

Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, November 18, 2019

Men break into Christensen Yacht to steal tools caught and charged



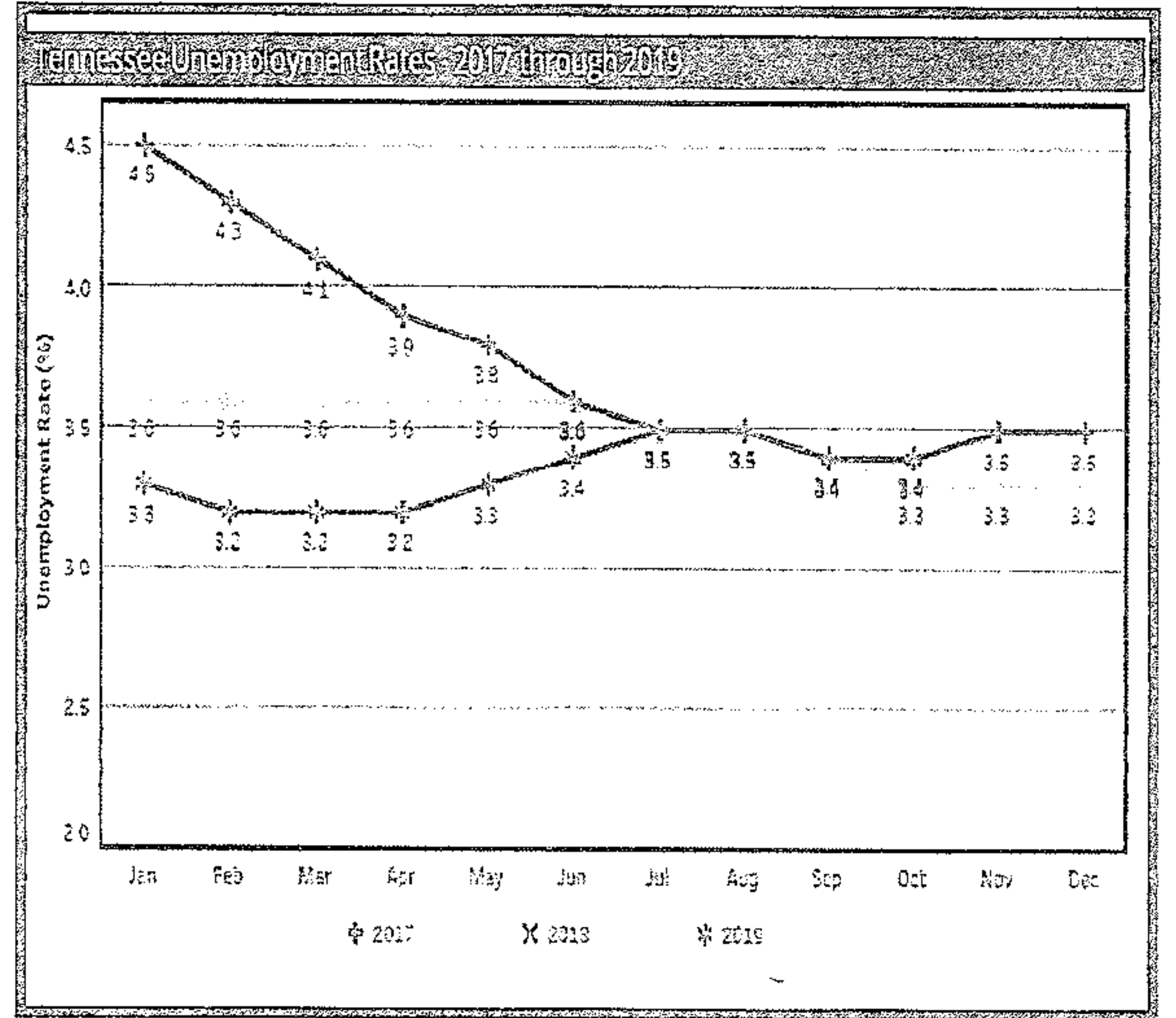
Mark Rugala



Joseph Byrd

see Yacht pg. 2

Unemployment Holds Steady Across Tennessee in October



see Work pg. 3

Money Mishandled by UT Knoxville Spirit Team



see Spirit pg. 5

Freeman Takes on New Role at Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Agriculture Commissioner Charlie Hatcher, D.V.M. is announcing the appointment of Will Freeman as a business consultant for the Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA). Freeman will administer the Agriculture Enterprise

