

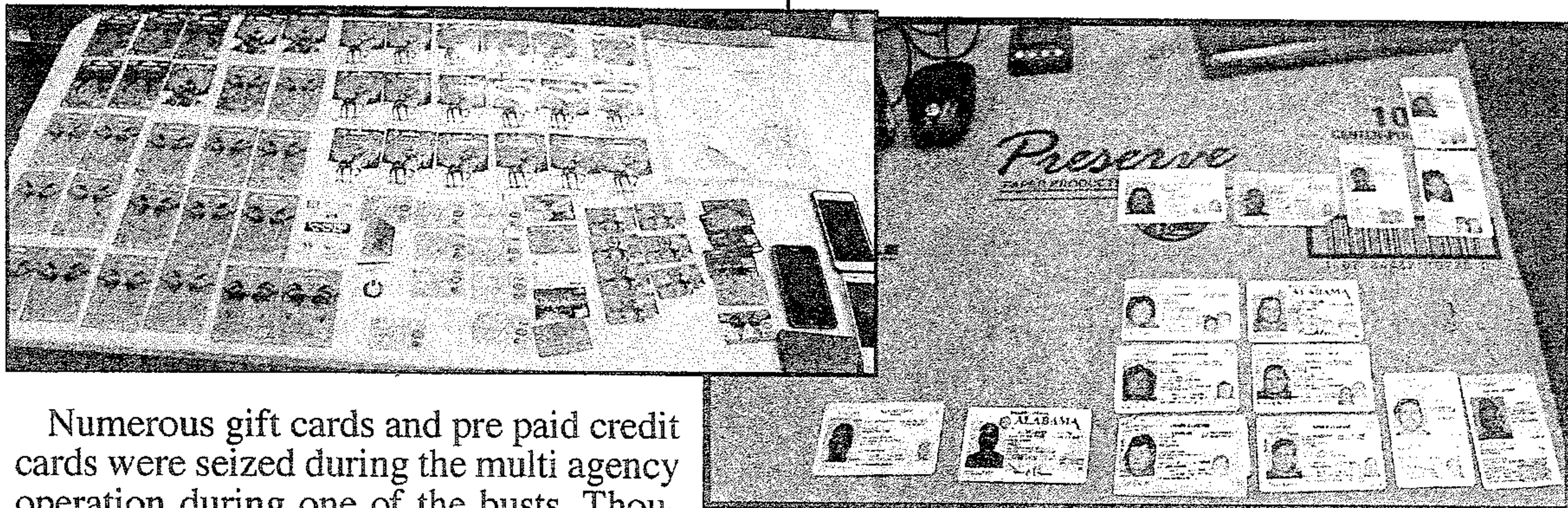
# The Merry Christmas Y'ALL! 50¢ Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, December 25, 2017

