

# The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

## County plans to send letter to state of Tennessee about the jail overcrowding



see Jail pg. 2

## 2 California men charged with possession of marijuana



William Packett



Jordan Hill

see Mary Jane pg. 3

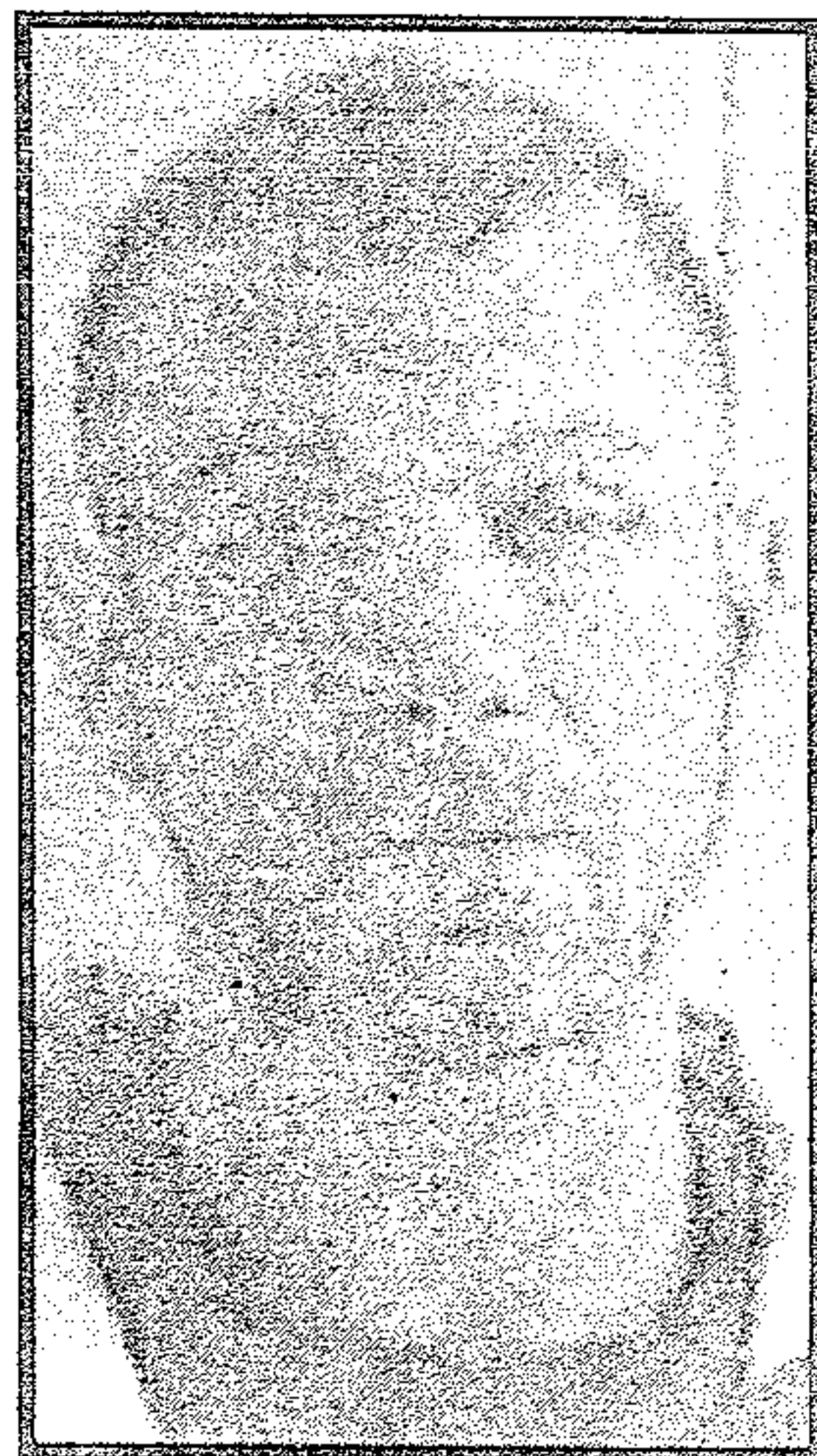
## Loudon man pulls juvenile out of house and assaults him in the streets



Joseph Thaxton

see Assault pg. 3

## No seat belt leads to drug charges



James Layman

see Drugs pg. 5

## Tennessee Graduation Rate Continues to Rise

Today Education Commissioner Penny Schwinn announced that the graduation rate for the 2018-19 school calendar year was 89.7 percent. Not only is that more than half a percentage point higher than the previous year, but it's the

highest graduation rate on record for Tennessee. That translates into an increase of 183 graduates statewide. Education Commissioner Penny Schwinn says, "While this is certainly something to celebrate, I know we can do even better!"

