

# Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Friday, August 30, 2019

## Charged with 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder 6<sup>th</sup> DUI and still driving??



John Dixon jr.

see Murder pg. 3



Melanie Martin

Melanie Martin, 53, Skyline Drive Harri- man, was charged with DUI, Legend Drug, and Violation of Implied Con- sent. Deputy Lance Anderson LCSO, responded to Oak- land Road in refer- ence to a possible impaired driver that had crashed into the property. Upon ar-

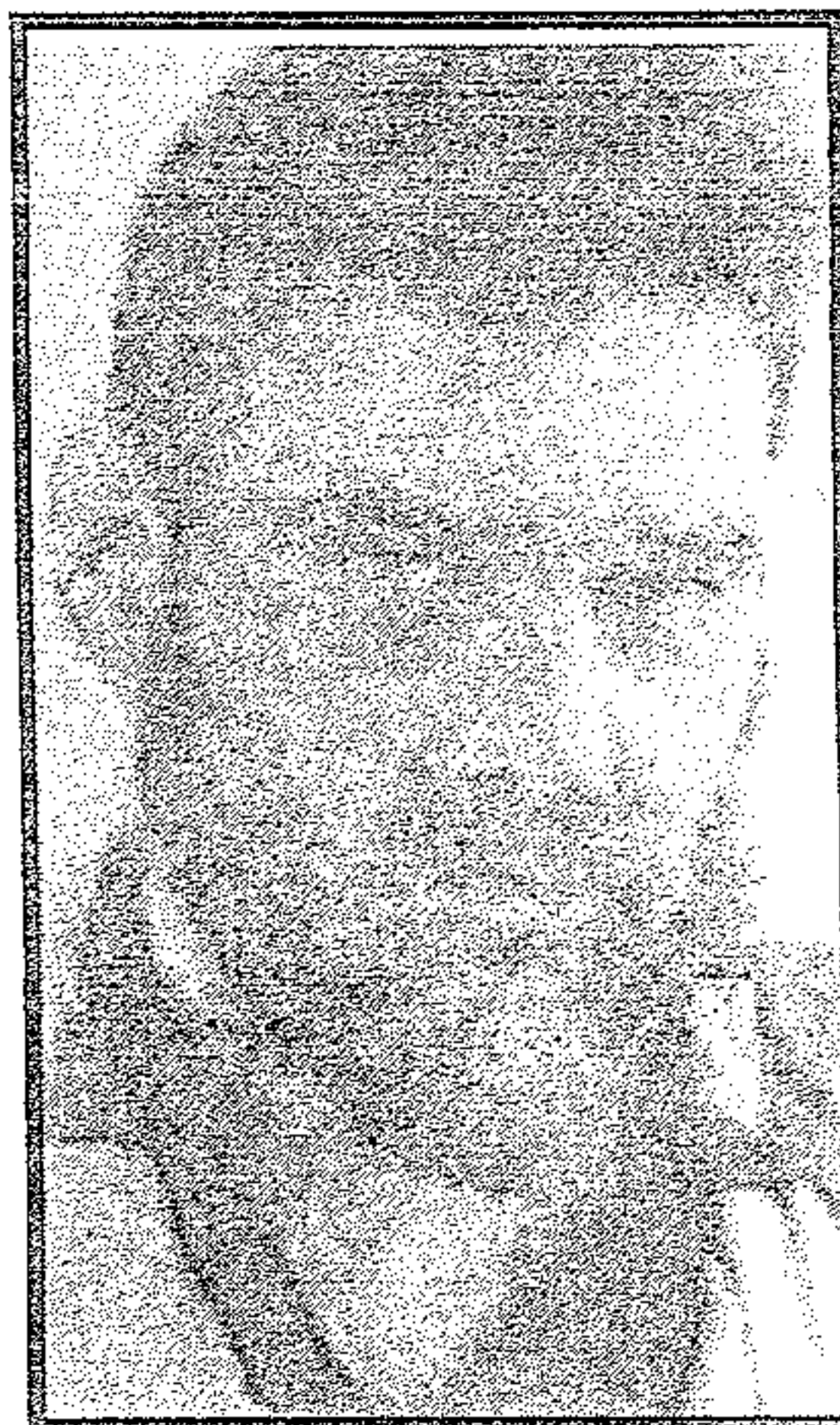
see DUI pg. 3

### DEA targets methamphetamine in three states with "Operation Crystal Mountain"

The United States Drug Enforcement Administration this week announced the conclusion of Operation Crystal Mountain, a sweep- ing enforcement ac- tion spanning three states. DEA spe- cial agents, working closely with their state and local coun- terparts through- out Kentucky, Ten-