## Multi state theft ring among those busted in multi agency task force dubbed operation "Blue Christmas" nabs 30

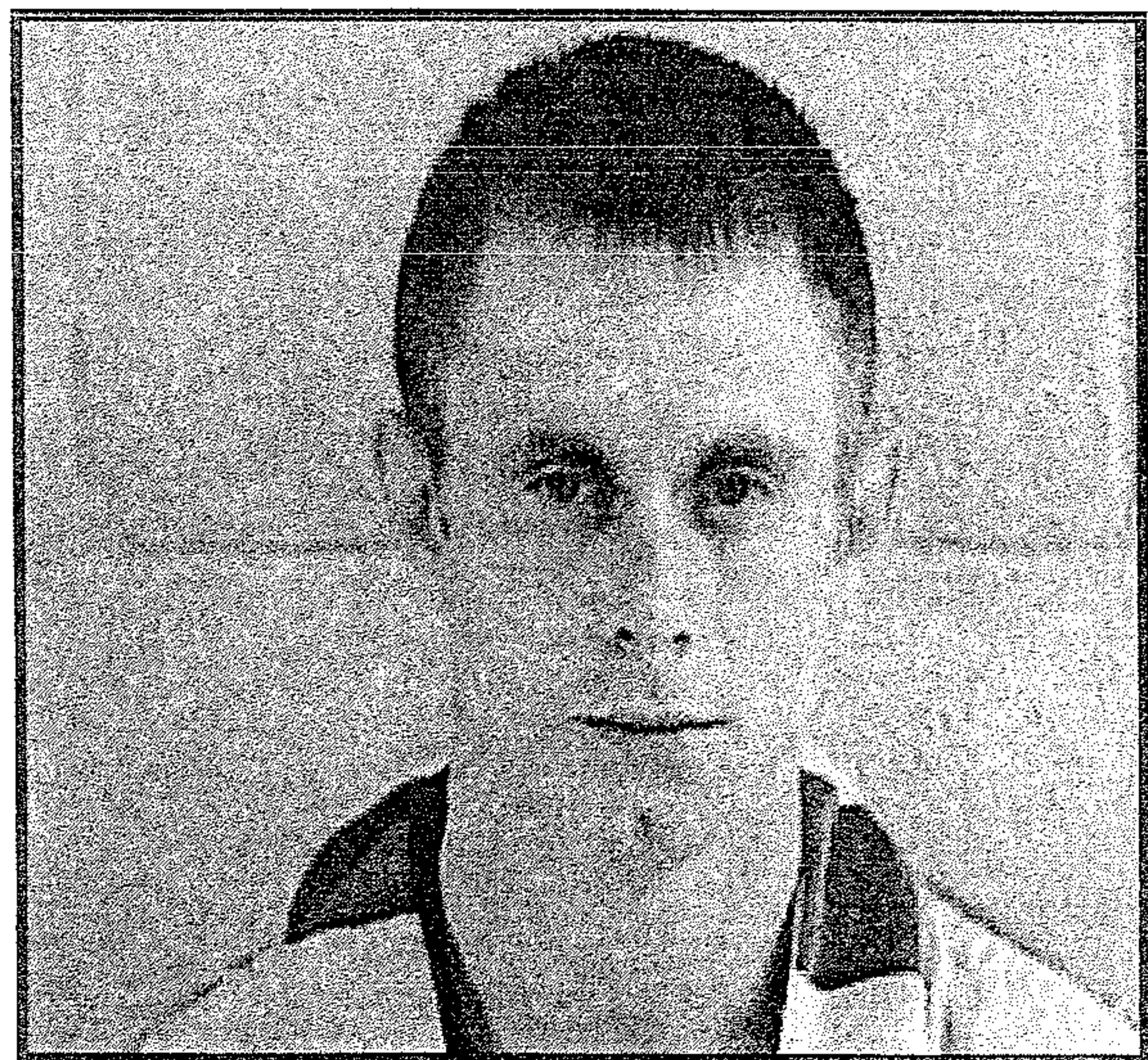
The 9th Judicial Drug Task Force worked in collaboration with the Loudon County Sheriff's Office, Lenoir City Police Department, Loudon Police Department, Roane County Sheriff's Office and Rockwood Police Department in an effort to deter retail theft at stores in Loudon and Roane (see Robbery pg. 2)



Numerous gift cards and pre paid credit cards were seized during the multi agency operation during one of the busts. Thousands in merchandise was also recovered during the operation.

Several fake IDs were used by the theft ring to throw off authorities and investigators to their activities. That is until they came to Lenoir City.

## Flat tire and no driver leads to PI charge by LCSO



Fairon Kelley

see PI pg. 5

Comptroller Releases First Round of Clean Audit Reports Tennessee Comptroller Justin P. Wilson is pleased to announce that eight Tennessee counties have achieved a distinctive honor. Bedford, Franklin, Gibson, Giles, Marshall, Rutherford, Tipton and Unicoi counties have all received a clean audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

