

# Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, December 14, 2020

## Man Uses Gun To Terrorize Victims Over Alleged Stolen Medication Found By Police

Coty Giffin, 32, Kelly Lane Lenoir City, was charged with Aggravated Assault x2, Contraband in a Penal Institution, False Imprisonment, Public Intoxication, and Unlawful Possession Carry of a Weapon. Officer R. Miller LCPD, responded to a possible hostage situation that occurred in the parking lot of



see Gun pg. 2

Coty Giffin

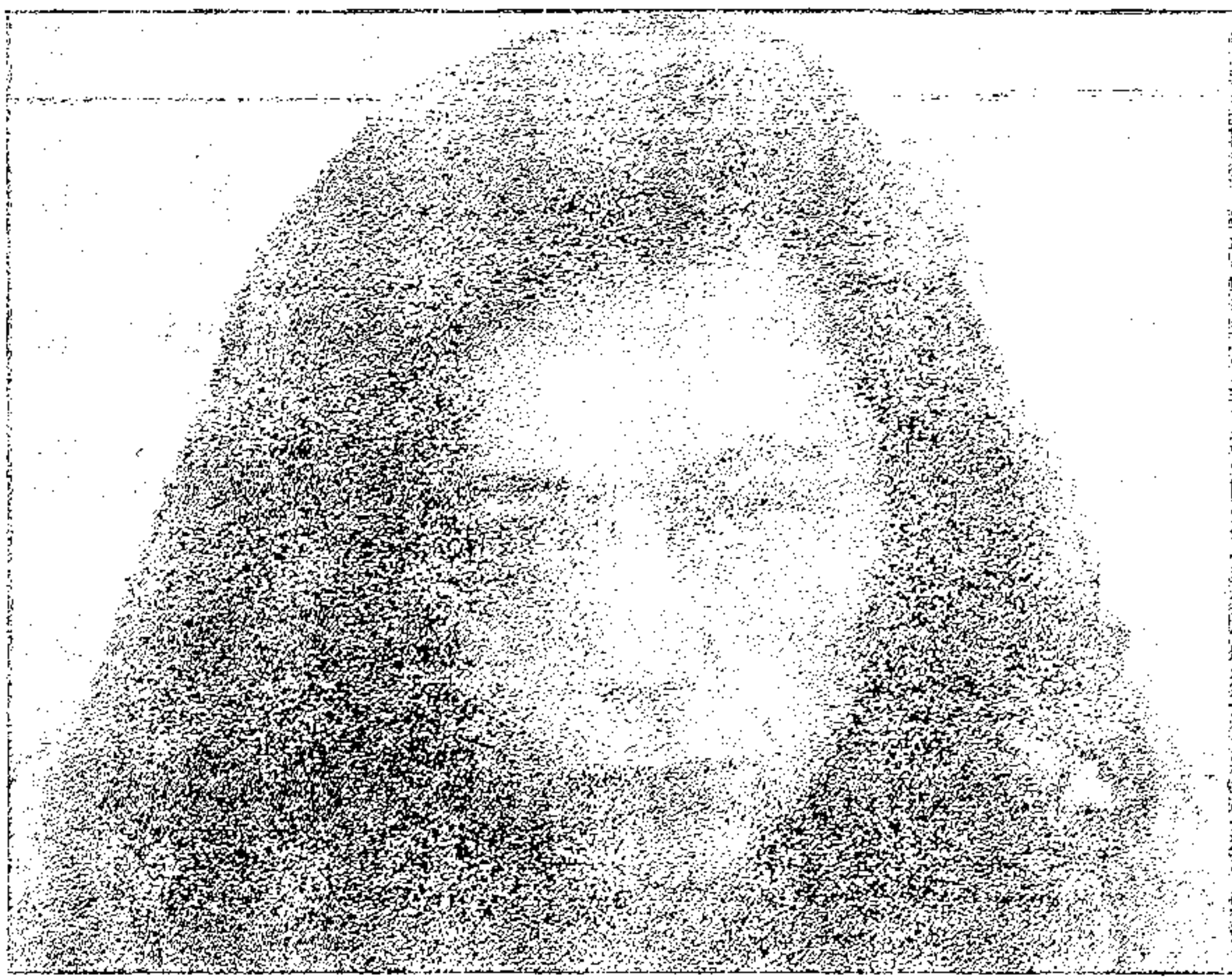
## Man Charged With Breaking Into Church and Stealing Groceries



