

The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, January 20, 2020

Traffic stop leads to way more; Driver throws out meth



Herman Chamblee



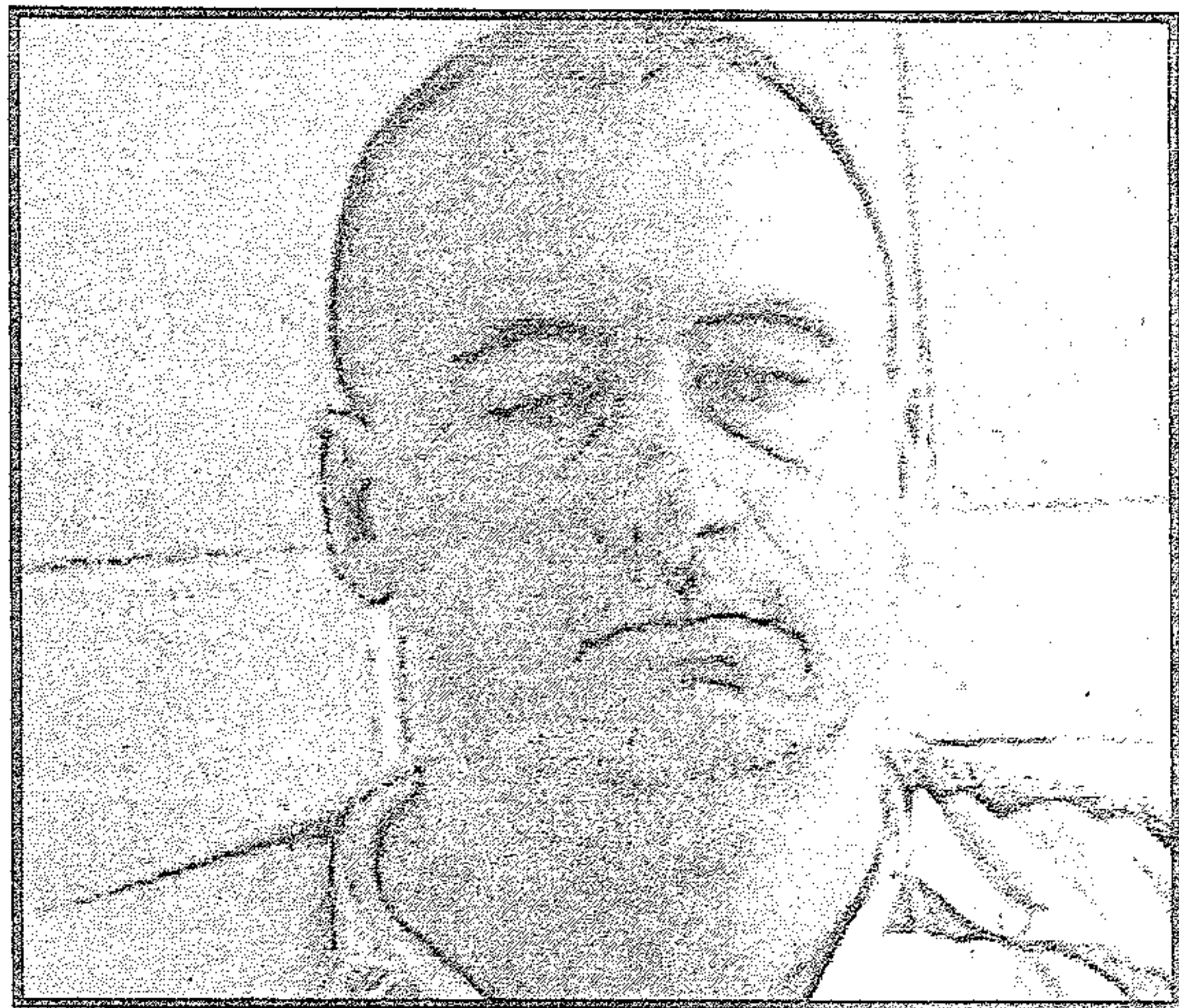
Eric Smallen see Stop pg. 2

Suspicious vehicle call leads to arrest and recovery of stolen vehicle



Matthew Marsh see Stolen pg. 3

Thief admits to pawning stolen guns; Charged with pills as well



John Stringfield see Pills pg. 3

Hiding a wanted man a bad idea



Tara Litwin See Bad Idea P.3

Casino Cheaters Caught

Dealer and Player Conspired to Cheat two Maryland

Casinos out of More Than \$1 Million

After just a few hours of playing baccarat at a Maryland casino in September 2017, Chenguang Ni headed home to New York with more than \$850,000 in winnings.