See Graduation P.4



### Verse of the Day

Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

—1 Chronicles 16:11

### Wazzup

Our hearts and prayers go out to Chief Don White of

LCPD and family in your time of loss. God Bless you all.

### Weather

Today: Partly Cloudy. High of 89F.

Tonight: Cloudy. Low 65F.

Thursday: Partly Cloudy. High of 81F

Thursday night: Clearing. Low of 58F.

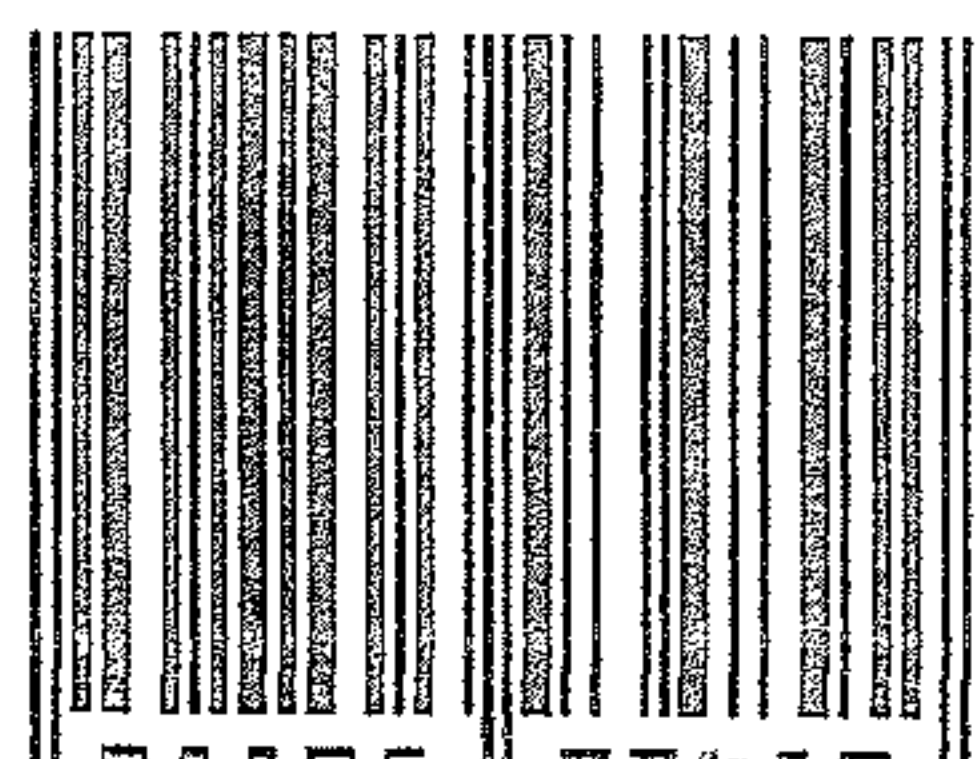
### Horoscopes

Virgo 8/23-9/22

A person may challenge your expertise today, possibly throwing you off

course. You might feel the need to share all of your research to assert your authority, yet this isn't a wise use of your time. Uncover the motives behind this resistance to your efforts.

(Continued on page 6)





## Jail

Loudon County Commission plans to complain to the state about the overwhelming population in our jail that seems to keep rising. Loudon County Commission unanimously voted Sept. 3 to send a letter to Gov. Bill Lee and the Tennessee General Assembly requesting help with the

problem.

Blow is a copy of the letter the Commission will be sending to the state:

To The Honorable: Governor Bill Lee, Senator Randy McNally, Representative Kent Calfee, Representative Lowell Russell,

We come to you today asking for your assistance with a critical issue facing Loudon

County, our jail population. Our most pressing issue deals with inmates that are unable to make bond and waiting to appear in criminal court. Currently more than half of our inmate population in the Loudon County jail fall in these two categories.

Until these inmate's cases are adjudicated, they will remain in our jail many times for months or even years.

Loudon County commission has met with our District Attorney, Russell Johnson, and

Jail ctd to pg. 2

## Public Notice

The Loudon County Commission public hearing to receive public comments regarding amending the Zoning Resolution, Article 7. Section 7.060 Procedure for Authorizing Special Exceptions scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 7, 2019 at the Loudon County Courthouse Annex has been canceled.

