

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

Two Stores Report Man Cursing and Yelling at Customers

Impersonation Charge Follows Domestic Call



Matthew Nolan

see Disorderly pg. 2



Hector Ramirez

see Charged pg. 4

Legion Post 256 Donates to Service Dogs



American Legion Post 256 Commander Steve Buelow (left) presenting the donation check to Mike Kitchens, Chairman of Smoky Mountain Service Dogs

(see Legion pg. 3)

Missing Person Alert: Help the FBI Find Liam Biran

A wine blogger and travel enthusiast from New Jersey who disappeared during a 2019 trip and hasn't been seen since has prompted the FBI to seek the public's help finding him.

Liam Biran initially planned just to visit grandparents in Israel in April 2019. But while he was there his plans changed and he charted a new course for Greece, Italy, and

Paris, returning home on May 16, 2019. The aspiring sommelier was last seen in an Italian train station bound for Paris. But he never made it to France or onto his flight home, said Special Agent Joshua Suazo, who is investigating the missing-person case out of FBI Newark's Red Bank Resident Agency.

Biran's personal belongings were located

in a remote location of the Aosta Valley, but he has not been seen nor heard from since May of 2019. His last known activity was when a credit card he was known to use was used to purchase a train ticket from Turin, Italy, to the Aosta Valley in Italy.

The FBI hopes that someone who crossed paths with Biran

see FBI pg 5

Verse of the Day

For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. —1 Peter 1:23

Wazzup

Down to Four Teams left in the NFL Play-offs! Who you got in the Superbowl?

Weather

Today: Showers. High of 60F.

Tonight: Rain. Low of

53F.

Thursday: Rain. High of 64F.

Thursday night: Rain. Low of 54F.

Horoscope

Aquarius 1/20-2/18

More than likely there

is a person in your world who desperately wants to get closer to you, Aquarius. Conflict is apt to arise tonight if you don't open up and let this person in a bit closer. It could be that you're



Evading

Matthew Nolan, 23, Collins Street Loudon, was charged with Disorderly Conduct.

Officer C Purdy along with Officer K Russell LPD, was dispatched to a Disorderly Male at the Dollar General on Hwy 72. Upon arrival Officers made contact with a Male subject in the shopping center at Goodwill. The male subject was identified as Matthew Nolan who was yelling and acting disorderly. Officer Russell made contact with the Manager at the Dollar General who stated that Mr. Nolan was yelling and threatening employee's and customers. The Manager of the

Dollar General stated for Mr. Nolan to be Trespassed from their property. Mr. Nolan was advised that he was Trespassed from the Dollar General at this date and time. At 14:58 Officer C. Purdy was dispatched to Advance Auto Parts for a male using profanity and harassing customers. Upon arrival Officer made contact with Matthew Nolan inside Advance Auto Parts. A employee stated that Mr. Nolan was outside of the store yelling using profanity and harassing customers. Mr. Nolan was then placed under arrest for Disorderly Contact and transported to the Loudon County Jail. This did occur in the City of Loudon.

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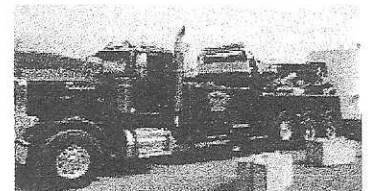
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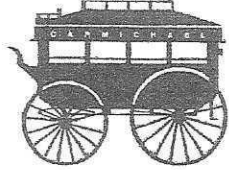
Legion

One of the primary missions of the American Legion is to enhance the well-being of our nation's veterans, and as such they provide many services that help to improve the lives of veterans in the local communities. A big part of that is to support other local organizations helping veterans. Recently the American Legion Tellico Village Post 256 was happy to present Smoky Mountain Service Dogs with a check for \$2000 to support their effort to provide trained service dogs to veterans with special needs. As an example, on January 12th Smoky Mountain Service Dogs held a

"Passing of the Leash" ceremony where "Henley", a specially trained mobility assistance service dog, was passed to U.S. Army Veteran LTC (ret.) Gregory who served his nation for over 25 years and was deployed during Desert Storm, Africa, Grenada, and Egypt. Gregory served in Military Intelligence/Special Forces, and "Henley" is a perfect match for this Veteran.

For those interested in the American Legion and the local Tellico Lake Post 256, and to find out the many ways the Post helps enhance the lives of local veterans in need please visit <https://www.tellicolakepost256.org>.

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Charged

Hector Ramirez, 25, Kelly Lane Lenoir City, was charged with Criminal Impersonation.

