

# The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, March 25, 2019

## Convicted felon has shooting party



Ryan St. Pierre

see Guns pg. 2

## Philadelphia man charged with DUI after car problems



Samuel Branum

see DUI pg. 3

## Knoxville man causes alarm at courthouse over custody



Micha Richardson

see Custody pg. 5

## Unearthing Stories for 20 Years at the 'Body Farm'

*The FBI investigators in protective gloves, boots, and coveralls weren't quite sure what they would find behind the padlocked chain-link fence on a wooded hillside in Tennessee, except that there would be lots of dead bodies.*

The special agents and analysts were students in the FBI Laboratory's Recovery of Human Remains course, held in March every year by the Forensic Anthropology Center at the Anthropology Research Facility in Knoxville. The outdoor site — popularly

known as the "Body Farm" — consists of 2.5 shady acres where human donors are buried, partially covered, or left out in the elements so forensic anthropologists can study how bodies break down and decompose un-

der different conditions. The research facility was established in 1981 with the first body donor. The FBI Laboratory began sending personnel to the Body Farm two decades ago to better under-

See FBI P.4



### Verse of the Day

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

— Psalm 46:1-2

### Wazzup

Happy Birthday Shelley I hope you have a great one girl!!

### Weather

Today: Thunderstorms. High of 61F.  
Tonight: Cloudy. Low of

39F.

Tuesday: Clouds. High of 58F.

Tuesday night: Clearing. Low of 38F.

### Horoscopes

Aries 3/21-4/19

Sometimes the heart is illogical. When some-

one does something hurtful, it makes it harder to remember all the things they did right. Fortunately, while you may have a short fuse, you have an even short-

(Continued on page 6)





**Guns**

Ryan St Pierre, 44, Old Hollow Road Loudon, was charged with Unlawful or Carry of a Weapon. Deputy Billy Lewis LCSO, responded to Old Hollow Road for a subject acting crazy and

shooting a weapon. Upon arrival Deputy made contact with the homeowner Ryan St Pierre who stated that some of his friends had been over at his house and had been shooting earlier. Deputy ask Ryan if he had been shooting he stated no.

Deputy Brewer and Par-tin was told by Ryan that there was two weapons at the end of the house leaned up against a storage building and that he had shot at a old TV. Ryan gave permission to

look around and Deputy located a open box of .22 ammo sitting on a stool. Ryan is a convicted felon for domestic assault. Deputy seized the weapons and Ryan St Pierre was placed under arrest.

