

Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

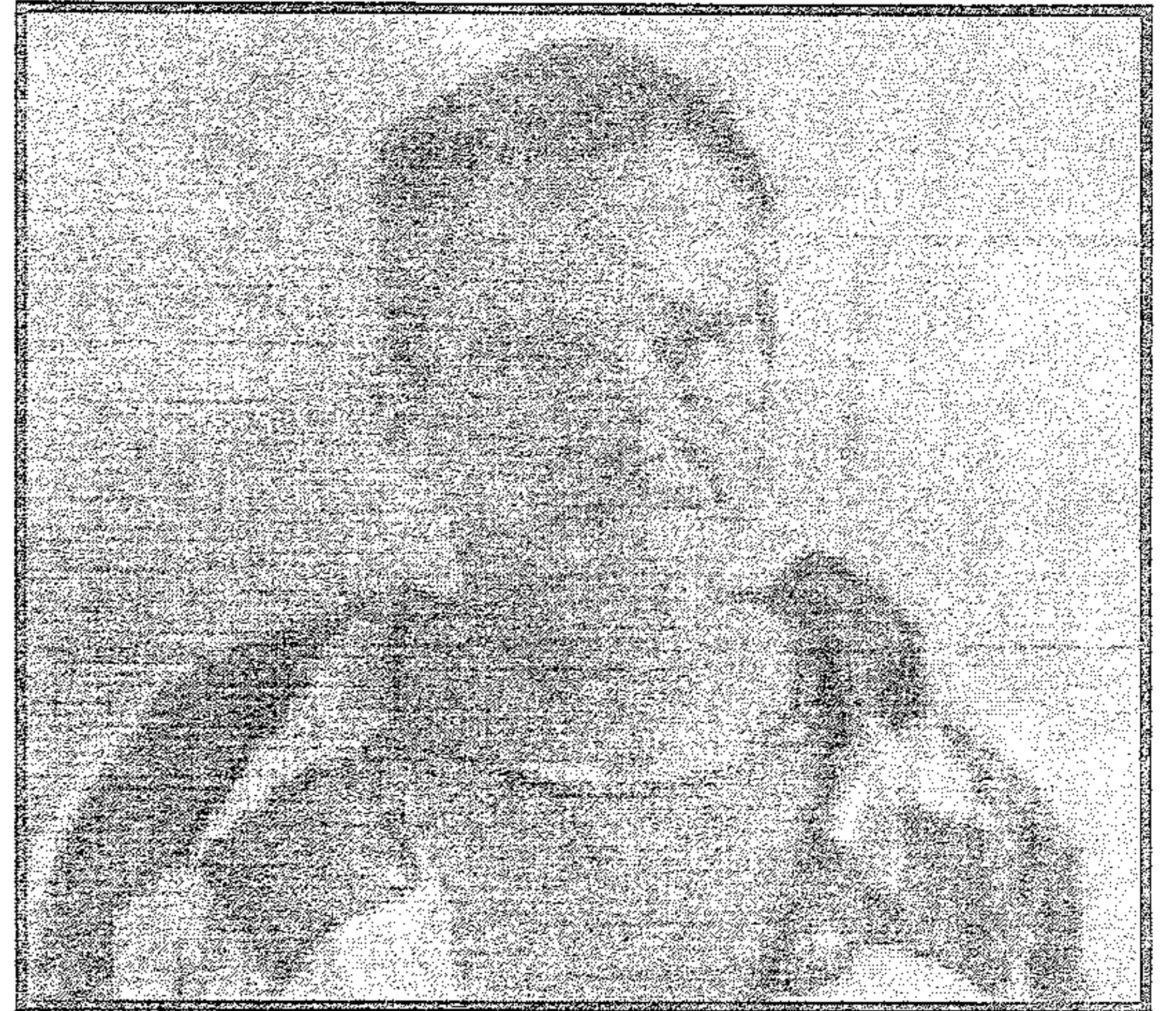
90mph in a 70mph zone leads to charges for suspended teen driver