nessee, and West Virginia targeted Mexican drug car- tels, drug traffick- ing organizations and other individ- uals involved in the manufacturing and distribution of methamphetamine. More than 800 pounds of metham- phetamine were in- terdicted or seized see DEA pg. 3

### Florida man busted with Marijuana



Joseph Dowdy

see Busted pg. 5

### A Thief by Many Names Atlanta Man Sentenced for Aggravated Identity Theft

The headquarters of a large nation- al bank had de- tected fraud on an account and sent word to an Atlan- ta branch to be on alert: If an indi- vidual comes in to pick up the new debit card linked to that account, call the Atlanta Police

Department.

An alert bank em- ployee did just that when Khoi Nguyen, 43, came in to the branch to claim the debit card. Officers arrived quickly to ask Nguyen about his identity and the name on the bank account. Upon ques- tioning, Nguyen

See FBI P.4



#### Verse of the Day

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is

not life more import- ant than food, and the body more important than clothes?

—Matthew 6:25

#### Wazzup

Aaron Lewis will be at

Cotton Eye Joe Friday August 30 @ 6:00pm.

#### Weather

Today: Sunny. High of 88F.

Tonight: Clear. Low 63F.

Saturday: Sunny. High of 90F

Saturday night: Clear and

cool. Low of 64F.

Sunday: Sunny. High of 91F

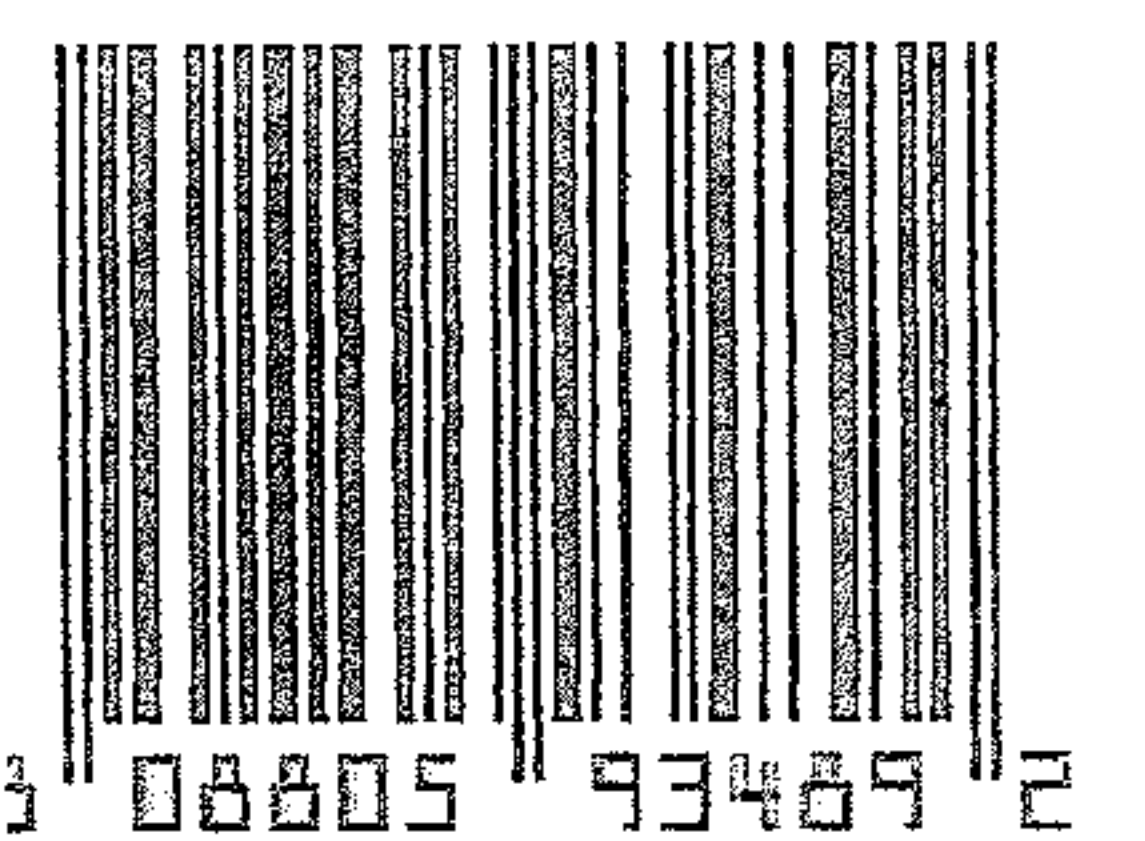
Sunday night: Clear. Low of 65F.

