

The Daily Edition 50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mother & companions shoot up pills on road trip with teen in vehicle

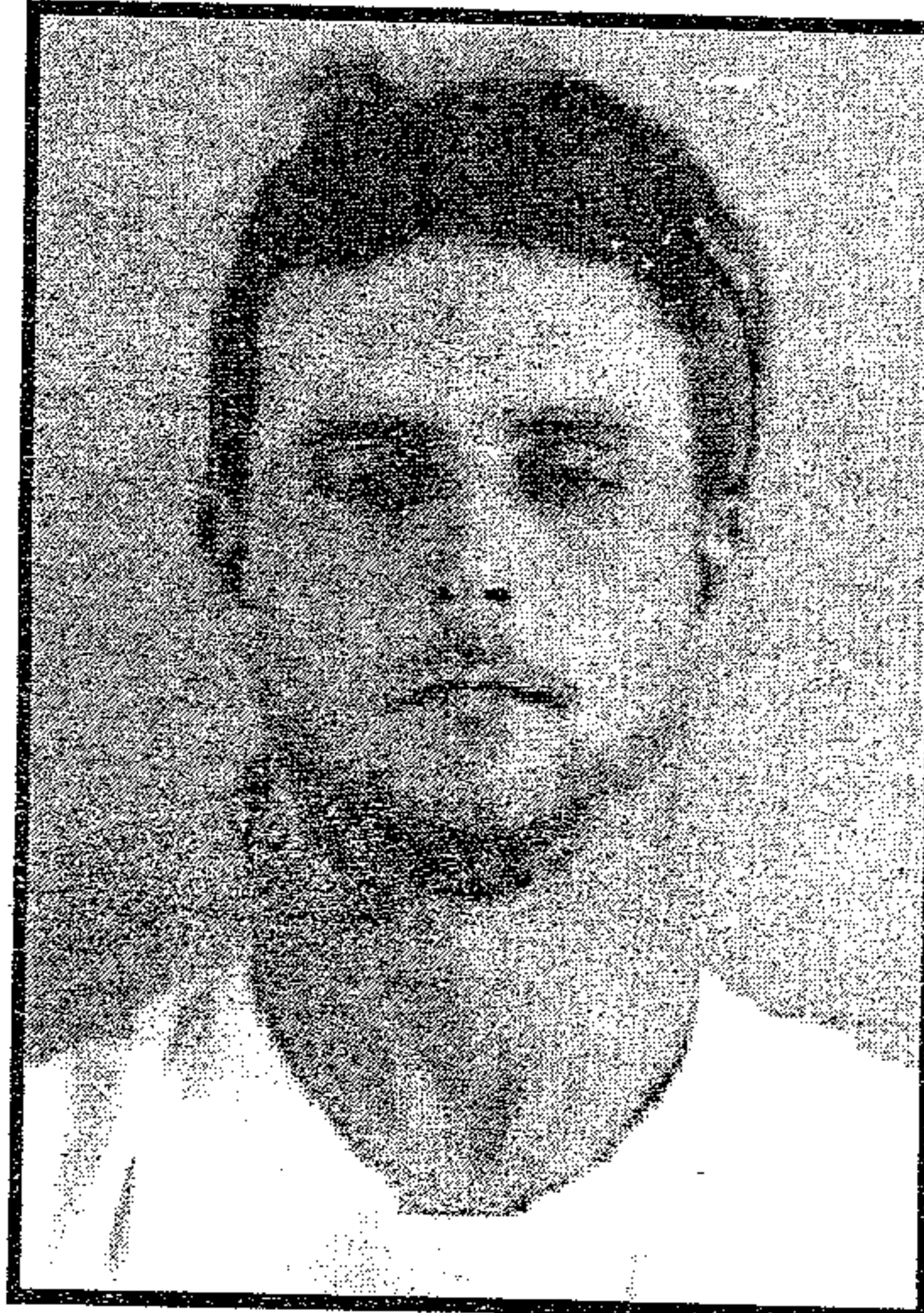
Mom & friends ask her son to hide stash of pills in bathroom

A Kingston woman and two of her companions are facing numerous charges including child abuse and drug possession after Officer April Farmer and fellow lawmen learned they had been injecting prescription pills while on a road trip and in the presence of her 15 year old son. As the investigation unfolded, officials discovered the woman and her friends had also asked the teen to hide a large amount of pills in a bathroom at a lo-

(see Busted pg. 6)



Veronica Ann White



Albuquerque Cosper Head



Christopher David Hixson

Boys' and Girls' County Day April 13

American Legion Post 256 Tellico Lake, Post 70 Lenoir City, and Post 120 Loudon are again sponsoring Boys' and Girls' Day in Loudon County. This event on April 13th marks the 62nd year of this tradition.

During this one-day event, selected High School students from Greenback, Lenoir City and Loudon will team up with leading Loudon County Government Officials to learn the intricate details of administering

(see County Day pg. 8)

U.S. Marshals get their man



Matthew Paul Bingham

(see Fugitive pg. 7)

TDEC Detects Low Levels of Radiation in Tennessee; Levels Do Not Indicate a Health Threat

(see Radiation pg. 5)

NASHVILLE - The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation reports that results from air monitoring for radioactive isotopes confirm that no threat to public health exists related to the incident at the Fuku-

State Advises Residents: Do Not Take Potassium Iodide

(see Potassium Iodide pg. 4)

Minor Increase in Radiation Levels Poses No Public Health Threat

NASHVILLE - The Tennessee Department of Health advises residents that there is no need to purchase or take potassium iodide (KI) because of the on-going nuclear crisis in Japan and the recently reported minor increase in

Verse of the Day

"My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the Lord loveth he

correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth."