All eight annual audits were completed without any findings. Only a select number

see audit pg. 7

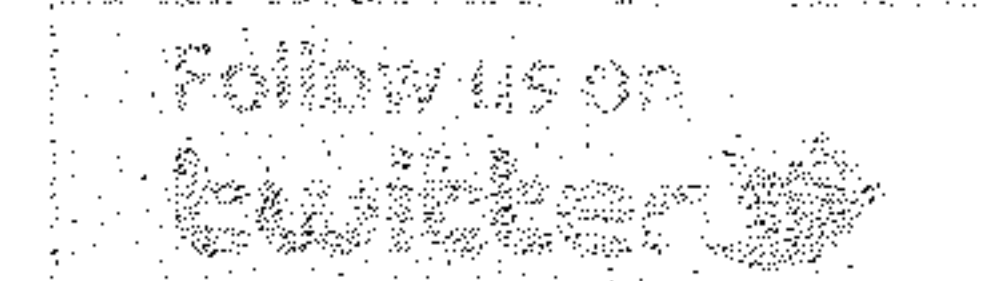
## Affinity Fraud White-Collar Criminals Use Bonds of Trust to Prey on Investors

White-Collar Crime Offender Registry Website (Stock) Financial fraudsters are known to be an unscrupulous lot, but it is particularly loathsome when these white-collar criminals exploit trusting members of their own church or social circle to line their pockets.

trust—known as affinity fraud—occur throughout the United States but are especially prevalent in Utah, where members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints too often are victimized by savvy fraudsters who claim to be just like them.

"These are greedy individuals who will (see Fraud pg. 4)

Financial crimes based on bonds of



**Verse of the Day**  
So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who

was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. — Luke 2:4-5

**Obituaries**  
see inside

**Wazzup**

Merry Christmas From All of Us at The Daily

Edition We Hope You Have a Safe and Great Christmas This Year!

**Weather**

Today: Partly cloudy. High of 40F.  
Tonight: Overcast. low of 29F.

Tuesday: Partly cloudy High of 47F.  
Tuesday night: Overcast. Low of 29F.  
Horoscopes  
Capricorn 12/21-1/19  
Your no-nonsense reputation often precedes you  
(Continued on page 6)





**Task Force**

Counties during this holiday season. Agents and officers from these agencies partnered up with loss prevention employees to further combine their efforts over the five days leading up to the holidays. This 'task force'-style operation

was a great success.

Agents and Officers were able to arrest over 30 individuals on numerous crimes to include:

- 11 individuals charged with Theft
- 6 individuals charged with Drug Offenses
- 2 charged with Drug Para-