#### Horoscopes

Virgo 8/23-9/22

Strategic negotiations are

(Continued on page 6)





### Murder

John Dixon, 41, Virtue Road Lenoir City, was charged with Unlawful Carrying or Possession of a Weapon, and Murder 1ST. Degree. Loudon County Emergency Communications Center received a call from Tinnel Road.

The caller stated a male had been shot and the suspects were leaving the scene. Victim later identified as Christopher Watson. After an investigation Investigator Charlie Cosner LCSO, issued and served warrants for John Dixon.

### DUI

rival Deputy made contact with Melanie Martin the driver of the white vehicle. The vehicle was resting party on an em-

bankment and a driveway. Martin stated she was attempting to turn around after missing her turn. The vehicle was driven over several wooden planks

DUI ctd. to pg. 3

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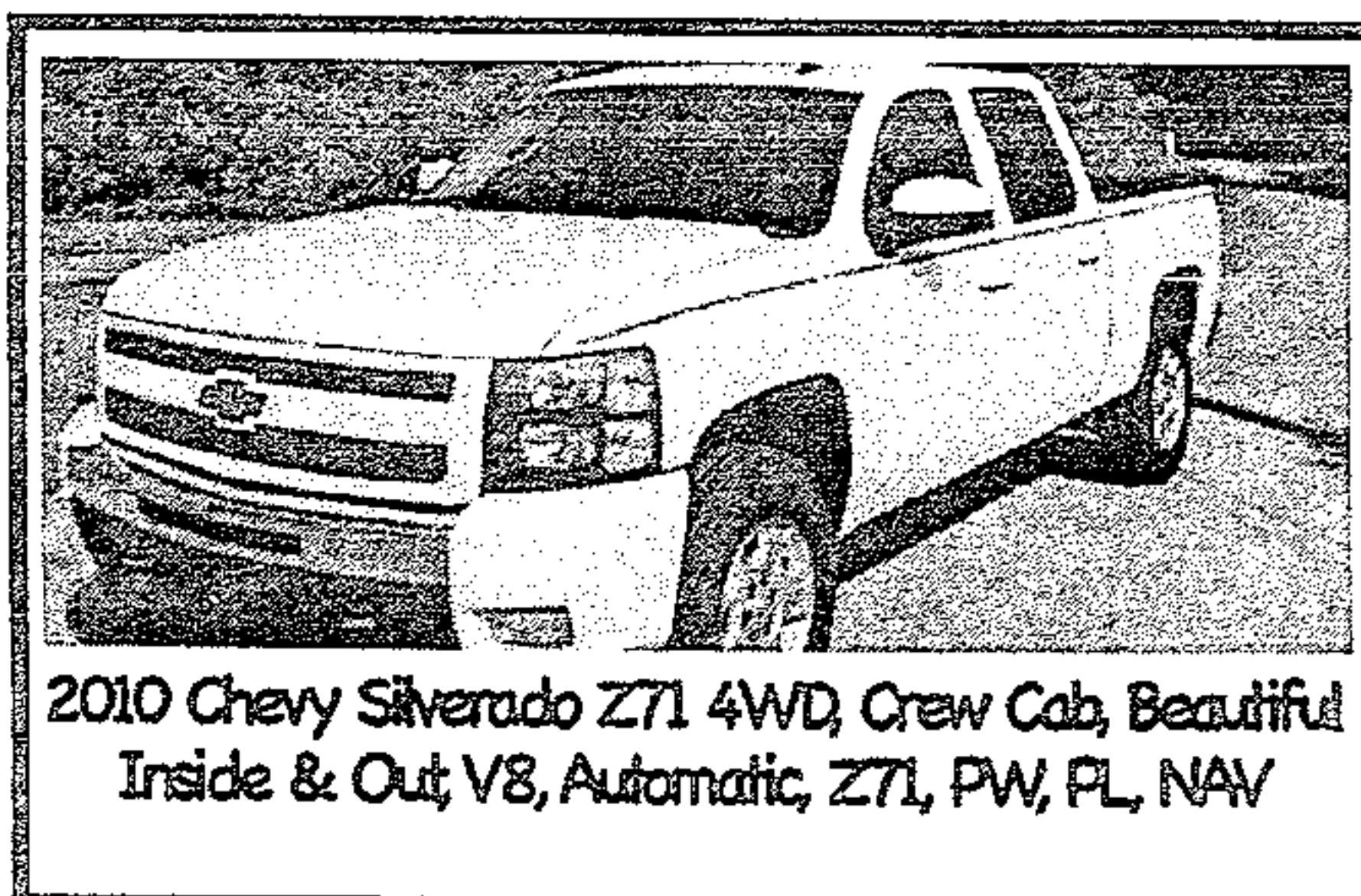
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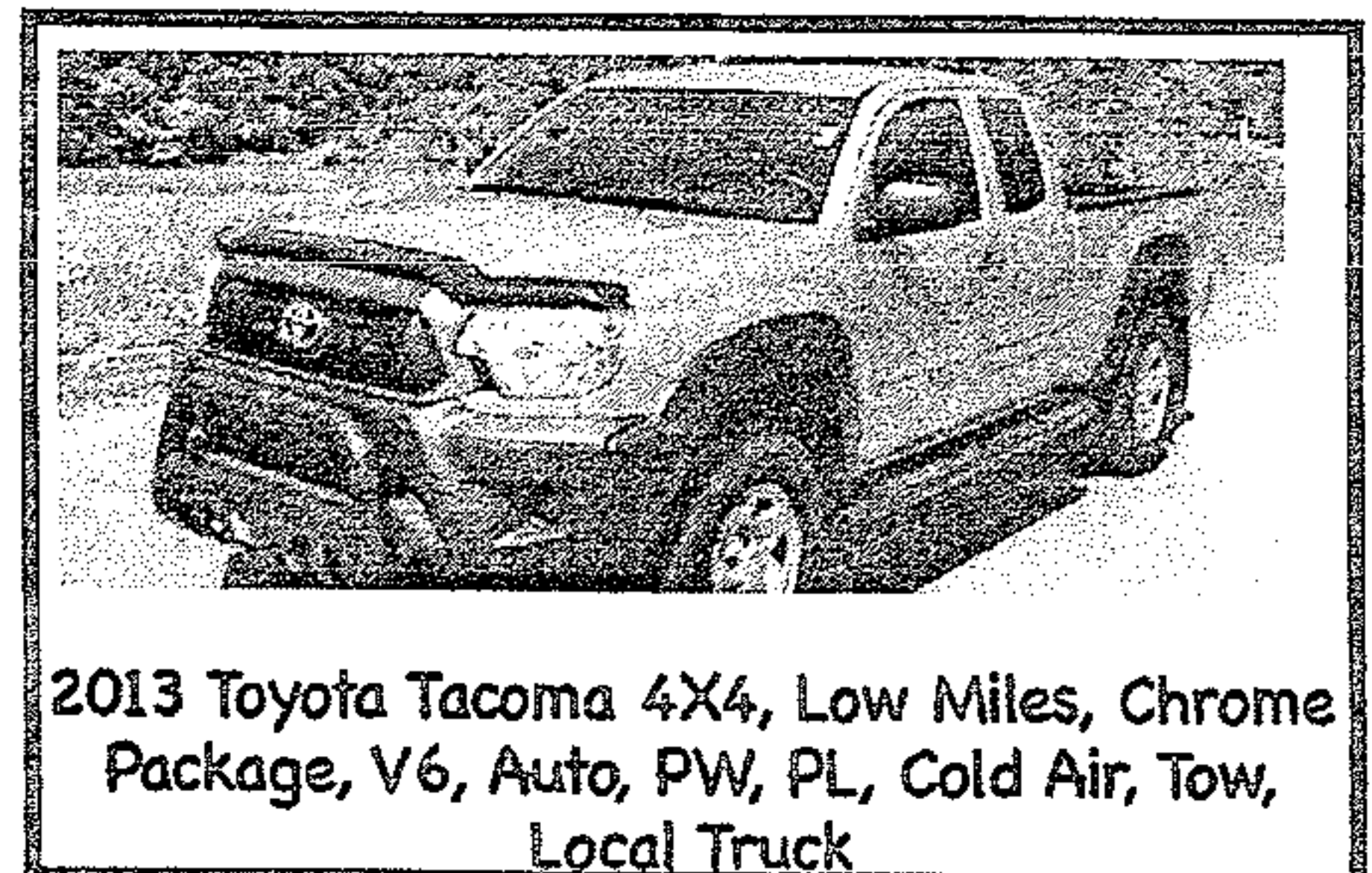
## Good Credit OK • Bad Credit OK • Bankruptcies OK • Repo OK \*



