

Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

Woman fires warning shot



Amanda Bradford, 30, N Hwy 72 Loudon, was charged with Aggravated Assaulted x3.

Deputy K. Palmer 980 was dispatched Highway 72 North in reference to a issue over some dog's. Dispatch advised a female called in and was at Highway 72 North wanting an officer to get her dogs. Dispatch advised that a Ms. Amanda Marie Brad-

Amanda Bradford

Investigation Finds Problems at Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency

The Tennessee Comptroller's Office has released an investigation into the Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency (UCHRA) based in Cookeville, Tennessee. The UCHRA is a multi-million-dollar operation that administers several programs and provides services to citizens. Comptroller investigators noted two

instances when the former executive director's time sheets indicated he was working; however, social media posts indicated he was on trips out of state. The former executive director told investigators he used compensatory (comp) time for trips. Investigators believe he should have taken annual or

See Spending P.4

see Gun pg. 2

Needles, Pills and Meth



Justin Barnes

See Meth p.3

Asleep behind the wheel and reckless driving equals DUI



Natasha Ramsey

see DUI pg. 3

Charles Turner and Donald Kevin Collins sentenced for mail fraud conspiracy to defraud Mountain Empire surgery center

On May 23, 2018, two individuals were sentenced by the Honorable J. Ronnie Greer, U.S. District Judge, for their roles in a conspiracy to commit mail fraud. Donald Kevin Collins, 41, of Elizabethton, Tennessee, was sentenced to serve 51 months in federal

prison. Upon his release, he will be supervised by U.S. Probation for three years. He was also ordered to pay \$1,381,552 in restitution. Charles Turner, 43, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, was sentenced to serve six months in prison, followed by six months

(see Fraud pg. 5)



Verse of the Day

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. — Romans 12:10

Obituaries

See P. 4

Wazzup

Pools are opening, time for some summer fun! Be safe and use you sunscreen

Weather

Today: Thunderstorms. High of 82F.
Tonight: Showers. Low

of 69F.

Thursday: Thunderstorms. High of 85F.

Thursday Night: Thunderstorms. Low of 70F.

Horoscopes

Taurus 4/20-5/20

You wish you could avoid

drawing attention to yourself now, but you might quickly change your mind when you spot the potential for romance. The extroverted Sagittarius Full Moon energizes your 8th House of Intimacy encouraging boldness in
(Continued on page 6)



Gun

ford had called in and was on her way home that she wanted to meet with an officer as well. Dispatch then advised Ms. Bradford had arrived at the residence and shot a gun at the vehicle with the victims inside. Dispatch advised the victims, had pulled down

to the bottom of the driveway. When Deputy arrived on scene he made contact with the victims. All stated they had come to the residence to try and retrieve some dogs that they stated were one of the victims. They all stated when Ms. Bradford arrived at the residence she went into her residence and retrieved

a handgun and walked back outside. The victims stated that Ms. Bradford was about 6 feet away from the vehicle and fired a round from the gun at the pavement next to the vehicle. Ms. 2 victims stated they were both stuck by debris

from when the round hit the asphalt. The victims stated they then went to the bottom of the driveway. Deputy went to the residence and made contact with Ms. Bradford. Ms. Bradford see Gun p.7



