

## Burglary suspect nearly runs over child while fleeing scene

A Lenoir City woman is alleged to have nearly run over a child while fleeing an apartment complex after a tenant walked in on her as she was burglarizing the tenant's apartment Saturday.

Cassandra Danielle Lane, 26, Foster Road, Lenoir City was charged with driving on suspended license, aggravated burglary, possession of legend drugs, and reckless child endangerment.

According to records, while responding to an unwanted guest call on Hines Valley Road Saturday, Corporal Pete McGinley, LCSO was notified by dispatch the



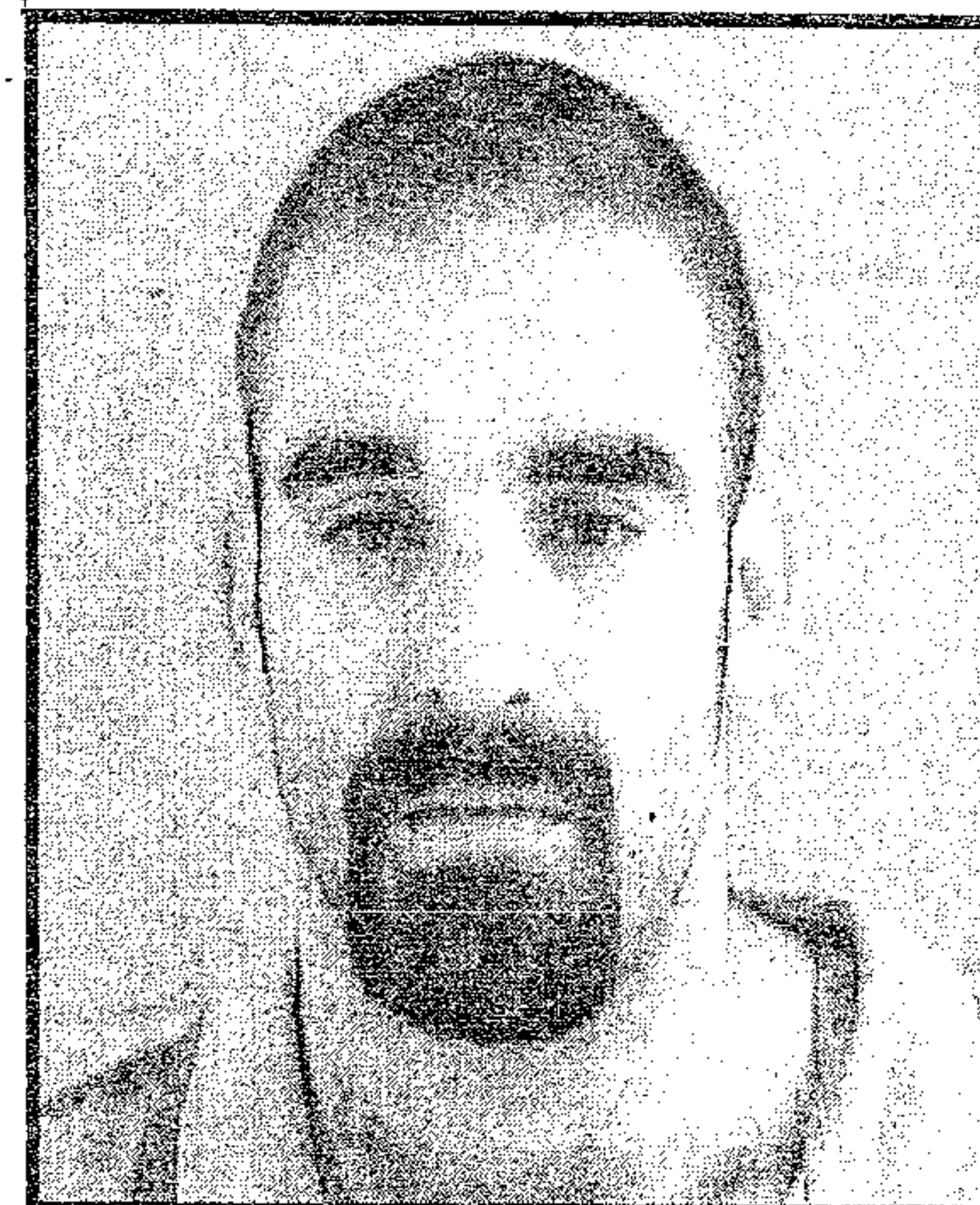
**Lane**  
unwanted guest had left Hines Court in a white Cavalier going toward Highway 321. The corpo- (see Watch out for her! pg. 7)

## Man head-butts himself into more trouble when warrant served

A local man is accused of causing several hundred dollars worth damages when he head-butted multiple surfaces after being told couldn't smoke a cigarette while being taken into custody on a failure to appear warrant Monday.