Jose Rivera-Munguia

see Teen pg. 2

Be Careful If You Hire This Guy; Employer reports checks stolen



Jeremy Aikens

see Checks pg. 3

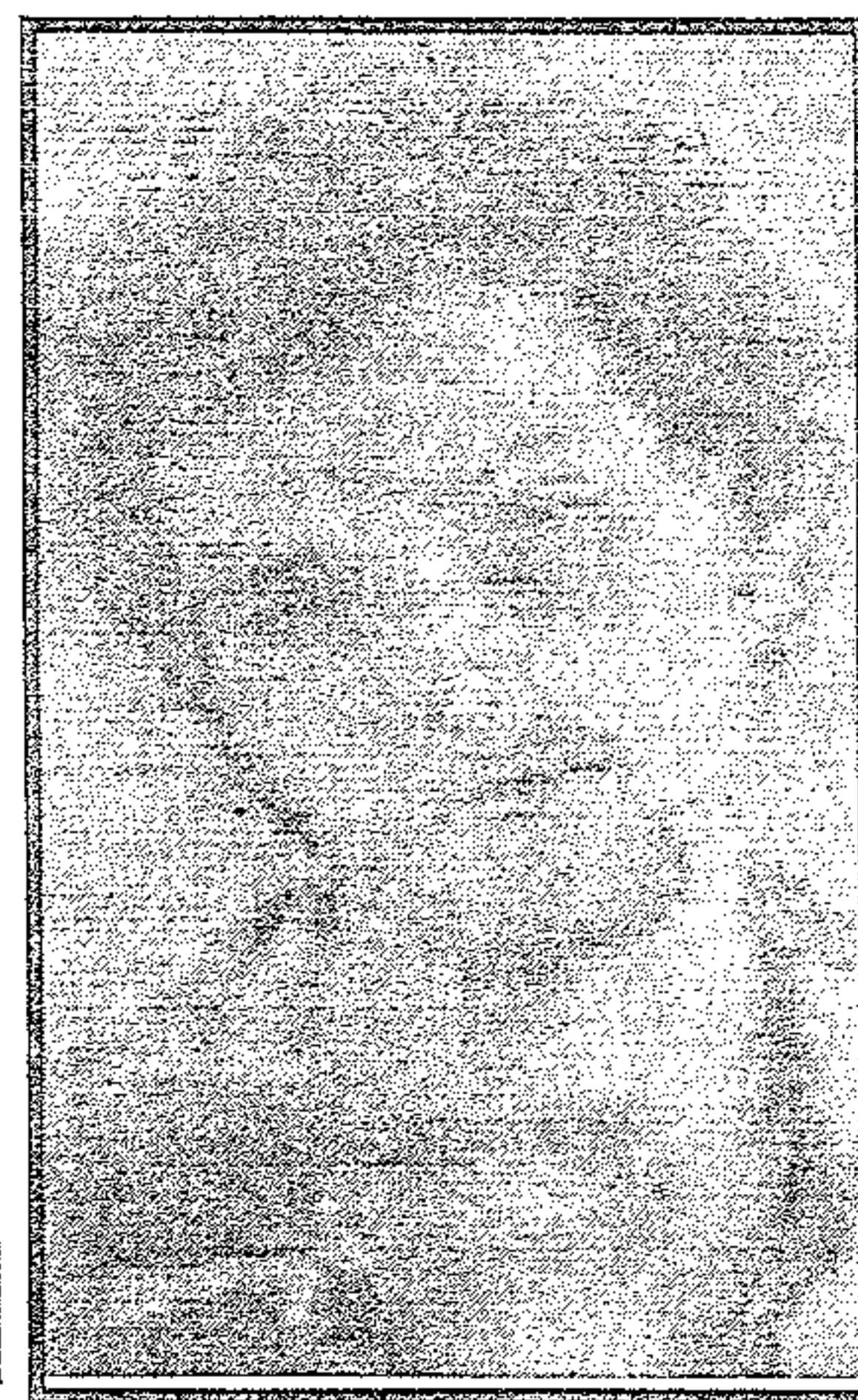
Former Jefferson County School Cafeteria Manager Indicted for Theft

An investigation by the Tennessee Comptroller's Office has resulted in the indictment of Christina Morris, the former cafeteria manager at Patriot Academy in Dandridge, Tennessee. Investigators determined that Morris stole at least

\$1,660.75 in cash that was collected from the school cafeteria between November 1, 2018 and March 6, 2019. The investigation began after county and school department officials determined that numerous cafe-

see Indicted pg. 3

Hiding from officers a Bad Idea



Larry Mueller

See Bad Idea P.3

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

Mississippi Case Shows How FBI and Partner Agencies Work to Stop Traffickers, Help Victims

Human trafficking is a crime that hides in plain sight. Often, it simply takes an astute police officer, hotel worker, or bystander to notice and

speaking up—and save a victim.