Proverbs 3:11-12

Obituaries

Josephine Lindsey Scott

Wazzup

It was good seeing you the other day, Steve, Wendi and Kaleb Selvidge!

Happy 50th Birthday, Zina!!! May it be a great one!

Hope you get to feeling better soon, Daisy Weatherly - we love ya!!!

Weather

Today: Variable clouds with showers and thundershowers, mainly in

the morning. Near record high temperatures. High 81. Winds SW at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 60%.

Tonight: Scattered

(see More pg. 2)

Fugitive

U.S. Marshals went to the Loudon County Justice Center Tuesday to pick up a

Greenback man who was wanted in Florida on cocaine and failure to appear charges.

Matthew Paul Bing-

ham, 32, Axley Chapel Road, Greenback was charged with being a fugitive from justice.

According to an affidavit; on April 5th, 2011, Corporal Michael Wilson, LCSO made contact with Mr. Matthew Paul Bingham after he was transported to the Loudon County Jail by Deputy Bobby Hamilton, LCSO. Deputy Hamilton advised Mr. Bingham was wanted out of Florida and the U.S. Marshals would come by to drop off

the paperwork.

Once U.S. Marshals arrived they handed Corporal Wilson the hit conformation from NCIC. It stated Mr. Bingham was wanted out of Putnam County, Florida and they would extradite throughout the United States.

Mr. Bingham's warrants were for failure to appear and possession of cocaine.

F.Y.I.

