

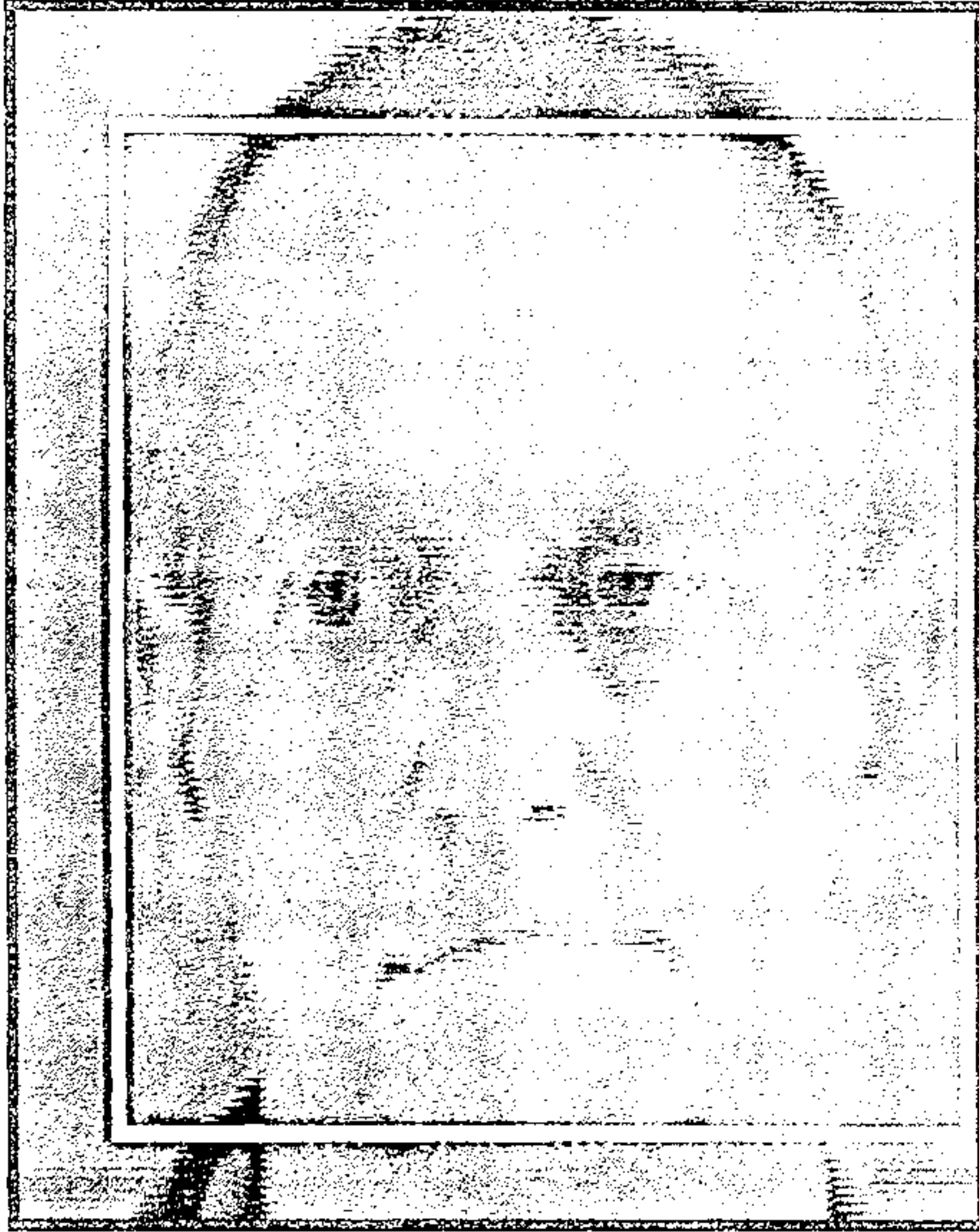
The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, August 13, 2018