phernalia

4 charged with Criminal Trespass

1 charged with Resisting Arrest

4 charged with Money Laundering

3 charged with Forgery

3 charged with Identity Theft  
2 charged with a driving offense

8 arrested for outstanding warrants

These arrests resulted in recovering over 2,600 articles of

see Task Force ctd. pg. 3

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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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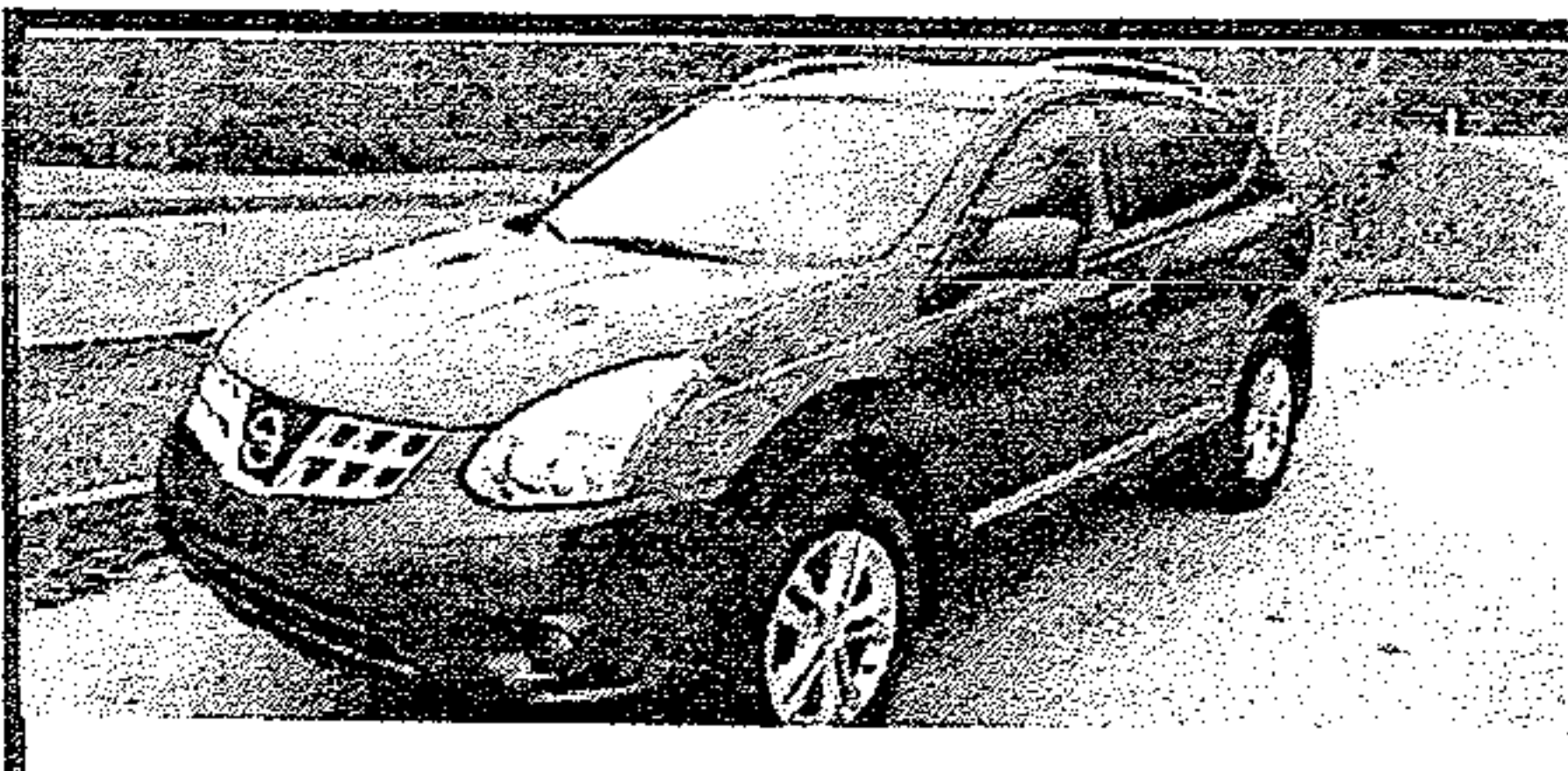
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2013 Nissan Rogue AWD, PW, PL, PS, Sunroof, Alloy Wheels, V6, Luggage Rack



2009 Ford F150 Crew Cab, XLT, V8, Auto, Tow Pkg, Bed Liner, AC, PW, PL, Alloy Wheels



2011 Buick Lucerne, Immaculate condition, Like new, Only 69k, Alloy Wheels, PS, PW, PL, 27 MPG!



2005 Nissan Titan Ext Cab, V8, Auto, Like New, Low Miles, AC, PW, PL, Tow PKG, Bed Liner



2015 Chevy Cruze, 52k Miles, Gas Saver, 42 MPG, PW, PL, Local Car, Auto, 4 Cylinder, LT

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Task force ctd. from pg. 2

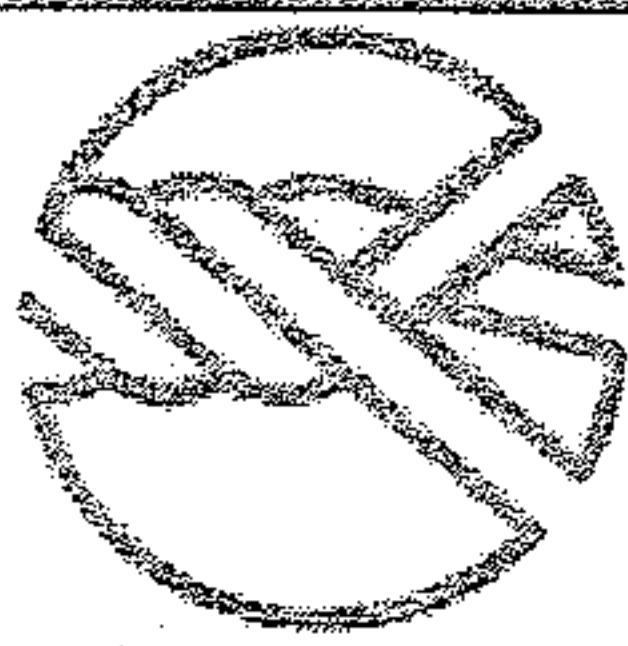
stolen property being recovered. Many of the arrests netted illegal drugs as there were seizures of methamphetamine, prescription pills and marijuana.