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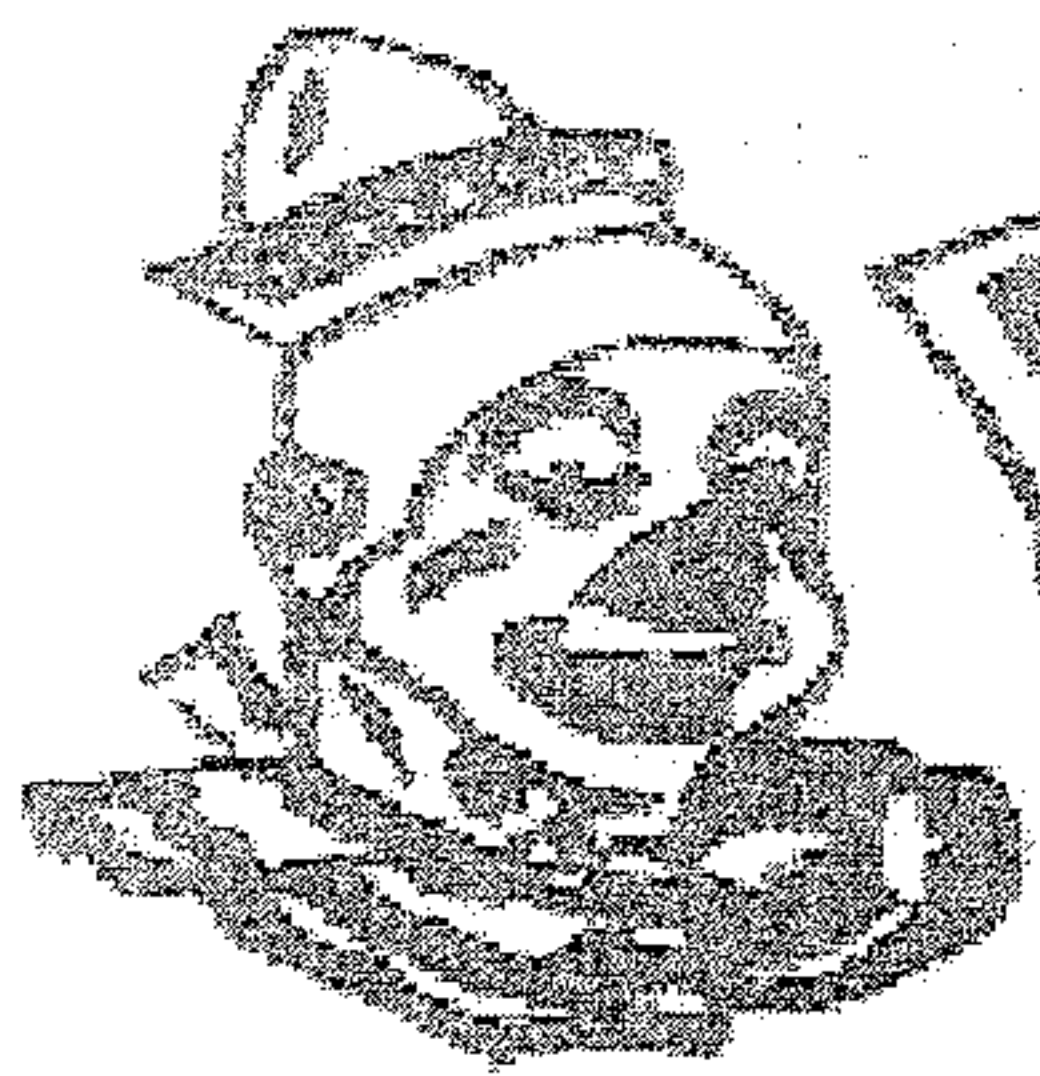
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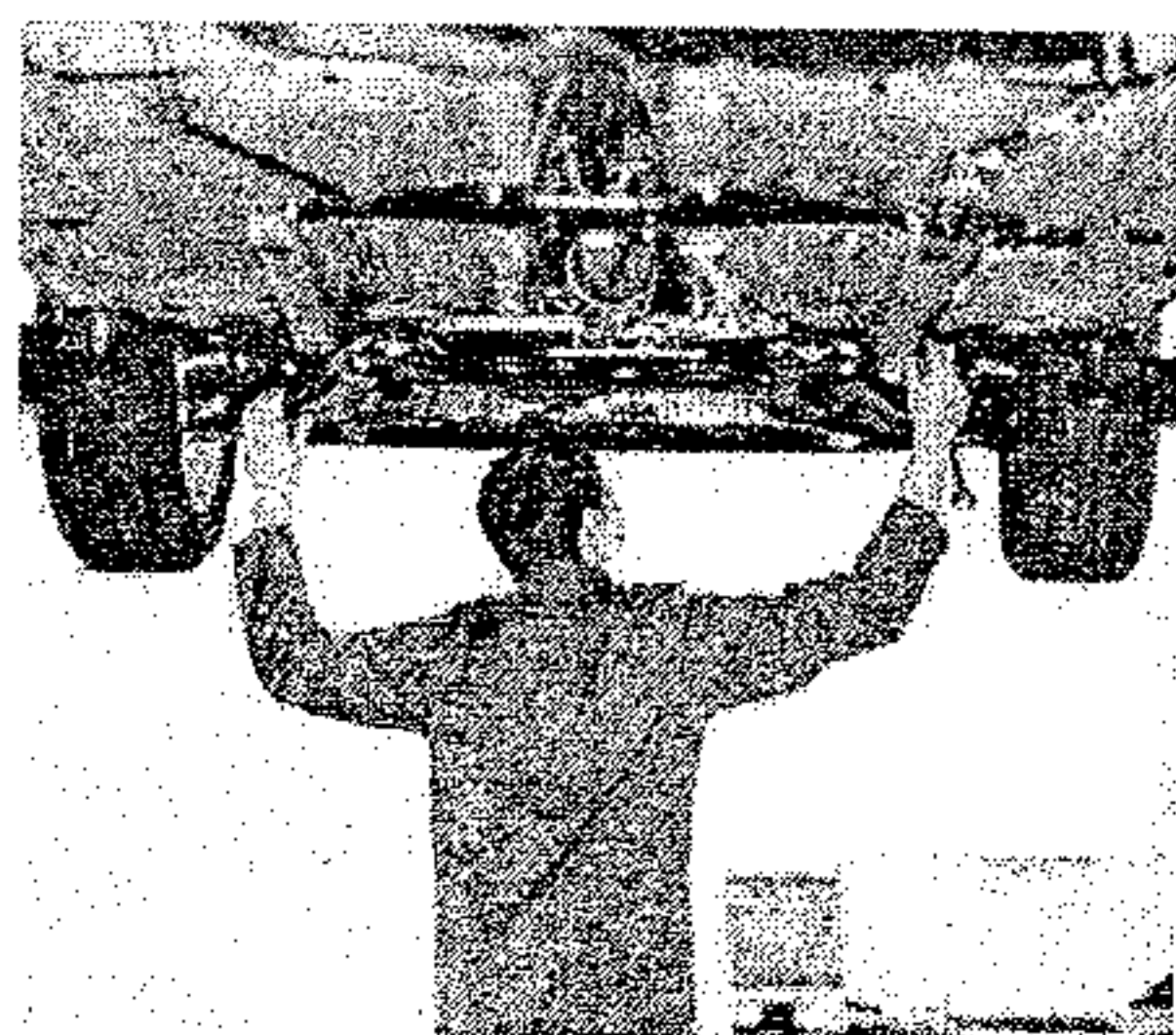
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Potassium Iodide

radiation levels in Tennessee. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission also has issued guidance stating that taking KI is not recommended. KI is given to people who are exposed to certain types of radioactivity.

"There is no reason for Tennesseans to purchase or take potassium iodide," said Health Commissioner Susan R. Cooper, MSN, RN. "The state has a supply of KI, but only to be used if there is an emergency or a risk of harm to Tennesseans. There is neither a cause of concern nor a risk to public or individual health. The state epi-

demologist will recommend use of potassium iodide for residents if ever the need occurs."

KI is a chemical compound that can be used for short term protection of the thyroid gland from exposure to radioactive iodine, only one of many radioactive materials that may be released from a nuclear power plant. KI is only effective at protecting a person's thyroid gland from airborne or ingested radioiodine if taken within a relatively narrow timeframe prior to or after exposure. It does not protect any other organs in the body.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conser-

vation reported Wednesday that routine and ongoing state air monitoring indicates the presence of very low levels of Iodine-131, an isotope linked to the Japanese power plant. Tennessee's results are consistent with sampling results reported by federal agencies, licensees and neighboring states.