The odds of winning any given hand

of baccarat stand at just under 50 percent. But Ni and his tablemates won an astounding 18 of 21 hands—including one run of 14 straight wins.

The next day, the casino called the FBI's Baltimore Field Office. Ni had cheated,

See Cheaters P.4



Verse of the Day

Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow. —Isaiah 1:17

Wazzup

A Big Shout Out To The Gann-Brown Bunch Group out in Vegas hope you had a blast and won big. Super-bowl time soon!!!

Weather

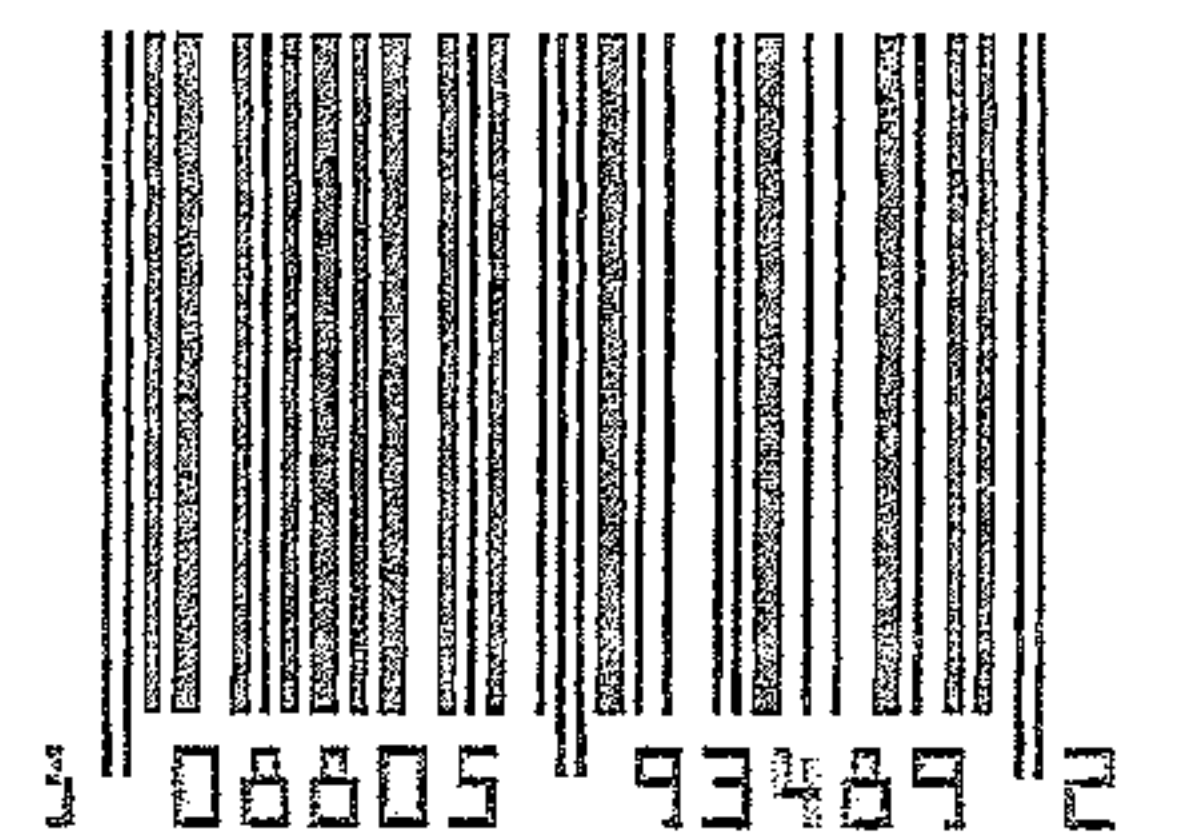
Today: Clear and cool. High of 37F. Tonight: Clear. Low of 40F Tuesday: cold. High of 23F.

Horoscopes

Aquarius 1/20-2/18 Sometimes, a little confu-

sion can act as a catalyst that changes everything. You might be stuck between two options now, yet not satisfied with either course of action. Naturally, you could initially pass on the pros-

(Continued on page 6)



Stop

Herman Chamblee, 46, Old South Mill Road Crossville, was charged with Tampering/Fabricating with Evidence, Driving on Revoked/Suspended License, Simple possession, and Mfg/Del/Sale or Poss. Of Meth.

Eric Smallen, 19, West Broadway Lenoir City, was charged with Possession of Burglary Tools.

