

Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Friday, March 01, 2019

Woman tries to pass a check on a closed account from 2008 for vehicle repairs



Crystal McIntosh

see Check pg. 2

Caught trying to retrieve car from woods leads to drug charge



Victor Schofner

see Woods pg. 2

Medic follows suspicious vehicle swerving on interstate I-75



Cherie Kubisty

see DUI pg. 3

Knoxville resident pleads guilty to wire fraud

Melissa Eula May, age 44, of Knoxville, Tennessee, entered a plea of guilty on February 25, 2019, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee at Knoxville, to an information charging her with wire fraud. Sentencing has been set for July 18, 2019 at 10:00 a.m., in United States District Court in Knoxville.

See Fraud ctd to p.4

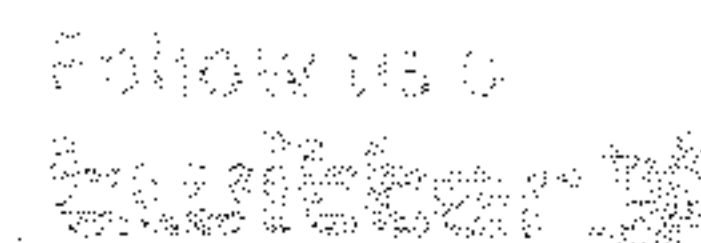
Three Sentenced in Public Corruption Case State Legislator, Coal Executive, and Lawyer Schemed to Stop Environmental Enforcement Actions

An Alabama legislator who was bribed by a corporation to represent the company's interests—instead of his constituents'—is now serving prison time, and the two men who paid him will be serving time

as well.

Former state representative Oliver Robinson, Jr., 58, agreed to a community outreach contract with a law firm that represented Drummond Company, Inc., a Birmingham, Al-

See FBI P.5



Verse of the Day

I myself am convinced, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, complete in knowledge and competent to instruct one another.

—Romans 15:14

Wazzup

Everyone ready for Spring yet???

Weather

Today: Cloudy. High of 52F.

Tonight: Cloudy. Low of 37F.

Saturday: Cloudy. High

of 60F.

Saturday night: Rain moving in. Low of 47F.

Sunday: Rain. High of 53F.

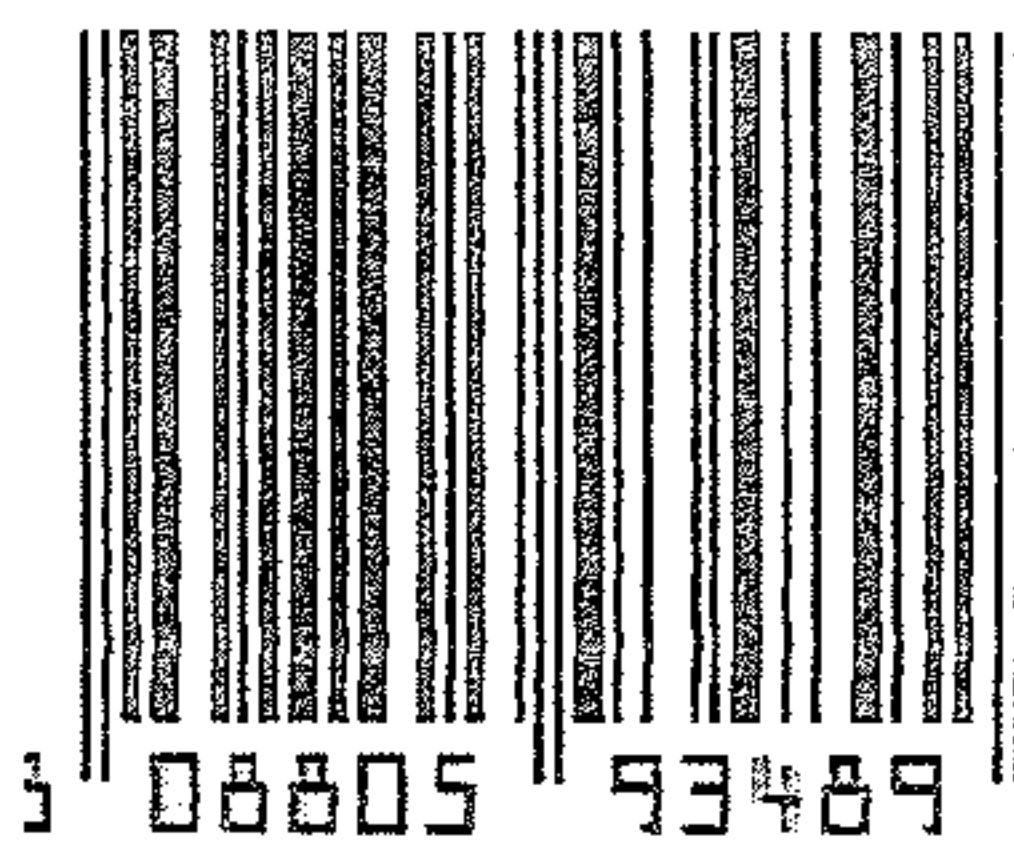
Sunday night: Clearing. Low of 29F.