That's what happened when an officer with the Oxford (Mississippi) Police Department pulled over a suspected drunk driver and passengers one night in March 2018.

See FBI P.4



Verse of the Day

See, the LORD your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the LORD, the God of your fathers, told you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

—Deuteronomy 1:21

Wazzup

It's almost Super Bowl time and although our Titans didn't make it it's gonna be a great game! What are you doing? Let Us Know!

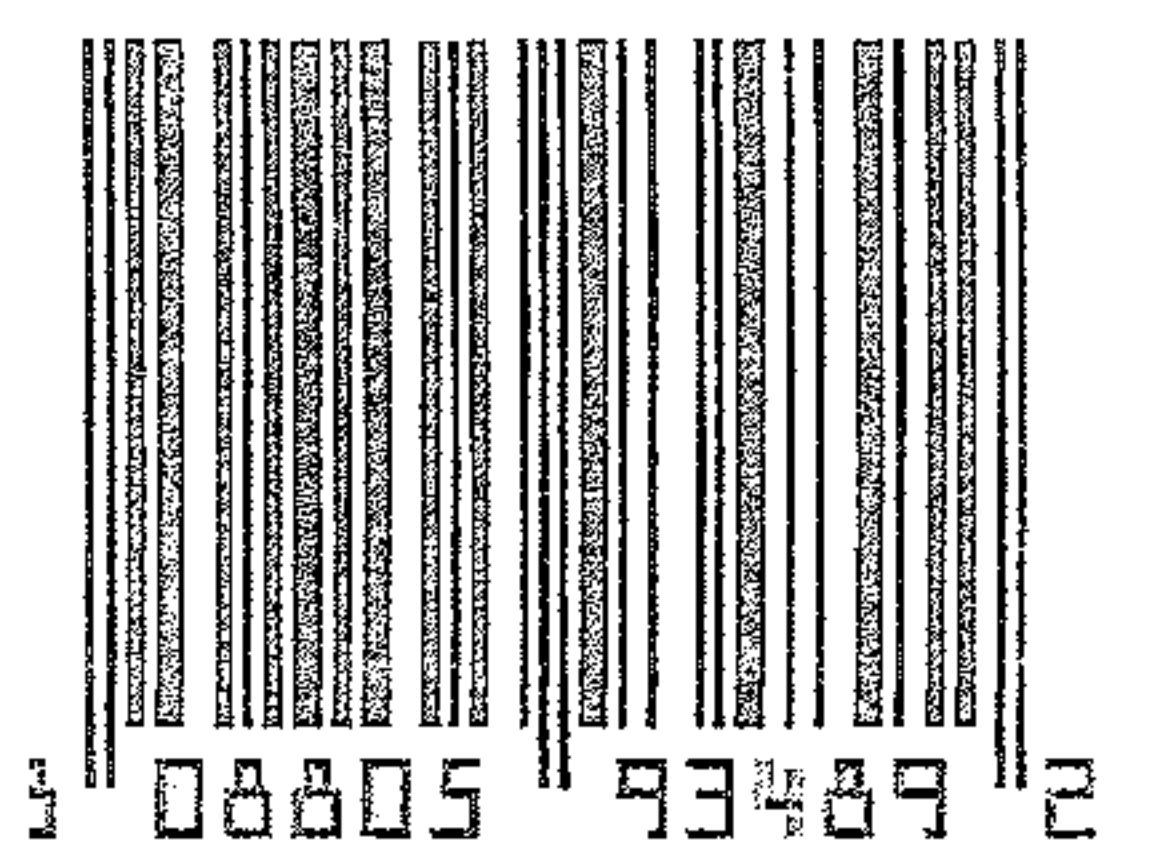
Weather

Today: Clear and cool. High of 47F.
Tonight: Clear. Low of 20F
Thursday: Rain and cold. High of 46F.
Thursday night: Rain. Low of 30F.

