

# Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Friday, February 7, 2020

## Woman charged with aggravated assault after attack with bat over mystery guest

## Col. Don Edmands talks of China travels to Village Rotary



Debra Buchanan

see Agg. Assault pg. 2



Col. Don Edmands

see TV Rotary pg. 3

### Comptroller's Office Studies Student Growth Portfolios for Teacher Evaluation

The Tennessee Comptroller's Office has released a new report that evaluates the use of portfolios in Tennessee's teacher evaluation system.

Portfolios contain collections of student work, selected by teachers, from two points in time during the school

year to show students' progress in mastering specified state academic standards. The portfolios are scored by fellow teachers, and the scores are then incorporated into a teacher's overall annual evaluation.

The state requires local school dis- see Evaluation pg. 5

### Child Predator Sentenced to 262 Months for production and possession of child pornography

On February 4, 2020, George Robert Everhart, 31, of Maryville, was sentenced by the Honorable Thomas A. Varlan, in the United States District Court at Knoxville. Everhart will serve 262 months in federal prison for producing and possessing child pornography. Following his imprisonment, Everhart will be supervised by the

United States Probation Office for 10 years and will be required to register with the state sex offender registry in any state in which he lives, works, or attends school.

The investigation began when a tip came in from the

See Sentenced P.3

### US Settles False Claims Act Allegations against Southeastern Retina Associates

Southeastern Retina Associates ("SERA") has paid \$1.5 million to resolve False Claims Act allegations in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

As part of the settlement, SERA entered into a five-year Corpo-

See SERA P.4



#### Verse of the Day

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

— Colossians 2:6-7

#### Wazzup

How about the schools closing for rain? The roads certainly were bad in a lot of areas seems someone was being cautious so kudos for being safe!

#### Weather

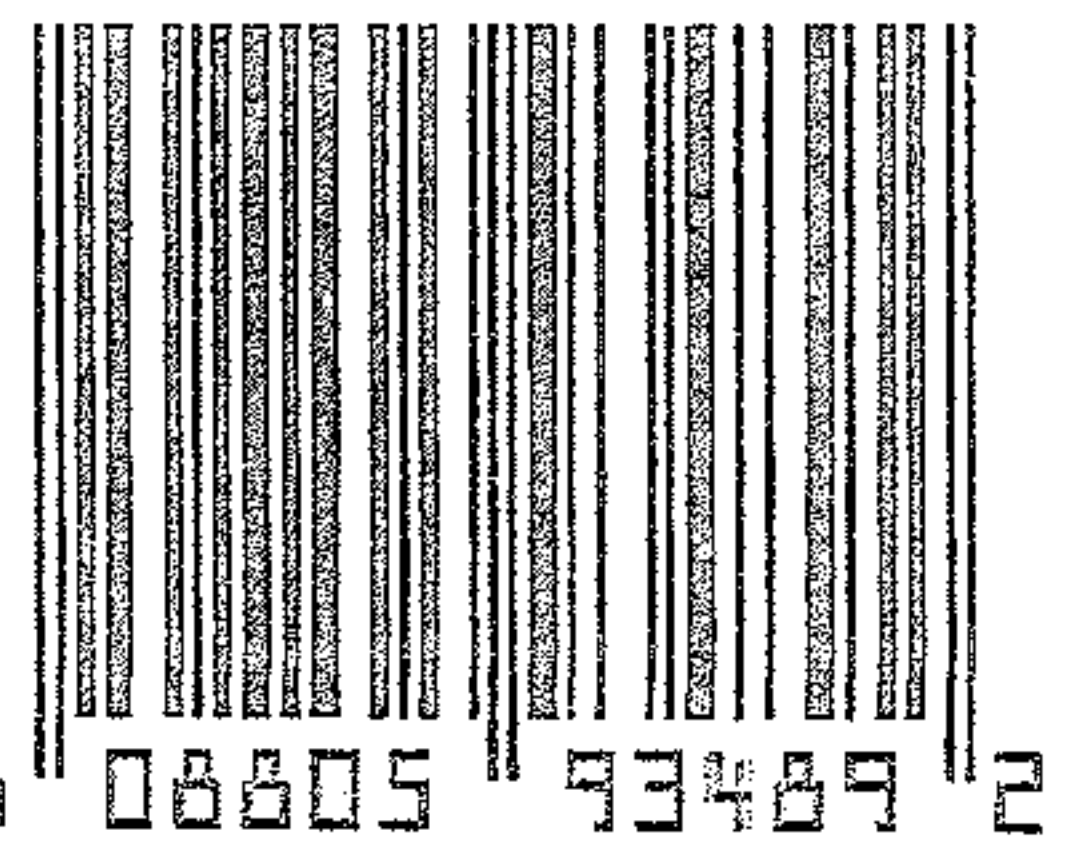
Today: Rain. High of 65F.  
Tonight: Rain. Low of 52F  
Saturday: Rain. High of 59F.  
Saturday night: Rain. Low of 44F.  
Sunday: Rain ending. High of 53F.