Horoscopes

Pisces 2/19-3/20

Your network glistens like a net in the sea. You carefully wade through the web of threads and revisit the various people you have gathered around you: excellent friends.

(Continued on page 6)



3 08805 93489 2

Check

Crystal McIntosh, 40, Reeds Spring Road Philadelphia, was charged with Forgery x3, Theft of Property x3, and Criminal Simulation. Crystal McIntosh, was observed sitting in a vehicle with the witness at the South-

east Bank ATM. McIntosh provided witness with a complete and signed check from the victim from an ORNL account that was closed in 2008. McIntosh did not have authorization to possess or write the check. Witness deposited the check and withdrew

the funds for automobile repairs he had conducted. After an investigation Investigator Brown LCPD, issued warrants. Crystal McIntosh was arrested and transported to Loudon Jail.

Woods

Victor Shofner, 29, Maple Street Loudon, was charged with Poss. Of Drug Para., Public Intoxication, and Simple Posses-

Woods ctd. to pg. 3

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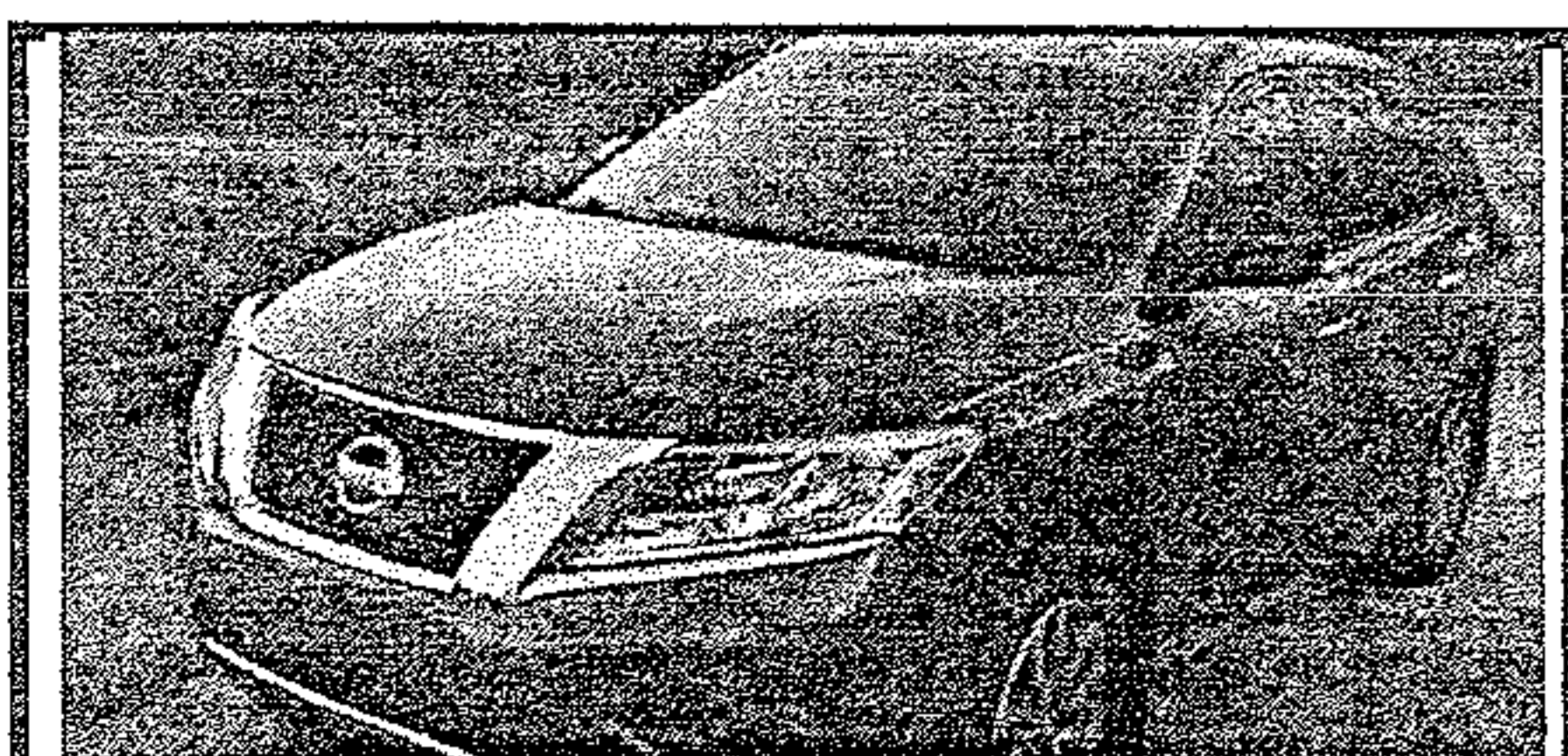
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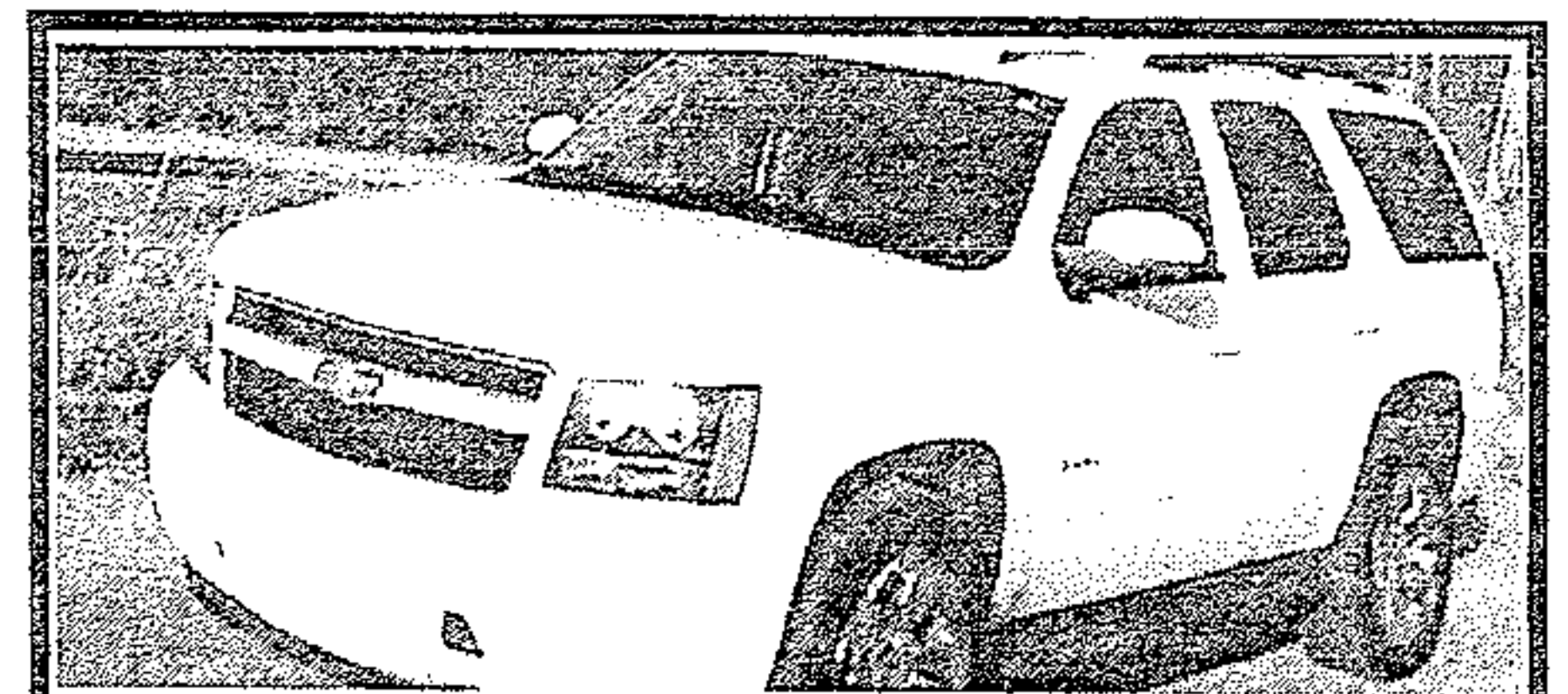
Good Credit OK • Bad Credit OK • Bankruptcies OK • Repo OK *