Justin Hamil

see Church pg. 4

## DUI Driver Admits to Taking Xanax and Smoking Meth



Delliah Freeman

see DUI pg. 5

## CDC expands local area health estimates to include data for the entire U.S. New PLACES data help inform local health decisions

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has announced the expansion of the 500 Cities Project, a 2016 initiative to provide city- and neighborhood-level health estimates for a large portion of the nation's population. The project is being re-named PLACES, and now provides Population Level Analysis and Community Estimates to the entire

United States to show the prevalence of chronic diseases and the health impacts on underserved communities.

Many Americans face health-related challenges like chronic respiratory diseases, heart disease, diabetes, and obesity that put them at increased risk for severe illness from diseases such as COVID-19. The critical information

in PLACES can help local and state health departments and community organizations decide where best to target resources to address these health challenges.

"PLACES is truly a game changer," said CDC Director Robert R. Redfield, M.D. "As our Nation faces an

see CDC pg. 7

### Verse of the Day

Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

—Romans 12:11

### Wazzup

Are You Ready For

The Holidays? You Know Who is? Law Enforcement! They Will Be Out In Force To Make Sure Everyone Stays Safe This Holiday Season! Don't Drink and Drive!

### Weather

Today: Morning Showers. High of 46F.

Tonight: Clear. Low of 29F.

Tuesday: Cloudy. High of 49F.

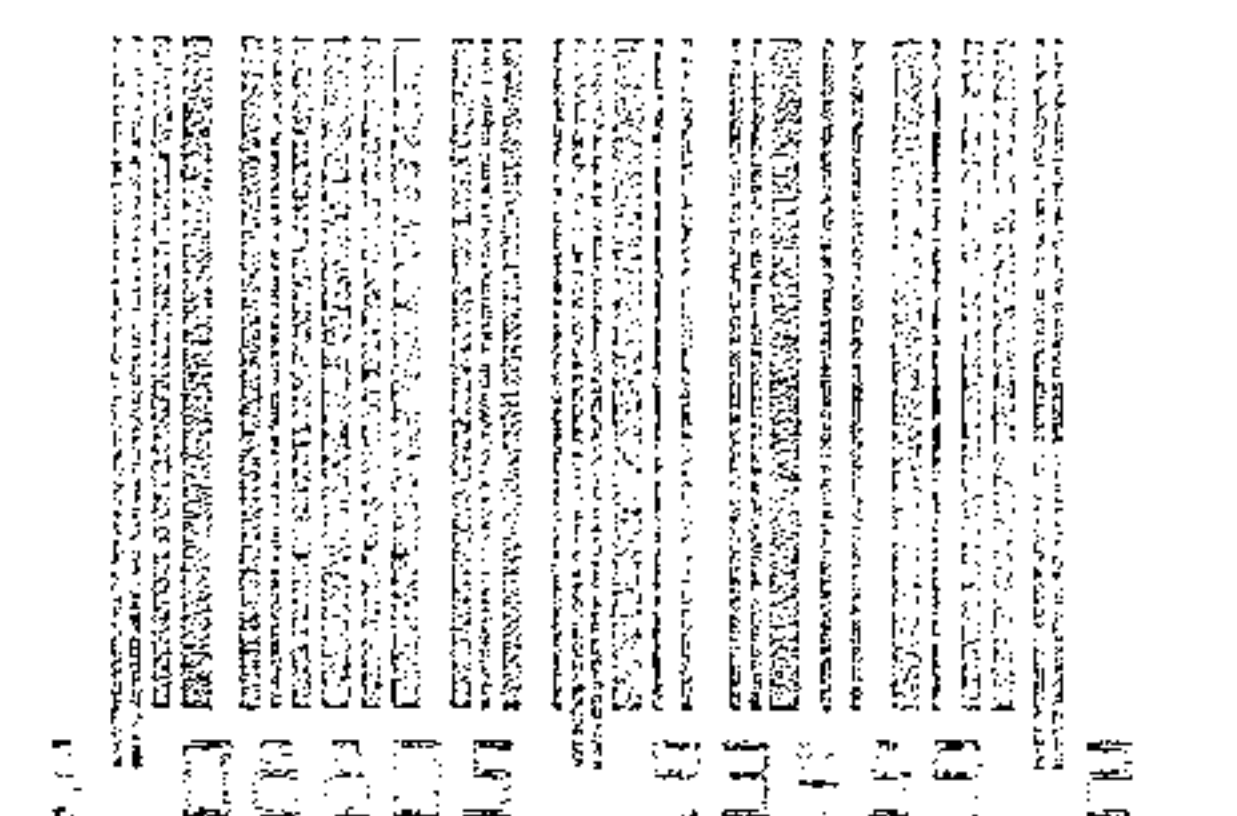
Tuesday night: Clear. Low of 36F.