Sgt. Bowen LCSO, observed a U haul vehicle run a stop sign at Hotchkiss Valley

Road, and Old Hwy 95. The vehicle then turned onto Old Hwy 95 then Adesa Pkwy. Sgt. Then turned on his light to make a traffic stop and the vehicle did a u turn and pulled into Shoney's parking lot. As the vehicle turned into the parking lot the driver later identified as Herman Chamblee threw a white container out the window. The vehicle did not stop until Sgt. Bowen pulled his vehicle in front of it. Sgt. Bowen made contact with 4 individuals in

the vehicle and detained all 4. Sgt. Bowen located the container that was thrown out the window it contained approx..48 grams of a crystal substance believed to be meth. Herman stated it was not his. The 3 pas-

sengers when ask stated the meth was Herman's. Herman Chamblee license were checked they came back suspended. Deputy Gray and K-9 run a free air sniff of the vehicle K-9 alerted to

Stop ctd. to P. 3

Notice: The Daily Edition does not knowingly accept fraudulent or misleading materials. The Daily Edition cannot guarantee the validity of offerings or statements contained herein. All liability for the contents of all advertising, and for any claims that may arise therefrom, is the responsibility of the advertiser or its agency. The Daily Edition reserves the right to reject, edit, or abbreviate any advertisement submitted. Advertising is accepted with the understanding that all liability for all copyright violations is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Photographs, artwork and other copy submitted for publication is considered the sole property of the advertiser. The Daily Edition will make every effort but will not be liable for failure to publish and ad or for typographical and layout errors. All statements and information about highlights featured items, letters to the editor, herein are those solely given to the interviewer or writer and the Daily Edition assumes no responsibility of the accuracy or validity thereof. The Daily Edition will gladly reprint at no charge that part of an advertisement in which an error occurs provided a claim is made within 3 days of the first publication of the ad. Information contained in the Wazzup is received anonymously and the Daily Edition assumes no responsibility for information and reserves the right to edit or reject any and/or all submissions. The Daily Edition is a daily newspaper of general circulation in Loudon County defined under TCA 2-1-104(a)(13). 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.