“It’s Not Mine” Leads To 2 Arrests | Beer Cans and Weed Pipes

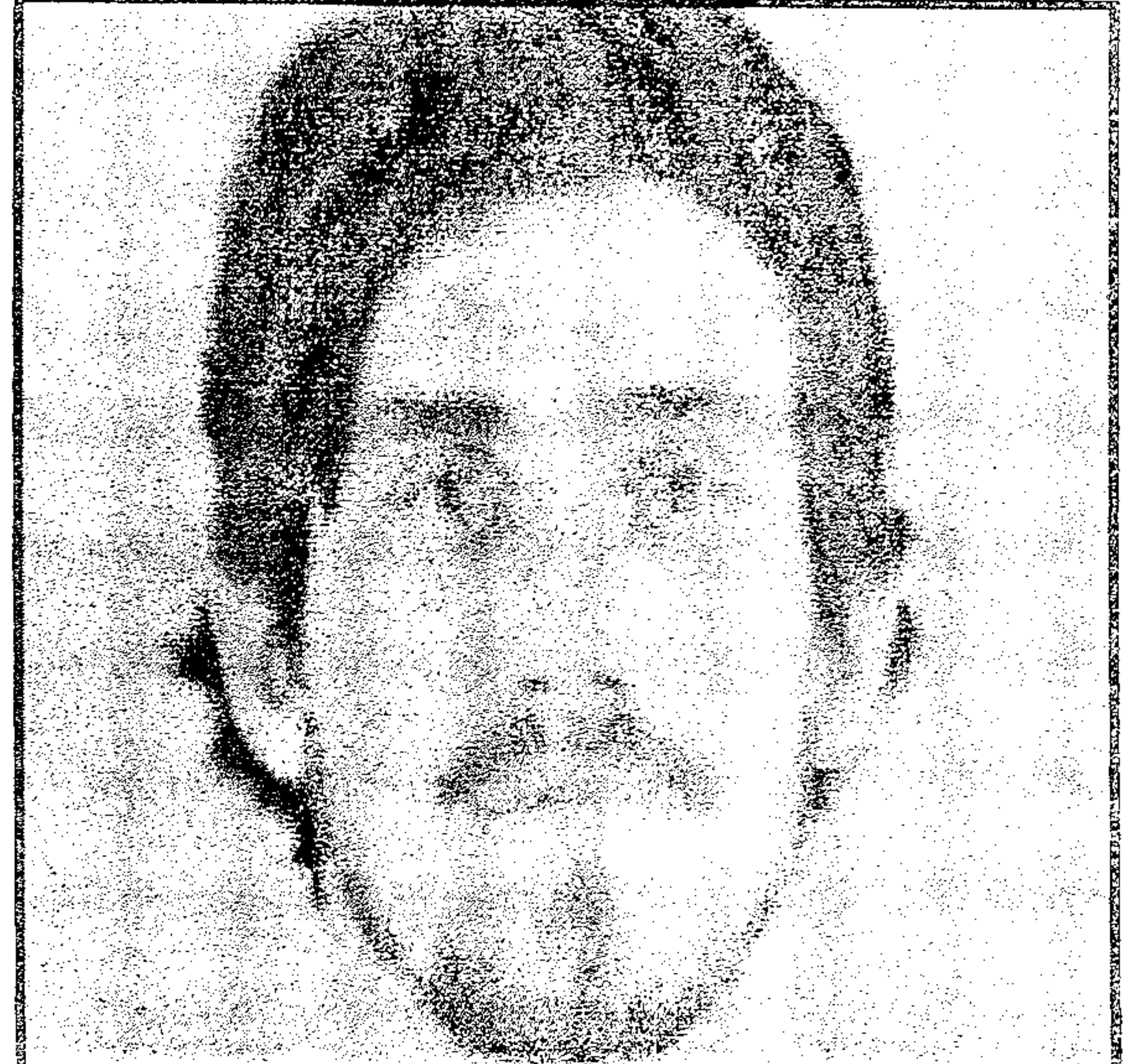


Walter Smith



James Parrott

see Meth pg. 2



Mark Grace

see DUI pg. 3

9th District Attorney Internet Crimes Unit Captures Wanted Man



Ryan Humfleet

See Captured P.5

Physician and wife pay \$428,000 to settle false claims

U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey announced today that Dr. Donald Chamberlain and Karen Chamberlain have paid \$428,700, to resolve state and federal False Claims Act allegations. It is alleged