See Freeman P.5

Lone Offender Terrorism FBI Report Draws Findings from 52 Attacks in U.S. Since 1972

An FBI study of lone offender terrorist attacks in the U.S. takes an unprecedented look at the backgrounds, behavioral characteristics, and circumstances surrounding 52 attacks since 1972, as well as the singular per-

petrators and the bystanders who often see clues but rarely act on them. The Lone Offender Terrorism Report, produced by the FBI's National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime and Behavioral Analysis

See Attacks P.4



Verse of the Day

We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves.
—Romans 15:1

Wazzup

Check out Keeping Loudn County moving 5K today at 2pm!!!

Weather

Today: Mostly cloudy. High of 54F.
Tonight: Cloudy. Low of 35F

Tuesday: Cloudy. High of 51F

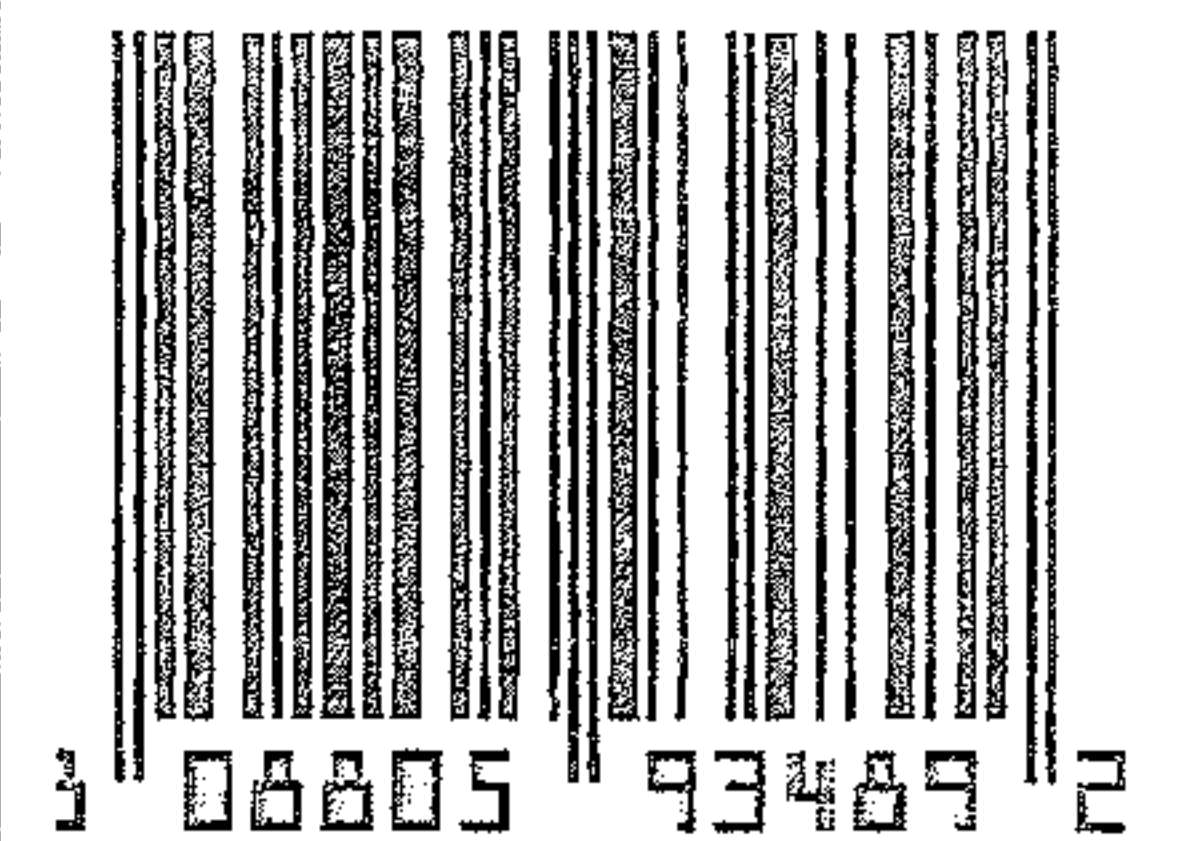
Tuesday night: Clearing. Low of 34F

Horoscopes

Scorpio 10/23–11/21
Making a healthy sacrifice for the benefit of another is the most satisfy-

ing thing you can do for yourself today. You could perform a random act of kindness or do a favor for a beloved friend or relative. You might enjoy volunteering at a local soup