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The Daily Edition also serves Monroe, Knox, Anderson, Roane and Blount counties and serves 30,000 readers weekly. Send mail to PO Box 1240, Lenoir City TN 37771. 865-771-2249. email: dan1204us@yahoo.com

The Daily Edition is Loudon County's premier public interest and paid advertising paper. The Daily Edition is produced and published daily Monday through Friday and is circulated throughout Loudon County and parts of Monroe and Knox Counties. Display advertising rates \$5.00 per column inch and quantity discounts available. Call for information on upcoming promotions and events.

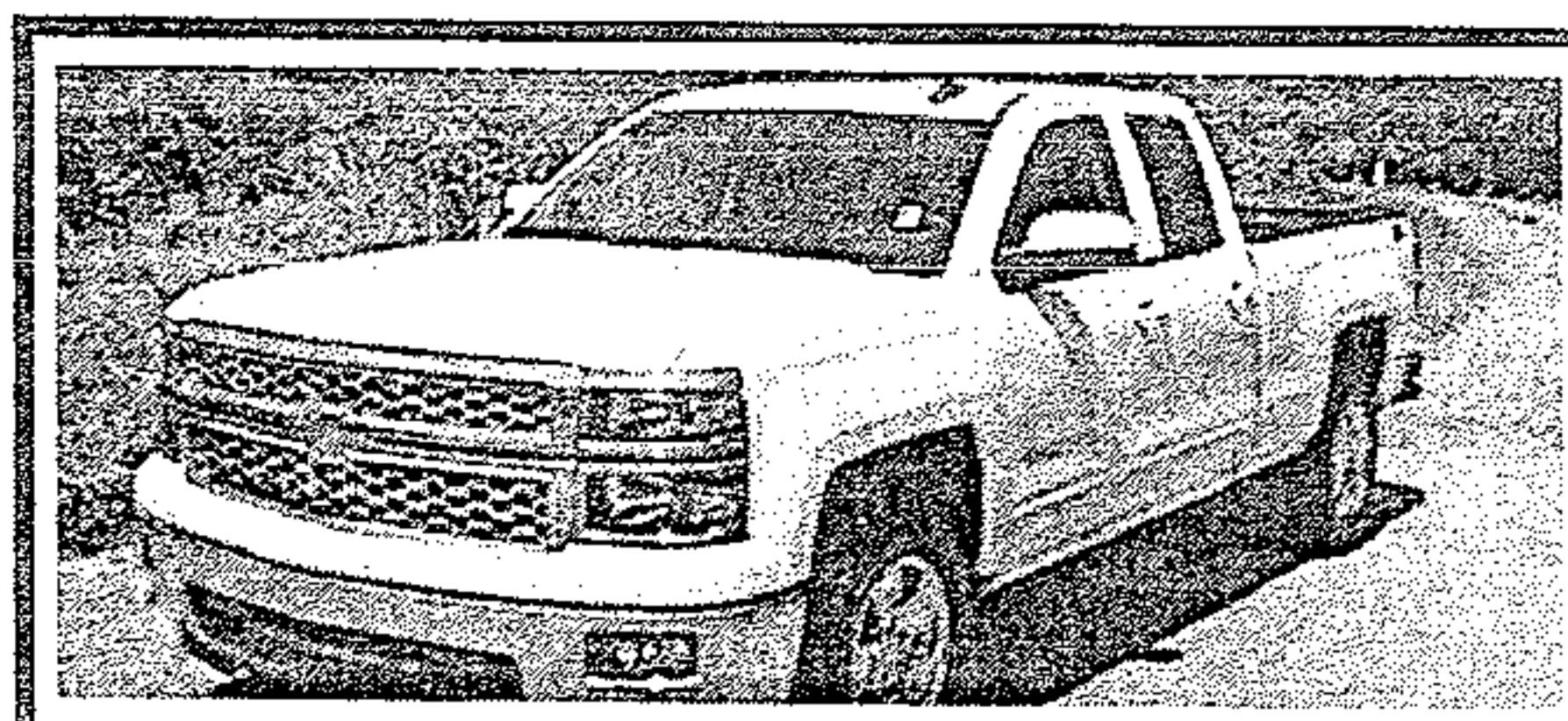
**Good Credit OK • Bad Credit OK • Bankruptcies OK • Repo OK** \*