Because of the low threat of radioactivity exposure in the United States, the federal government is not advising people to take any protective measures at this time. Staying informed is the best step for people to take.

Radiation is present in our environment, usually at very low levels known as background radiation. In addition, people who undergo certain medical tests or procedures such as an X-ray are exposed to low-level radiation that is generally not

considered harmful.

TDOH has no reason to believe radiation from Japan will affect Tennessee. The levels of radiation being released from the damaged nuclear power plants in Japan are constantly being assessed. The department will continue to receive information from federal and state agencies to determine appropriate steps to take as the situation in Japan evolves, and will issue additional guidance as needed.

For more information about the Japan nuclear emergency, see www.bt.cdc.gov/radiation/japan/ki.asp. To learn more about radiation, go to <http://emergency.cdc.gov/radiation/>. Details and information about the Nuclear Regulatory Commission are available online at <http://www.nrc.gov/>

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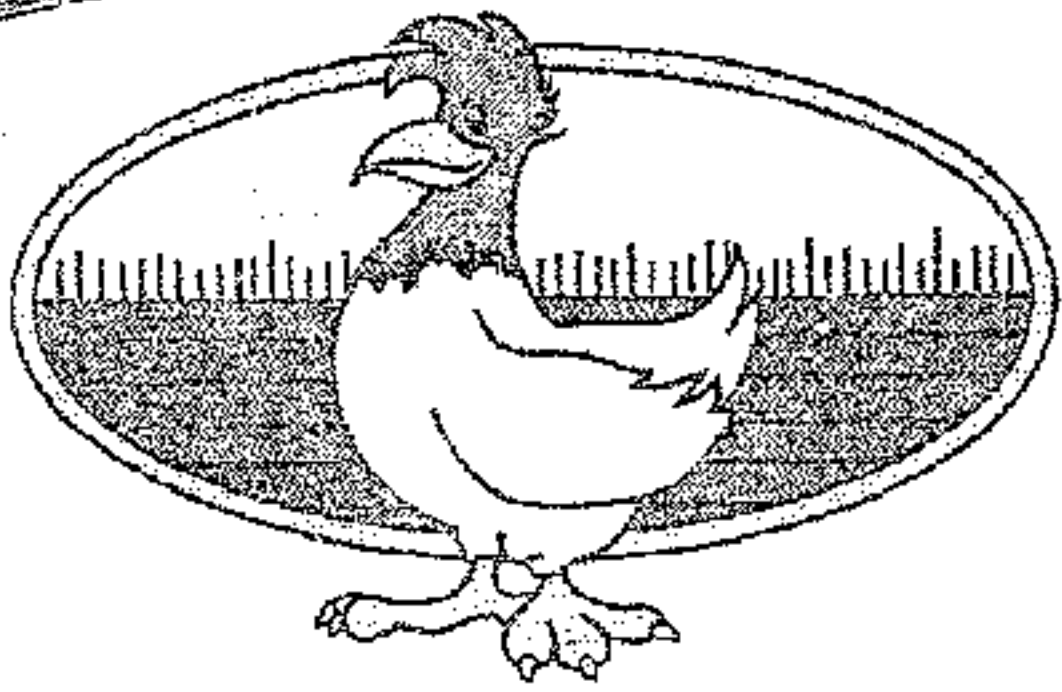
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Obituaries

Josephine Lindsey Scott, age 81 of Loudon passed away Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at the Loudon Healthcare Center. Josephine was a member of Calvary Baptist Church for over 25 years where she served as a Sunday school teacher. She worked many years for Charles H. Bacon Hosiery Mill. Josephine was very dedicated to her family and spent much of her time as a loving caregiver to many who were in need. Preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Margie Lindsey. Survivors include her husband, Harrison Tip-

ton Scott; sons, Larry Scott of St. Cloud, Florida and Eddie Scott, Loudon; grandsons, Travis and wife, Tina Scott, Loudon; Brandon Scott, Knoxville; great grandson, Karson Scott; brother and sister-in-law: Marshall and Mildred Lindsey, Loudon. Funeral services 7 PM Thursday, McGill-Karnes Chapel. Contributions in memory of Mrs. Scott may be made to your favorite charity. The family will gather at the funeral home 9 AM Friday and process to the Prospect Cemetery for a 10 AM interment. The family will receive friends 5-7 PM Thursday prior to the service at McGill-

Karnes Funeral Home, Loudon.

Radiation

shima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan.

Routine and ongoing air monitoring performed by the state indicates the presence of very low levels of Iodine-131, an isotope linked to the Japanese power plant. Tennessee's results are consistent with sampling results reported by federal agencies, licensees and neighboring states.

"The Department of Environment and Conservation monitors for radiation in the environment as a regular course of business," said Environment and Conservation Commissioner Bob Martineau. "We can detect these isotopes at extremely low levels. These levels do not indicate a health concern of any kind, and we will continue to monitor."