(Continued on page 6)



Yacht

Mark Rugala, 31, Defoe Circle Maryville, was charged with Burglary, Theft of Property, Criminal Trespass, and Resisting Arrest. Joseph Byrd, 29, McSpadden Road Maryville, was charged with Burglary, Theft of Property, and Criminal Trespass. Deputy Mark Tinnell LCSO, while on routine patrol around Christensen Yacht, he no-

ticed that one of the bay doors to the business was partially open. Laying up against the door were a set of bolt cutters. Upon further examination, there were two cut Master Locks laying on the ground near the doors. After contacting the site manager, it was determined the business had been burglarized. Upon manager arrival he discovered several items missing. Taken from the business were an Echo

backpack blower, weed eater, a Toro weed eater, a Stihl generator concrete saw and chainsaw, a Generac generator, and a Lincoln welding torch setup. After reviewing the secu-

rity video of the business it was determined 3 males subjects were seen entering the building. These males were seen taking items without permission Yacht ctd. to P. 3


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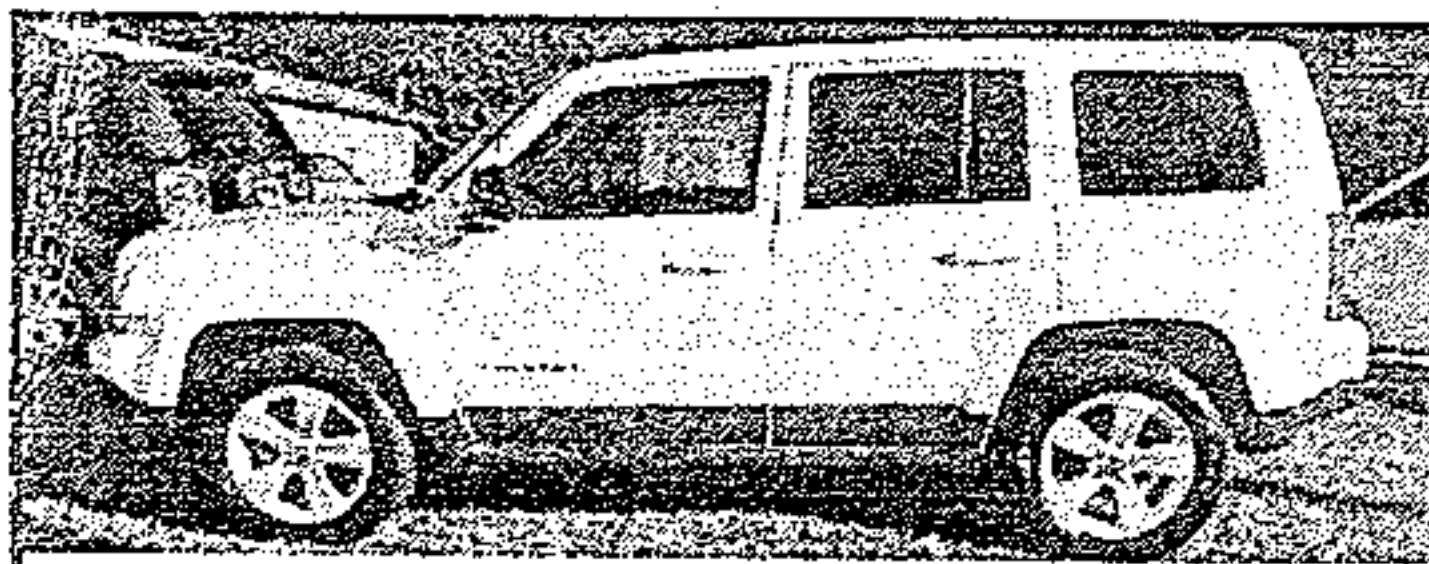
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Yacht etd. to P. 2

of the business, and loading the items into a white Nissan truck, the vehicle was then seen leaving the business. While conducting a investigation a blue truck with 3 males came through the business parking area, past the marked no trespassing sign. After interviewing the subjects it was determined that one of them owned a white truck. With Blount County Sheriff assistance, all the stolen items were recovered at an address in Maryville. Mark Rugala and Joseph Byrd was charged.