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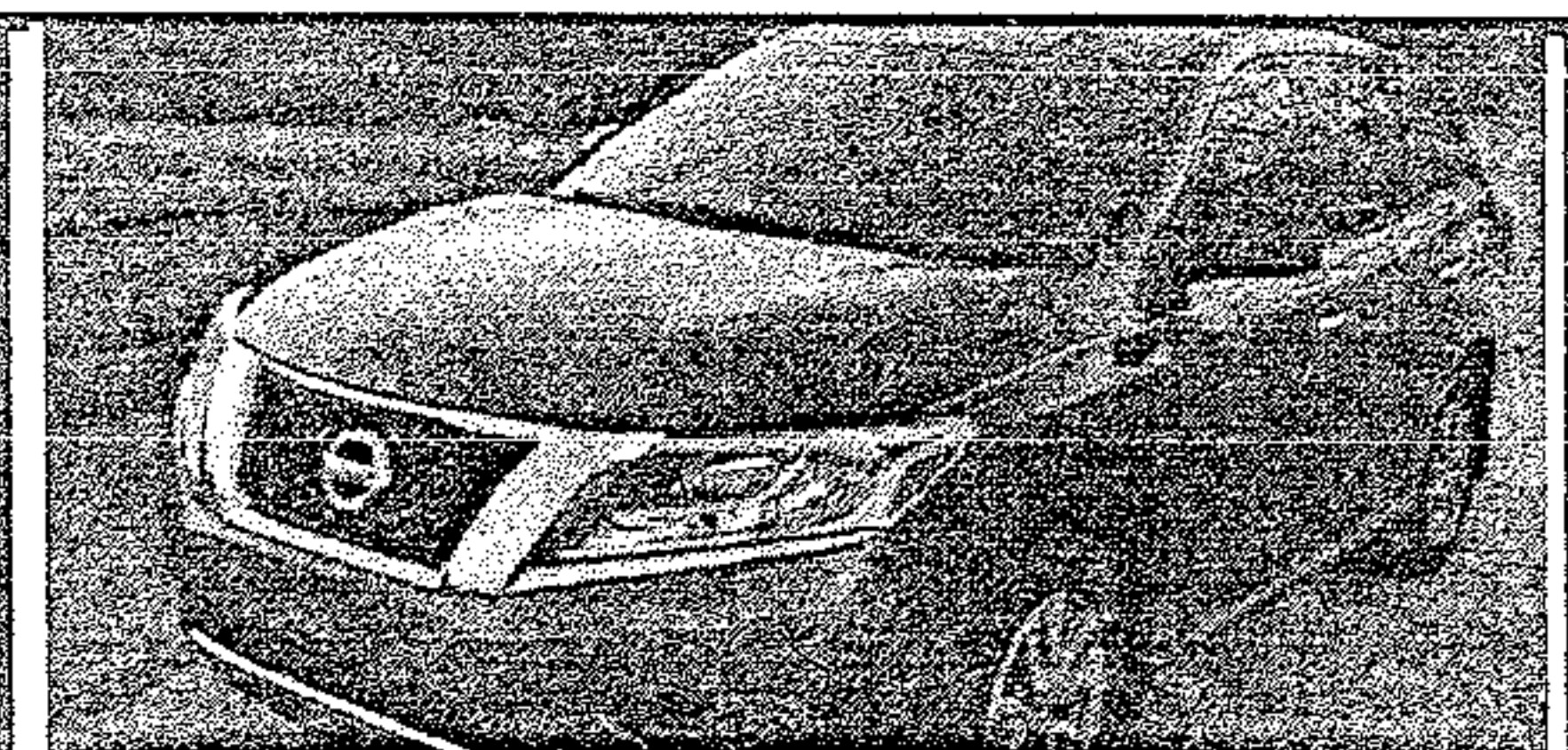
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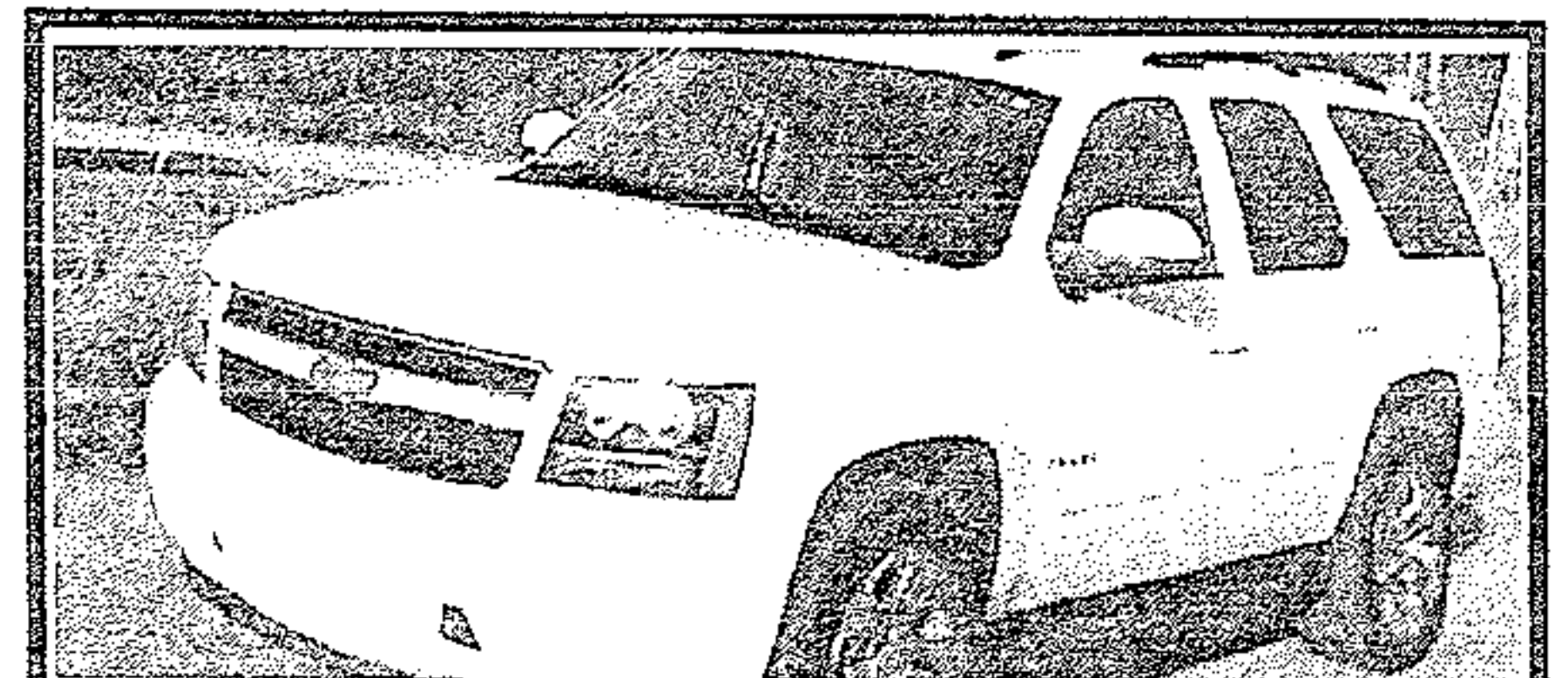