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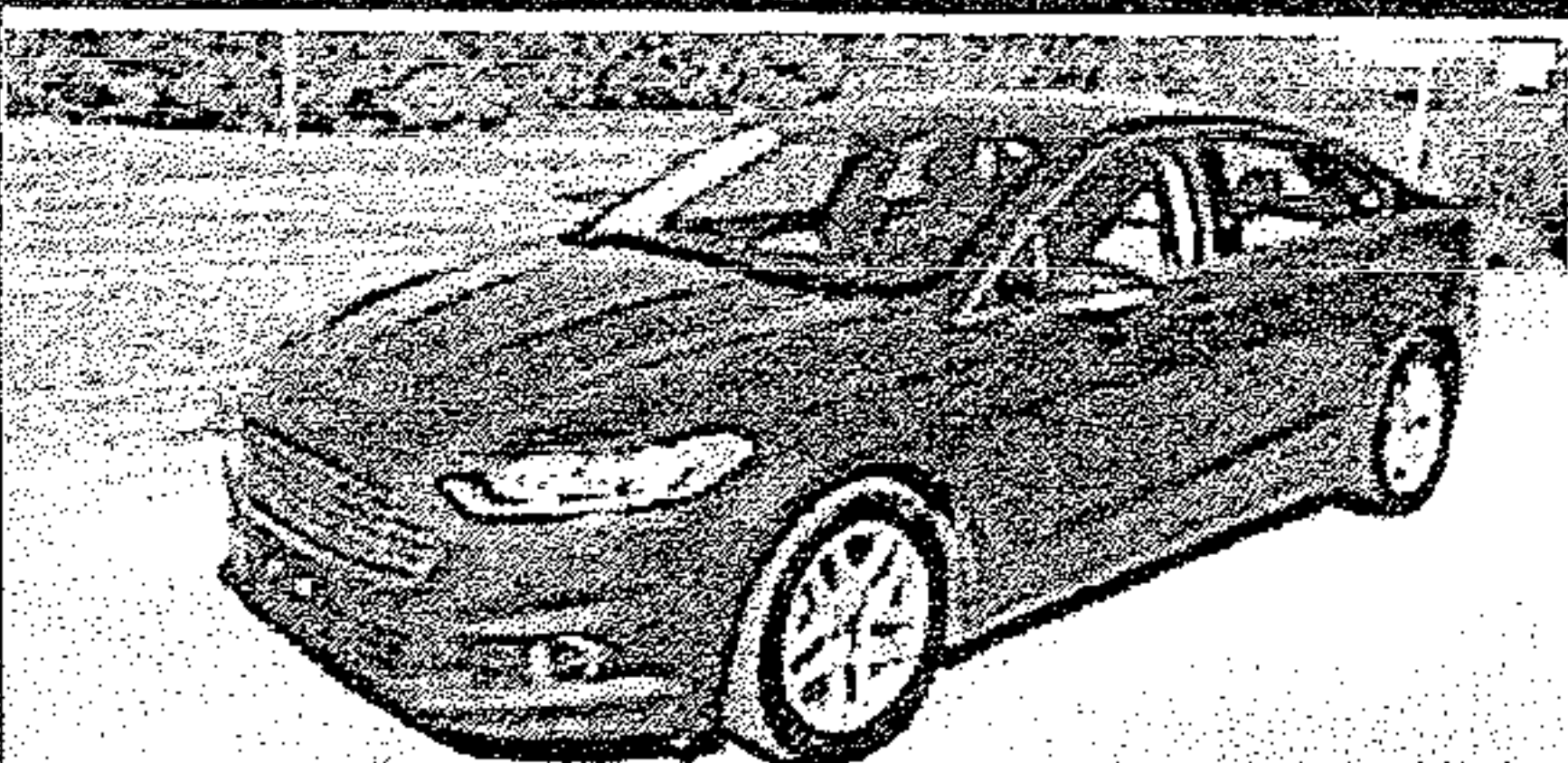
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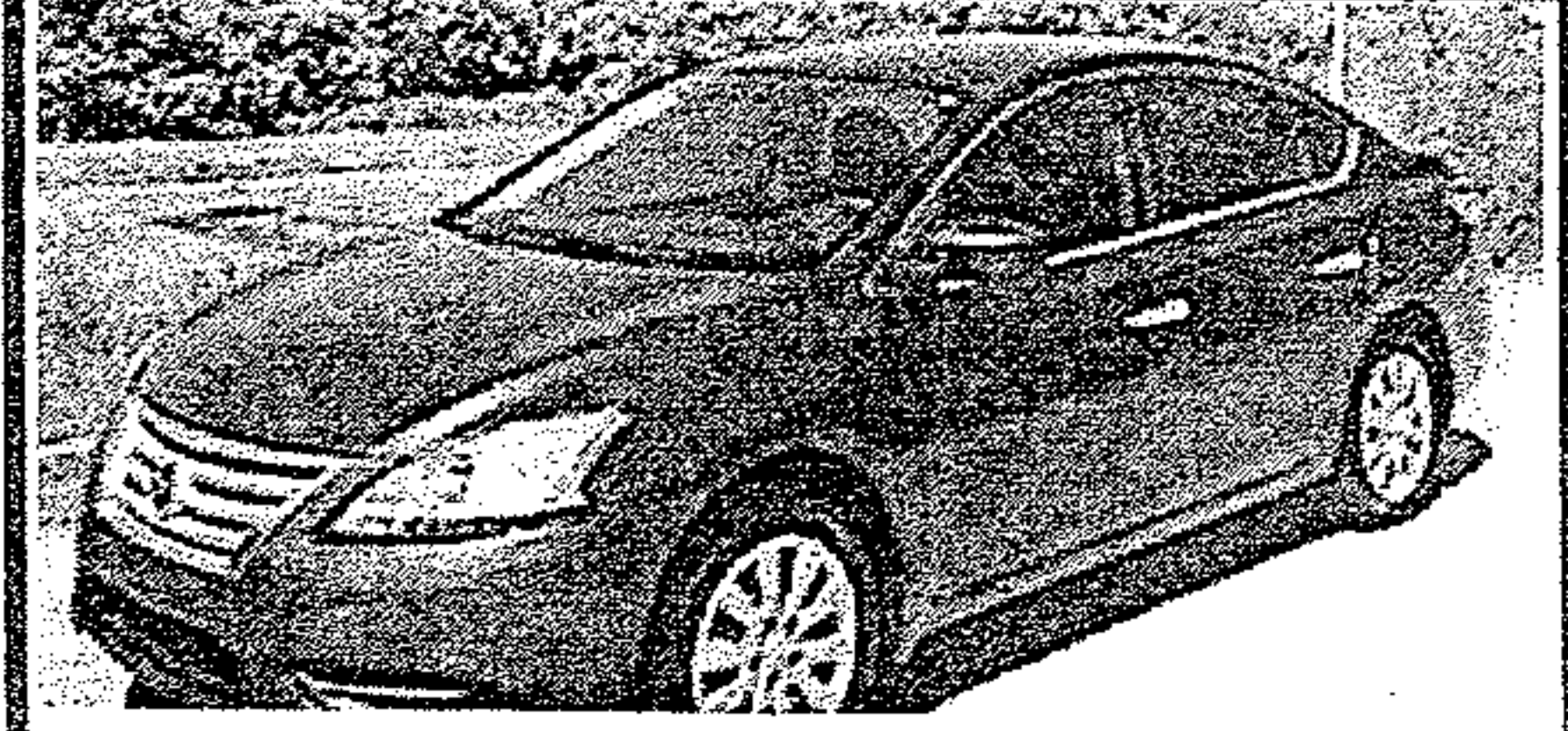
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DUI