Environment and Conservation's air samples reported on April 6 were collected on March 29 from fixed monitors near the Sequoyah and Watts Bar power plants, as well as a monitor in Dayton, Tenn. The results range from 0.044 to 0.089 picoCuries per cubic meter of air. These levels are within the range expected and are far below levels of public health concern.

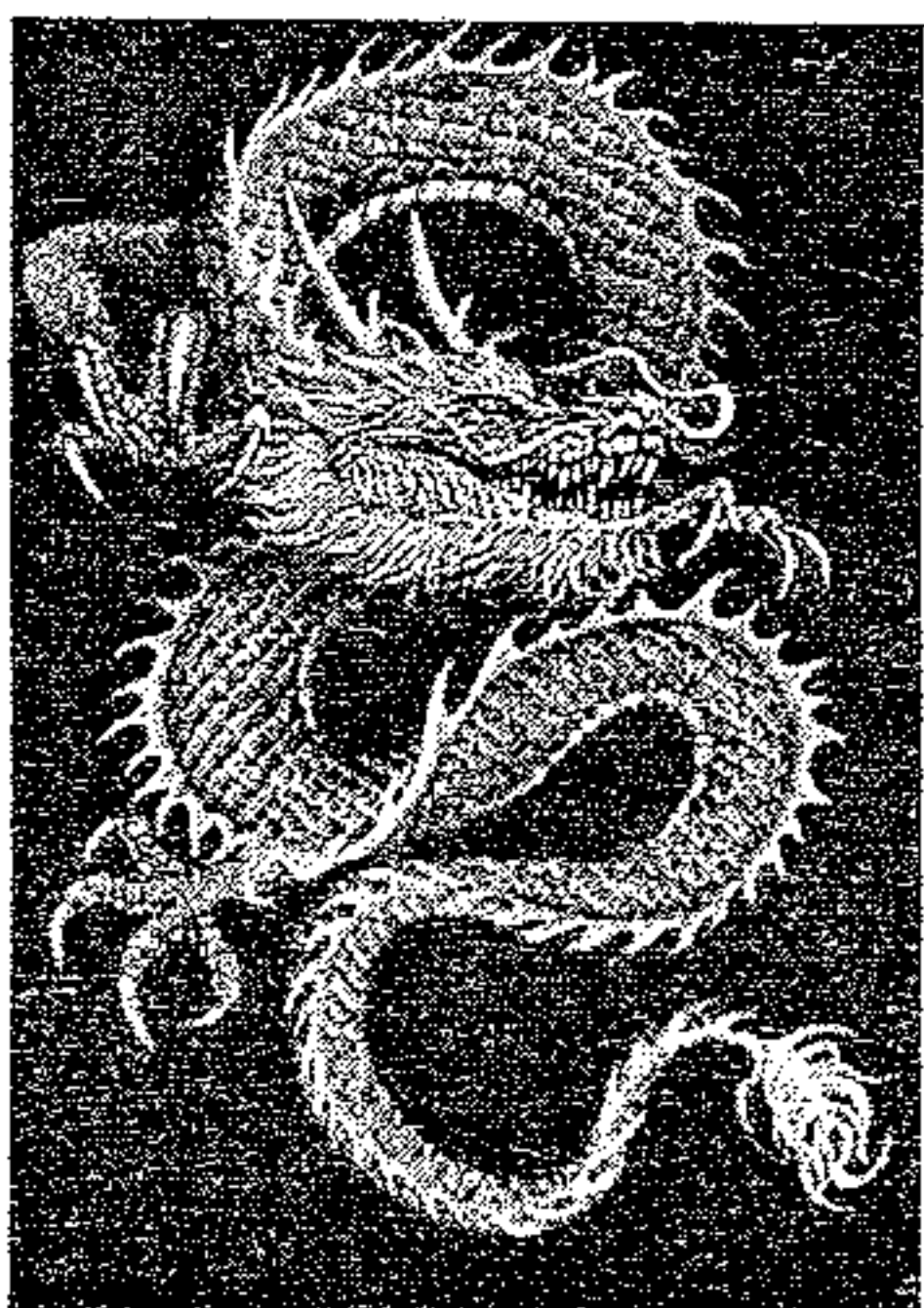
In addition to its own monitoring, the department collects air and rainwater samples in Knoxville, Nashville and Oak Ridge for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's RadNet program. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture collects milk samples for RadNet as well. All of those samples are sent to an EPA laboratory for analysis, and the results are available on EPA's website at www.epa.gov.