2011 Nissan Maxima Loaded, Leather, PW, PL, PS, Alloy Wheels, Low Miles, Auto, Excellent First Car



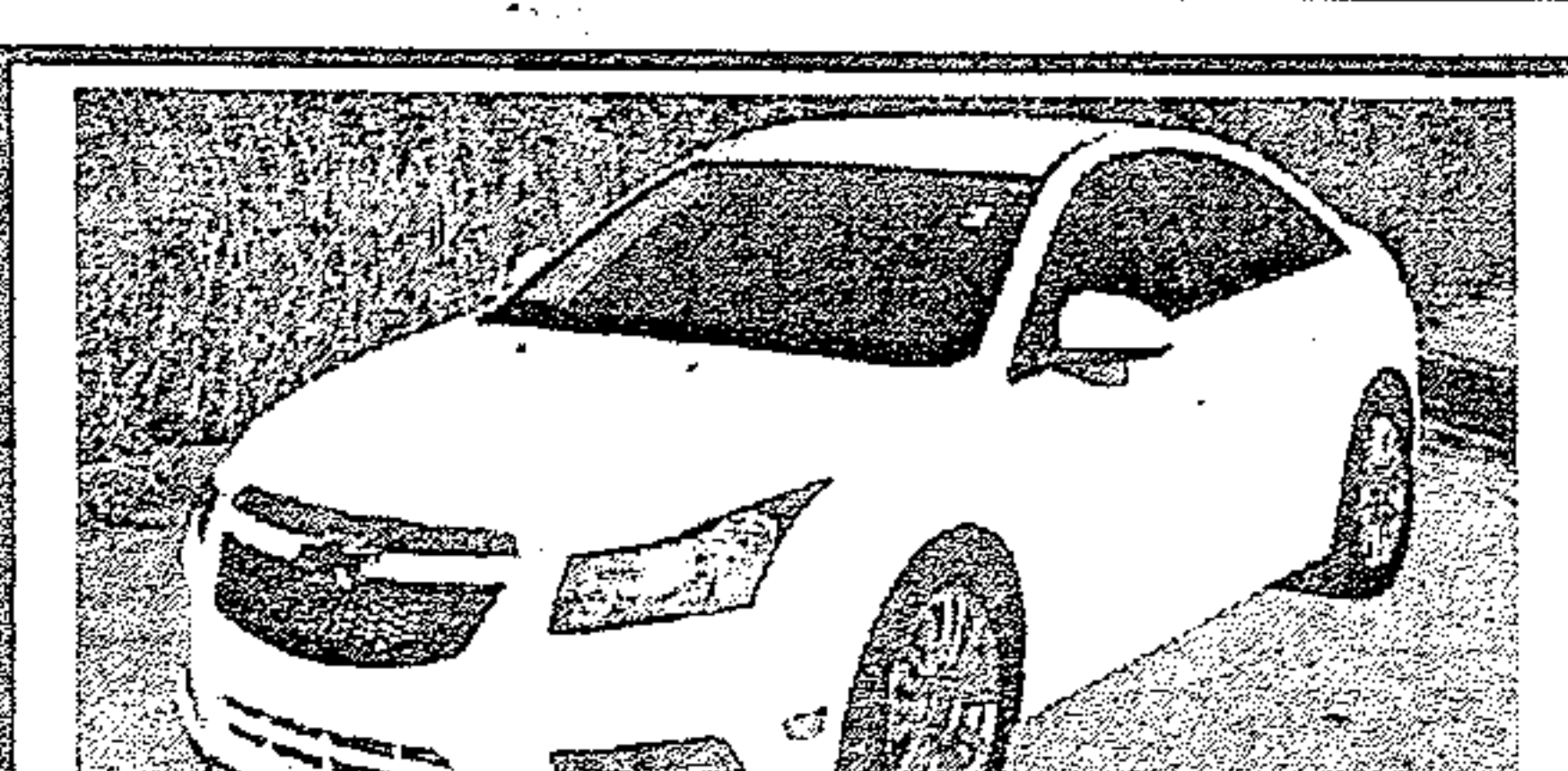
2010 Chevy Silverado Z71 4WD, Crew Cab, Beautiful Inside & Out, V8, Automatic, Z71, PW, PL, NAV



2015 Chevy Silverado Z71, Auto, Bed Liner, Tow, Chrome Pkg, PW, PL, Crew Cab, Immaculate Condition Local Truck



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Jail ctd from pg. 2

our Criminal Court Judge, Jeff Wicks, to learn and understand how the system works and if there are any local solutions to over overcrowding situation.