Sunday Night: clear. Low of 42F.

#### Horoscopes Aquarius 1/20-2/18

You need a moment to withdraw and isolate at this time, but that doesn't stop worldly matters

(Continued on page 6)





**Agg. Assault**

Debra Buchanan, 64, C Street Lenoir City, was charged with Aggravated Assault. Officer Jonathan Yates LCPD, responded to C Street on an unwanted guest call. Upon arrival Officer found Debra Buchanan and the victim had been in a physical altercation. The two are roommates. According to both parties and a witness. Debra became angry at the victim

thinking he let someone in the house. Victim door was locked and Debra kicked the door in. Debra then aggressively and violently punched the victim in the face and shoved him. Debra then produced a baseball bat and used this weapon to further her assault. Victim did have visible signs of assault on his face. Debra Buchanan was placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail.

# The Daily Edition

**serving Loudon and surrounding counties since 1986**

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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.

## Nature's Crossing Health and Beauty

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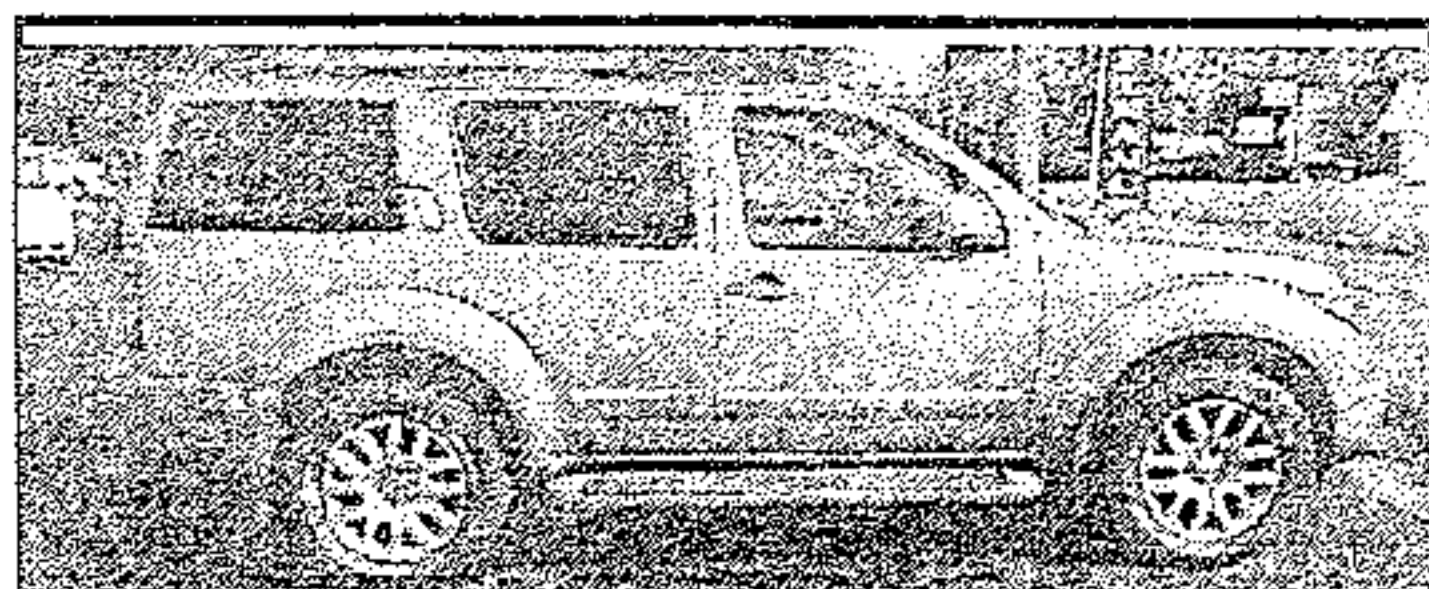
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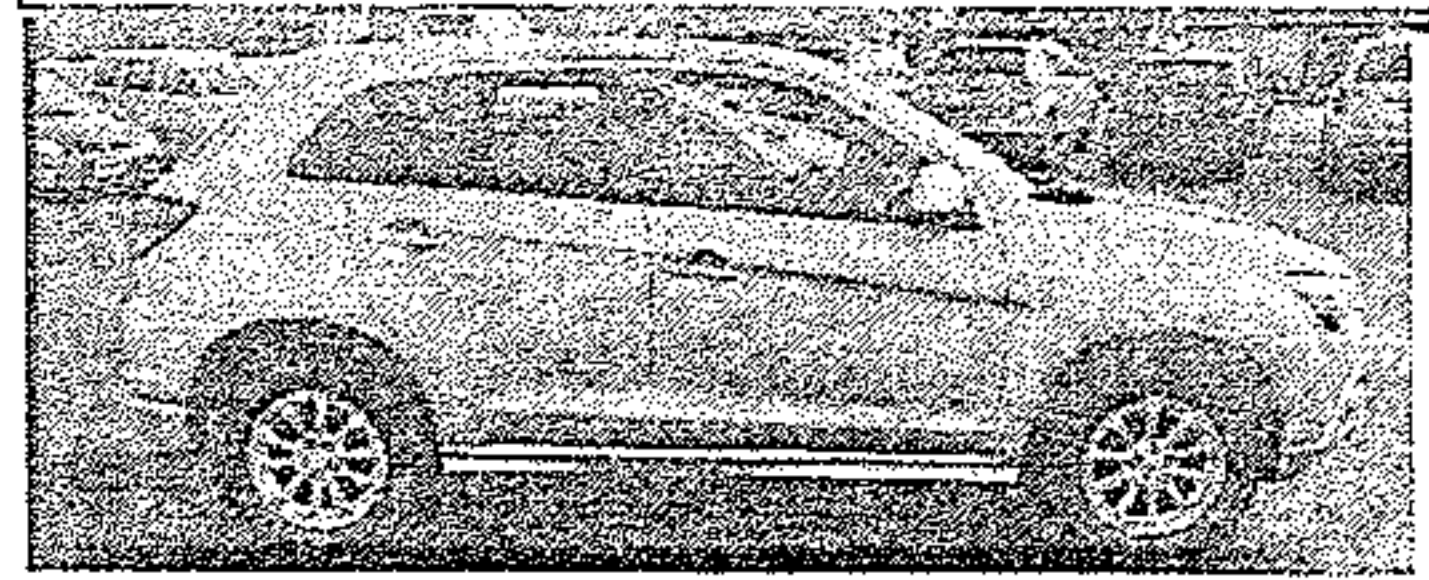
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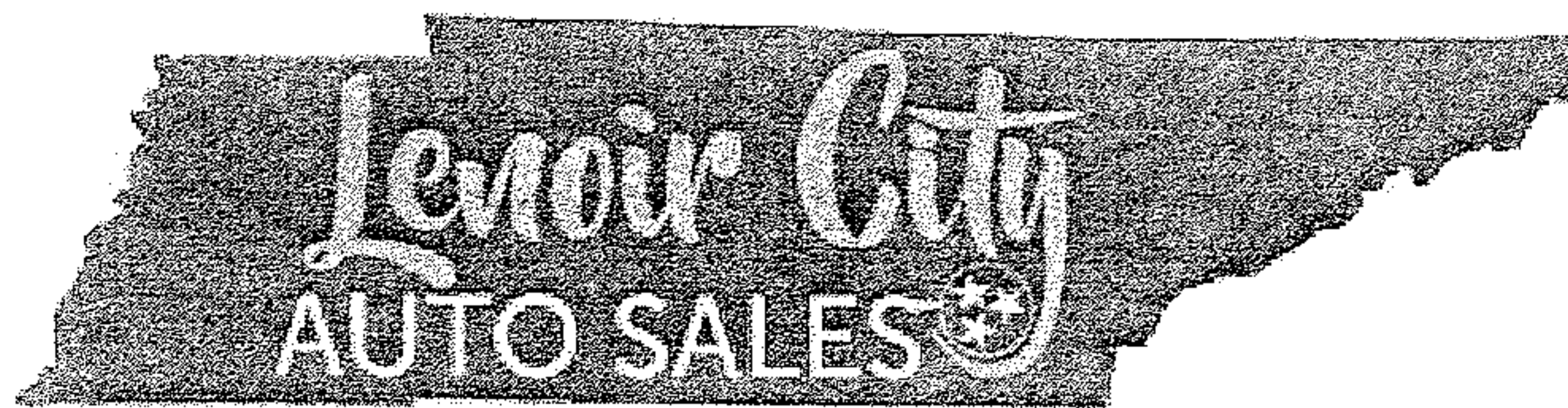