2014 Nissan Pathfinder Loaded, 3rd Row Seat, Alloy Wheels, Like New, Great On Gas, PW, PL



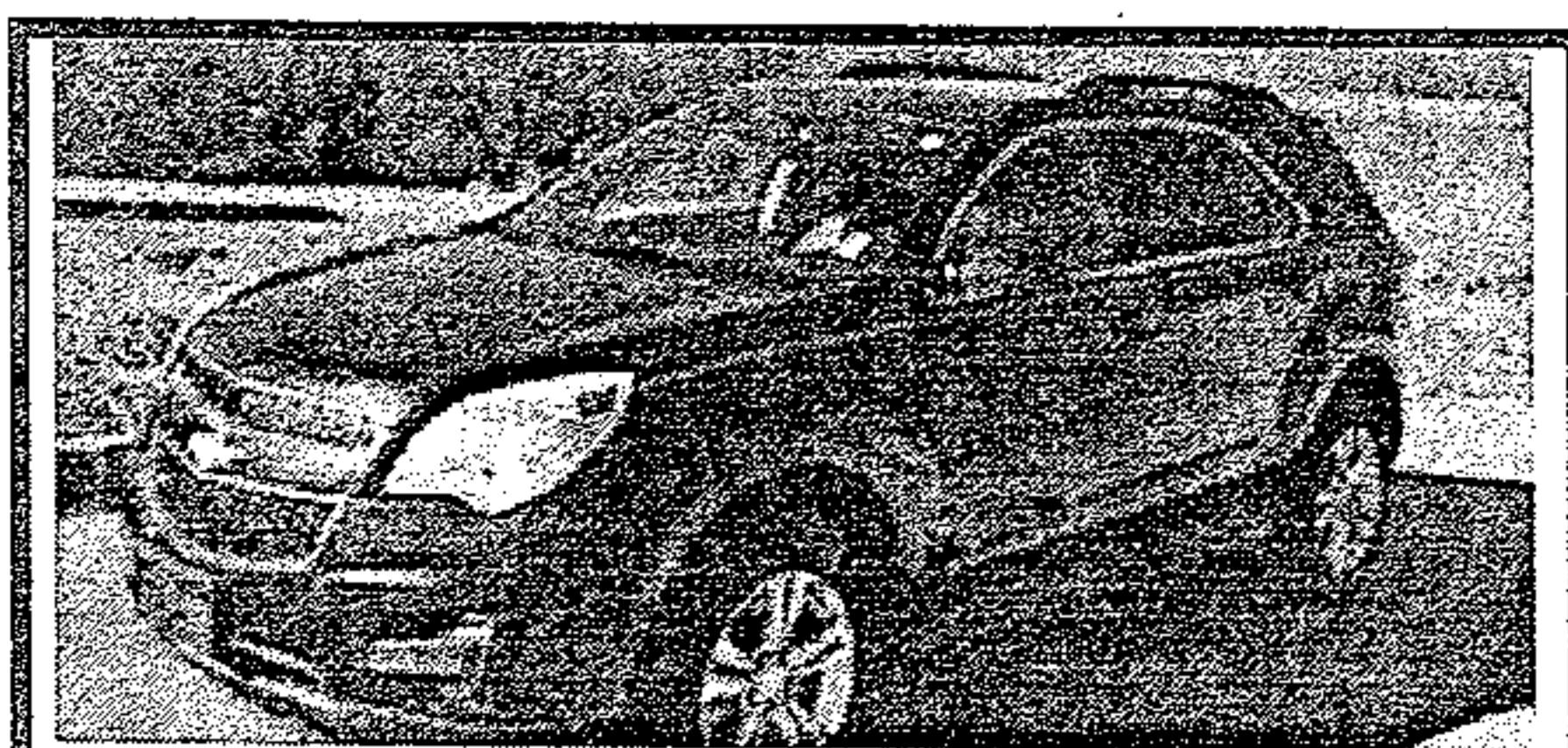
2013 Ford Expedition Fully Loaded, Power 3rd Row, Leather, Backup Camera, Rear A/C, Chrome Wheels, Locally Owned, Clean Carfax!