It appears it will take action on the state level to solve this problem. Currently the 9th Judicial District Criminal Court is in session, in Loudon County, only three times per year. The court can not possibly hear all the cases back logged in just three sessions per year.

Obviously, the best solution would be to have additional Criminal Court Judges to help dispense with the caseload which would require legislative actions. Another option could be for the state to provide compensation to the local jurisdiction to offset the costs incurred while holding these inmates waiting for their court date.

Loudon County tax payers are doing their part to mitigate the growing inmate population. Which includes a new seventeen and a half million dollar jail addition that will more than double the bed space. Our jail budget was just increased by more than a million and a half dollars, bringing the entire jail budget to more than four and a half million dollars.

The backlog of inmates waiting to go to criminal court has nearly quadrupled

in ten years and the trend is continuing to grow. This is unsustainable locally and is causing a major financial burden for the tax payers of Loudon County.

Loudon County tax payers are doing their part to house the growing number of inmates, we now need the state to step up to help out with this critical situation.

Thank you for your consideration with this serious issue.

-Loudon County Commission.

Commissioner Van Shaver suggested the action so that state leaders "understand Loudon County's doing all we can to mitigate the problem and we need help in some form."

"The taxpayers here are doing everything they can to keep up with the rise in our criminal problems, whether it be appeals or whatever is going on, but we're going to have to have some help from the state," he said. "They're going to have to step up to the plate, too."

Shaver notes that the "most pressing issue" is in regards to inmates not being able to make bond and waiting to appear in criminal court.

"Currently, more than half of our inmate population in the Loudon County jail fall in these two categories," the letter reads. "Until these inmates' cases are adjudicated, they will remain in our jail many times for months or even years. ... It appears it

will take action on the state level to solve this problem. Currently, the 9th Judicial District Criminal Court is in session, in Loudon County, only three times per year. The court cannot possibly hear all the cases backlogged in just three sessions per year.

"Obviously, the best solution would be to have additional criminal court judges to help dispense with the caseload, which would require legislative actions," the letter continues. "Another option could be for the state to provide compensation to the local jurisdiction to offset the costs incurred while holding these inmates waiting for their court date."

Shaver emphasized the county is constructing a \$17.5 million jail addition that will more than double bed space, and the jail budget was just increased by more than \$1.5 million, bringing the entire jail budget to more than \$4.5 million.

The jail population Monday was 192 in a facility certified for 91. The expansion is scheduled to be complete in early 2020.

Loudon County Sheriff's Office Capt. Jake Keener, who supervises the jail, has previously said the inmate count has reached as high as 215 this year.

Although commissioners are uncertain if the letter will make a difference, with Shaver noting it may only be "a feel good letter," hopes are it will at least let the state know the county is trying to work through a difficult situation.

## Mary Jane

William Packett, 27, Panama Avenue CA., was charged with Man/Sell/Possession of Controlled Substance. Jordan Hill, 21, Santa Maria Ave CA.,

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Daily Edition. Call  
865-771-2249**

## Public Notice

There will be a  
Loudon County  
Public Records  
Commission meeting on September  
24th at 6pm at  
the County Office  
Building

was charged with Man/Sell/Poss. Of Controlled Substance. Officer Jamie Pistole LCPD, was traveling on Hwy 321 near Loves Truck Stop. A blue vehicle displaying California tags was sitting at the entrance to a construction area off of Hwy 321. Officer stop to check on the vehicle and observed a male in the driver seat and one standing outside the vehicle. Officer spoke to the driver identified as William Packett, while speaking with Packett Officer could smell a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. Officer identified the other male as Jordan Thill. Officer had Lt. Dishner respond to scene to assist in a vehicle search. Packett stated there was marijuana in the vehicle prior to the search. Officer located a glass jar in the passenger floorboard with marijuana inside. Both parties stated it belonged to each other equally. The marijuana weighed 29 grams. Both were placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail.

## Public Notice

There will be a public hearing on Tuesday,  
September 18, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the  
Loudon County Courthouse Annex to receive  
public comments on the MS4  
Phase II Program Annual Report July 1,  
2017-June 30, 2018.



IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR LOUDON  
COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Regarding the Estate of:  
**FRANK JAMES ELDRIDGE**, deceased  
Dkt # 5948

**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 9TH DAY OF  
SEPTEMBER 2019 Letters of Testamentary in  
respect of the estate of **FRANK JAMES EL-  
DRIDGE** who died on the 15TH day of JULY  
2019 be issued to the undersigned by the Loudon  
County Probate Court of Loudon County, Tennes-  
see. 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 dece-  
dent's date of death.