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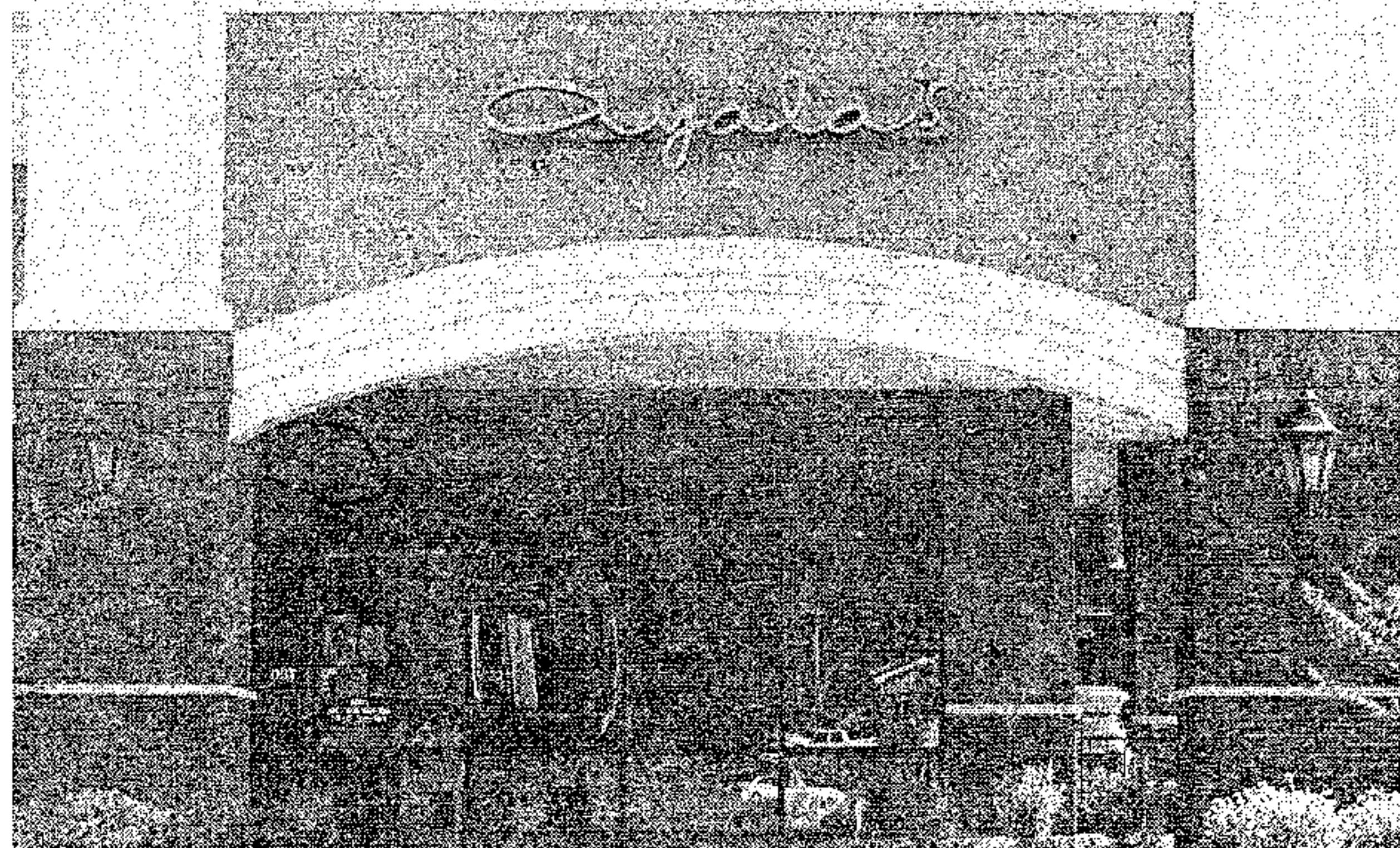
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Busted

cal fast food restaurant where the group was approached by the officer, who had responded to a public intoxication call concerning the foursome.

Veronica Ann White, 37, Gravelly Road, Kingston was charged with tampering with evidence, felony possession of drug paraphernalia, public intoxication, and child abuse/neglect.

Albuquerque Cosper Head, 31, also of Gravelly Road, Kingsport was charged with possession of schedule II oxycodone, possession of drug paraphernalia, public intoxication, and child abuse/neglect.

Christopher David Hixson, 20, Cherokee Village Drive, Kingsport was charged with possession of schedule II oxycodone, possession of schedule IV xanax, tampering with evidence, and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

According to multiple affidavits filed by Officer April farmer, LPD; on April 5th, 2011, Officer Farmer responded to a call of a intoxicated person at the Taco Bell

Restaurant on Highway 72 in Loudon and upon arrival encountered a male matching the description given by dispatch. The man was identified as Albuquerque Head.

Albuquerque was unsteady on his feet, had slurred speech and appeared to be under the influence of a narcotic.

Numerous pills were found in Albuquerque's head band, that were tentatively identified as oxycodone. Also in the door where Mr. Head was sitting were numerous hypodermic needles and several of them were loaded with fluid.

After being mirandized, Mr. Head stated the needles and pills were his.

While traveling, Albuquerque and other occupants of the car were injecting prescription pills into their arms.

Mr. Head was part of a group traveling in a black Saturn driven by Christopher Hixson. The occupants were injecting narcotics into their arms with the full knowledge and in the presence of Mr. Hixson, the owner and driver of the car.

After taking Hixson into custody, he was found to be in possession of numerous pills in a secret compartment in his shoes after he'd advised officers he didn't have any pills on him. The pills recovered from Hixson's shoes were identified as oxycodone and xanax.

Verbal consent was given to search the car and as a result numerous types of drug paraphernalia and prescription pills were found. It was also found that one of the occupants in the vehicle was a 15 year old male.

The male juvenile was asked by the occupants of the vehicle, including his mother, Veronica Ann White, to hide a large amount of prescription pills in the bathroom of the Taco Bell, which were later recovered.