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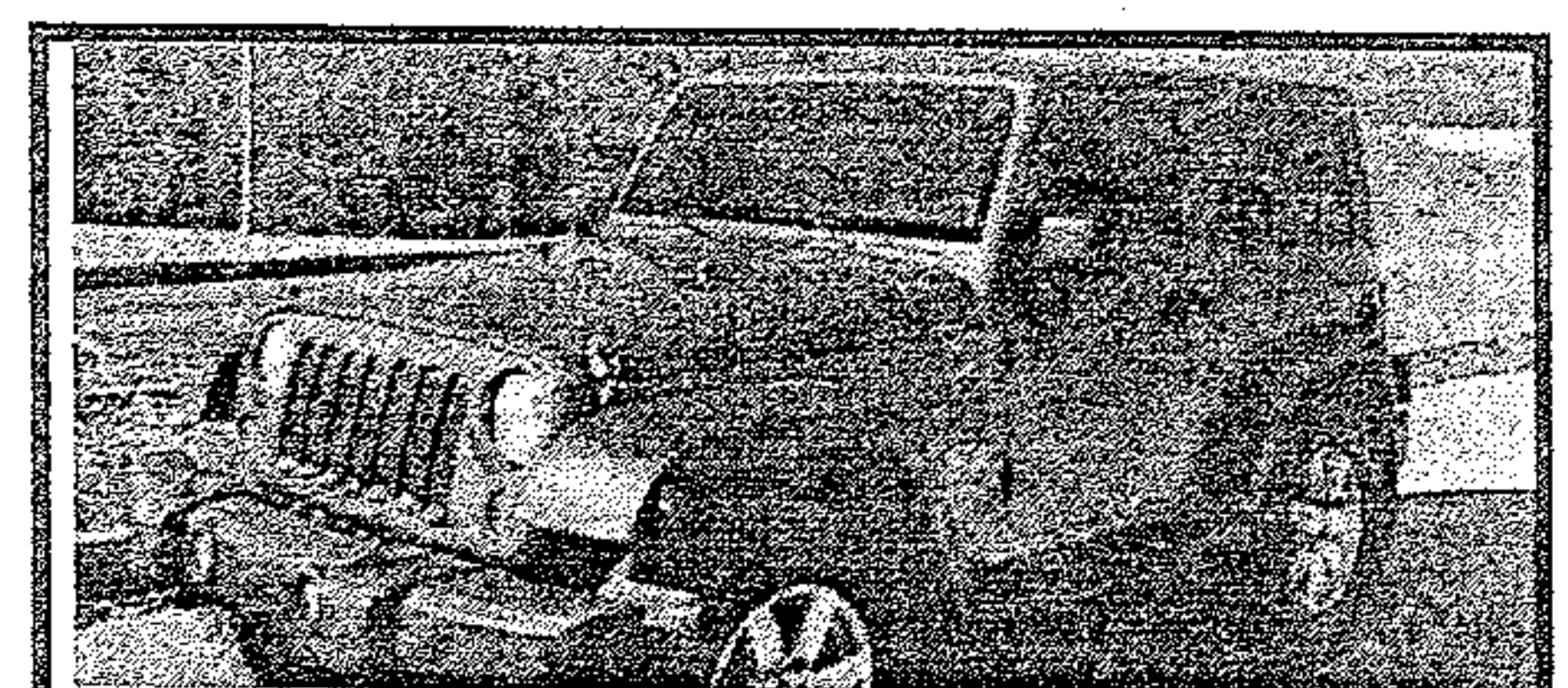
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**DUI**

