

First, the new HUD-DOJ Task Force to Combat Sexual Harassment in Housing will drive a shared strategy between the Department and HUD for combatting sexual harassment in housing across the country. It will focus on five key areas: continued data sharing and analysis, joint development of training, evaluation of public housing complaint mecha-

nisms, coordination of public outreach and press strategy, and review of federal policies.

Second, the outreach toolkit is designed to leverage the Justice Department's nationwide network of U.S. Attorney's Offices. The toolkit provides templates, guidance, and checklists based on pilot program feedback. It ultimately will amplify available enforcement resources and help victims of sexual harassment connect with the Department.

Third, the public awareness campaign has three major components: a partnership package with relevant stakeholders, launch

of a social media campaign, and Public Service Announcements (PSAs) run by individual U.S. Attorney's offices. The campaign is specifically designed to raise awareness, and make it easier for victims all over the country to find resources and report harassment.

More information about the Civil Rights Division and the civil rights laws it enforces is available at www.usdoj.gov/crt. Individuals who believe that they may have been victims of sexual harassment in housing should call the Department at 1-844-380-6178,

send an e-mail to fairhousing@usdoj.gov, or contact HUD at 1-800-669-9777. If you have information or questions about any other housing discrimination, you can contact the Department at 1-800-896-7743.

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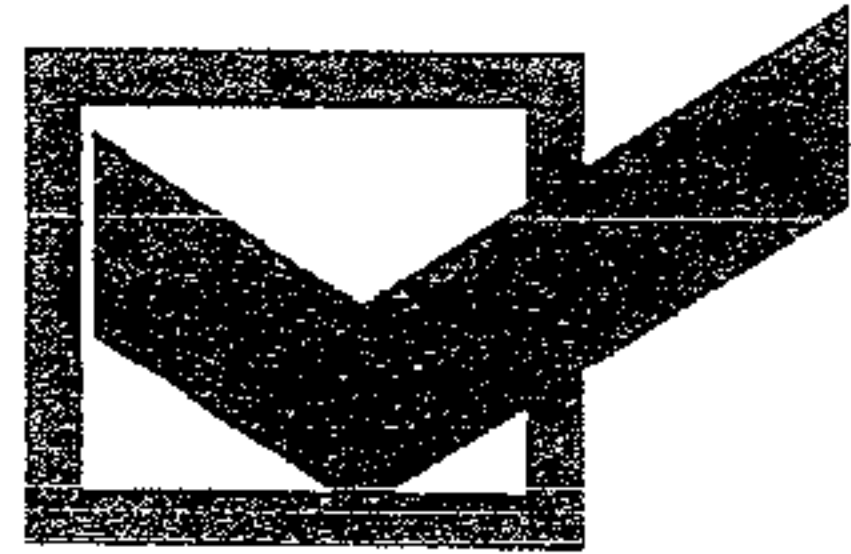
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