### Horoscope

Sagittarius 11:22-12:21

Today is your day to shine in every way, Sagittarius. There's a concentration of energy in your favor, so act

Local Book





**Gun**

Ingles in Lenoir City, TN. Dispatch advised that there was a male subject holding another male hostage in a black mini-van in the park-

ing lot of Ingles with a fire-arm. When Officer arrived on scene, he immediately made contact with the black mini-van in the parking lot of Ingles. The mini-van was occupied by one male who

was in the drivers seat at the time (later identified as Mr. Coty Giffin (Offender)), and one other male (later identified as (Victim 2)), who was located at the drivers side rear door looking through the vehicle as if he were looking for something. Both subjects were immediately held at gun point and placed into handcuffs to be detained until the investigation was complete. The complainant who was the mother of (victim 1) was also on scene at the time officers arrived at Ingles and was also detained briefly but was released once the investigation was complete. During the investigation Officer initially spoke with victim2 who stated that Mr. Giffin had picked him and victim1 up to go "smoke a joint" together. Victim2 stated that when he and Mr. Giffin

were outside of the vehicle smoking the joint that Mr. Giffin had his nerve medication out but did not state whether he took any or not. Once they finished smoking the joint and returned to the vehicle, victim2 stated that Mr. Giffin became upset and accused him and victim1 of taking his nerve medication. As they approached the entrance of McGhee Square, both victims stated that Mr. Giffin pulled out a handgun and told both subjects "that

see Gun ctd. pg. 3

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Gun etd. from pg. 2

[they were] not going anywhere until his medication was found". Both subjects stated at that time that they were in fear for their lives, and at that moment, victim 1 was able to jump out of the vehicle and run to where her mother lives to contact the police. Victim 2 then stated that the handgun was then pointed at him, and he was told to get back into the vehicle. Victim 2 returned back into the vehicle and stated that he convinced Mr. Giffin to pull into the Ingles parking lot so that he could help find his nerve medication. Once they pulled into the parking lot, law enforcement arrived on scene, where all subjects were detained. A search of the offender's vehicle revealed a Bersa BP9CC (9mm) hand-

gun located in the passengers side floor board (eight rounds in the handgun, no rounds in the chamber).

Also located in the center console of the vehicle was Mr. Giffin's nerve medication that he thought was stolen and an open container of alcohol. During Officer initial contact with Mr. Giffin it was apparent that he was under the influence of an alcoholic beverage/ narcotic. Based on Officer training and experience Mr. Giffin's eyes were extremely red and watery, and he was unsteady on his feet. He also had a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from his person. While speaking with Mr. Giffin, he stated multiple times that he shouldn't have smoked weed or drank anything. Statements were then gathered by all victims and

the complainant. After the investigation was complete, Mr. Giffin was placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail without incident. Giffin's vehicle was released to his girlfriend, co-owner of said vehicle.

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### Church

Justin Hamil, 35, Holt Road Sweetwater, was charged with Burglary, Theft of Property, and Vandalism.

Deputy M Stanley LCSO, responded to a call at Zion Ridge Road regarding a past Breaking and Entering. Upon arrival, Deputy made contact with the complainant, and other members of the church. Deputy was advised on scene that a male subject arrived on the property on Wednesday 12/02/2020 and broke into the back door of the church's fellowship hall. Deputy observed pry marks on the door, frame, and lock indicating forced entry.