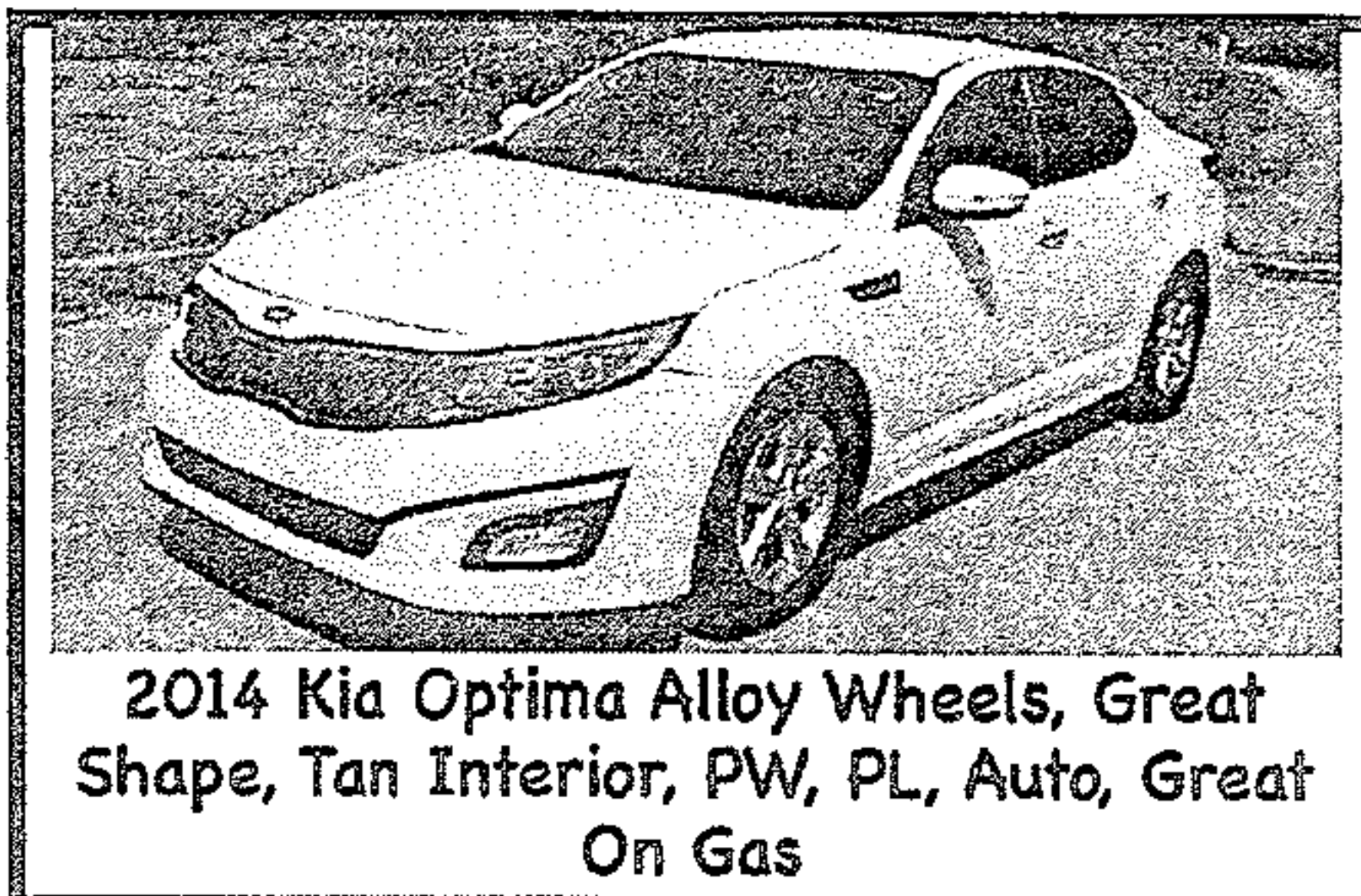
2012 Ford F150 Crew Cab, 4X4, PW, A/C, PL, Bed Liner, Tow Pkg, Stunning Black Wheels, New Tires