On arrest of four individuals from an out-of-state theft ring recovered over \$12,000 in gift cards obtained through fraudulent means and one vehicle used in the commission of numerous counts of theft, Forgery, Identity Theft and Money Laundering. This vehicle and its occupants are also suspected to be involved in a large scale theft ring that is operating out of Georgia and involved in an organized theft ring reaching stores in numerous states to

see Task Force ctd. pg. 4

# canvas recovery

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Canvas Recovery is a devoted community of people living out their recovery journey through hope, healing and power in the name of Jesus Christ.

"A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken." - Ecclesiastes 4:12

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Every Monday Night  
Doors open at 6pm. Program starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.

**Where Do We Meet:**

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**What Groups We Offer:**

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## Help Wanted

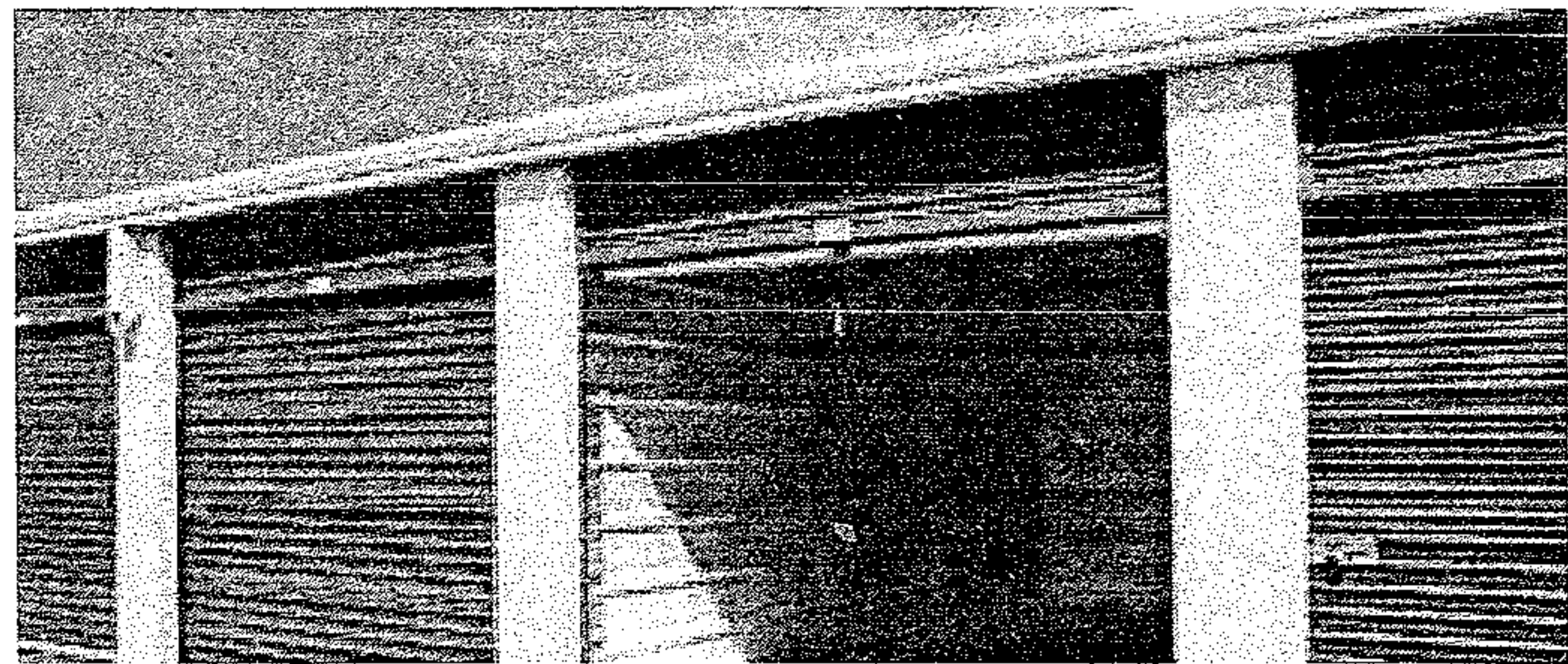
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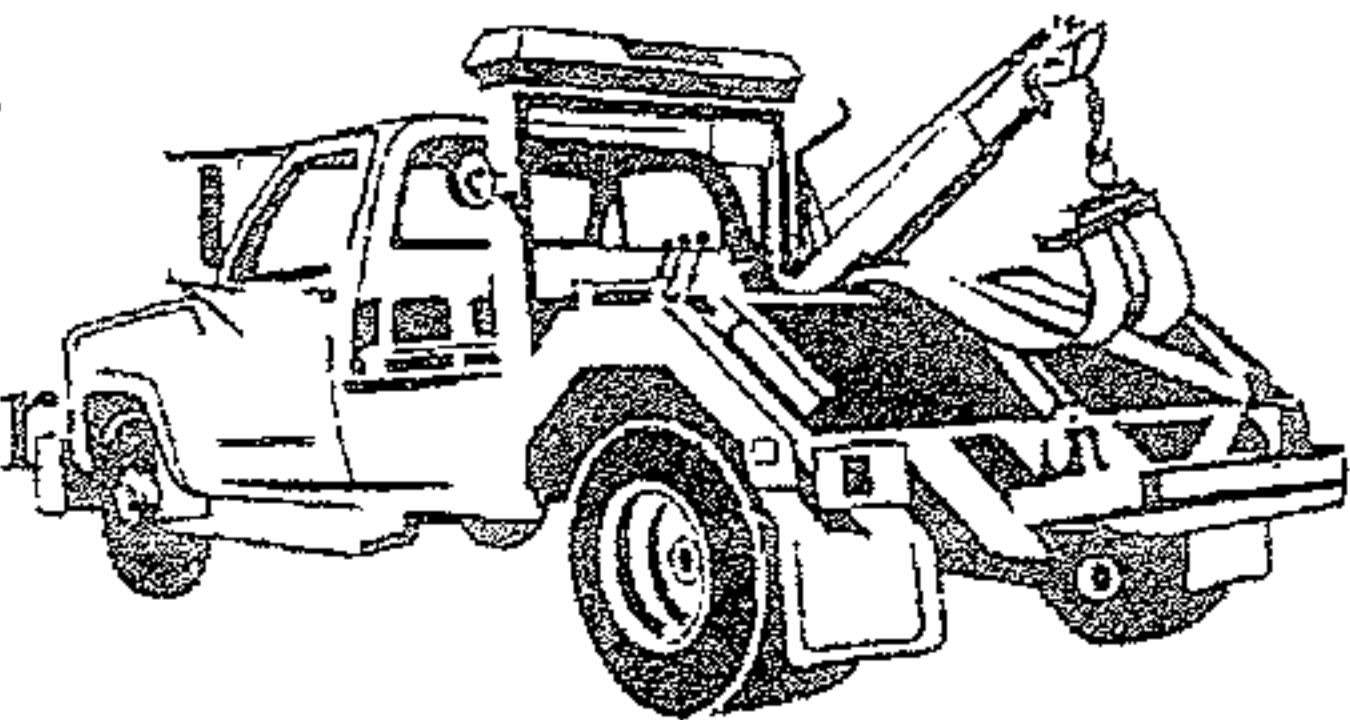
# C&J Towing and Recovery

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\*note: the "Rotation List" is a list of wrecker services that provide service for wrecks, DUI's, breakdowns, etc. and are on an on-call basis for service. This list is approved by the Sheriff.

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**Fraud**

stop at nothing," said John Huber, the U.S. Attorney for the District of Utah, a life-long resident of the state and member of the Mormon Church. "What's so disconcerting is that these criminals approach us at church or through associations at our work or referrals from friends. They are silver-tongued devils—wolves in sheep's clothing who will take our money and we'll never see it again."