Eric Matthew Leach, 25, Rock Springs Annex, Lenoir City was charged with failure to appear and vandalism over \$500.

According to reports, Monday, around 11:36 AM, Deputy Bobby Hamilton, LCSO went to Leach's residence on Rock Spring Annex to serve a warrant on him. On arrival, Eric's grandmother advised he was in the basement.



**Leach**  
When the deputy went to the basement he found Mr. Leach in bed. Deputy Hamilton told him he (see I wanna smoke! pg. 6)

## DUI accidents result in injuries, arrests

A Lenoir City woman reportedly told authorities she had been taking prescription medication when she involved in a multi-vehicle accident which injured her and another woman.

(see DUI pg. 3)

A Loudon man reportedly told police hoped he hadn't killed anyone when he was involved in an accident earlier this month while allegedly under the influence of alcohol.

(see Injured pg. 6)

## Underage, under the influence, off to jail

A young Loudon man was charged with contributing to the delinquency of minors and consuming alcohol himself af-

(see In Trouble pg. 7)

### Driver Service Centers Closed for Holidays

NASHVILLE --- The Department of Safety and Homeland Security reminds citizens that state driver service centers will be closed for the New Year's Day holiday and urges (see Closed pg. 6)

## 21st Sandhill Crane Festival Coming Up on January 14-15

NASHVILLE --- The TWRA is among those organizations set to host the 2012 Tennessee Sandhill Crane Festival to be held on Jan. 14-15 at the Hiwassee Refuge. This

is the 21st anniversary of the event.

The Tennessee Sandhill Crane Festival is a celebration of the thousands of sandhill cranes that migrate through

or spend the winter on and around the Hiwassee Refuge in Birchwood as well as an opportunity to focus attention on the rich wildlife heritage of the state and the Native American

(see Festival pg. 3)

### Verse of the Day

*"Far be it from God, that he should do wickedness; and from the Almighty, that he should commit iniquity. For the work of a man shall he render unto him, and cause every man to find according to his ways. Job 34:10-11*

### Obituaries

Charles Roy "Tweetsie" Akins  
Sue Harrison Matlock  
Dollie Marie Mealer Bunch  
Bobbie Jean Rice  
Nellie Ann Purkey  
Della (Wallace) Lorenz

### Wazzup

A new twist on an old shortcut

would be if Betty Crocker were to come out with "Holiday Helper." We could add two cups of diced leftover ham, tukey, etc, and Voilà! - a whole new meal that's quick, easy and uses leftovers...

### Weather

Today: Some clouds in the morning will give way to mainly sunny

skies for the afternoon. High around 45. Winds NW at 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low 27. Winds light and variable.

Thursday: Sunshine. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the mid 30s.

(Continued on page 2)

**DUI**

Melissa Ann Whitson, 25, Highland Avenue, Lenoir City was charged with DUI and financial responsibility.

According to records, Officer Brandon Burley, LCPD responded to a 5 car motor vehicle accident on Interstate 75 southbound at the 80 mile marker. On arrival, the officer spoke with Ms. Whitson, who was injured in the accident along with another woman who sustained a back injury.

Ms. Whitson advised she had been taking xanax and suboxone. She was unable to perform field sobriety tasks due to the accident and was transported to Fort

Loudoun ER by Rural Metro. While there, Officer Burley placed Ms. Whitson under arrest for DUI 1st offense. She waived her implied consent and provided a blood sample.

**Festival**

history of the area.

Other sponsors for the free family event are the Tennessee Ornithological Society, and the Mapp Foundation in partnership with the Birchwood Community, the Birchwood School, the Cherokee Removal Memorial, Meigs and Rhea County Tourism.