Natasha Ramsey, 25, Sunshine Private Lane Vonore, was charged with DUI. Officer Cogdill LPD, was dispatched to the area of Steekee and Highway 72 for a possible intoxicated driver the caller stated to dispatch that a silver sedan was parked at Steekee Creek Baptist church and a female was asleep behind the wheel when he tried to wake the female up after waking her she then left the church heading towards Steekee, dispatched advised officer the reckless driver turned onto Highway 72 from Steekee, that's when this officer witnessed the silver sedan traveling West on Highway 72 at Highway 11 this officer then got behind the vehicle to observe, the vehicle did cross the fog line and was traveling at a slow pace, officer then traffic stopped the vehicle at Highway 72 at Clark Street, after making contact with the driver a Ms. Natasha Lynn Ramsey. Ms. Ramsey had blood shot eyes, slurred speech, and when asked to exit the vehicle Ms. Ramsey was unsteady on her feet. when asked Ms. Ramsey if she had taken any medication she stated she took a Quetiapine and it makes her loopy, she also stated she took a Clonazepam, officer then administered Field Sobriety tests, Ms. Ramsey Failed all tests, Ms. Ramsey also admitted to taking two (2) other medications as well Lamotrigine and Propranolol, she was then placed under arrest for driving under the influence. after reading Ms. Ramsey the DUI implied consent form Ms. Ramsey refused to give a blood sample she was then transported to the Loudon County justice center the above actions did occur in the City of Loudon