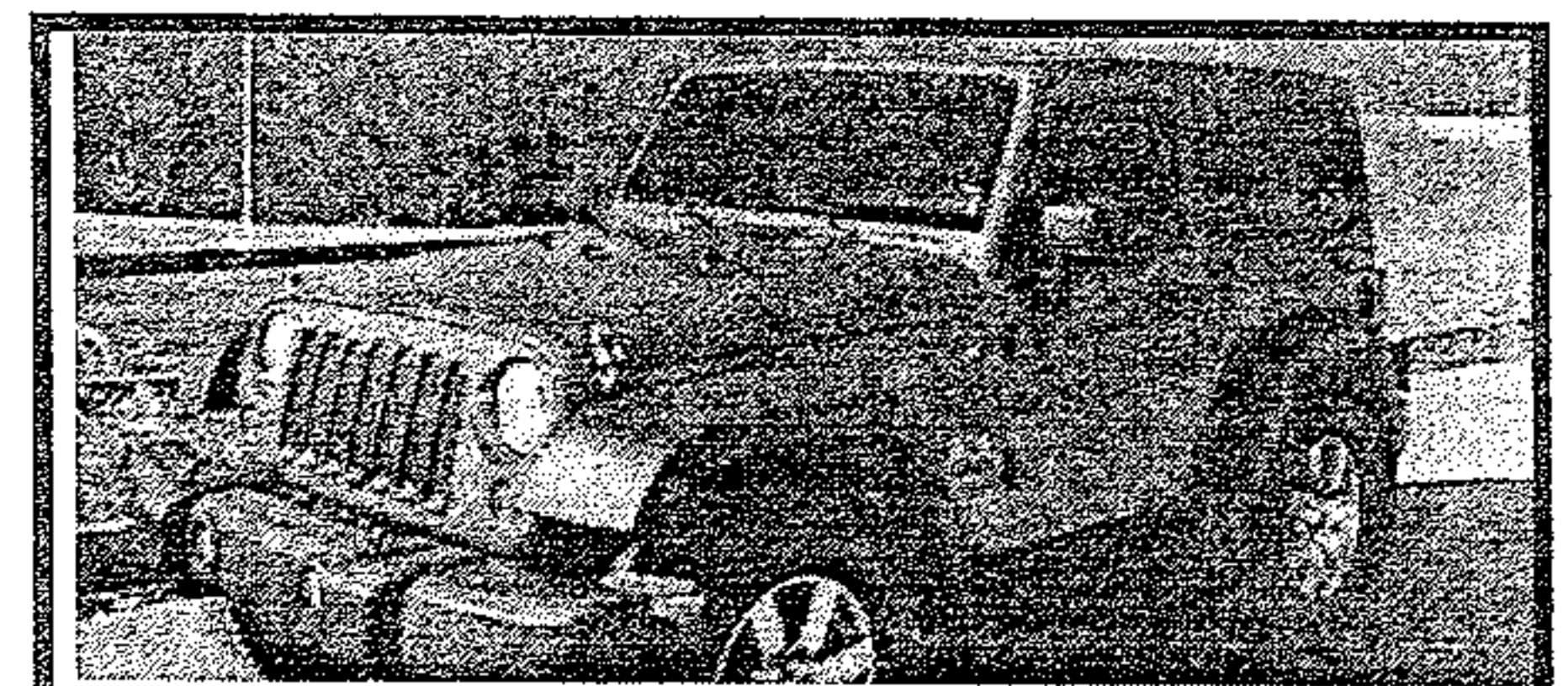
2012 Chevy Tahoe 4x4, Leather, 3rd Row, Chrome Wheels, PW, PL, Sunroof, Remote Start, Auto, 5.3 V8 Power



2014 Hyundai Santa Fe Dual Sunroof, Alloy Wheels, Leather, Heated & Cooled Seats, PS



2012 Chevy Equinox Auto, PS, PW, PL, Alloy Wheels, 2 Tone Interior, Luggage Rack



2009 Jeep Wrangler Low Miles, Hard Top, 4x4, Alloy Wheels, V6, Tow, TN Vol Orange

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Woods ctd. from p.2

sion. Officer Law LPD, was made aware that a unknown subject was on Robert Spring Road behind McDonalds on Hwy 72 trying to get a vehicle out of the woods. Upon arrival Officer observed Victor Shofner walking to him away from the vehicle stuck in the woods. Officer then observed Shofner to have slurred

speech, and blood shot eyes, Officer detained Shofner for further investigation. Upon pat down Officer felt something in Shofner right pocket, and ask him what it was. Shofner stated it was a needle he had been using to shoot up narcotics. Officer also located 5 gabapentin his person. Shofner was placed under arrest.