"There is nothing like the experience of seeing and hearing several thousand sandhill cranes take to the air at the same

time," said Dan Hicks, TWRA Region III Information & Education Coordinator. "I hope, with this festival, more Tennesseans can come to the Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge and enjoy a watchable wildlife viewing area that features a variety of wildlife species."

Beginning in the early 1990s, the recovering population of eastern sandhill cranes began stopping at the Hiwassee Refuge on their way to and from their wintering grounds in Georgia and Florida. TWRA has been managing this refuge for over 60 years for waterfowl, and the cranes found a perfect combination of feeding and shallow water roosting

habitat. Now as many as 12,000 of these birds spend the entire winter at the confluence of the Hiwassee and Tennessee Rivers.

Recently, the sighting of a very rare Asian hooded crane at the Hiwassee Refuge has created excitement in the bird watching community. Wildlife watchers are mystified by the appearance of this bird, normally only seen in Southeast Asia, China and Japan.

In addition to the hooded crane and the sandhill cranes, recent sightings have included those of four rare whooping cranes, two adult bald eagles, several species of ducks, and the occasional northern harrier.

Along with the oppor-

tunity to view the birds during the festival, special programs will also be held throughout each day at the Birchwood School and Cherokee Removal Memorial. The festival website is [www.TNcranefestival.org](http://www.TNcranefestival.org) and updates will be added as the program develops. Programs will be on tap each day at the Birchwood School this year after being only held on Saturday previously.

The Hiwassee Refuge comprises about 6,000 acres. The Birchwood School is only three miles from the wildlife-viewing site at the Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge. The Cherokee Removal Memorial is found just to the side of the refuge near the Tennessee River.

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**I wanna smoke!**

had a warrant and he was under arrest.

Leach wanted to smoke a cigarette before going to jail, but the deputy told him no, he just needed to get dressed. Instead, Leach walked off saying he was going to smoke a cigarette.

Deputy Hamilton then put handcuffs on Mr. Leach and Leach became angry. As they were walking out of the residence Mr. Leach head-butted the wall and broke a hole in the sheet-rock. On the way to the patrol unit Leach head-butted a front porch post and when he was being placed in the patrol unit he head-butted the top rear driver's side of the vehicle and put a dent in the top.

Leach was transported to the Loudon County Jail and duly charged.

**Injured**

Terry Lynn Robinson, 54, Highway 72, Loudon was charged with DUI 2nd offense.

According to the affidavit; on December 13, 2011, at approximately 7:15 PM, Officer Bennie Houser, LPD was dispatched to a two vehicle accident with injury in the area of Food City and upon arrival made contact with the driver of a red Chevy van, Mr. Terry L. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson had facial injuries, but stated he was fine, except he couldn't find his puppy that was in the vehicle. Robinson had a strong odor of an intoxicant about his person, but said he hadn't been drinking. He advised a vehicle had turned in front of him and he wasn't able to stop. After medical per-

sonnel from Rural Metro removed Mr. Robinson from the vehicle, he told Officer Houser he'd drank 8 or 9 ounces at the club. He was transported to the Fort Loudoun ER by Rural Metro.

Upon arrival at the hospital, Officer Houser read Mr. Robinson the implied consent advisement and he agreed. He stated he was afraid his alcohol level would be high. He further stated he hoped he hadn't killed anyone in the accident.

LPD's Sgt. Bill Evans and Officer Brad Parks were also on the scene. Officer Houser made the arrest Sunday at UT Hospital.

**Closed**

citizens to plan accord-

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ingly.

In observance of New Year's Day, the State of Tennessee is closing state offices on Friday, December 30 and Monday, January 2.

Driver service centers will be open normal hours from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on December 27-29.