Samuel Branum, 24 Christian Street Philadelphia, was charged with DUI. Deputy Rogers LCSD, was traveling South Bound on I75 in the area of the 68 when he observed a vehicle traveling 30 mph in the North Bound lanes

with its emergency flashers on. Deputy then exited at the 68 and reentered on the North Bound side. When Deputy reached the vehicle it was coming to a stop on the shoulder. Deputy then made contact with the driver Mr. Sam Branum who advised his girlfriend was having car

problems and they had switched seats to see if he could fix it. Mr. Branum had excessive nystagmus while speaking with him in the car. He also later admitted to driving the vehicle to its current position. The girlfriend also stated Mr. Branum was driving the vehicle. After running Mr. Branum through NCIC, Loudon County E911 advised that Mr. Branum had a suspended drivers license. Mr. Branum consented to field sobriety and did perform poorly. Deputy then placed Mr. Branum in custody for Driving Under the Influence and Driving on a Suspended Driver's

License. Deputy did read Tennessee Implied Consent and requested a blood sample which was refused by Mr. Branum. Deputy then transported him the Loudon County Jail. Said did all occur in Loudon County, Tn.

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**FBI**

stand the intricacies of investigating outdoor crime scenes.

“All of the research that we do out here is to benefit law enforcement and to move forensic science forward in areas such as grave recognition and how best to excavate burials,” said Dawnie Wolfe Steadman, director of the Forensic Anthropology Center at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, who manages the research facility. To duplicate real-life scenarios, donors are left to decompose in various states—partially clothed, wrapped in plastic, placed in a car trunk, or in a garbage bin. “These are all things we can test,” Steadman said, “and directly help law enforcement figure out their cases better.

Dawnie Wolfe Steadman describes

the process of finding and uncovering clandestine burial sites using the method of forensic anthropologists.

This month marks the 20th year of the FBI’s sought-after Recovery of Human Remains course. During the five-day class, students learn and apply a rigid methodology of probing the ground to find clandestine graves and then unearthing the remains and documenting everything, including clues and potential evidence that might be buried in the surrounding soil. The goal is to collect as complete a picture as possible of the deceased.

“One of the things the students learn here is the forensic anthropology method,” said Heather Thew, a special agent on the FBI’s Evidence Response Team (ERT) Unit who organizes the course. “It’s based

on years of archaeological science, concepts, and methods to recover not only the evidence and the remains, but also the information and the context of what is in those burials.”

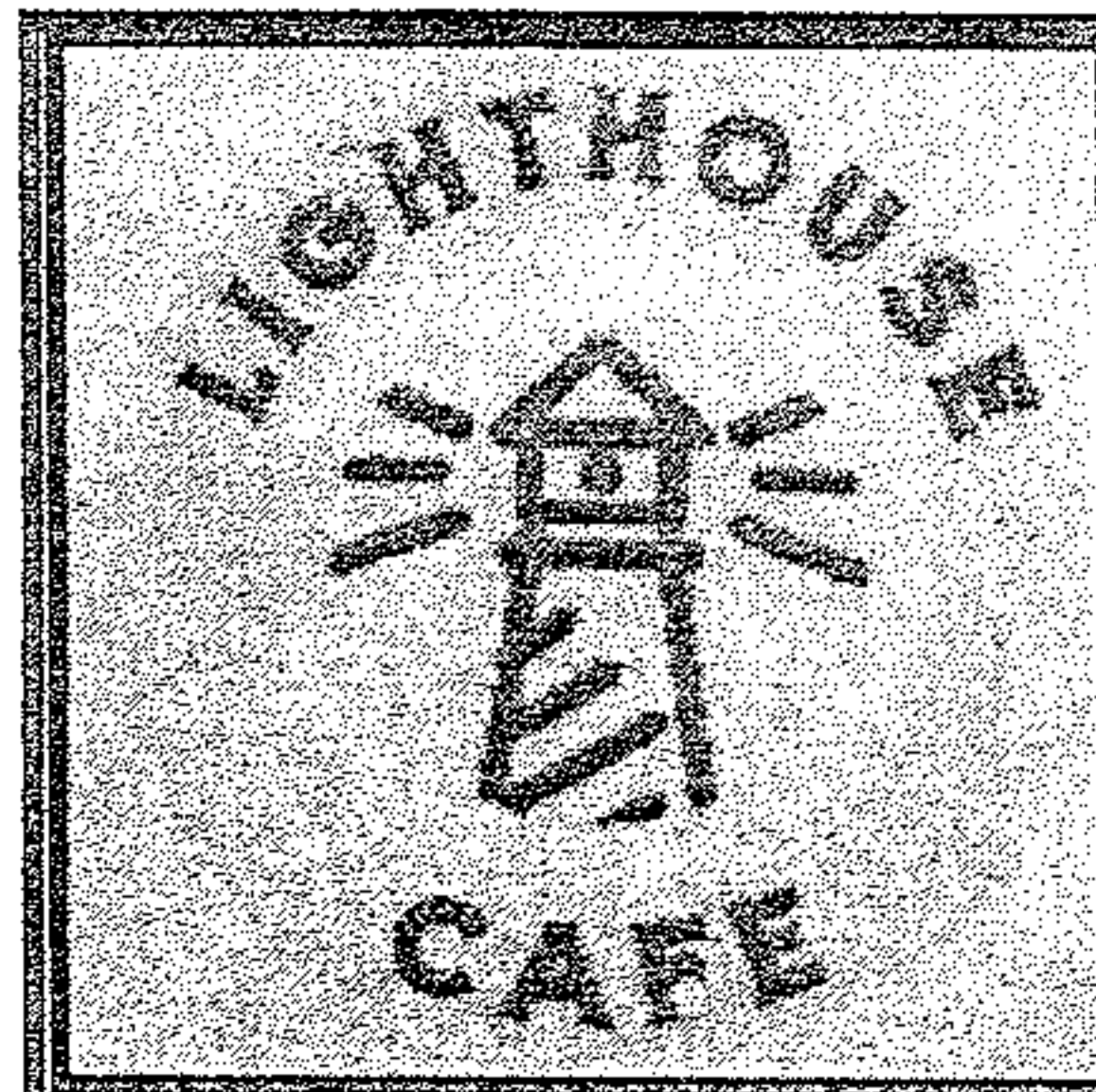
That means everything gets thoroughly documented—from the presence of shell casings or other artifacts, which may have evidentiary value, down to the color and texture of the underlying soil. “We have our narrative notes about what we did out there, and all of that works together to tell the story,” Thew said. “And someday we need to tell the story to a jury.”