DUI

Cherie Kubisty, 36, Acapulco Ave Knoxville, was charged with DUI, Simple Possession Sch. 2 x2, and Sch.6. Deputy Pesterfield was dispatched to the area of Interstate 40 west bound for a reckless driver. Dispatch advised medic 25 with Priority Ambulance was behind the vehicle that was crossing all three lanes of the interstate. The medic unit advised the vehicle ran off the road and believe to have hit the median wall. Deputy witnessed the vehicle medic gave registration for traveling on Interstate 75 southbound at the 81 mm. Deputy witnessed the vehicle cross over the dotted line halfway into the left hand lane of travel then back into the right lane. Deputy performed a traffic stop on said vehicle at the 81 mm. Upon contact with the driver identi-

fied as Cherie Kubisty, who had glassy red eyes and constricted pupils. Deputy also noticed Kubisty was sluggish, and ask if she had anything to drink tonight in which she responded no. Deputy ask if she had taken medication she stated she takes Gabeapentin. Deputy ask Kubisty to exit the vehicle and do sobriety test she did poorly on test. Deputy ask if she had anything illegal in the vehicle, she stated there was marijuana in the vehicle. Upon search of the vehicle Deputy located about 15 grams of a green leafy substance inside a Gabeapentin bottle, also in the bottle was 2 brown pills and a blue pill believed to be Amphetamine and dextroamphetamine. Located in the console was 3 green pills and 1 orange pill believed to be oxymorphone. Kubisty was transported to the Loudon Jail.

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Public Notice

The City of Philadelphia Mayor and Board of Aldermen will meet in a regular scheduled monthly meeting on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. located at the United Methodist Church of Philadelphia.

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Canvas Recovery is a devoted community of people living out their recovery journey through hope, healing and power in the name of Jesus Christ.

Fraud

In conjunction with her guilty plea, May, a former employee of the Oliver Spring Housing Authority, admitted using credit cards issued by her employer for her own personal expenditures. She further admitted that from January 1, 2015 through April 30, 2017, she made fraudulent transactions totaling \$149,440.02.

May faces a potential punishment of up to 20 years in prison, forfeiture of all assets illicitly purchased, and the obligation to pay restitution to the Oliver Springs Housing Authority.

This conviction was the result of an investigation by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General, the Tennessee Department of Revenue, and the Oliver Springs Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Frank M. Dale, Jr. represented the United States.

FBI

Alabama-based coal company. The contract paid Robinson \$375,000 over two years. While the contract itself was not illegal, Drummond executive David Roberson and lawyer Joel Gilbert used it as a bribe to induce Robinson to take official action as a state legislator promoting the interests of the company

he was secretly representing—a violation of public corruption law.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had previously informed a Drummond-owned company of its potential responsibility for environmental pollution in North Birmingham—a liability that could cost the company tens of millions of dollars. So Drummond, along with its attorneys, started a public relations campaign to oppose the EPA's actions. The company and its representatives told local residents not to allow the EPA to test their soil and that their housing values would plummet if the EPA placed the community on its Superfund National Priorities List. Part of the overall strategy was the outreach contract with Robinson to help the company get those messages out.

In early February 2015, Robinson signed a letter (secretly authored by Gilbert) in his official legislative capacity to the Alabama Environmental Management Commission against the EPA's actions. Later that month, Robinson signed the contract and received his first check from Gilbert's law firm for \$14,000. Four days later, he represented Drummond's position at an Alabama Environmental Management Commission public meeting, where he claimed to be representing his constituents and did not disclose his financial relationship with the coal company or law firm.

"This case was unique in that the bribe was actually a lucrative contract," said Special Agent Ashley Hunt, who investigated this case out of the FBI's Birmingham Division

in partnership with the Internal Revenue Service.

Robinson took other official acts on behalf of Drummond, including representing the company's position in meetings with the EPA, voting on a resolution (written by Gilbert) to oppose the EPA's efforts, and encouraging the state to narrow the list of possibly responsible parties who would have to fund the cleanup efforts.