Ms. White was out in the public and appeared to be under the influence of a narcotic. She knowingly put her child in a position that could adversely affect his health and wellbeing by influencing him to stash illegal narcotics and being in the presence of individuals using hypoder-

mic needles.

Ms. White also attempted to conceal a bag of prescription pills by giving them to her 15 year old son to hide. The pills were evidence in an ongoing investigation.

Ms. White was further found to be in posses-

sion of several loaded syringes and a spoon with green powder residue in her purse.

Officer Farmer made the arrests. LPD Officers Brendan DeBoer and Bill Evans, were also on the scene.

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Man goes off when live-in girlfriend brings new boyfriend home

Christopher Michael Kelso, 23, Riverbend Drive, Loudon was charged with aggravated domestic violence.

According to reports, Friday, around 12:30 PM, Officer Brian Jenkins, LPD responded to a domestic violence incident at or around a residence on Riverbend Drive. When Officer Jenkins arrived in the area, he observed a man, later identified as Christopher

Kelso, chasing a white vehicle up the road in an aggressive manner.

When the officer got Kelso contained, he spoke with the other parties involved. Mr. Kelso's live-in girlfriend, with whom he shares two children, said Kelso was chasing the car and had threatened her and her new boyfriend, who was also in the car, with a baseball bat.

Kelso had wounds

to his hands which was



Kelso

determined he incurred while punching a support pole on the porch during

the incident.

The altercation allegedly started when Kelso's girlfriend brought her new boyfriend to the residence she shares with Mr. Kelso after he told her not to bring him

there.

Chris Kelso was determined to be the primary aggressor and placed under arrest.

Officer Bob Lankford, LPD was also in attendance.



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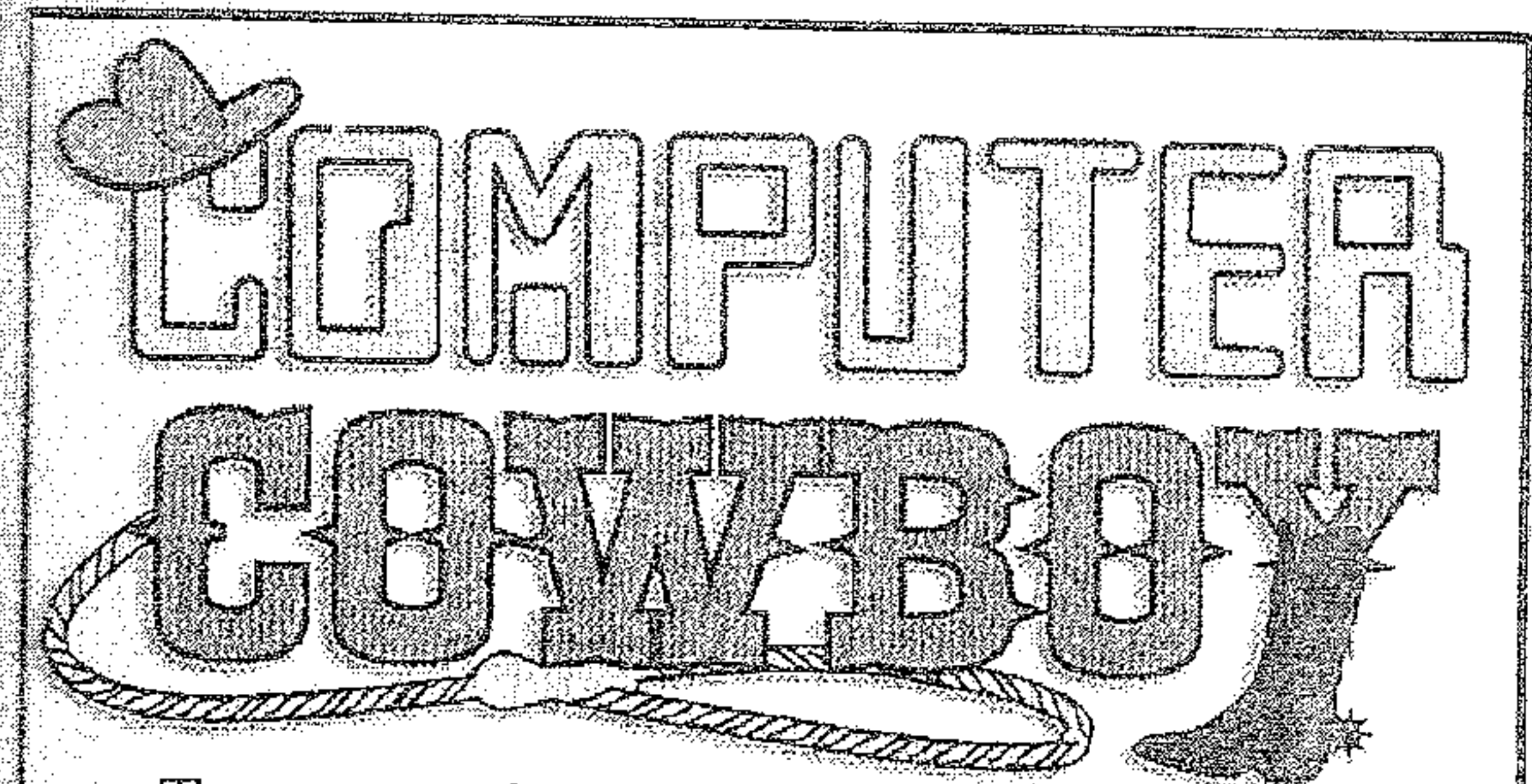
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County Day

county business.