Meth

Justin Blain Barnes, 30, Rock Springs Anex was charged with Driving on Revoked License, MFG., Delivery, sale of meth, VOP. Deputy Cody Fritts LCSO, observed a Tan Chevy Truck traveling on Beals Chapel Road. The passenger in the vehicle was not wearing a seat belt. Upon stopping the vehicle the driver of the vehicle was identified as Justin Barnes. The passenger was identified as Adara Henry. Upon running Mr. Barnes through dispatch he was found to be driving on a revoked driver license and had a warrant out of Lenoir City. Upon running Adara Henry through dispatch she was found to have a warrant out of Lenoir city. Deputy asked Mr. Barnes if he had anything illegal on him and he stated a syringe. Mr. Barnes retrieved a syringe from his right jean pocket. Found in Mr. Barnes watch pocket was a white pill with imprint WATSON 3203 (Hydrocodone 7.5). Deputy Brewer asked Ms. Henry if she had anything illegal on her and she stated she had some meth in her pants. Deputy asked Mr. Barnes if he could search his vehicle and he agreed. Found in the glove box was digital scales. Found in Ms. Henry's backpack was a syringe, (2) baggies, and a spoon. Justin Barnes and Adara Henry were taken into custody and transported to the Loudon County jail. Upon arriving at the jail Ms. Henry retrieved approximately (1.5 grams) of Crystal meth from her vaginal area. During casual conversation with Mr. Barnes at the jail he stated the meth was his and that Ms. Henry was holding it for him. This did happen in Loudon County.



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

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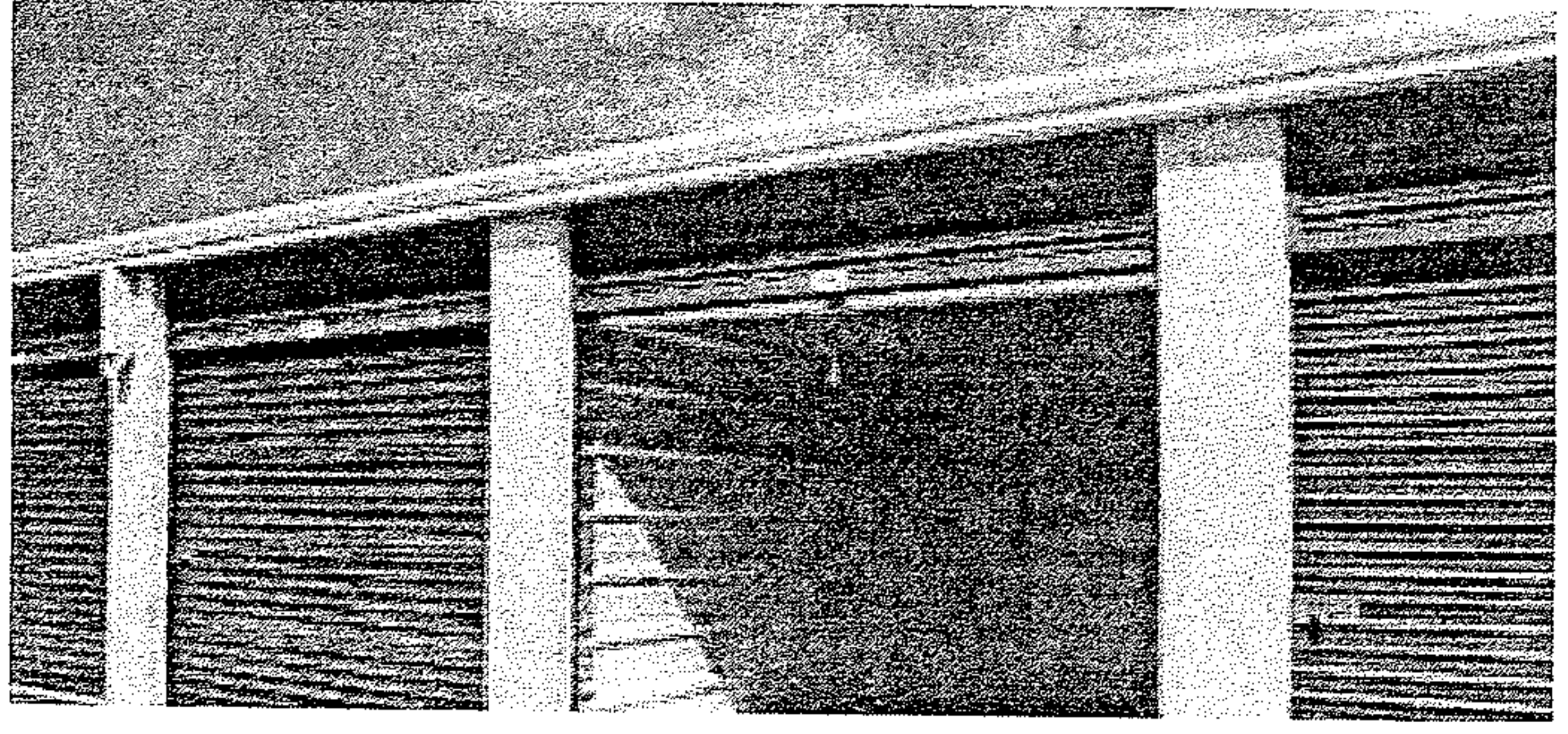
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Spending

sick leave when he was absent from work.