Nature's Crossing Health and Beauty

865-407-1397

8901 Oak Ridge Hwy

Herbal Tinctures

Soap

Jewelry

Bath Bombs

Candles

Crystals

FREE 8 oz. Bath Salts with any \$25 Order

Natural Health and more



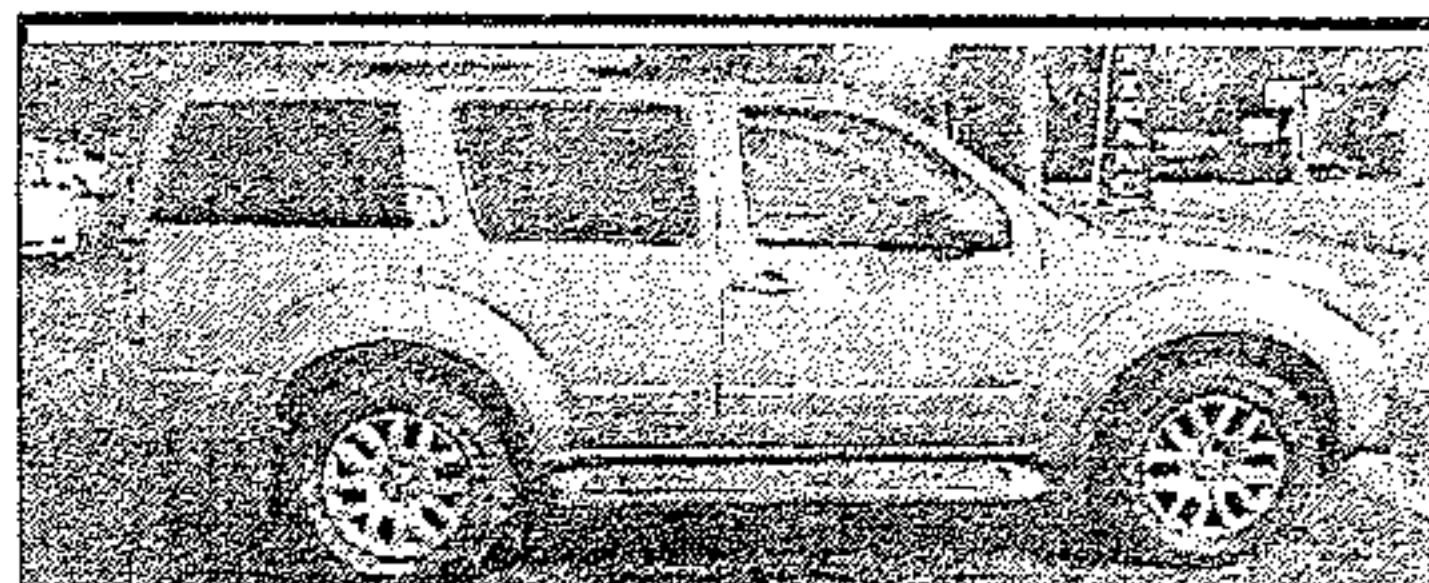
CALL 986 1100

BUY NOW PAY LATER

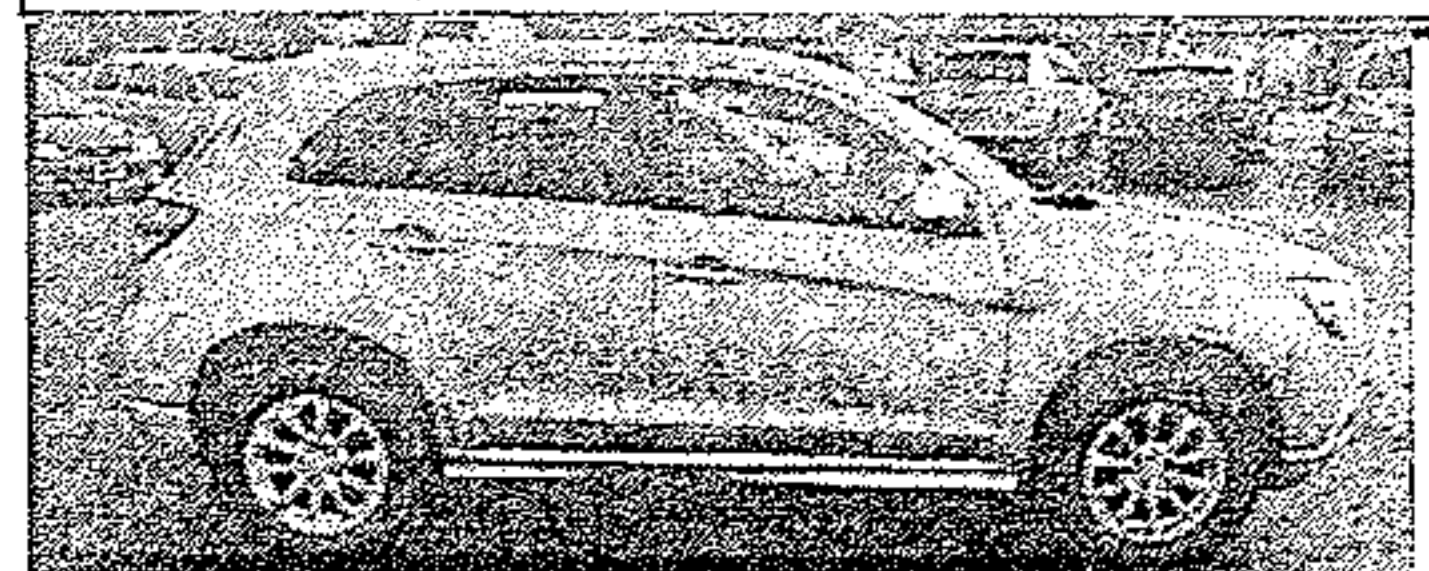
Tax Refund Sales Event Going On Now

W-2 = Down Payment