The church members where able to provide Deputy with video footage of the incident. While watching the footage, Deputy observed a White male pull into the

parking lot in a Red truck. The truck appeared to be an older model Chevrolet pickup. The male then got out of the truck and went to the back of the fellowship hall. The suspect then started playing basketball on the small court located directly behind the building. After a short period of time the suspect then used what appeared to be a knife to force the back door open. After approximately 30 minutes, the suspect then came back outside holding a plastic bag. the suspect then left the scene in his vehicle. Deputy was advised by the church members, that the bag was groceries that had been collected by the church for donation.

The following day on 12/07/2020 911 dispatch received a call by one of the church members advising that the suspect and vehicle


in question matching the description was back in the church parking lot. Deputy along with assisting deputies responded to the call. Upon arriving on scene, Deputy observed the red Chevrolet bearing TN registration NCF988 parked in the parking lot. The truck matched the one used by the suspect in the incident. Deputy then made contact with the occupants of the vehicle. The

driver, later identified as Justin Lee Hamil matched the description of the suspect. Hamil advised he was waiting on his dad to meet him there and give him some money. Hamil also advised he used to be a member of the church. A church member arrived on scene and identified Hamil as well.

After reading Hamil his Miranda Rights, he then

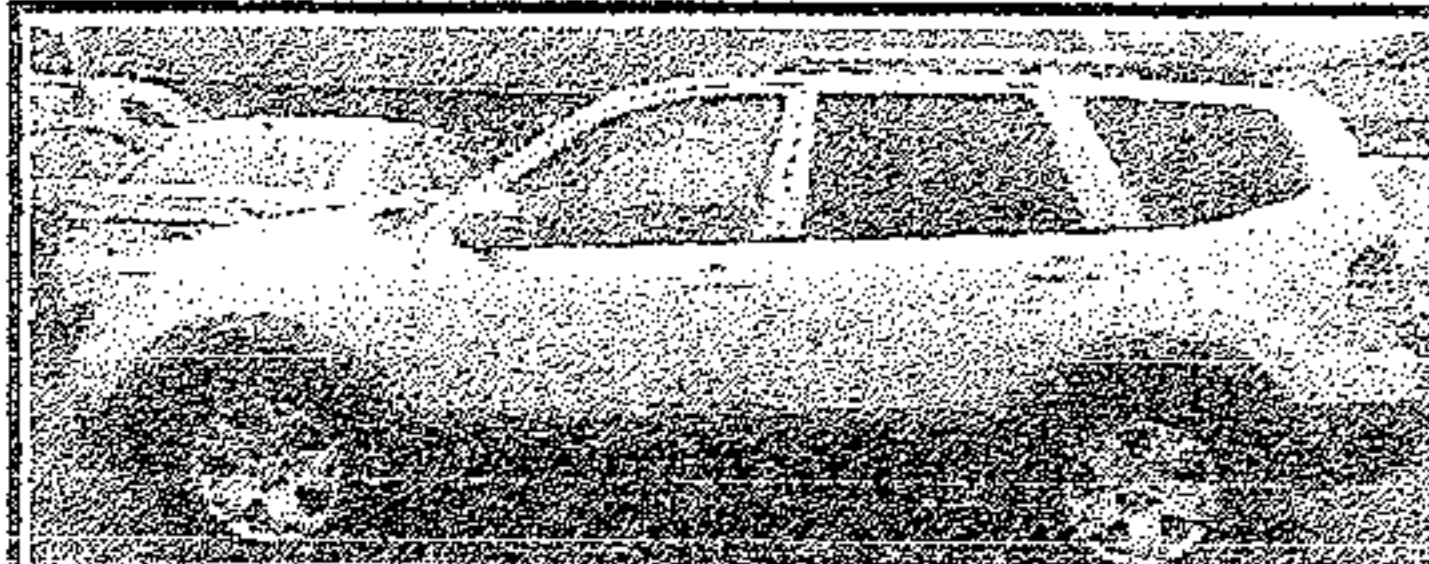
Church ctd. pg. 5

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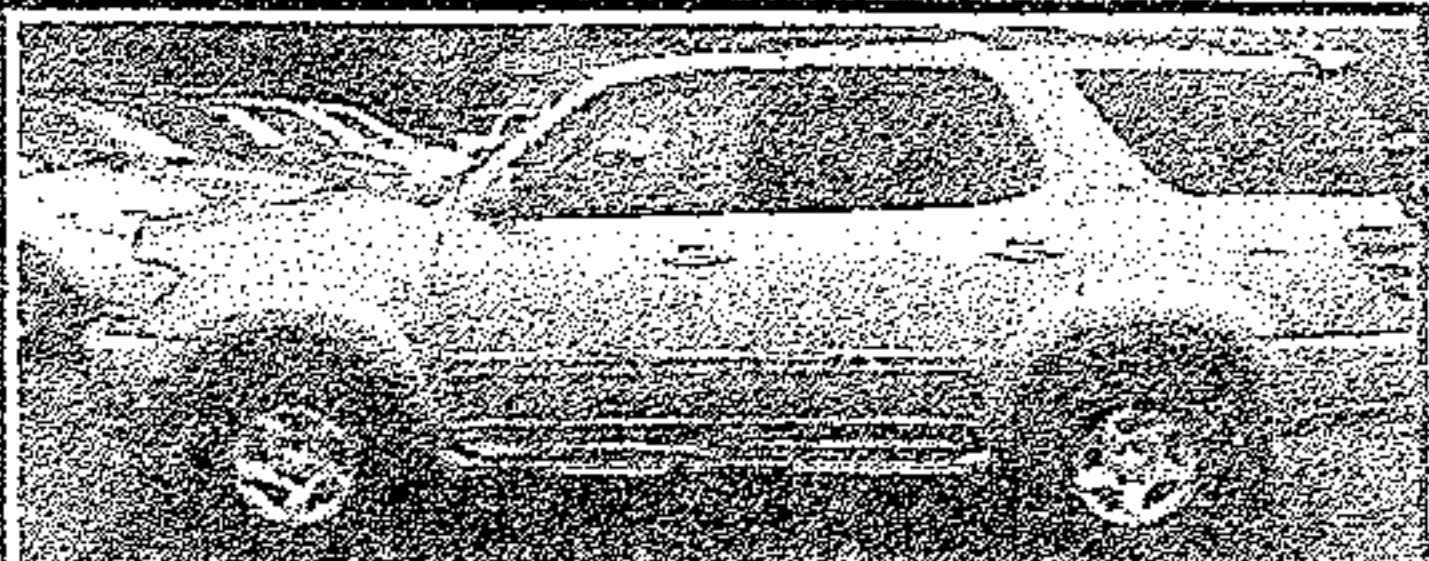
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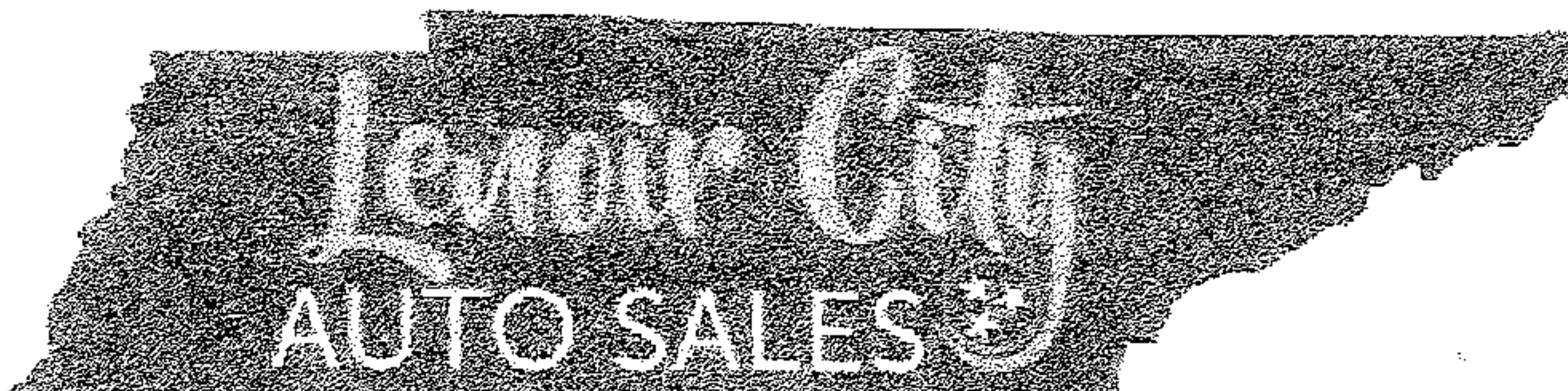
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Church ctd. from pg. 4

waived his right and agreed to speak without counsel present. Hamil advised he did enter the fellowship hall on the date of the incident. When asked, he stated that he did use a knife to gain access to the fellowship hall. He also advised he did take the bag of groceries. Hamil stated he thought the bag was left overs from Thanksgiving.