Horoscopes

Aquarius 1/20-2/18
You're willing to go out on a limb to support others, and it's encouraging when you see them doing the same. A gratifying experience with a new friend

(Continued on page 6)



Teen

Jose Rivera-Munguia, 19, Six Flags Road Georgia, was charged with Driving on Suspended License and Speeding. Deputy Lance Anderson LCSO, observed a silver vehicle displaying GA. Tags traveling 94 mph in a 70 mph zone on I 75 at the 72mm confirmed by radar. Upon traffic stop Deputy made contact

with the driver identified as Jose Rivera-Munguia, and the front seat passenger Jose Mejia. Deputy observed a strong odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. Dispatch advised that the drivers license were suspended for failure to appear. Munguia was placed under arrest. Upon inventorying the vehicle for tow a Bob Marley brand marijuana grinder

containing approx.. 2 grams of a green leafy substance was found. Jose Mejia stated it was his. A small baggie containing approx.. 3.3 grams of a green leafy

substance was found in Mejia left sock. Mejia also had a pack of rolling papers in his wallet, and approx. 1 gram in baggie. Mejia was placed under arrest.

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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.

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Checks

Jeremy Aikens, 43, Pine Top Street Loudon, was charged with Forgery x3 and Theft of Property x3. Deputy JC Schultz LCSO, responded to Lakeview Road for a check fraud call. Upon arrival the victim stated that Jeremy Aikens had possibly taken his checkbook off his office table, when he wrote Aikens a check for some work he did. The victim had 3 checks forged on his bank account, one check for \$600.00, \$350.00, and \$500.00. The victim stated Jeremy Aikens was the only one had access to the checkbook.

Bad Idea

Larry Mueller, 23, Rocks Spring Annex Lenoir City, was charged with Mfg/Sell/Del or Poss. Of Meth, Criminal Impersonation, and Capias

FTA. See narrative on Tara Litwin.

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.

Indicted

teria collections were not being deposited on time. These officials reported this information to Comptroller's Office, and confronted Morris about the problem. After she was confronted, Morris returned \$1,677 to the school and was placed on administrative leave.

Morris told investigators she had been withholding cash for her personal use. She resigned her position on April 11, 2019.

In January 2020, Christina Morris was indicted by the Jefferson County Grand Jury on one count of theft under \$1,000 and one count of official misconduct.