Officers with the Lenoir City Police Department were dispatched to McGhee Square, Kelly Lane, Apt 6C, in regard to a possible verbal domestic. Central dispatch advised they heard yelling, between multiple subjects, but were unable to gather any information. Sgt. Ketner and Officer Law arrived on scene and observed the front door open. Upon arrival, a male took off running out the back door; Sgt. Ketner notified the Officer that the male had ran off, to which the officer went to the backside of McGhee Square and began searching

for the subject. While walking behind the number 5 building, Officer observed a male sitting in a chair on a back patio. Officer requested a clothing description on the male, and once advised, determined that the male sitting in the chair matched the description of the male that ran from the residence. Officer detained the male for further investigation, and when asked about the incident, the male told him that he did not know what was going on and was just "playing in the snow." Officer escorted the male back to the residence, and requested his name and date of birth, to which he advised me of Amirk with a DOB of 1998. Officer ran that name through Central Dispatch to which it came

back not on file. After further investigation, it was determined that the male was lying about his name, and that his real name was Hector Ramirez with the same DOB to which Mr. Ramirez was then placed into custody. While officers were speaking with both female parties, it was determined that they were arguing, due to jealousy,

because Mr. Ramirez had been intimate with both parties the night of the incident. A female and her child, were transported to another apartment in McGhee Square. Mr. Ramirez was transported to the Loudon County Jail, without further incident.

The above did occur in Lenoir City, Loudon County, Tennessee.

Public Notice

PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to default Provision Chapter 717, 1980 Public Acts of Tennessee, the contents of the following leased spaces will be sold to satisfy the owner's liens. The entire contents will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash. The sale is to be held on unit site, **CARDING MACHINE MINI-WAREHOUSE & STORAGE**, 1241 Carding Machine Road, Loudon, TN on Saturday, February 3rd at 10:00 a.m.

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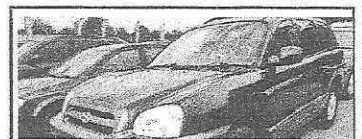


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FBI during his intercontinental journey may have the information needed to determine his whereabouts.

"At this time, foul play is not suspected in this case. We're not looking for a suspect," said Suazo. The agent added that there is no evidence to date that a crime has been committed.

Prior to the trip, Biran lived and worked in New York City and New Orleans. "He really enjoys the finer things in life—so, restaurants, vineyards, all that," Suazo said. He is an explorer who "is used to traveling alone," he noted.

Biran is single and has a small circle of friends whom he met through gigs in the restaurant industry and at a fine wine store in New York City, Suazo added. "All his friends share the same interests," he said. While he may have given off a shy

impression, he is known for his intelligence and opens up quickly to discuss his passions for travel and wine.

Biran is also known for being a family person. Agent Suazo said the FBI regularly provides case updates to and checks in with his parents and two siblings.

Biran has brown hair and eyes, weighs approximately 160 pounds, and stands at about 5 feet, 8 inches tall, with a muscular build. He'll be 37 years old on January 26, 2024.

His most distinguishing feature is a gap between his front teeth, Suazo said.

"Liam, if you are out there, your family just wants to know you're OK."

Joshua Suazo, special agent, FBI Newark

Searching for Liam
The FBI's been on the case since January 2023, when the Marlboro Police Department in New Jersey sought our

help, Suazo said.

Soon after joining the investigation, case agents learned that Biran's belongings—including camping equipment, clothes, and an electronic device they hope might yield clues—had been discovered in Italy's Aosta Valley region. FBI case agents hope to leverage any information our Italian partners share to help find Biran.

Meanwhile, Bureau agents

have conducted extensive interviews with Biran's relatives, friends, and former coworkers, Suazo said. And FBI Newark has also coordinated with its international law enforcement partners on a social media advertising campaign about Biran's disappearance.

"We've been reaching out to the public for help because

FBI ctd. pg. 7

Public Notice

Loudon County Republican Women meeting for Monday, January 22nd has been postponed due to the inclement weather and unsafe driving conditions. Instead, the meeting will occur on Monday, January 29th at the Avalon Community Clubhouse (140 Deerfield Court; Lenoir City, TN 37772). Susan Harrison from the Loudon County Election Commission will still be the guest speaker. Further information, contact President Sandy Kennel 1-615-429-0010. Follow the Loudon County Republican Women (LCRW) on Facebook to keep up-to-date.

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Horoscopes

quick to snap back with a forceful opinion, but be careful that you don't scare them away entirely.

Pisces 2/19-3/20

It may be easy for you to show up at a party or answer the phone when you know that it's your best friend calling with good news, but where are you when the going gets rough, Pisces? Make sure you show your support to people in all situations.