CALL 986 1100



Pathfinder, Leather, Loaded Only \$800 Down Delivers*



Outlander, auto, Great on Gas Only \$1700 Down Delivers*

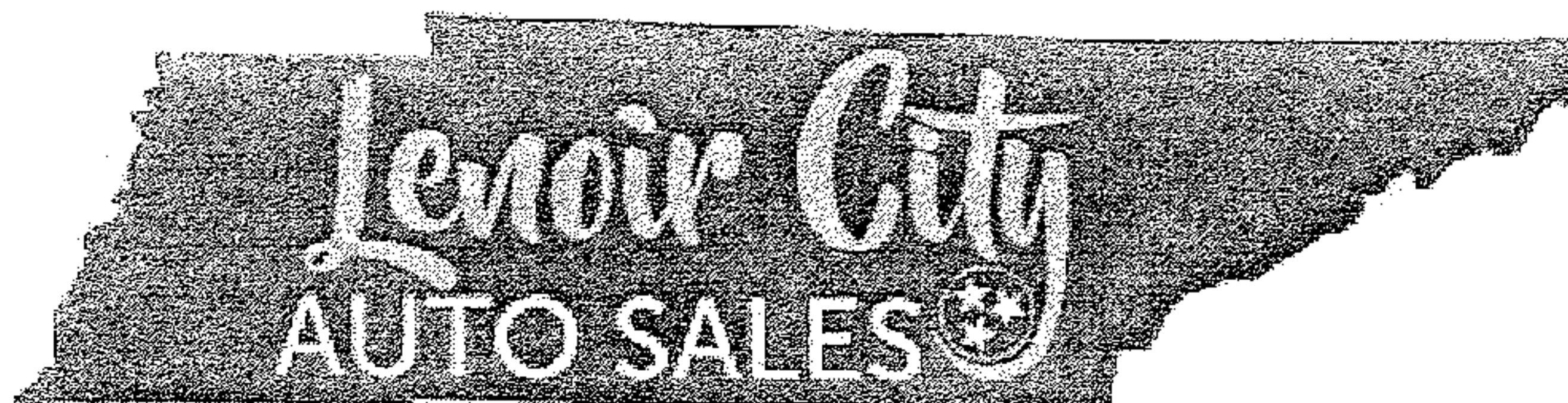


Protege 5, 5 speed, Nice Ride Only \$1100 Down Delivers*

Text Us For Information

408-359-8689

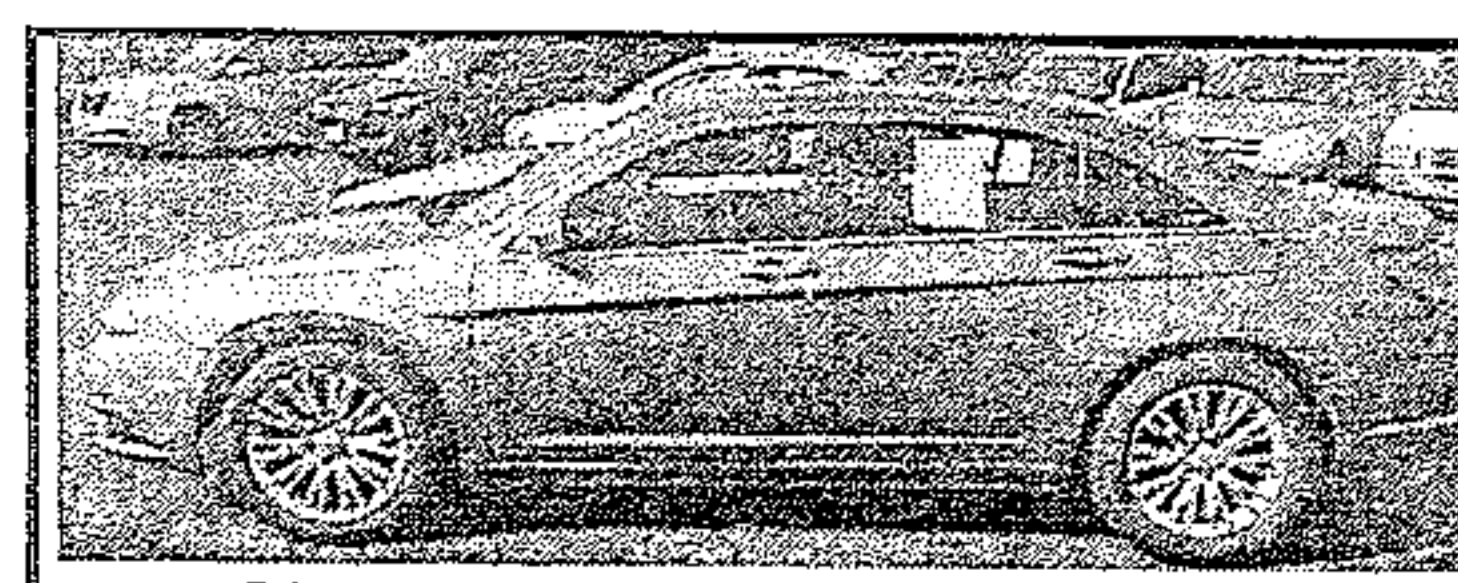
Over 60 Cars To Choose From
Lenoircityautosales.com