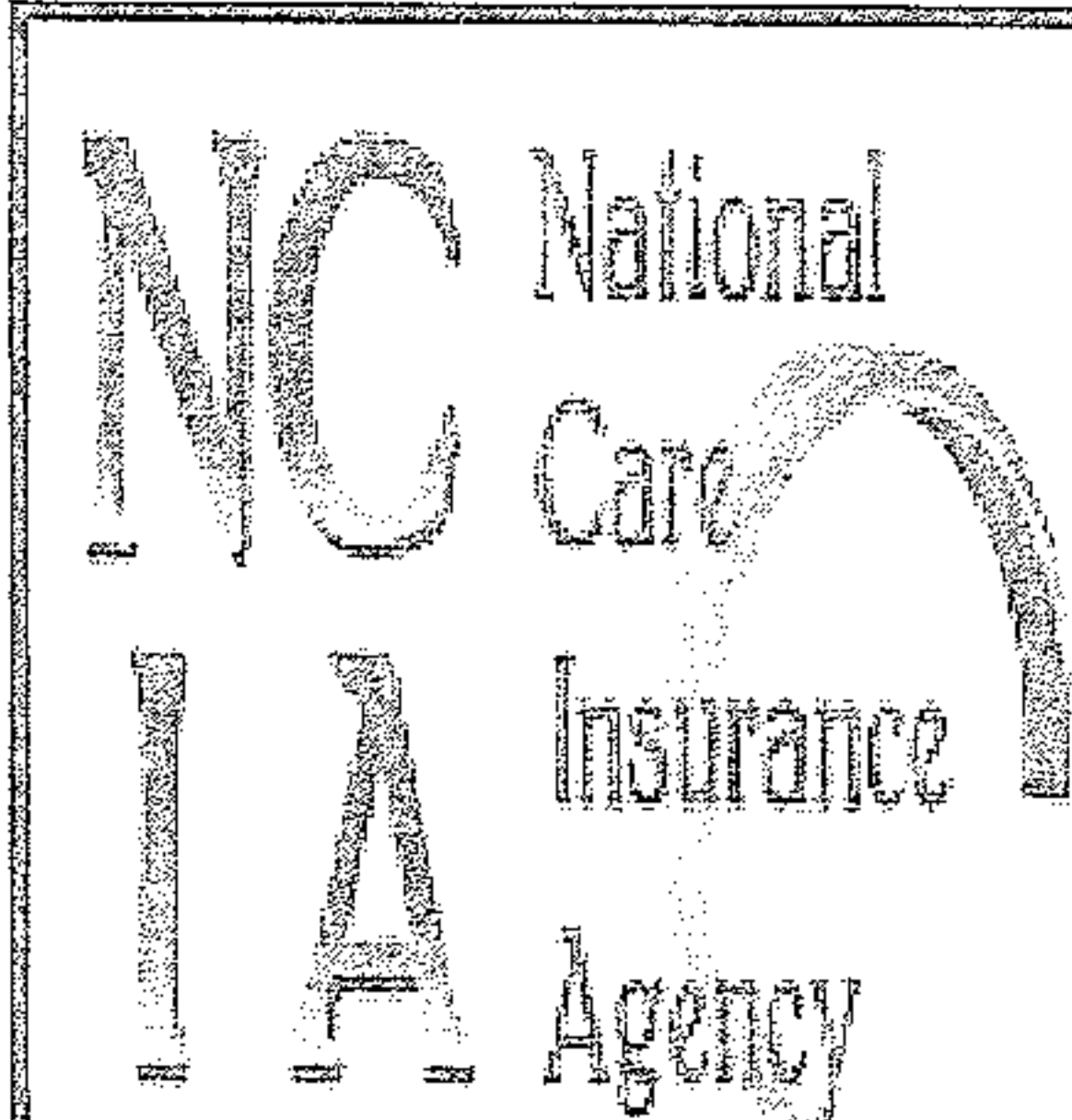
"The cafeteria manager

was given too much responsibility over the financial process within her school's cafeteria," said Comptroller's Justin P. Wilson. "She not only received and counted the money collected, but she also prepared and delivered deposits to the bank, and she reconciled recorded collections with the bank deposits. These duties should be separated between at least two people."

School officials have indicated they have corrected or will correct the deficiencies noted in the investigative report.

To view the investigative report, go to: <https://comptroller.tn.gov/office-functions/investigations/find.html>

If you suspect fraud, waste or abuse of public money in Tennessee, call the Comptroller's toll-free hotline at 800.232.5454, or file a report online at: www.comptroller.tn.gov/hotline. Follow us on twitter: @TNCOT



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FBI

During the stop, the officer—recalling training he and his department previously received from the FBI—detected signs of human trafficking. So he contacted his department’s human trafficking investigator as well as the FBI. They quickly determined that one of the passengers in the car was a 17-year-old girl who’d been advertised on a prostitution website. The driver, Edward Earl Daniels, was her trafficker. He met the girl, who’d run away from home, through his son. Daniels had likely been trafficking her for about two weeks.

“The FBI was instrumental in this investigation because they were able to search the phones immediately after we obtained the search warrant. It allowed us to get an accurate picture of what was going on,” said Oxford Police Department Investigator Chad Carwile.

While investigators gathered ample evidence from Daniels’ car and hotel room, the cell phone evidence was key to making the case. Although law enforce-

ment is increasingly unable to access crucial evidence on encrypted devices, investigators lawfully accessed the phone in this case.

“It was all spelled out on the phone—text messages between Daniels and the victim. The phone was a textbook indication of human trafficking,” said FBI Special Agent C. Ryan Berthay. At the time of the investigation, Berthay was a Mississippi Attorney General’s Office agent working on an FBI task force out of the Jackson Field Office.

“The most instrumental part of these cases are the local officers. They are the foot soldiers who recognize trafficking and make sure we can gather crucial evidence right away.” - C. Ryan Berthay, FBI special agent Daniels pleaded guilty to sex trafficking charges last May and was sentenced in November to 15 years in prison.

Although January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, the FBI takes a collaborative, victim-centered approach to its trafficking cases every day of the year. Both of those elements were clear in this investigation. “The most instrumental part of these cases are the local officers,” Berthay said. “They are the foot soldiers who recognize trafficking and make sure we can gather crucial evidence right away.”

In the Mississippi case, the teenage victim was offered counseling and other resources by the FBI’s victim specialists, as is customary for trafficking victims.

“I kept in touch with the victim and her mother throughout the process,” Carwile said. “Victim services has been with her, and she’s had the opportunity to go through some counseling. In this

case, as is with a lot of these cases, it’s an ongoing process to help these women and children move forward with their lives.”