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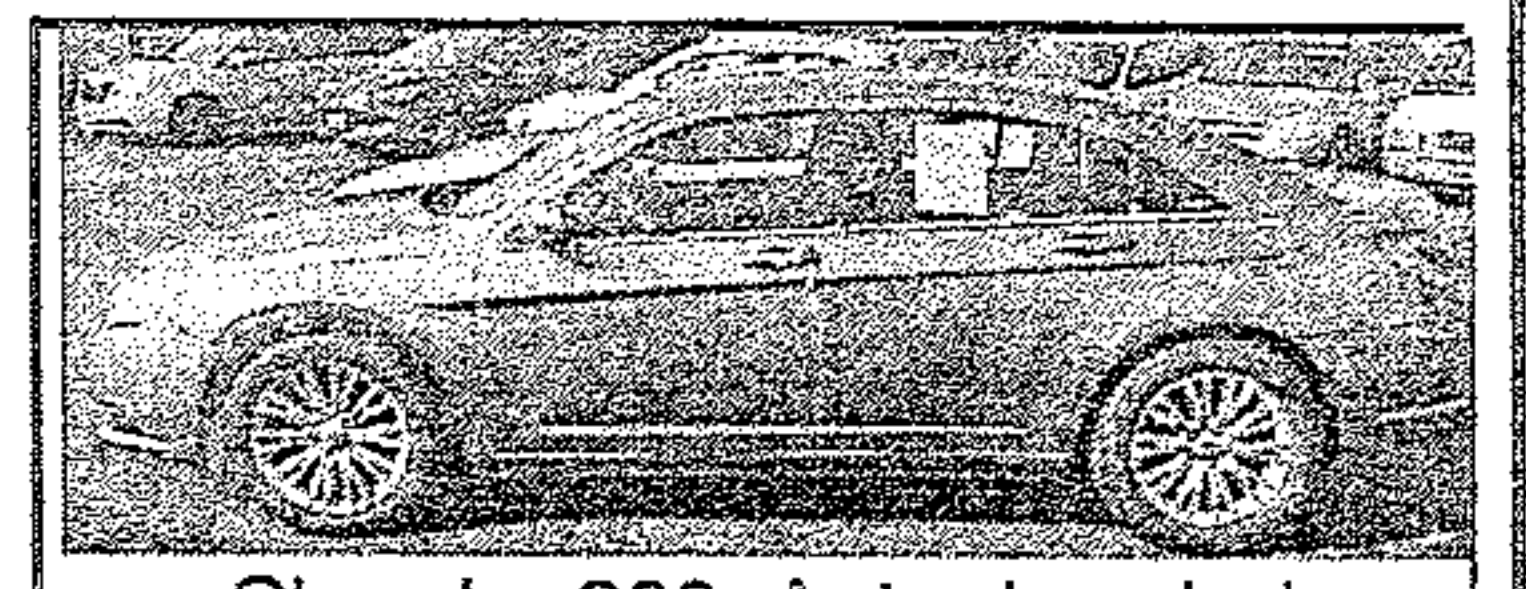
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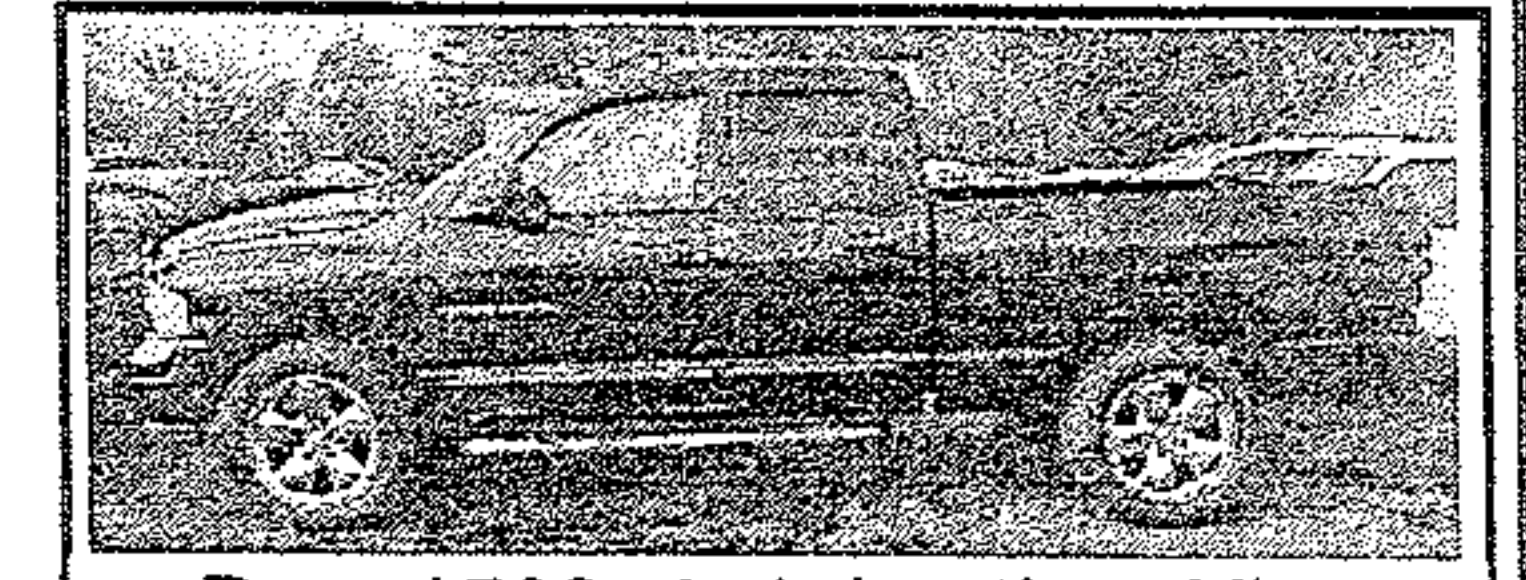