For the class, one of the FBI Laboratory’s most popular, students are separated into small groups led by Forensic An-

thropology Center instructors. Each group is escorted to a separate isolated area on the wooded grounds and provided probes to poke into the soil and feel for anomalies or soft spots. When a potential burial site is discovered, students learn how to map it on a grid of twine and stakes and begin scraping away thin layers of dirt, which is sifted for clues. Students

take turns measuring, documenting, and sketching as the contours of a skeleton begin to emerge. In turns, the groups are also pulled aside for seminar-style lessons, including one that shows how heat and fire affect dental work and another on how maggots can unlock some of the mysteries of the recently deceased.

Steadman said managing an out-  
FBI ctd to pg. 5



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**Custody**

Micah Richardson, 39, Holston Ct. Knoxville, was charged with Disorderly Conduct. Deputy Kirkland 943 was dispatched to the Grove St. (Loudon County Court House) in reference to a disorderly subject. Upon arrival Deputy made contact with Mr. Micah Richardson (Offender) who was detained on the courthouse steps inside the building. Deputy Bengel (Complainant) advised that Mr. Richardson had come to him and was upset stating that his ex-wife was trying to take his kids. Deputy Bengel then

asked him to calm down and explain to him what was going on, Mr. Richardson told him that he had custody of his children and his ex-wife would not give them back. Deputy Bengel then asked him to provide paperwork showing that he had custody of his children and Mr. Richardson began yelling and said that his paperwork was in the car and he would need to take his children with him to get the paperwork. Deputy Bengel told him that he could go get the paperwork and come back but could not take his kids with him because he did not know if he had custody of the children. Mr. Richardson

then began yelling again and causing alarm to the public at the courthouse and was detained for his safety and the safety of the public. Statements were taken from witnesses at the courthouse and Mr. Richardson was taken in to custody and transported to the Loudon County Jail without further incident. This did occur in Loudon County Tennessee. Video recorded via body camera and in car camera.

FBI ctd from pg. 4

door crime scene presents unique challenges for even the most seasoned investigators. "If there's a dead body in the living room of a house, they know how to approach that, they know how to map that—there's an entry and an exit area that they take, and there are very clear ways of processing the indoor crime scene," she explained. "You

don't know all the boundaries of this scene. There are no boundaries out here. And you don't know where all the evidence might be. A cigarette butt at an outdoor crime scene—is that evidence or i

By the end of the

course, students will have removed the remains from their burial sites and compiled a thick portfolio of documentary materials about their excavations, which in a criminal case would assist pros-

FBI ctd. to p.7

**Public Notice**  
Loudon County BOE  
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