Deputy was advised by members of the church that they wished to press charges. At that time, Deputy placed Justin Lee Hamil into custody on the charges of Burglary, Vandalism, and Theft of Property. Deputy then transported him to the Loudon County Detention Facility without incident. The vehicle was later picked up from the scene by a licensed driver per Hamil's request.


**DUI**

Delilah Freeman, 37, Old Hwy 95 Lenoir City, was charged with DUI, Simple Possession, Man/Del/ Sale or Possession of Meth, and Poss. Of Drug Para.

Deputy L. Hawkins LCSO, was traveling on Highway 321 at approximately 00:00 hours, when Deputy observed a Gray Ford F-150 cross the fog line into the emergency lane. It then came back into its lane, once again it drove over the fog line. Deputy then initiated a traffic stop on Highway 321 at White Wing Road. Deputy made contact with the driver, Delilah Freeman, who had blood shot eyes and was slurring her words. Mrs. Freeman advised Deputy she had taken Xanax, "earlier" but could not provide a time. She also advised Deputy she did smoke Methamphetamine around 17:00 hours. Based on her statements and Depu-

ty observation of her driving, she was placed into custody for Driving Under the Influence and was read Miranda Rights. Upon search incident to arrest on her persons, 1.60 Grams of a clear/white crystal like substance was recovered in her pocket that she identified as methamphetamine. 2.42 Grams of a green leafy like substance that

she identified as marijuana, along with a glass pipe used to smoke methamphetamine. She consented to give a blood sample and was transported to the Fort Loudon Medical Center and was then transported to the Loudon County Jail. Cpl. Z. Frye conducted a vehicle inventory where he recovered a glass pipe under the driver seat.



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unprecedented health crisis, it is more important than ever to have health information at the local level to help inform decision making. For the first time, we have a wide variety of health data for all smaller cities and rural areas.”

PLACES is the first-of-its-kind effort to release local area health information covering the entire United States, including estimates for smaller cities and rural areas that were previously unavailable. The project is a partnership between the CDC, the CDC Foundation, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

PLACES provides data estimates for 27 health measures for four U.S. geographic levels: counties, incorporated and census-designated places, census tracts, and zip codes. The chronic disease measures focus on health outcomes, unhealthy behaviors, and prevention practices that have a substantial impact on people’s health. These estimates are available through a public, interactive PLACES website that allows users to view, explore, and download data for all populated areas in the United States.

“The 500 Cities project demonstrated the powerful role local data can play in improving health in cities across the U.S.,” said Richard Besser, MD, president and chief executive officer of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. “PLACES data will arm communities of all sizes with data that allows them to explore the interplay between where you live and the social factors that can help create fair and just opportunities for health and wellbeing.”

PLACES data can be used to:

- Inform target prevention activities, programs, and policies;

- Identify emerging health problems and priority health risk behaviors;

- Identify and understand geographic health-related issues;

- Establish key health goals; and

- Identify geographic disparities in health among and within communities to inform strategies that address health equity.

“We are so pleased to be a partner in the PLACES project, which is an important expansion of the work of 500 Cities,” said Judy Monroe, MD, president and CEO of the CDC Foundation. “The inclusion of data from both smaller cities and rural areas will provide critical information on key health risk factors for all communities across the country.”

To learn more about PLACES, visit [www.cdc.gov/places](http://www.cdc.gov/places).

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CDC works 24/7 protecting America’s health, safety and security. Whether diseases start at home or abroad, are curable or preventable, chronic or acute, or from human activity or deliberate attack, CDC responds to America’s most pressing health threats. CDC is headquartered in Atlanta and has experts located throughout the United States and the world.