It's important to note that on December 4, 2012, the UCHRA Board's Personnel Committee approved a motion to allow the executive director to use comp time. Investigators reviewed the UCHRA Employee and Policy Handbook which establishes the "exempt" and "non-exempt" classification for all employees. Investigators believe, as an executive level employee, the former executive director was not entitled to earn comp time. Investigators also found problems related to the former executive director's travel claims. In three instances, the former executive director claimed he attended meetings in Nashville and Washington D.C., but documentation obtained by investigators did not support those claims. As a result, the former executive director was reimbursed \$706.77 and charged \$3,791.31 to his agency credit card for travel expenses when supporting agencies had no record of his attendance. Additionally, investigators determined the former executive director entered into legally binding agreements on behalf of the UCHRA without prior board approval. The UCHRA also paid travel expenses in advance for board members, board members' families, employees and employees' families. In some instances, the travel expenses were not related to

UCHRA business. Although board members and employees were required to reimburse the agency for personal travel expenses, this practice should be eliminated. On May 9, 2018, the former executive director was terminated by the UCHRA Board of Directors. The Comptroller's Office has reviewed its findings and recommendations with the district attorney general for the Thirteenth Judicial District. "Our investigation found several weaknesses related to time reporting at UCHRA," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "At a minimum, the Board chairman should sign the executive director's time sheets as evidence of review and approval, and time and leave policies should be followed."

TGN

The Good News
The Rev. Dr. Julius McCarter

Scripture: Romans 8:12-17

Paul uses the word "flesh" to represent sin, death and the devil -- a chasing after other gods, in other words breaking the First Commandment. The choice for Paul could not be clearer: life in Jesus or death in sin. The irony that Jesus died for our sins and was raised to new life should not escape us. We too die to sin in baptism and are raised to new life in

Jesus Christ. In baptism, we are adopted by God, grafted into God's family, cared for like God's own and called God's sons and daughters. This adoption means that God addresses our inability to escape from sin and give our life freely to God. God hears our call of desperation, our inability to care for ourselves and responds by adopting us and caring for us as God's own. God becomes our parent, teacher and guide where we learn from God, trust God and follow God's way. The beauty is that God cares for us like God cared for God's only son and gives us the same spirit that was in Jesus Christ. May the Spirit of Christ dwell in you richly. Prayer: O God, we give thanks that through baptism, we are adopted into your family and claimed as your own children. As a member of God's family, we are protected from all evil. Help us to know that the Spirit of Christ has defeated sin, death and the devil and the spirit now lives in us through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Obituaries

Steven Jason Voiles age 42 passed away at his home on Sunday, May 27, 2018. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Midge and Harold Newberry; great-grandparents, Floyd and Mary Wilkerson, Paul and Lucille Newberry. Survived by his children, Jason and Shyla Voiles; mother, Penny Newberry; brother, Jeremy

Voiles; uncles and aunts, Steve and Sissy Newberry, Robin and Tony Presley; girlfriend, Courtney Vineyard; cousins, nieces and nephews; mother of his children, Amanda Smith, step children, Faith Ann and Christina Costner. Friends may call at their convenience at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City. Family and friends will gather at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 31, 2018 at Loudon County Memorial Gardens for graveside services with Rev. Leonard Turner officiating. Serving as pallbearers: Tony Cansler, Randy Hamilton, Robert Money maker, Chris Dutton, Randall Jaynes, Mike Brock and Dustin Hill. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

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Fraud

home detention with electronic monitoring. Turner must also perform 150 hours of community service, be supervised by U.S. Probation for three years, and pay \$1,381,552 in restitution.