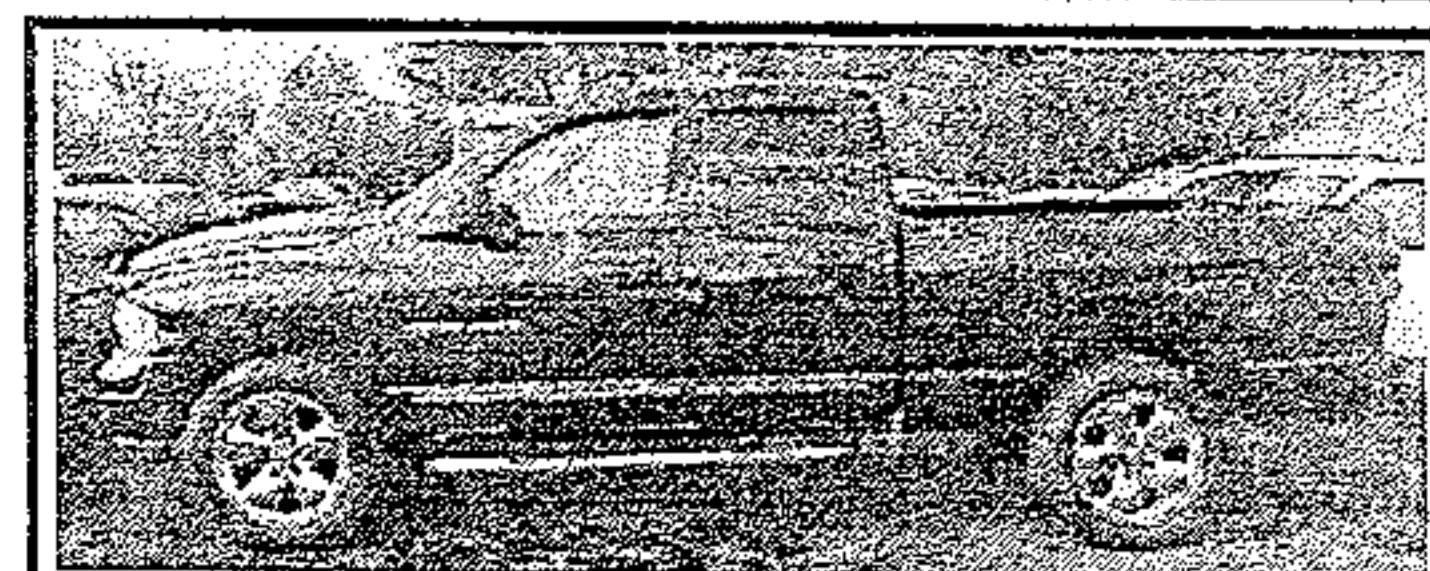
Everybody Rides

Se Habla Espanol

1201 West Broadway
Lenoir City



Chrysler 200, Auto, Loaded Only \$950 Down Delivers*



Ram 1500, 4x4, Leather, Nice Only \$1800 Down Delivers*



Town & Country, 7 passenger Only \$1300 Down Delivers*

CALL 986-1100

* Plus Tax, Tag, Title and Fees. See Dealer for Details

* Plus Tax, Tag, Title and Fees. See Dealer for Details

CALL 986-1100

Stop ctd. from pg. 2

odor of an illegal narcotic coming from the vehicle.

A search of the vehicle Deputy located 15 yellow pills identified as Gabapentin in a sunglass case, a hammer, bolt cutters and a lug wrench along with a crow bar was located.

Also located were several flashlights and several pairs of gloves. There was no paperwork for the vehicle. Herman Chamblee and all passenger were taken into custody for questioning.

After an investigation one of the passengers Eric Smallen and Herman Chamblee the driver was charged.

Stolen

Matthew Marsh, 35, Harrison Bend Road Loudon, was charged with Theft of Property, Simple Possession, Possession of Burglary Tools, and General Session Capias. Officer C. Watson LCPD, made contact with Matthew Marsh in a white vehi-

cle in the parking lot of the Hampton Inn. Dispatch had received a call of a male sitting in a white vehicle possible doing drugs. Officer ask Marsh to exit the vehicle, he attempted to grab a pack of cigarettes. Officer stated they were going to check the pack before he could have them. Officer located a small baggie of narcotic inside the pack. Marsh was then detained. Officer ran the registration it came back to a different vehicle. Officer ran the VIN it came back stolen out of Knox County. Due to the vehicle being stolen it was searched, located was tools identified as burglary tools. Officer also located a cash box that had been ripped out of a vending machine. Matthew Marsh was placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail.