Work

Tennessee's unemployment rate held steady in October. The new rate of 3.4 percent matches the previous month's rate, according to data from the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development (TDLWD). While Tennessee's jobless rate remained the same between September and October, over the past year, Tennessee's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate experienced a

slight uptick from 3.3 percent to 3.4 percent. The current rate is still very close to the all-time low of 3.2 percent, which the state recorded earlier this year. "Month after month, we continue to see Tennessee's unemployment rate hold steady, very close to the all-time historic low, and that's great news," said TDLWD Commissioner Jeff McCord. "Even with unemployment at its current level, we are mindful that not all sectors are the same and will continue to work with individuals who need assistance in transitioning employment."

Between October 2018 and October of this year, Tennessee's nonfarm employment increased by 38,900 jobs. The most significant increases occurred in the leisure/hospitality, professional/business services, and trade/transportation/utilities sectors.

The latest statistics show the number of nonfarm jobs dropped by 5,100 between September and October of this year. The largest decreases occurred in the manufacturing, professional/business services, and other services sectors. Nationally, seasonally ad-

justed unemployment experienced a slight uptick. October's rate of 3.6 percent is 0.1 of a percentage point higher than the previous month's rate of 3.5 percent.

The state of Tennessee has compiled a complete analysis of the October 2019 unemployment data and it is available through this link.

Tennesseans can look

for work and receive job search assistance through the state's workforce development website, www.Jobs4TN.gov, or in-person at more than 80 local American Job Centers across the state.

The state of Tennessee will release October 2019 unemployment data or all 95 counties and Thursday, November 21, 2019, at 1:30 p.m. CT.

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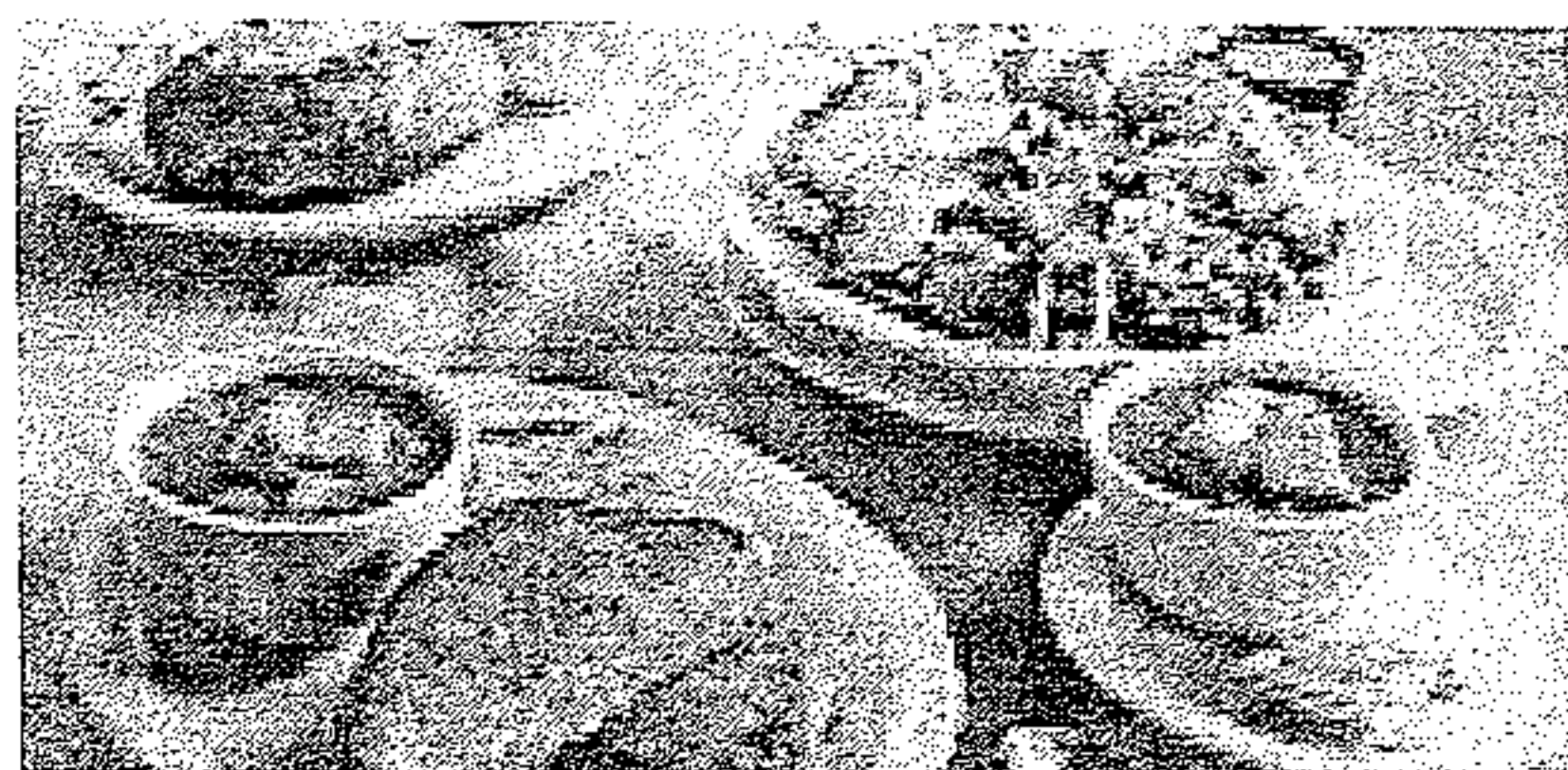
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Attacks