**Davis Auto Detailing  
Greenback area  
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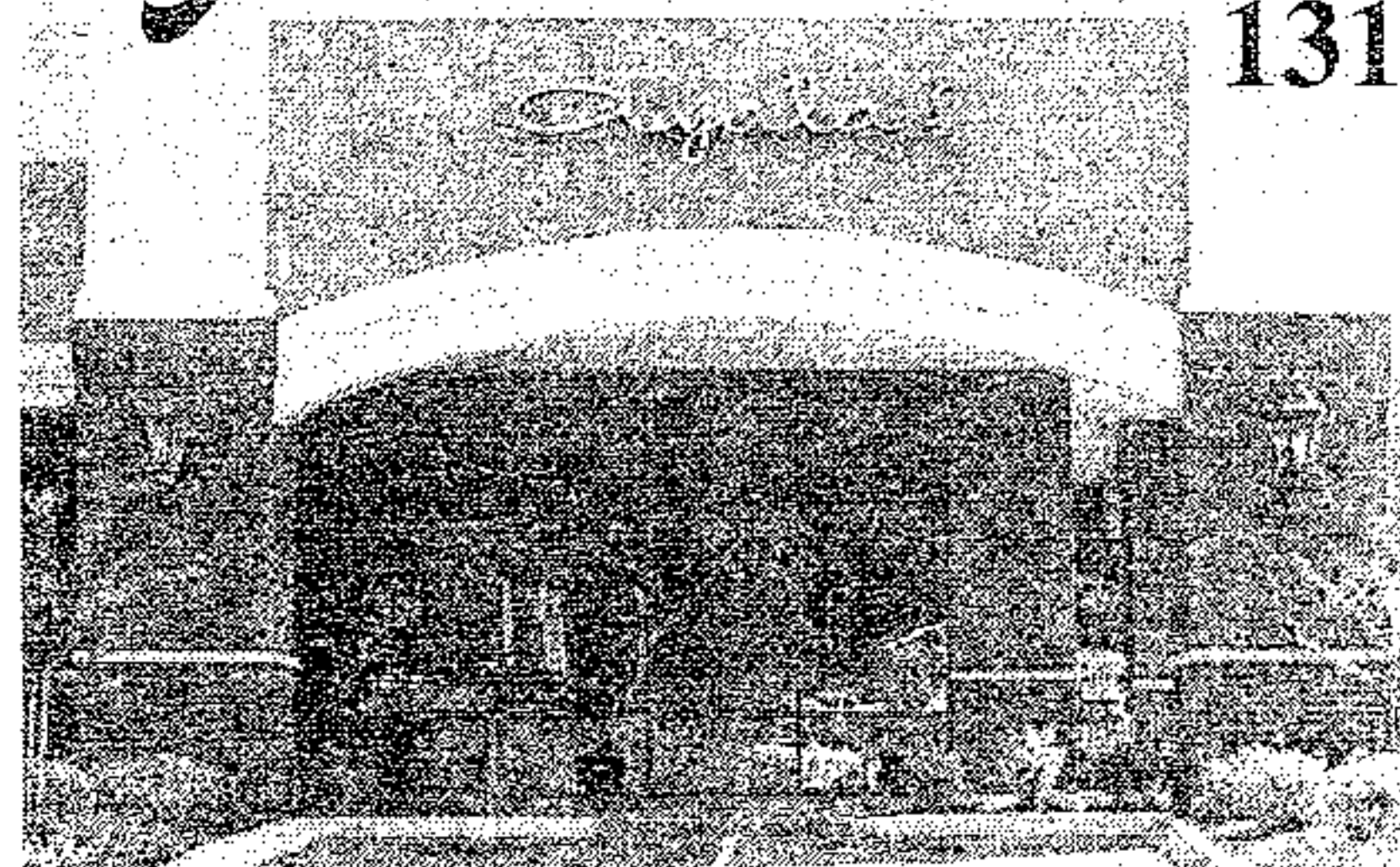
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**Watch out for her!**  
 ral spotted the vehicle at Highway 70 and Highway 321, conducted a traffic stop, and identi-

fied the driver as Cassandra Lane.  
 Mrs. Lane stated her license was suspended and a check through NCIC revealed it was in

fact suspended.  
 Mrs. Lane had on a light blue hoodie with a large front pocket and there were several blue jewelry boxes, a small glass case containing some small keys and some miscellaneous jewelry inside the pocket.

In the meantime, Deputy Chris Bowen, LCSO arrived at the complainant's residence on Hines Court. The victim stated she found Mrs. Lane in her apartment and Mrs. Lane ran from the apartment, got into her car and left the area.

A witness stated she saw Mrs. Lane leaving the apartment complex

in a reckless manner. At the same time Mrs. Lane was fleeing the apartment complex, the witness's small child was getting out of the witnesses vehicle and was almost hit by the white Chevy Cavalier.

The victim told Deputy Bowen she was missing items from her residence and the items described by the victim were found in Mrs. Lane's possession and in her vehicle.