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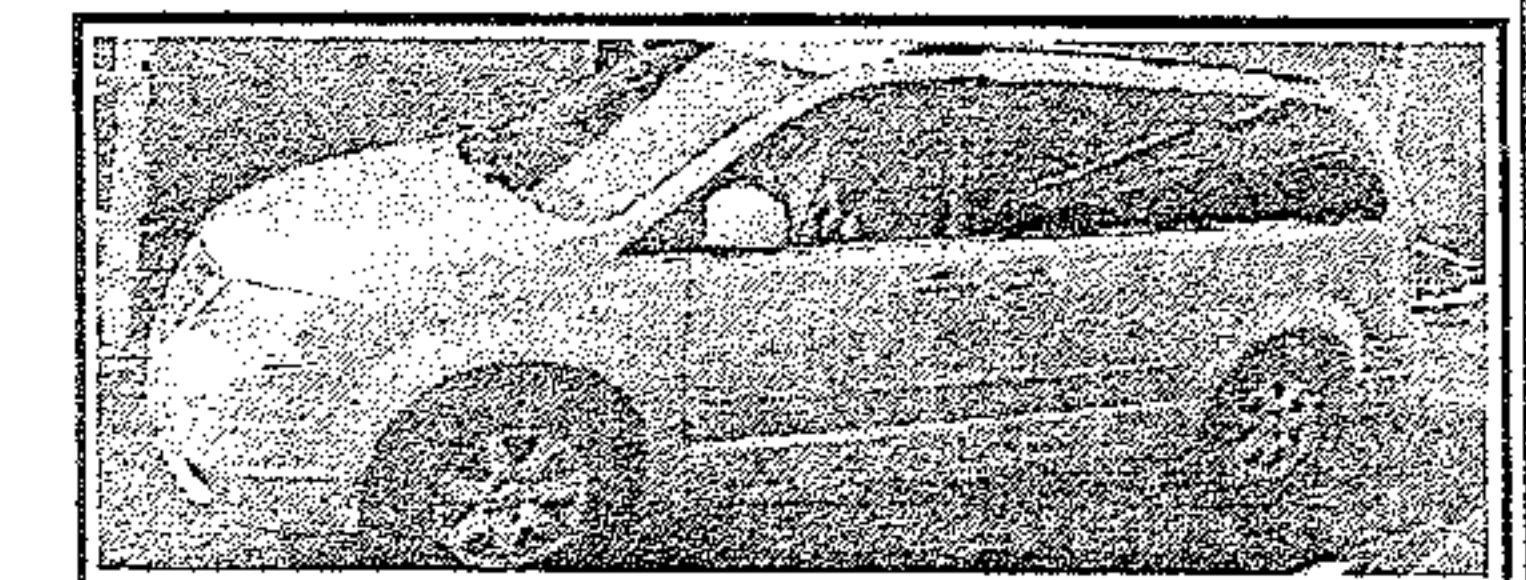
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\* Plus Tax, Tag, Title and Fees. See Dealer for Details