Unit (BAU) and released today, analyzed domestic attacks between 1972 and 2015. Within BAU, researchers reviewed a trove of data and contextual investigative information in FBI case files and police records—as well as academic research and media accounts—to develop a richer picture of the varied circumstances surrounding dozens of lone offender attacks.

The study specifically examined offenders who carried out attacks independent of any direction from a terrorist group or organization. Researchers hope the findings will inform how law enforcement and the public assess and act on potential threats.

“One key concept is there is no one demographic profile,” said Special Agent John Wyman, chief of BAU’s Behavioral Threat Assessment Center, which conducted the research. He said a more holistic anal-

ysis is required of individual persons of concern and the wide array of factors that drive individuals to use violence to achieve their goals or resolve their underlying personal issues. “As a result, there’s no checklist or scoresheet someone can use to say whether this person’s a threat or not.”

But there is a lot of information supporting the need to recognize when and how to report potential threats. And that doesn’t just mean law enforcement agencies; the data show friends and family of attackers are the most likely to observe potentially threatening behaviors—and to have the ability to put those behaviors into context. These critical bystanders need to understand that history shows it’s better to raise concerns when they arise rather than ignore them.

“Everybody’s got a role—from the parent or sibling or classmate to local

law enforcement to mental health counselors—to help us in preventing these acts,” explained Wyman. He said that building teams of people who can appropriately assess and manage threats is key. “The report’s findings argue for better coordination and cooperation between law enforcement and community stakeholders in order to try and identify and prevent these attacks from happening.”

Effective threat management, the report says, is ultimately enhanced through the sharing of information and collaboration between law enforcement and other non-traditional stakeholders, such as mental health, social services, and probation and parole.

The 80-page report is divided into three sections: the offenders, the attacks, and the bystanders. The report acknowledges that predicting lone offender terrorism incidents is not possible, “but prior research and operational experience support the conclusion that acts of targeted violence, including lone offender attacks, may be preventable.”

Among the key find-

ings:

-83 percent of offenders had previously exhibited behavior that was hostile or aggressive.

-96 percent of offenders produced writing or videos intended to be viewed by others.

-In 25 percent of the cases, at least one other individual became aware of the offender’s research, planning, or preparation for an attack. -In every case, bystanders expressed concern over behaviors at some point prior to an attack.

“Absent this report and others like it, someone could see something and they’re solely relying on their gut feeling or spider sense to say, ‘That doesn’t look right,’ or ‘That’s concerning,’” Wyman said. “I think by putting this information out there, it helps people get over that barrier. It gives you something to fall back on to validate whatever your gut feeling was.”