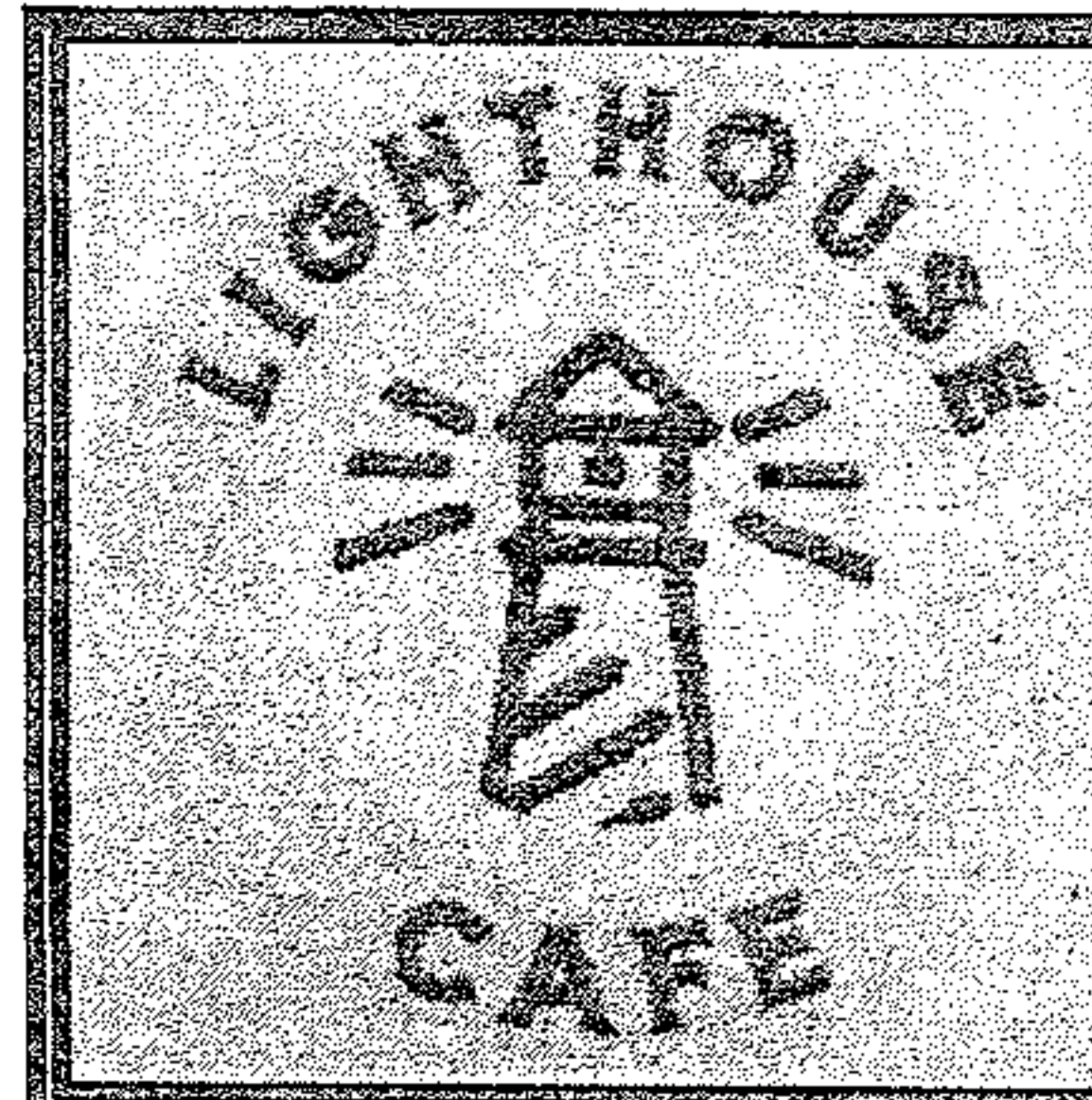
"This case is im-

portant because this bribery scheme had a real impact on the community."

Ashley Hunt, special agent, FBI Birmingham

Robinson, who served in the state legislature from 1998 to 2016, pleaded guilty to conspiracy, bribery, and honest services wire fraud. In September 2018, he was sentenced to 33 months in prison.