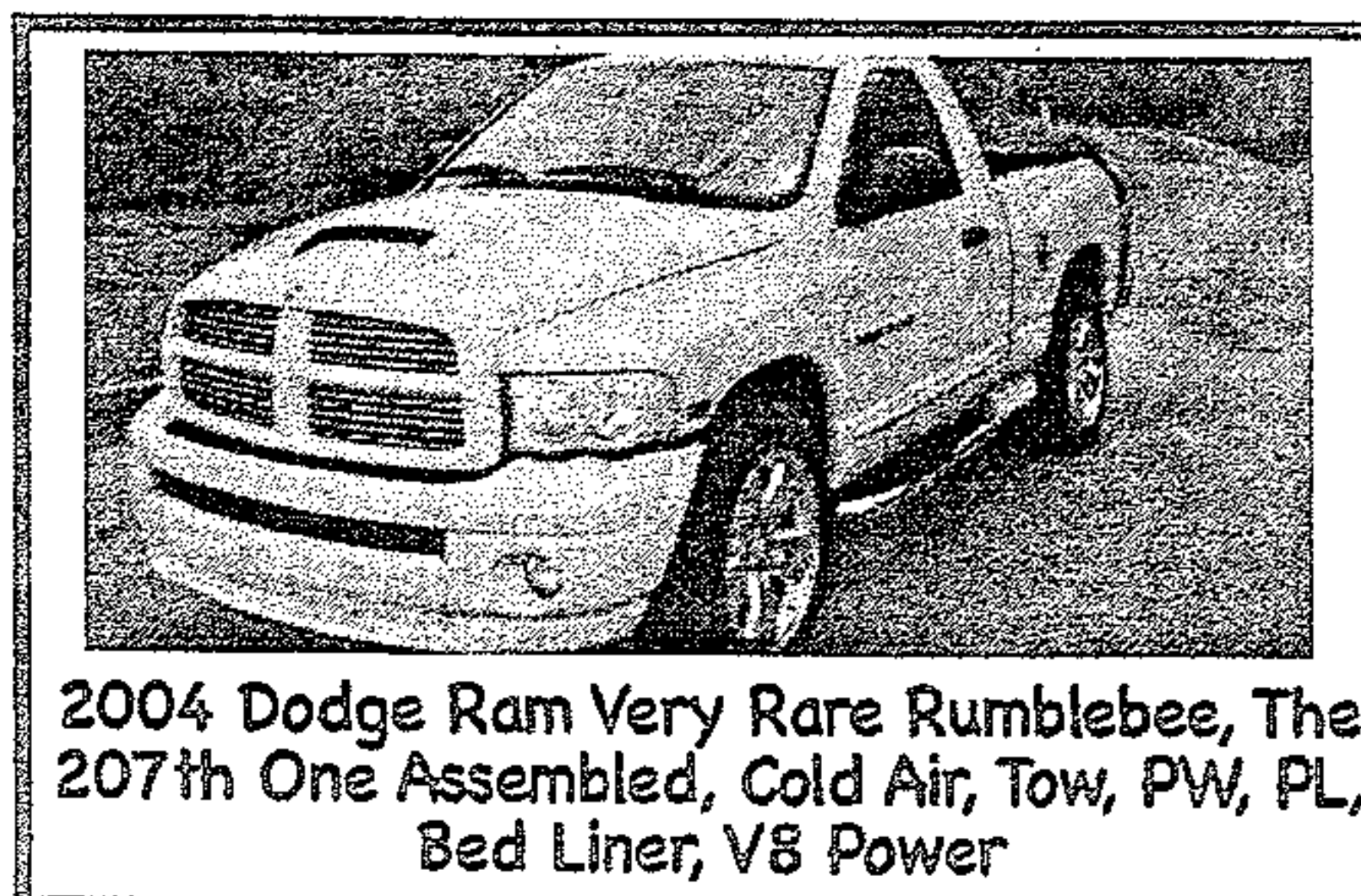
2010 Chevy Silverado Z71 4WD, Crew Cab, Beautiful Inside & Out, V8, Automatic, Z71, PW, PL, NAV