Interactive Map Tracks Comptroller Fraud Investigations in Tennessee

The Tennessee Comptroller’s Office takes its responsibility to investigate and uncover fraud, waste, and abuse seriously. Since 2016, Comptroller investigators have identified nearly \$22 million in fraud, waste, and abuse in Tennessee governments and other entities that receive public funds.

The Comptroller’s Office is pleased to provide a new web-based tool that allows the public to more closely examine fraud investigations across the State of Tennessee. Mapping Tennessee Comptroller Investigations is an interactive map that pro-

vides instant access to information about Comptroller’s Office investigations.

Users can zoom in to the map and examine recent reports, including those covering entities in their own communities. The site provides both a snapshot of information and the ability to view full investigative reports. Journalists may also find the site useful for tracking trends and getting aggregated information for the cities, counties, and regions they cover.

“We believe that publicizing our investigative reports helps entities correct weaknesses that could lead to fraudulent activity,” said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. “Media attention and criminal prosecutions also serve as a deterrent for anyone thinking about stealing public funds. This website offers our Office another way to share information about the important work we do to make government work better.”

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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.

Tennessee Department of Correction Leaders Must Improve Oversight

The Tennessee Comptroller's Office has released a performance audit of the Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC) and the results will require many improvements.

The audit contains 18 findings and numerous observations detailing areas where problems need to be addressed. These issues will be presented to the Joint Government Operations Subcommittee on Judiciary and Government on January 13 at 9:00 a.m. in House Hearing Room I.

The audit's key conclusions include the following:

TDOC's leadership must improve its oversight in order to ensure compliance with laws, regulations and policies; provide safe and secure facilities; and reduce the risk to public safety. (Finding 1)

TDOC's annual inspection percentage scores of facilities do not provide a clear measure of correctional facility performance. These scores do not give additional weight to "critical" findings that may impact safety and security. (Finding 2)

TDOC has not ensured that data on incidents, including deaths and other serious incidents, is valid and reliable. (Findings 4, 5, and 6 and Observation 1)

TDOC should ensure that staff follow policies and procedures for investigating sexual abuse and harassment allegations. (Finding 9)

TDOC did not ensure its medical and mental health contractors met required staffing levels, and it allowed contractors to offset assessed liquidated damages outside of the contracts' authority. (Findings 10 and 11)

TDOC must be able to demonstrate that inmates are receiving sufficient medical and mental health services. (Findings 12, and 13 and Observations 4 and 5)

TDOC and CoreCivic must continue efforts to ensure adequate staffing in order to provide safe and secure facilities. CoreCivic must also continue making progress on the accuracy of its monthly staffing reports. (Findings 14 and Observations 6 and 7)

Management must ensure staff perform inmate screenings within required timeframes. Management must also be sure inmates are aware of information and services the department provides. (Findings 15 and 16 and Observation 10)

Although there has been improvement, the department has still not ensured adequate monitoring of individuals placed on parole or probation. (Finding 17 and Observation 11)

The department has had difficulties in replacing its outdated information management system for offender data. (Observation 12)

Department management did not ensure that its staff and CoreCivic complied with public records regulations, resulting in lost records as well as potential evidence. (Finding 18 and Observation 13)

The department has not reported recidivism rates for inmates who participated in educational and vocational programs, as required by statute.

"I encourage TDOC management to review each of these findings and develop plans to correct them," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "It's likely this will include revising current policies, training and re-training staff, and performing additional monitoring to ensure laws and policies are being followed."

The full audit report can be found at TN.Gov.

If you suspect fraud, waste or abuse of public money in Tennessee, call the Comptroller's toll-free hotline at 800.232.5454, or file a report online at: www.comptroller.tn.gov/hotline. Follow us on twitter: @TNCOT

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR LOUDON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Regarding the Estate of: REBA P. JOHNSTON, deceased DKT# 6020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (As required by Chapter No 180, Public Acts of Tennessee 1809 As Amended by Public Chapter 806 on 05/09/2012)

Notice is hereby given that on the 16th DAY OF JANUARY 2020 Letters of Testamentary in respect of the estate of REBA P. JOHNSTON who died on the 28th day of November 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 16th DAY OF JANUARY 2020

Steve Harrelson, Clerk BY: Robyn Shannon, Deputy Clerk

By Personal Representative(s) CHRISTIAN FRESHOUR

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: 01-22-19 & 01-29-19