Gilbert and Roberson were both convicted of bribery, see FBI ctd. pg. 5



Lighthouse Cafe

will soon be changing to

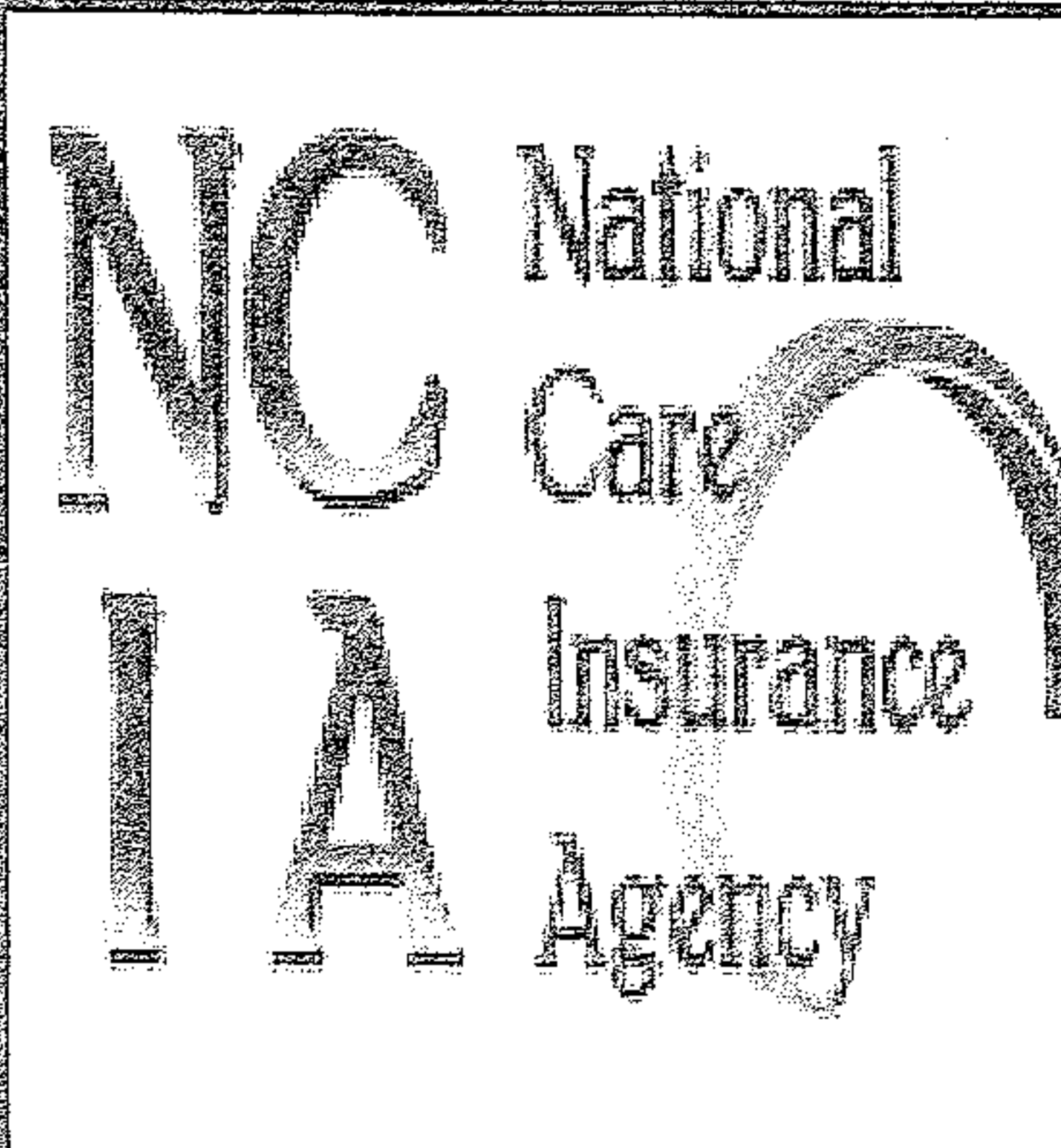
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FBI ctd. from p.4

honest services wire fraud, conspiracy, and money laundering conspiracy charges. In October 2018, Gilbert was sentenced to five years, and Roberson was sentenced to 30 months

In addition to the community outreach campaign, Gilbert drafted a number of opposition letters signed by Alabama officials and sent to the EPA. As a result of those actions, the site's status for inclusion on the National Priorities List remains in limbo, which will effectively delay extra funding for cleanup efforts.

"This case is important because this

bribery scheme had a real impact on the community, and additionally, we didn't just hold the elected official accountable, we also held the bribe payers accountable," Hunt said

The Good News
The Rev. Dr. Julius McCarter

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:35-50

In today's world of industrial-scale farming, few people other than gardeners truly grasp the wonder of a seed--a simple kernel; then a tender sprout curling out of the earth; and finally, rich, full leaves, stems, maybe some-

day a trunk, reaching for the sun.

Attempting to help the Christians in Corinth understand the resurrection of the body, the apostle Paul draws on his listeners' intimate knowledge of this basic process. He contrasts the seed that is sown--the perishable physical body, dishonored and weak--with the new life that blooms from it--the imperishable spiritual body brought forth in glory and power. By God's hand, the perishable is made imperishable.

God's commitment to life, however, is reflected even beyond the miracle of resurrection. We see it in every act of healing, every wrong made right. Through God's all-encompassing love, the depths of despair are filled with the bounty of hope. Prayer: O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is despair, may we lavish hope. Amen.



Mightie Kakes

All Occasion Cakes

Mistey Mckinney

423-371-9297

Find me on Facebook

Trimmerkakes@outlook.com

Public Notice

American Legion Post 256 extends an invitation to all Veterans to join us at our meetings on the 1st Thursday of each month.

The meeting begins at 9 AM with an informative guest speaker and updates on community and veteran's services projects. Join us in the Fellowship Hall at The First Baptist Church of Tellico Village.

For directions and more information visit www.TellicoLakePost256.org.

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