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## TV Rotary

Have you ever considered a trip to China? This past week Col. Don Edmands gave an outstanding program to the Tellico Village Rotary Club Thursday.

Don traveled from Hong Kong to Beijing taking fascinating pictures along the way. His adventure was part of a Viking Cruise, which included many shore excursions. During his experiences on land he traveled by bus, walking, and high speed rail.

Our speaker noted that the buildings in China are architectural marvels. Their design is far advanced from those in the United States and at night they are lighted with moving lights which add to the mystic of the cityscapes. He did note that the spaces available for living are very limited with residents sharing apartments in order to afford them. Housing is limited and expensive.

Don also visited the Great Wall. His pictures noted that the Wall is steep with high steps, but is a destination for all of China's citizens.

## Sentenced

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Law enforcement quickly identified Everhart and insured that the victims were no longer in peril. Through the execution of federal search warrants, law enforcement discovered child pornography on Everhart's phone, computer, and in his online file storage account.

"I want to commend the dedicated investigators and forensic examiners of the Knoxville Police Department who immediately took action to protect children from the defendant," said J. Douglas Overbey, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee. U.S. Attorney Overbey emphasized, "We will continue to work closely with law enforcement to pursue child sexual predators and vigorously prosecute them and protect our children from them."

The case was investigated by the Knoxville Police Department's Internet Crimes Against Children Unit, with assistance from the Maryville Police Department.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew T. Morris represented the United States.

This case was brought forward as part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC), a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, PSC marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about PSC, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov)

## IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR LOUDON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Regarding the Estate of:  
RONNIE LEE PARRIS, deceased  
DKT# 6026

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 27th DAY OF JANUARY 2020 Letters of Testamentary in respect of the estate of RONNIE LEE PARRIS who died on the 14th day of December 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 27th DAY OF JANUARY 2020

Steve Harrelson, Clerk  
BY: Robyn Shannon, Deputy Clerk

By Personal Representative(s)  
RONDA F. TATHAM

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: 01-31-20 & 02-7-20

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**Public Notice**  
The Loudon County Electronic Roll Call Committee will meet on February 27th at 5 PM for a vendor presentation.



### SERA

rate Integrity Agreement (CIA) with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General (HHS-OIG), requiring the implementation of a risk assessment and internal review process designed to identify and address evolving compliance risks. The CIA requires training, auditing and monitoring designed to address the conduct at issue in the case. Southeastern Retina Associates has over 250 employees in offices throughout eastern and middle Tennessee, northern Georgia, and southwestern Virginia.

The settlement resolves allegations that, from 2009 through 2016, the practice improperly used the Modifier 25 billing code to charge Medicare and Medicaid for exams that were not separately billable from other procedures performed on the same day. The settlement also resolves allegations that certain Medicare and Medicaid billings during the same period included charges for exams at higher levels than appropriate.