Turner pleaded guilty in October 2017, to one count of a 16-count indictment charging him and Collins with conspiracy to commit mail fraud. The indictment also charged Collins with 15 counts of mail fraud. Collins also pleaded guilty in January 2018 to one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud and 15 counts of mail fraud. Details of the scheme are outlined in their plea agreements on file with U.S. District Court. According to these documents, Turner became involved in a conspiracy with Collins to defraud Mountain Empire Surgery Center (MESC) in Johnson City, Tennessee. Beginning in mid-2009, Collins, who was the materials manager for MESC, devised a scheme to defraud MESC by submitting false invoices to MESC purporting to show that MESC had purchased and received supplies from a vendor called Turner Distributors, LLC (Turner Distributors). In fact, MESC never received any supplies from

Turner Distributors. Instead, at the instruction of Collins, Turner established Turner Distributors as a shell company. When MESC received legitimate medical supplies from companies like Cardinal Health, Collins falsified invoices and packing slips to make it appear as though the supplies originated from Turner Distributors. Collins then submitted these falsified invoices and packing slips to the accounts payable personnel at MESC.

Beginning in July 2009 and continuing through March 2016, MESC paid Turner Distributors after receiving the falsified invoices and packing slips submitted by Collins. To make payment, MESC mailed checks to the mailing address for Turner Distributors in east Tennessee. Upon receipt, Turner deposited the checks into a Carter County Bank account he opened in the name of Turner Distributors, withdrew cash, and split the proceeds with Collins. Collins was then supposed to pay Cardinal Health for the cost of the supplies; however, since there was never any real agreement with Cardinal Health, the money was retained by Turner and Collins.

Although Turner initially believed that the business relationship was legitimate,

he realized around April 2010 that he was involved in a criminal conspiracy with Collins after receiving a 1099 (an IRS form used to report miscellaneous payments made to nonemployee individuals during the calendar year) from MESC. By this time, Turner, through Turner Distributors, had deposited 19 fraudulently obtained checks from MESC totaling approximately \$74,146. Although now aware of the conspiracy, Turner continued to participate in the conspiracy by depositing or cashing an estimated 161 additional MESC checks, totaling approximately \$1,307,406, from April 2010 through March 2016. In total, Turner and Collins fraudulently obtained 180 MESC checks amounting to \$1,381,552.

"The U.S. Attorney's Office will continue to work with our federal and state partners to prosecute those who conspire to use the U.S. Mail to commit fraud against legitimate businesses," said U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey.

FBI Special Agent in Charge, Renae McDermott said, "This investigation is but another example of our commitment to investigating fraud and rooting out those who willfully commit such crimes. We will continue

working with our law enforcement partners to identify and stop those who defrauded their employer at the expense of others."

Agencies participating in this investigation included the FBI and Tennessee Bureau of Investigation-Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. Assistant U.S. Attorney TJ Harker represented the United States in court proceedings.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Lenoir City Budget Committee

The Lenoir City Budget Committee will hold the following meetings at City Hall with the purpose of preparation of the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget:

- *Thursday, May 31, 2018 at 9:00 A.M.*
- *Wednesday, June 6, 2018 at 1:00 P.M.*

The public is encouraged to attend.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Loudon County Commission

will meet in workshop session on

Thursday, May 31, 2018, 6 PM

at the County Office Building in

Loudon.

Gun ctd from p.2
 stated her sister in law was at the residence and text her to tell her the victims were at the residence. When Ms. Bradford arrived at the residence she stated she told the victims to leave. Ms. Bradford stated they refused so she went into her residence and retrieved a firearm. Ms. Bradford stated she went back outside and told them to leave again at which time one victim smirked. Ms. Bradford stated she felt in danger so she fired the gun at the ground. Inv. C. Bowen 932 was notified and responded to the scene. Ms. Bradford was placed under arrest for 3 counts of aggravated assault

and transported to the Loudon County jail. This did occur in Loudon County TN.

LC man charged with assault

Freddie Howard, 56, N Hwy 321 Lenoir City, was charged with Domestic Assault.

Officer Jason Arden LCPD, responded to Hwy 321 (Inn of Lenoir, Rm. 241) to investigate a Domestic Disturbance complaint. Upon arrival Officer encountered Freddie L. Howard (defendant) who stated that he and his girlfriend (victim) had gotten into an argument and he attempted to force her from another room located downstairs.

Victim was located in a up stair room and displayed a scratch about her left cheek and the left upper section of her shirt was torn. Victim account of the incident matched that which Howard described and Howard was, taken into custody for Domestic Assault. This did occur in Lenoir City, Tennessee.



Freddie Howard



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