Aries 3/21-4/19

Realize that your inner state of mind is quite apparent to people just by the look on your face, Aries. Don't think you can hide things from others, especially today.

Taurus 4/20-5/20

Your opinions are apt to be strong today and you may feel on top of the world, Taurus. Remember, however, that there are other people who share the world with you, so don't disregard them as you plow through the day.

Gemini 5/21-6/20

Realize that you may be con-

trolling other people's actions without even consciously knowing it, Gemini. This is one of those days in which emotional outbursts could explode in your face as a result of other people's reactions to your pressure.

Cancer 6/21-7/22

Beware of unexpected circumstances today, Cancer. The good news is that your flexible attitude is perfectly suited to deal with the twists and turns that this day is likely to offer.

Leo 7/23-8/22

Come out of your shell today and try not to be so aloof, Leo. You will never find the exact path you want to be on until you explore the different options. The good news is that you should be feeling quite strong emotionally, giving you the confidence to approach people with authority, thereby earning their respect and faith in whatever project you're involved with now.

Virgo 8/23-9/22

You may be wondering why everyone is getting so touchy when you see this as being just a normal day, Virgo. Cut other

people some slack when you think they aren't wearing as big a smile as you are.

Libra 9/23-10/22

It could be that you don't feel as if you can begin your day until you've made it clear to someone that you have an issue that needs to be dealt with, Libra. You have a greater amount of emotional strength than usual, and you'll find that it's important that you hold on to this feeling against all odds.

Scorpio 10/23-11/21

Don't let another person's small, thoughtless comment ruin your entire day, Scorpio. People may be a bit stingy with everything from money to emotions to time spent with

loved ones.

Sagittarius 11/22-12/21

You may be feeling a bit tired and worn out lately, Sagittarius. Don't push yourself to do things when you know that your body needs rest. It could be extremely tempting to roll with the crowd and participate in all the fun.

Capricorn 12/22-01/19

Don't fritter away your time with a person who isn't going to change his or her mind about something, Capricorn. This is one of those days in which you may end up wasting your time and everyone else's by continuing to insist that things be done a certain way.

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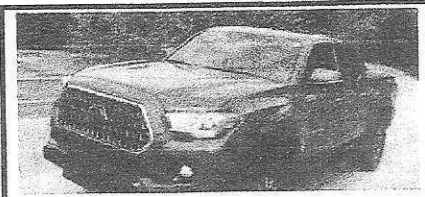
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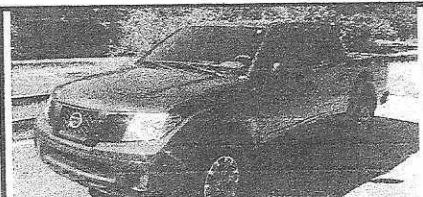
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FBI ctd. from pg. 5

there's a big time gap between when he went missing from the train station versus them finding his stuff out in the in the Aosta Valley," Suazo explained. "We want to encounter anyone who might have seen him or spoken to him while he was in transit there."

The FBI encourages anyone who traveled in Israel, Greece, or Italy in April 2019 and recognizes Biran from their travels to contact FBI Newark by calling 973-792-3000 or to submit a tip by visiting tips.fbi.gov. Overseas tipsters can also reach out to the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate to submit a tip. The public can share information with the FBI anonymously.

Any recollections from the road—whether a conversation from a hostel or a chance sighting—could potentially help the Bureau find Biran and make sure he's safe. Suazo believes tips from travel acquaintances can be powerful tools in the search for this missing man. Biran's family is concerned for his safety.

"Liam, if you are out there," Suazo said, "your family just wants to know you're OK."

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Obituaries

Dale Haire, age 57 of Lenoir City passed away January 22, 2024. He was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, and friend. Dale was a longtime employee of Highway 70 Small Engine Repair. His hobby was anything that had to do with Hot Rod Cars. Dale was of the Baptist faith. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Moss and Dessie Moyer, Cleo and Ruth Haire; sister, Ann Haire and sister-in-law, Kathy Haire. Survived by his wife, Janice Haire; son, Aydin Bunch; daughters, Sarah Haire, Paula Cox (Adam), and Jodi Branum; parents, Don and Sandra Haire; sisters, Donna Cook, Lisa Solomon (Bill), and Nancy Selvidge; brothers, Jay Haire, Jerry Haire (Melissa), and Bobby Haire (Celena); along with many nieces, nephews and friends. The family would like to give a special thanks to Jerry Park for his friendship and support. There will be a private Celebration of Life for Dale. Donations may be made to the funeral home to help with costs. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