"It is important that medical providers present appropriate and reasonable charges for services that are paid for by the taxpayers. This office remains committed to ensuring that publicly funded healthcare systems are not charged more than what the billing rules prescribe," said U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey.

"Healthcare fraud and abuse impacts every American. The critical resources that are removed from our health care system due to exploitation results in higher health care cost for everyone. The FBI will continue to work closely with federal, state, and local partners to investigate those who abuse federally funded healthcare programs," said Joseph E. Carrico, Special Agent in Charge of the Knoxville Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 4, 2020 [www.justice.gov/usao/tne](http://www.justice.gov/usao/tne)

CONTACT: Rachele Barnes Public Information Officer (865) 545-4167

"We will continue to pursue doctors that use deceptive billing practices to make more

money. These types of schemes cost federal health care programs millions of dollars and cheat taxpayers in the process," said Derrick L. Jackson, Special Agent in Charge at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General in Atlanta.

"The Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General is committed to working with our law enforcement partners to identify and investigate those who defraud or abuse VA's healthcare system. This settlement shows that VA-OIG will continue to aggressively investigate anyone who overbills VA programs intended to care for our nation's veterans," said Kim R. Lampkin's, Special Agent in Charge of VA-OIG's Mid-Atlantic Field Office.

"False claims that overbill the federal healthcare programs undermine the integrity of the Federal Employees Health Benefits program and increase the cost of medical care for us all. OPM- OIG thanks the U. S. Attorney's Office and our law enforcement partners. Today's settlement demonstrates joint commitment to investigating and prosecuting fraudulent billing practices that waste taxpayer dollars," said Thomas W. South, Deputy Assistant Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General (OPM-OIG).

This investigation was the result of a coordinated effort by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Tennessee, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Knoxville Division of the FBI, and the Tennessee Attorney General's Office. The investigation was prompted by a lawsuit filed in 2015 under the qui tam or "whistleblower" provisions of the False Claims Act, which permit private individuals to sue on behalf of the government for false claims and to share in any recovery. The relator's share of the recovery in this case will be \$270,000.

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**Public Notice**  
Loudon County Website Committee will meet February 19th at 5:00 PM at the County Office Building for a vendor presentation.

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

Regarding the Estate of:  
DENNIS W. PALMER, deceased  
DKT# 6033

**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 5th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2020 Letters of Testamentary in respect of the estate of DENNIS W. PALMER who died on the 30th day of January 2020 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 5th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2020

Steve Harrelson, Clerk  
BY: Robyn Shannon, Deputy Clerk

By Personal Representative(s)  
PEGEEN ANN PALMER CORBIN

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: 2-7-20 & 2-14-20



## Evaluation

tricts to factor in portfolio scores as part of annual evaluations for some teachers: primarily pre-k and kindergarten teachers in districts that receive state funding for Voluntary Pre-kindergarten classrooms.

Portfolio scores serve as an alternative to the student growth portion of teacher evaluations for teachers whose students do not take a state-wide standardized test (TN Ready) and, thus, the teachers do not receive individual Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS) scores. Teachers without an individual TVAAS score, and whose district has not selected a portfolio model in their grade or subject, receive a school-level TVAAS score.

In 2018-19, 9% of Tennessee teachers (6,059) received portfolio scores as part of their annual evaluations. About four out of five teachers receiving portfolio scores were pre-k and kindergarten teachers.

The report's key conclusions include:

Teachers with portfolios were considerably more likely to receive the top score for the student growth component of their evaluations than teachers with individual or school level TVAAS scores. 74% of portfolio teachers received the top growth score of 5, compared to 19% of teachers with individual TVAAS scores and 34% of teachers with school level TVAAS scores.

Several factors in the design of portfolio models weaken their validity and reliability as a quantitative measure of student growth. Tennessee appears to be the only state using portfolios as a student growth measure for teacher evaluation purposes.

The report includes several policy considerations for both the General Assembly and the Tennessee Department of Education, including methods to increase the validity and reliability of portfolio models and

options to shift the primary use of portfolios from a measure of student growth to a professional development tool to improve teachers' instructional practice.

To read the report, please visit the Comptroller's OREA website at: [tncot.cc/orea](http://tncot.cc/orea)

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**Early Voting: Feb. 12-25**

**Election Day: March 3**

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