In a message in the report, FBI Director Christopher Wray said prevention efforts are enhanced by early recognition of potential issues and reporting by those closest to a person of concern. “Bystanders need guidance to recognize concern-

ing behaviors and overcome natural resistance to reporting,” Wray said. “Just as important as early recognition by bystanders is the need to have well-trained, skilled, and competent receivers of that reporting.”

Wyman said that most lone offenders don’t start off alone—they may have attempted to spread their ideology or tried to join like-minded groups and were rejected. They might be raising red flags that should be recognized as potentially dangerous and worth paying close attention to.

“The ideological offenders are often going to wrap an idea around their personal problems, and they typically want to try and test that idea out on other people,” Wyman explained.

“Everybody’s got a role—from the parent or sibling or classmate to local law enforcement to mental health counselors—to help us in preventing these acts.”

John Wyman, unit chief, FBI Behavioral Threat Assessment Center

Other key findings:
-In most cases, offenders attacked targets that had no or minimal security.

See Attachs ctd. to p. 5

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Attack ctd. from pg. 4
 -25 percent of offenders were formally diagnosed with one or more psychiatric disorders prior to their attack; another -13 percent were diagnosed after their attack.
 -In 92 percent of the cases, at least one bystander was aware of the offender's grievance or ideology; in a quarter of those cases, bystanders reported their concerns to law enforcement. Based on the findings in the report, its authors suggest that better relationships and communication between law enforcement and community authority figures can improve the connection with bystanders who may be reluctant to report threats. The benefits are immeasurable. "Potential rewards for early recognition and reporting are incredibly valuable to prevention efforts, lengthening the potential time for prevention efforts before a potential attack," the report states. Wyman said the report outlines the public's role in protecting against lone of-

fenders, akin to a "See Something, Say Something" campaign. "But we need to be looking for things beyond someone leaving a backpack somewhere," he emphasized. "If we're catching them just when they're leaving the backpack, it's too late. We need to catch these things earlier on."

Spirit

An investigation by the Tennessee Comptroller's Office has revealed at least \$1,580 collected by the University of Tennessee - Knoxville (UTK) Spirit Team was never deposited with the UTK Athletics' Business Office. The Spirit Team is comprised of Smokey handlers as well as cheer, dance, and mascot teams. The money was collected by Spirit Team personnel in 2017 and 2018 for a one-day clinic and cheer tryouts. Investigators were advised that multiple personnel had access to the money collected, and sometimes individuals kept the money at their residences. Due to a lack of internal controls,

investigators were unable to determine who was responsible for the missing money. After investigators interviewed the Spirit Team Coordinator in June 2019, she claimed she found a packet containing \$2,047 at her residence. The UTK Athletics' Business Office acknowledged it received this money on August 6, 2019. Due to the Spirit Team's missing and inadequate records, investigators could not determine whether the \$1,580 of missing money was part of the \$2,047 the Spirit Team Coordinator found in her residence. The results of this investigation have been communicated to the District Attorney General of the 6th Judicial District. "Our investigators found numerous shortcomings in how the Spirit Team handled its money," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "These deficiencies included a failure to issue receipts, poor record keeping, and a failure to promptly deposit money. I'm pleased to note that UTK has indicated it has corrected these problems."

Freeman

Fund (AEF), an incentive program that supports job creation and economic development by facilitating agricultural development in Tennessee. He will also assist with public outreach for the Business Development Division. "We are excited for Will's new role and opportunities within our department," Commissioner Hatcher said. "We expect him to be a valuable asset to Tennessee producers and businesses through the AEF, and we are confident that he will follow through." Freeman most recently worked as the department's public information officer, where he helped to coordinate internal and external communications. He earned a degree in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and

Communications from the University of Tennessee, where he also served as student body president and represented the interests of more than 27,000 students. In addition, he was a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. "The AEF program directly falls in line with Commissioner Hatcher's priority of increasing profitability and viability of our farms and forests," Freeman said. "I am truly thankful for this opportunity to provide support to Tennessee's agriculture and forest-product businesses." Freeman grew up on a farm in Portland, Tenn. His family specializes in poultry, beef, and forage production. Tennessee agriculture and forest-product businesses with questions about the Agriculture Enterprise Fund can contact Will at 615-289-7955 or by email at william.h.freeman@tn.gov.

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