Robert R. "Bobby" Simpson age 83 of Lenoir City passed January 18, 2024. He was a member and Deacon of South Holston Baptist Church. He was a retired construction worker. Preceded in death by his parents, Jewel and Maude Cheatham Simpson; siblings: Ruby Crisp, Annalee Burge, Dorothy Rogers, James Carl Simpson, Ben Simpson, Virgil Simpson and twin brother, William

Ray Simpson; nieces, Linda and Brenda. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Imogene Hyett Simpson; many nieces, nephews and cousins including special nephew, John Latham. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23rd at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City. Funeral services will follow at 7 p.m. with Rev. Kenny Palmer officiating. Family and friends will gather at the funeral home 10:30 Wednesday morning and proceed to Davis Cemetery for graveside services at 11 a.m. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

Jimmy Duane Bowers lovingly known as "Wormy" age 65 of Lenoir City passed away suddenly on January 17, 2024 at his home. He was a 1976 graduate of Lenoir City High School. Wormy served on the John F. Kennedy during Desert Storm. He retired from the U. S. Navy after 20 years of service as Command Master Chief. Wormy was one of the founding members of the Refuge Church at Pleasant Hill where he remained very active and served his community well until his death. Preceded in death by his parents, Bob and Ola Mae Pruitt Bowers. Survived by his siblings: Linda Bowers Chase (Jerry), Carol Bowers Ruhl, Robert L. Bowers, Jr., and Greg Bowers along with many nieces, nephews, cousins, and church family. A Celebration of Life is being planned. Interment will be in the East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery. Full military honors will be conferred by the East Tennessee State Veterans Guard. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street,

Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

Howard Franklin Farmer - age 77 of Lenoir City, passed away Saturday, January 20, 2024. Howard was a member of First Baptist Church in Philadelphia, TN. He was a veteran of the United States Air Force. Howard retired from Oak Ridge Y-12 Plant after 29 years of service.

Preceded in death by his first wife of 46 years, Eva Sue Farmer; parents, Roy J. Farmer and Bonnie Mae Wheeler Farmer of Lenoir City; sisters, Anna Lou Farmer Tindell (Clarence), and Mary Ellen Farmer McNabb.

Howard is survived by his wife of 4 ½ years, Betty Longworth; daughter, Tammi Lambert (Jeff) son, James Daniel Farmer (Antonia); five grandchildren: Jessica Brackett, Bethany Long, Caleb Lambert, Diana Farmer and Giulia Farmer; great granddaughters, Lilah and Lucy Brackett; stepchildren: Tammi Walker (Rich), Janey Longworth (John), and Mark Longworth (Beth); step grandson, Levi Longworth.

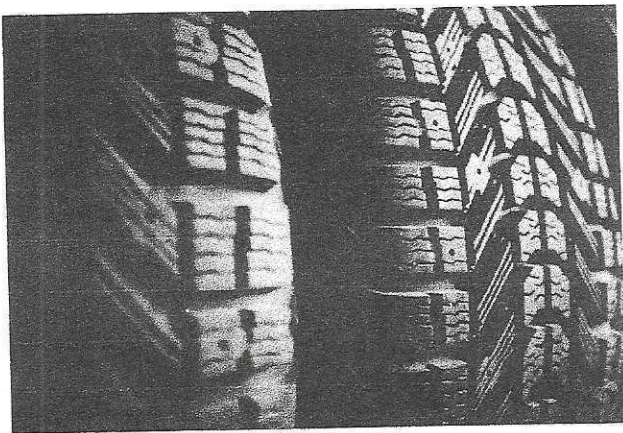
The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, January 26th at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City. Full military honors will be conferred by Loudon County Veteran Honor Guard. Funeral services will follow with Rev. Brian Courtney officiating. A private interment will be in the Abbott Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please make memorials to First Baptist Church, 606 Church Street, Philadelphia, TN 37846. Click Funeral Home, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

Public Notice

The Lenoir City Utilities Board (LCUB) will have a Special Called Board Meeting on Monday, January 29, 2024. The meeting will be held at LCUB, 7698 Creekwood Park Blvd., Lenoir City, Tennessee 37771, in the Hamby-Smith Board Room and will begin at 4:00 p.m. The purpose of the Special Called Board Meeting is for discussion/consideration of the following:

1. Consideration of approving the Minutes from the December 18, 2023, Board Meeting.
2. Consideration of approving the Financial Reports for November 2023.
3. Consideration of approving an Amendment to the FUD Water Purchase Agreement.
4. Consideration of approving the 2024 Board Meeting Schedule.

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