Bad Idea

Tara Litwin, 25, Old Hwy 95 Lenoir City, was charged with Accessory after the Fact. Officer C. Watson LCPD, responded to Rock Spring Annex. Upon arrival Officer made contact with Tara Litwin. Litwin was in a bedroom and stated she had to get dresses before coming out. Officer ask Litwin if there was anyone else in the room she stated no. Officer entered the room and located Larry Mueller hiding in a closet behind clothes. Mueller was placed in handcuff due to him attempting to hide from law enforcement. Mueller gave Officer the wrong first name. Officer Lee recognized Mueller and gave dispatch the correct name. Mueller had active warrants out of Loudon County and was

placed under arrest. Litwin was aware that Mueller was wanted by law enforcement and attempted to conceal Mueller. Both were placed under arrest.

Pills

John Stringfield, 32, Bird Road Lenoir City, was charged with Theft of Property, and Simple Possession Sch. II x2 & III & IV. Deputy Partin LCSO, responded to Bird Road in reference to theft. Upon arrival Deputy spoke to victims who stated that John Stringfield had been staying at their residence. Victim noticed that several firearms and jewelry had been taken. Deputy made contact with Stringfield in the kitchen and advised him of his miranda rights. Stringfield stated that he had taken the items to the pawn shop. Deputy was given consent to search Stringfield room. Deputy located 14 Hydrocodone, 15 Alprazolam, and 18 Codeine pills. John Stringfield was placed under arrest, and transported to the Loudon County Jail.

Russell's Tree Service
Free Estimates
24hr Service
Insured

Call Dakota at
865-657-9159 or
865-660-1498

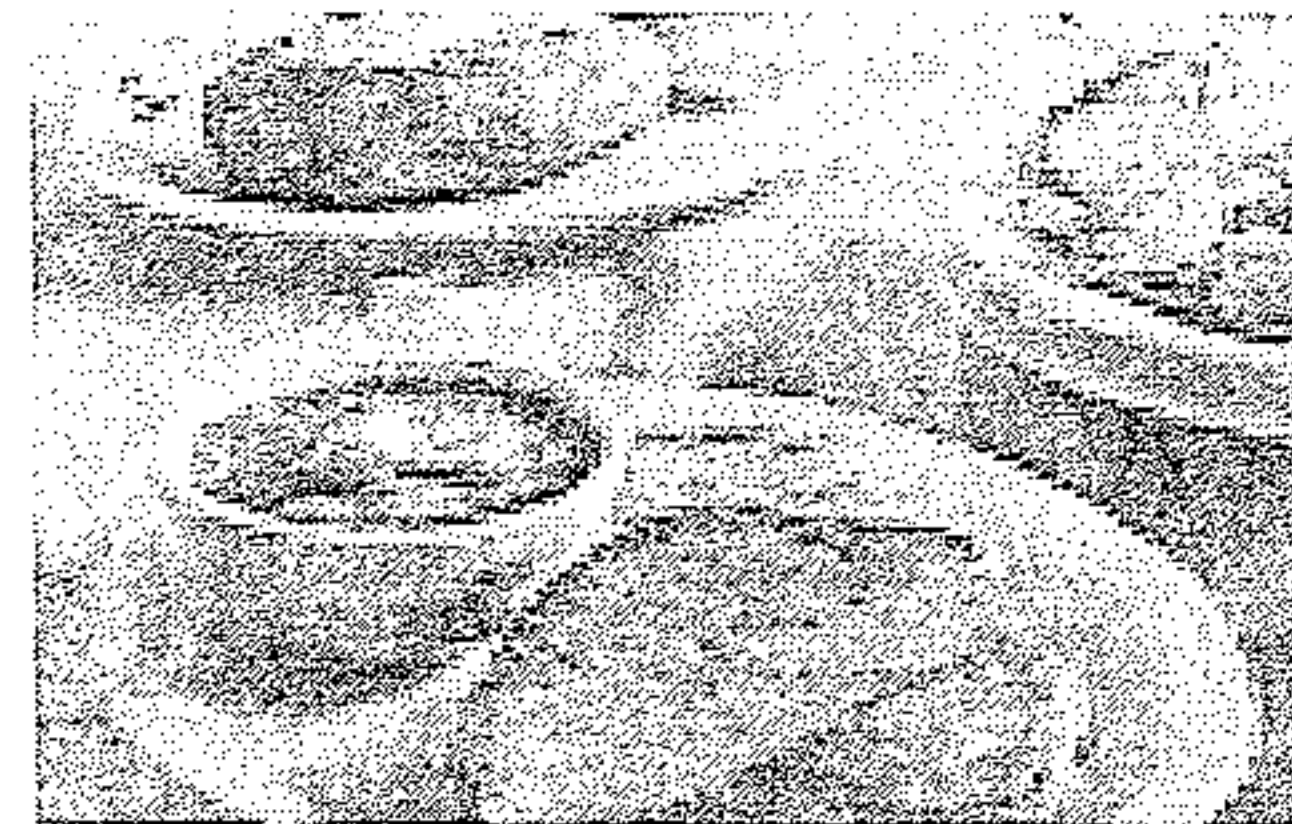


Looking For Affordable
* Health Plans
* Life Insurance
* Vision Insurance
* Dental Insurance
* Medicare Supplements

Call us Today for a FREE Quote!