Some of the items included 22 bottles of prescription medication and miscellaneous jewelry with a total value estimated at \$2000.

The victim identified the items as belonging to her. Mrs. Lane was placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail.

**In Trouble**

ter police responded to an underage party at his residence earlier this month.

Jonathan Andrew Frye, 20, Summer Street, Loudon was charged with underage consumption and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

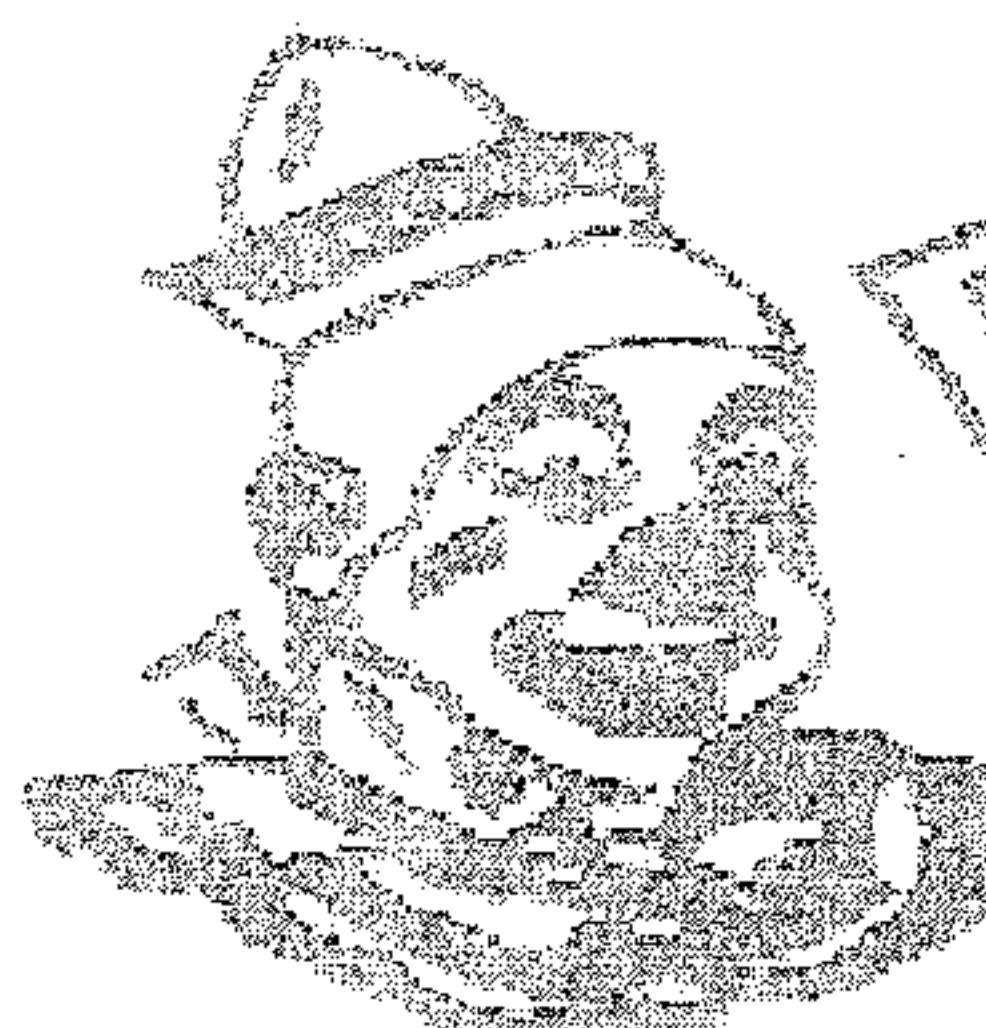
According to reports, Friday, around 12:54

AM, Officer Bryan E. Blakney, LPD was dispatched to a residence on Summer Street to find an underage party. Jonathan Frye admitted to drinking alcoholic beverages and is the owner of the residence where the party was taking place.

There were 11 individuals under the legal drinking age that had been consuming alcoholic beverages. One of the minors had to be treated by EMS and was transported to the emergency room for possible alcohol poisoning.

Jonathan Frye reportedly allowed juveniles and underage persons to come to his residence where alcoholic beverages were provided and consumed, knowing the individuals were under the legal drinking age.

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