2013 Toyota Tacoma 4X4, Low Miles, Chrome Package, V6, Auto, PW, PL, Cold Air, Tow, Local Truck



2014 Kia Optima Alloy Wheels, Great Shape, Tan Interior, PW, PL, Auto, Great On Gas



2004 Dodge Ram Very Rare Rumblebee, The 207th One Assembled, Cold Air, Tow, PW, PL, Bed Liner, V8 Power



2015 Ford F150 4X4, Like New, PW, PL, Torneau Cover, Tow, EcoBoost Engine, Crew Cab, Very Beautiful

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DUI ctd from 2  
 then down an embankment. While speaking with Martin she appeared to be confused and had difficult time keeping her balance. Martin stated she was trying to get home in Kings-ton however her listed address is Harriman. Martin then stated she was looking for a friends house to get auto parts for her vehicle. Martin did poorly

on sobriety test, and gave consent to search the vehicle. Deputy located 2 white oval pills (gabapentin) was found laying on the center console. Martin refused implied consent. Dispatch advised Martin had prior dui conviction on 7/26/09, 1/2/09, 9/19/08, 6/18/91, and 5/13/89. Melanie Martin was placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail.

**DEA**

during the operation. "Everyone has a right to live in safety. The amount of drugs and weapons we've taken off the street with this operation, along with the number of drug dealers that we've locked up, represents a small victory in our on-going fight for safer communities for us all," D. Christopher Evans, Special Agent in Charge of DEA's Louisville Division Office said. "While

America's opioid crisis may dominate headlines, Operation Crystal Mountain should serve as a reminder that methamphetamine is a problem that has never gone away. The dedicated men and women of DEA, working closely with state and local law enforcement, are relentless in their efforts to rid our neighborhoods of dangerous drugs and bring to justice those who distribute them, wherever they may be."

"The Eastern District of Tennessee continues to support and work with our law enforcement partners to combat the meth scourge in our region," said U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey. "It is only with our combined efforts that we can effectively fight this menace that continues to destroy the lives and families of our citizens."

Operation Crystal Mountain is the culmination of several investigations that began earlier this year. Since January, DEA special agents from the Lou-

*see DEA ctd. pg. 4*

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FBI ctd from P3  
produced a Department of Defense identification badge and claimed to be in law enforcement.

The police weren't buying it, so they called the FBI to investigate Nguyen for impersonating a federal law enforcement officer. It was soon discovered that he was not only impersonating a government official but more than a dozen different people in a sophisticated identity theft scheme.

"In his bag at arrest were 20 cellular phones, 13 different identifications, a number of credit cards, and about \$11,000 in cash," said Special Agent Marcus Brackman, who worked the case out of the FBI's Atlanta Field Office.

Brackman said that Nguyen had some technical skills and likely purchased the stolen personal information he used to create fake doc-

uments and open fraudulent financial accounts off encrypted websites. "Criminals can buy identities for 50 cents on the dark web," Brackman explained.

Nguyen pleaded guilty to aggravated identity theft and was sentenced in October 2018 to two years in federal prison for his crime. He was also ordered to pay restitution to the financial institution and is facing additional state charges related to similar alleged activity in other areas of the country.