See Claims P.4

Former CEO Of Defense Contractor, Wellco Enterprises, Inc., Sentenced To 41 Months In Federal Prison For “Made In The USA” Marketing and Contract Fraud

On August 6, 2018, the former President and Chief Executive Officer of Wellco Enterprises, Inc. (Wellco), and Tactical Holdings Operations, Inc. (Tactical Holdings), Vincent Lee Ferguson, 66, of

Knoxville, Tennessee, was sentenced by the Honorable J. Ronnie Greer, U.S. District Judge, to serve 41 months in federal prison for his role in a wire fraud conspiracy. Wellco’s former Senior Vice

(see Fraud pg. 4)



Verse of the Day

All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal. — Psalm 119:160

Obituaries

See p. 7

Wazzup

Football Season is un-

derway and hopeful that the weather will cooperate

Weather

Today: Thunderstorms. High of 84F.

Tonight: Rain. Low of 67F.

Tuesday: Cloudy. High

of 86F.

Tuesday Night: Clearing.

Low of 66F.

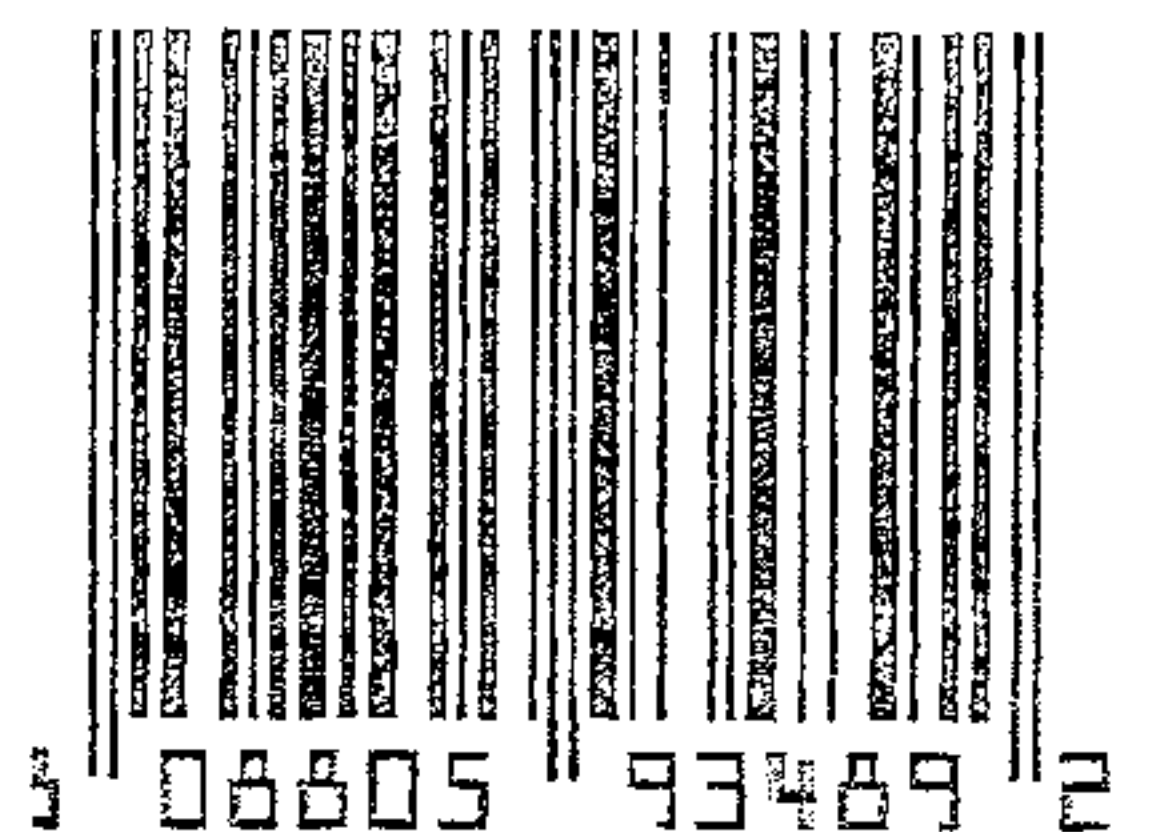
Horoscopes

Leo 7/23-8/22

One part of you just wants to hibernate today, while another part is feeling restless and ready to hit the town.