The American Legion takes the lead in this special day by making all the arrangements and coordinating all events.

The program starts at 9 am with introductions at the Loudon Court House Annex. Students and officials then proceed to various government offices, and later

continue their day at Loudon High School for lunch and remarks from keynote speakers, Mayor Estelle Herron, and County Commissioner Robert Franke.

After a question and answer period, special guest speaker, William Robinson, will be giving details of his personal experiences as a Vietnam Veteran prisoner of war (POW).

As explained by Legionnaire Rich Gruber, "By the end of the day students will have a better understanding of how a County government

functions on a daily basis and will have insight into Veterans that have fought and are fighting for our means as a democratic government."

For additional information, contact 256 Post Commander John Allen, 423-884-7297 or Vice Commander, Rich Gruber, 865-271-8610.

FYI

Browder School Reunion

Sat April 23rd, 10 - ? Lunch at 12:00, Bring a covered dish and a drink. For more info please call Mary Bluford 986-3848

Loudon County Humane Society spay/neuter voucher pickup days

Loudon County Humane Society has been conducting a spay/neuter program for low-income/no-income families in Loudon County for many years. To be eligible for the program, you must be a resident of Loudon County and earn less than \$20,000/year as an individual or \$30,000/year for a household. With this program dog and cat owners can have the financial assistance for a spay/neuter while they are responsible for their pet's vaccinations. The current funding is made available due to a bequeath from the family of Francis Fitzpatrick in honor of her love of animals and in memory of her and her Collies.

If you are a qualified resident and are interested in participating in this program, please attend a voucher session beginning at 10:00 AM at one of the following dates and sites:


- April 30 - Lenoir City Library/Roane State Building
- June 4 - Greenback Community Center
- July 9 - Loudon City Hall/Loudon Utilities
- August 6 - Lenoir City Library/Roane State Building
- September 10 - Philadelphia School
- October 1 - Loudon City Hall/Loudon Utilities
- November 5 - Lenoir City Library/Roane State Building
- December 3 - Greenback Community Center

The Loudon County Humane Society holds monthly meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM at the Loudon County Animal Shelter. All members are encouraged to participate in numerous ways.

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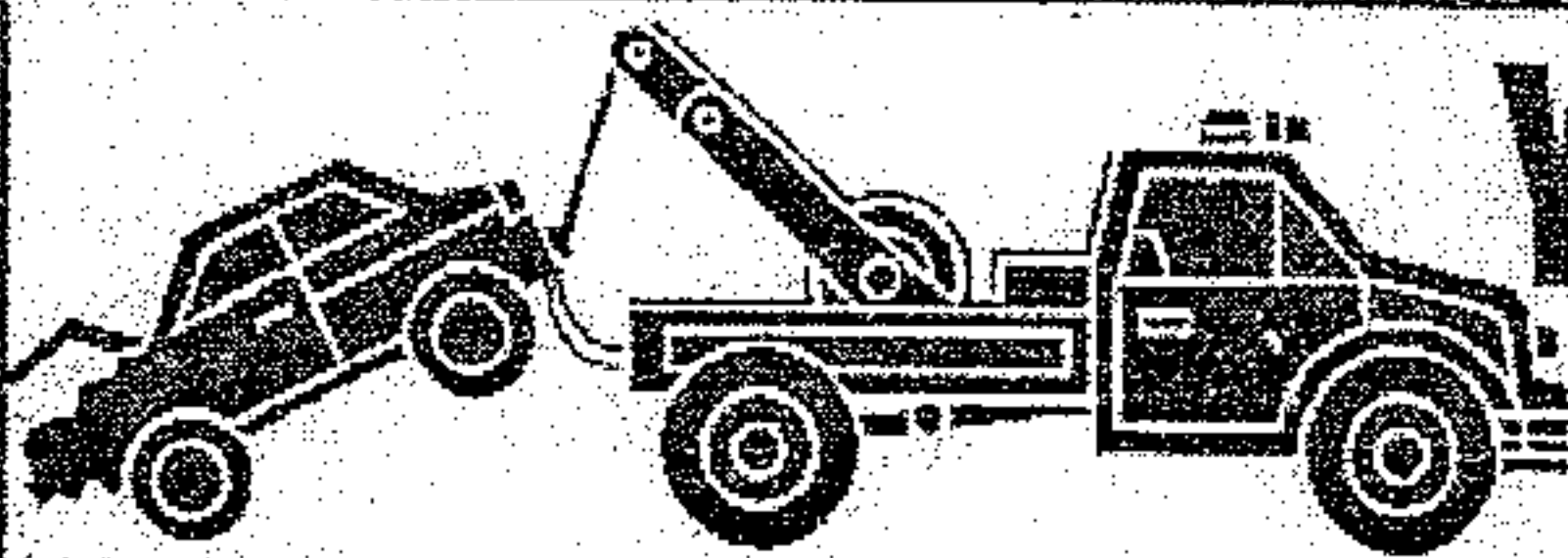


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