"In his bag at arrest were 20 cellular phones, 13 different identifications, a number of credit cards, and about \$11,000 in cash." Marcus Brackman, special agent, FBI Atlanta

"Identity theft is very prevalent," said Brackman. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, an estimated 26 million people age 16 or older in the United States experienced some form of identity theft in 2016—with many of those cases involving the misuse of a credit card or bank account. Brackman said that it was gratifying to hold someone responsible for a

crime that affects so many people and creates such a headache for victims.

Beyond the financial losses, the impact of identity theft extends to the time, stress, and worry involved in cleaning up the harm done to credit scores and financial standing. "It is just painful to do your job and raise your family while trying to deal with the aftereffects of someone stealing your identity," Brackman sympathized.

While it is difficult to protect against all the ways a criminal can find your personal data, Brackman said consumers should monitor accounts and credit reports regularly and safeguard all personal information by being diligent about online safety and security and

ensuring mail and documents don't fall into the wrong hands.

DEA ctd. from pg. 3

isville Field Division, with support from state and local law enforcement agencies across the region, have arrested 235 individuals on federal drug-related charges and seized more than \$800,000.00 in cash and 52 firearms, as well as significant quantities of heroin, fentanyl, and other drugs. During this same timeframe, DEA assisted its state and local counterparts with the arrest of 140 additional offenders on state-level drug charges.

While the opioid epidemic has ravaged the nation, several large swaths

of the U.S. see meth as their primary drug threat. The majority of the methamphetamine in the U.S. is produced in Mexico and trafficked by Mexican DTOs. However, DEA continues to work to disrupt and dismantle all components of both foreign and domestic organizations which produce and traffic methamphetamine.

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**Busted**

Joseph Dowdy, 35, Southside Blvd. Florida, was charged with DUI, Simple Possession, and Lights Required on Motor Vehicle. Deputy C. Rogers LCSO, observed a black vehicle turn around on I-75 southbound without the headlights on. Upon traffic stop Deputy immediately smelled a very strong odor of marijuana coming from Dowdy's vehicle. Deputy then had Dowdy exit the vehicle, at which time he told Deputy he had been using a THC vape pin, and had multiple pre-wrapped marijuana blunts in the center console. Deputy then conducted sobriety test. Dowdy gave consent to search the vehicle Deputy located 3 packages that contained blunts that were labeled 1 gram ready roll, % THC, along with 2 other

packages that contained mg each of Sativa that were labeled 88% THC. Dowdy stated he had bought the product in Colorado and was enroute back home to Florida. Joseph Dowdy was placed under arrest, and transported to Loudon Medical for blood draw then to the Loudon County Jail.

**Reckless driver issued DUI**



*Robert Elliot*

Teresa Hartsook, 62, Jan Way Lenoir city, was charged with DUI, and Financial Responsibility. Officer Arden LCPD, responded to the area of 9th Avenue and A Street to investigate

a motor vehicle accident. Upon arrival Officer observed a silver vehicle off the roadway in the opposing lane. The driver Teresa Hartsook was observed exiting the vehicle from the passenger side and appeared very unsteady on her feet, had slurred speech and was disoriented. Hartsook did poorly on sobriety test and stated to Officer she had taken her Suboxin as prescribed. Ems was requested to evaluate Hartsook for other medical issues and she was cleared. Hartsook agreed to blood draw and was transported to Fort Loudon Medical then to the Loudon County Jail.

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**IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR LOUDON COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

Regarding the Estate of:  
**RILEY DAVID WAMPLER SR., deceased**  
Dkt # 5942

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

(As required by Chapter No 171, Public Acts of Tennessee 1939

As Amended by Public Chapter 886 on 05/09/2012)

Notice is hereby given that on the 22ND DAY OF AUGUST 2019 Letters of Testamentary in respect of the estate of RILEY DAVID WAMPLER SR. who died on the 7TH day of JULY 2019 be issued to the undersigned by the Loudon County Probate Court of Loudon County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and nonresident, having claims, matured or unmatured against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

THIS THE 22ND DAY OF AUGUST 2019

STEVE HARRELSON, CLERK

BY: Ashley McCallie, Deputy Clerk

By Personal Representative(s)  
VICKI GADDIS WAMPLER

Notice to Creditors:

All Claims must be submitted on a claim form, notarized with invoices/statements; in triplicate, with a fee of \$11.00 to Loudon County Probate Court, 12671 Highway 11 West Ste. 3, Lenoir City, TN 37771



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