The planets are urging you to honestly check in to see if you are running away from something inside of you. The truth of certain relationships will come to light. Make sure you dont give just to avoid feeling guilty. Moral

(Continued on page 6)



Meth

Walter Smith, 64, Tyrone Pike Ky., was charged with Mfg/Del/Sale or Poss. of Meth.

James Parrott, 39, Pine Tree Drive Ky.

Trooper Donnie Clark THP, conducted a traffic stop on I-75 at the 68 mm for speeding. Both

occupant appeared to be nervous but consented to a search. Located during the search was 4 grams of meth in an empty McDonald cup. The driver James Parrott and passenger Walter Smith refused to claim ownership both were placed under arrest.

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2011 Honda Pilot ;Leather, Sunroof. 4wd, Alloy Wheels, DVD. 3rd Row Seating, Tow Package



2010 Ford F150 Platinum PKG, Power Run. Boards, NAV, Ent. PKG, Leather, Heated/Cooled Seats



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DUI

Mark Grace, 29, Samuel Lane Knoxville, was charged with DUI, Open Container, Poss. Of Drug Para., and Violation of Implied Consent. Sgt. Bowen LCSO, was notified by dispatch

of a reckless driver I-75 South approaching the 81 exit. The vehicle did exit the 81 and went to the Ken Jo gas station on Hwy 321 according to the complainant. They give a description of a white Tahoe pulling a boat bearing tag num-

ber 3k65w5. Deputy did not make contact with the vehicle at the gas station. Dispatch did advise him that the vehicle did get back on the Interstate North bound. Deputy did find a vehicle and boat matching the description on the shoulder of I-75 north near the 82 mm with its hazard lights on and a subject outside the vehicle. Deputy then walked up and made contact with the driver later identified as Mark Grace. Deputy could smell a strong odor of alcohol coming from his person. Deputy then asked if he had drank anything and he stated he had a few beers on the lake. Deputy asked where he was coming from and where he was going. He did state that he had been on Norris lake and he was going to Knoxville. Mr. Grace was unsteady on his feet and had blood shot eyes. Deputy then asked if he would perform field sobriety and he did perform poorly

on these task. Deputy then read him a copy of the Implied Consent and he did tell me he was not doing anything till he talked to a lawyer. Deputy did place Mr. Grace under arrest for Driving under the Influence. Deputy did walk up to the vehicle and could smell a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. Deputy the back floor in a black bag Deputy did locate a pipe with residue in it. Also there was a 20 oz Ultra beer in the floor of the vehicle. Deputy then transported him to the Loudon County Jail. This did occur in Loudon County.

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Fraud

President of Sales, Matthew Lee Ferguson, 41, of Geneva, Illinois, and former Director of Marketing and Communications, Kerry Joseph Ferguson, 36, of Houston, Texas, were previously sentenced in June 2018 to each serve six months in federal prison for the same crime. There is no parole in the federal system.

Wellco was a leading manufacturer and supplier of military footwear to the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and to civilian customers for over 70 years. From 2006 through 2012, DoD alone paid in excess of \$138 million to Wellco for the supply of combat boots. From December 2008 through August 2012, CEO Vincent Lee Ferguson conspired with his executive team to import military-style boots that were made in China into the U.S. and then deceptively market and sell those boots to DoD, government contractors, and the general public as "Made in the USA" and as compliant with the Berry Amendment

and the Trade Agreements Act (TAA). The company sold over \$8.1 million in fraudulent boots.