THIS THE 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2019  
**STEVE HARRELSON**, CLERK  
BY: **Ashley McCallie**, Deputy Clerk

By Personal Representative(s)  
**JANICE W. ELDRIDGE**  
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

Run date: 09-11-19 & 09-18-19

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## Graduation

Ultimately, I would like to see all 130 districts that serve high school students have a 90 percent graduation or better. That's something my team will be very focused on over the next four years, along with making sure those students have a career or college path in mind the day they walk across the stage to get that diploma."

Tennessee has set high expectations for both students and educators, and students have made significant gains as a result. As part of this work, the state transitioned to a more rigorous calculation for graduation rates in 2011, and even under the new criteria, rates have con-

tinued to rise.

*For the 2018-19 school year, the most notable gains and overall achievements in the state are:*

-67 districts improved their graduation rates from 2018 to 2019, with four of those districts improving by five percentage points or more. Districts with significant gains included Tennessee School for the Deaf (29 percentage points), Lewis County (10 percentage points), Hancock County (7 points), and Trousdale County (6 points).

-49 districts— more than a third state-wide— have graduation rates at or above 95 percent, which is an increase from last year.

-Four districts had a graduation rate of 100 percent, including Huntingdon Special School District, South Carroll, Bradford, and Oneida.

-32 schools had graduation rates of 100 percent.

More information on graduation rates for individual districts and schools is available on the department's website. For media inquiries, please contact Jennifer Johnson at (615) 532-6260 or [jennifer.johnson@tn.gov](mailto:jennifer.johnson@tn.gov).

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**Assault**

Joseph Thaxton, 18, Ferry Street Loudon, was charged with Domestic Assault. Officer Brandon Nix LPD, was dispatched to Ferry Street for a possible fight in progress. Upon arrival Officer made contact with several subjects in the street. Based on the evidence at the scene and the witness statements Officer believe the following happen. Victim went inside the residence and requested for Joseph Thaxton and a juvenile to exit the bathroom. During this point the conversation became very heated. According to witness Thaxton then attacked victim knocking him to the ground. The juvenile then entered the fight and began to help Thaxton assault the victim. During the assault several people entered the residence and began to separate the parties. Officer did observed victim to have a cut on top of his head and was bleeding. Joseph Thaxton was transported to the Loudon County Jail, and the juvenile to the Juvenile Center.

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**DUI**

James Layman, 33, Ellis Street Vonore, was charged with Man/Sell/Del/Resale Sch. II, and Driving on Revoked/Suspended License. Deputy Clay Jenkins LCSO, conducted a traffic stop on a white vehicle after observing the driver or

passenger were not wearing a seatbelt. Deputy observed James Layman driving the vehicle and when he traffic stopped the passenger had moved to the driver seat. Both parties stated they were lost, and trying to make it to downtown Greenback. Dispatch advised both parties

license were suspended/revoked. Consent to search vehicle was given. Before the search Layman stated he had drug para, behind the driver seat and possibly meth or heroin on his person. Officer located a small pink purse with needles and a spoon that was observed to be used for drugs.

Both parties stated it was not theirs. While detaining James Layman his pockets were emptied and Deputy located a clear baggy with a crystal substance that Layman advised was meth. James Layman was placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

(As required by Chapter No 175,  
Public Acts of Tennessee 1939  
As Amended by Public Chapter 862 on 05/09/2012)

IN REGARDS TO THE ESTATE OF:  
DOCKET NO: 5949  
BETH JOY DAVIS, deceased, a resident of Loudon  
County, TN

Notice is hereby given that on the 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2019 Letters of Administration in respect of the Estate of BETH JOY DAVIS, who died on the 3RD DAY OF APRIL 2019, were 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 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2019  
STEVE HARRELSON, CLERK  
BY: Ashley McCallie, Deputy Clerk

By Personal Representative(s)  
SARAH DAVIS

**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, 12680 Highway 11 West Ste. 3, Lenoir City, TN 37771

Run date: 09-11-19 & 09-18-19

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

Regarding the Estate of:  
WILLIAM BERT RATLEDGE, deceased  
Dkt # 5950

**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 10TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2019 Letters of Testamentary in respect of the estate of WILLIAM BERT RATLEDGE who died on the 3RD day of JUNE 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 10TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2019  
STEVE HARRELSON, CLERK  
BY: Ashley McCallie, Deputy Clerk

By Personal Representative(s)  
JACK LEFLER

**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

Run date: 09-11-19 & 09-18-19