About the CDC Foundation

The CDC Foundation helps the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) save and improve lives by unleashing the power of collaboration between CDC, philanthropies, corporations, organizations and individuals to protect the health, safety and security of America and the world. The CDC Foundation is the go-to nonprofit authorized by Congress to mobilize philanthropic partners and private-sector resources to support CDC’s critical health protection mission. Since 1995, the CDC Foundation has raised over \$1 billion and launched more than 1,000 programs impacting a variety of health threats from chronic disease conditions including cardiovascular disease and cancer, to infectious diseases like rotavirus and HIV, to emergency responses, including COVID-19 and

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About the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

For more than 45 years the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has worked to improve health and health care. We are working alongside others to build a national Culture of Health that provides everyone in America a fair and just opportunity for health and well-being. For more information, visit [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org) external icon. Follow the Foundation on Twitter at [www.rwjf.org/twitter](http://www.rwjf.org/twitter) external icon or on Facebook at [www.rwjf.org/facebook](http://www.rwjf.org/facebook)

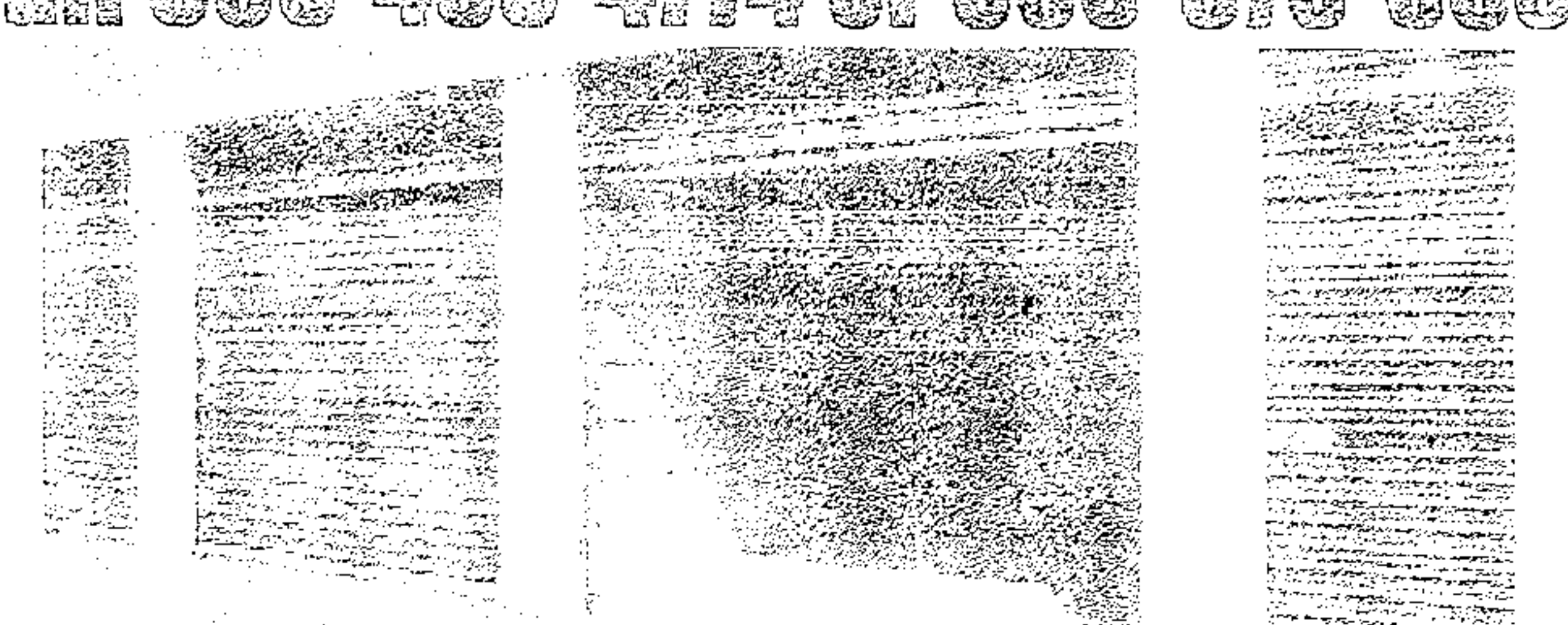
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