To conceal the fraud, the conspirators required the Chinese manufacturing facility to include "USA" on labels of boot uppers. After two shipments of these deceptively marked boots were seized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection, the conspirators ordered the Chinese facility to stitch tear-away "Made in China" labels in Wellco boot uppers. After importation, the conspirators instructed Wellco factory workers in Morristown, Tennessee, to tear out the "Made in China" tags prior to shipping the boots to government and commercial purchasers.

"The U.S. Attorney's Office will prosecute aggressively dishonest companies and individuals who take advantage of the United States and potentially put our military men and women in danger by fraudulently selling them counterfeit equipment

which does not meet the standards set by the Berry Amendment and the TAA," said U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey.

John F. Khin, Special Agent in Charge, Southeast Field Office, Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS) said, "While the United States continues to combat enemies foreign and domestic, corrupt individuals attempt to take advantage of our service members and exploit our Defense Department's supply chain. DCIS investigations relentlessly pursue allegations of fraud, waste and abuse. This sentencing is one of countless examples of the impact DCIS and its law enforcement partners have to aggressively investigate these crimes and prosecute those responsible to the fullest extent of the law." "Ensuring the authenticity of the products within the military's supply chain is of paramount importance to Homeland Security Investiga-

tions (HSI)," said Assistant Special Agent in Charge Robert Hammer, who oversees HSI's operations in Tennessee. "Falsely selling our military millions of dollars of combat boots by saying they were 'Made in the USA' when they are actually Chinese-knockoffs not only defrauds the government, but it also defrauds the American soldier. Our soldiers rely on their equipment from their guns to their boots to protect this country and counterfeit products could fail at a moment when they need them the most." "The General Services Administration (GSA) Office of Inspector General will continue to work with our law enforcement partners to aggressively investigate contractors who fraudulently circumvent the federal procurement process," said Special Agent in Charge, Floyd Martinez.

This case was investigated by HSI, DCIS, Air Force Of-

fice of Special Investigations, GSA Office of Inspector General, and Defense Contract Audit Agency. Assistant U.S. Attorneys David L. Gunn and Timothy Harker represented the United States in court proceedings.

Claims

that from January 7, 2009 through May 2, 2012, their medical practice billed Medicare, Tennessee Medicaid (TennCare), and the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program (FEHBP) for foreign-sourced anticancer drugs not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for marketing in the United States. Dr. Chamberlain owned and operated Chattanooga Gyn-Oncology. See Claims ctd on pg. 5

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Claims ctd. from pg. 4

gy, P.C., located in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Mrs. Chamberlain managed Dr. Chamberlain's medical practice since the time of its inception.

The United States alleged that the unapproved drugs the Chamberlains provided to patients and billed to Medicare, TennCare, and FEHBP were not reimbursable under those programs. The United States further alleged that the Chamberlains purchased unapproved drugs because they were less expensive than the drugs approved by FDA for marketing in the United States. Thus, the Chamberlains allegedly profited by administering the cheaper unapproved drugs.

"Administering oncology drugs manufactured in other countries and not approved by the FDA, risks the safety of our citizens," said U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey. "We will continue to pursue aggressively, medical providers who improperly put their own financial interests ahead of the safety of their patients and who ignore rules instituted to protect the taxpayer funded healthcare system."

This investigation was a coordinated effort by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Tennessee, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, U.S. Food and Drug Administration Office of Criminal Investi-

gations, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, the Knoxville Division of the FBI, and the Tennessee Attorney General's Office. The United States was represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeremy Dykes.

The claims settled by this agreement are allegations only; there has been no determination of liability.

Captured

The 9th District Attorney Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC),

Morgan County Sheriff's Office, Roane County Sheriff's Office and the Tennessee Department of Corrections were searching for Matthew Ryan Humfleet was wanted for outstanding warrants out of Roane and Morgan

Counties. Humfleet is a convicted sexual offender and is wanted on multiple warrants in multiple counties for alleged violations of the sexual offender registry. On August 7th Matthew Ryan Humfleet was captured and arrested. The tip came from a concerned citizen.



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