9041 Executive Park Drive, Suite 250
Knoxville, TN. 37923
Office: 865-470-4162

Breakfast
Lunch
Daily
Specials



GiGi's Kitchen

Sandy Gaston
836 Mulberry St
Loudon, Tennessee
(865)207-7724
sggas64@gmail.com

Cheaters

they believed, and one of their dealers had likely helped him. But the dealer they suspected, Ming Zhang, denied any involvement when questioned by the casino.

“The casino knew there had been cheating,” said FBI Special Agent Jason Bender of his investigation of the case. “What wasn’t known was exactly how the player did it.”

Baccarat games are played with eight decks of cards. The dealer—called the banker—typically spreads the cards on the table to show the players that they are standard decks, shuffles them, and then places them into a holding container for play.

The banker then deals two cards to the player position and two cards to the bank position. A player bets on whose hand will come closest to nine—the player or the banker—or if they will tie. There is only a single player hand no matter how many players are at the table, and extra cards are dealt out only under certain prescribed circumstances.

A player who knew

the order of the cards in the deck could predict the outcome of each game with absolute accuracy. The casino concluded that Ni must have known the order of the cards.

“The casino knew there had been cheating. What wasn’t known was exactly how the player did it.”

Jason Bender, special agent, FBI Baltimore

By reviewing the casino’s surveillance footage and conducting interviews, FBI agents confirmed that Ni had convinced the other gamblers at the table to follow his lead that night. These unwitting accomplices were given money by Ni and told to bet along with him and then hand over their winnings at the end of the game.

Soon after, the casino dealer confessed to his role in the scheme. Zhang, who worked at two Maryland casinos, admitted he met with Ni over the summer

of 2017. The two men agreed that Zhang would alert Ni of his upcoming shifts as a dealer at the casinos. He further agreed to not shuffle a section of cards in the baccarat deck after they had been fanned in front of players.

Ni found a way to use his phone to take images of the cards as they were fanned out. “Then he and the other gamblers he recruited would sit there for a while, playing smaller bets just to move the cards along and keep their seats,” Bender explained. During this time, Ni excused himself from the table on several occasions to go to the bathroom to review the images of the deck.

Bender said that Ni didn’t have to memorize each card in the unshuffled section of the deck but only needed to recognize the sequence of cards that would signal the unshuffled cards had come up. “Then

he just needed to remember the either/or sequence of the bets—as in player, banker, player, player,” Bender said.

Investigators learned the pair had also carried out a similar plan at another casino where Zhang previously worked, and the take from that casino was nearly \$200,000.

By the time agents came to Ni, their evidence was strong. Ni pleaded guilty to conspiracy to transport stolen funds and was sentenced to 13 months in prison. Because Ni is not a legal resident of the United States, his case will be referred to Immigration and Customs Enforcement after he has served his sentence.

The dealer, Zhang, was fired from the casino and sentenced to 18 months in federal prison in December 2019.

He was also given three years of supervised release and ordered to pay restitution equal to the full amount of the illicit winnings.

In total, investigators found the pair cheated the casinos of \$1,046,560.

Bender explained that although these casinos are big business, a portion of the casino’s profits go into the Maryland education trust fund. “Part of that revenue belongs to the state of Maryland, and part of the theft affects state education funding,” he said.

He also warned would-be cheaters: “You should assume you will be caught.” Bender said that the casinos usually detect cheating while the player is still at the table. “But even if you walk out, the evidence of the crime is going to be captured.” In other words, the odds are overwhelmingly against you.

Now Accepting Applications
For 2 and 3 bedroom Apartments
Apply Monday and Tuesday
From 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
MCGHEE SQUARE APARTMENTS
Lenoir City, TN
Rental Office: (865) 986-6955
TDD: (800) 848-0298

Public Notice

The Lenoir City Utilities (LCUB) has cancelled its Board Meetings scheduled for Monday, January 20, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. and Monday, February 17, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be Monday, March 16, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. and will be held at LCUB in the Hamby-Smith Memorial Board Room located at 7698 Creekwood Park Blvd., Lenoir City, TN. 37772.