So serious is the problem of affinity fraud in Utah that in 2015 the state legislature passed a law establishing an online white-collar crime registry—similar to sex-offender registries—which publishes the names, photographs, and criminal details of individuals convicted of financial fraud crimes in the state going back a decade. Currently, there are 231 individuals listed on the registry.

In addition, a collaboration between federal, state, and local law enforcement partners has resulted in the Stop Fraud Utah campaign, which aims to educate the public about affinity fraud—what people can do to avoid it and how best to report it if they have been victimized.

Task force etd. from pg. 3 include Alabama, Georgia, Virginia, Florida and Tennessee.

Retail theft is a huge burden on our communities and our state. It is driven by users of il-

legal drugs and illegally obtained drugs. The drug epidemic drives most criminal activity because the money derived from the perpetration of retail theft crimes is commonly used to purchase drugs, specifically opioids (prescription pills or heroin). Therefore, District Attorney Russell Johnson's 9th Drug Task Force is working this 'holiday retail theft' task force in conjunction with his newly established Overdose Task Force.

"Crimes like these are committed in order to buy more illegal drugs. Illegally obtained drugs such as opioids, including heroin that is currently being laced with the dangerous synthetic drug fentanyl, are causing overdoses that all too often result in death. Our task force is now tracking six of these deaths that have occurred in Loudon County just since the first week of October," Johnson said. "There is no acceptable level of overdose deaths, but the numbers that we are now experiencing across many parts of our country are at epidemic proportions. Until the pharmaceutical industry shares responsibility for its role in this epidemic and begins working to curtail the supply to responsible daily or weekly doses, this problem will not go away. In my opinion, prescription opioids have created tens of thousands of addicts out of individuals

who would not otherwise have found themselves involved with illegal and potentially lethal drugs like heroin and heroin laced fentanyl. This epidemic of addiction has made thieves out of people who would not have otherwise engaged in illegal activity."

Deputy Director of the 9th Drug Task Force Brendan DeBoer says "trends constantly change in East Tennessee and we adapt daily to ensure we are keeping pace with individuals distributing drugs to or in the 9th District of Tennessee. The members of the Task Force are dedicated, self-driven individuals that make it their daily agenda to pro-actively infiltrate

these drug dealers, their sources and criminal associates."

Four charged in multi state theft ring Kimberly Adams, 36, 33rd Street Georgia, was charged with Forgery x2, Identity Theft x2, and Money Laundering.

Emily Redding, 21, Paddy Avenue Georgia, was charged with

Criminal Trespass, Forgery x2, identity Theft x2, Theft of Property, and Money Laundering.

Rita Redding, 56, Paddy Avenue Georgia, was charged with Forgery, Identity Theft x2, Theft of Property, and Money Laundering.

Ashley Robinson, see Four etd. pg. 5

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Time Change for Lenoir City Council Meetings**  
 Lenoir City Council will be changing the beginning time of their meetings to 6:00 P.M. effective January 2018. The meetings will still be held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The first meeting of the year will be held on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall.

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PI

Fairon Kelley, 27, Beulah Drive Louisville, was charged with Publix Intoxication.

Deputy Kevin Kirkland LCSO, noticed two vehicles parked in a parking lot on Hwy 72 at Prospect Church Rd. Deputy pulled in the parking lot to assist the driver which appeared to have a flat tire, an off duty fireman that had stopped to help told Deputy that he had stopped to help the driver and he appeared to be intoxicated and had wrecked his car.

Upon speaking to Mr. Fairon Wayne Kelley 2nd (Offender) he did appear to be intoxicated and had slurred speech, and was very unsteady on his feet. He stated that he had been at a bar and had been drinking but was not driving the vehicle, and it had ran out of gas and his sister was en route to pick

him up from Powell. Deputy asked him who was driving the vehicle and he stated that his girlfriend was driving and he didn't know how it was wrecked, he stated his girlfriend was going to get gas. Deputy asked him where his girlfriend was and he said he didn't know, and Deputy asked him how she left if she was driving the vehicle that was wrecked and he stated she got a ride. Being the vehicle was not able to be driven from the scene and Mr. Fairon was too intoxicated to operate a vehicle and if left in public he may pose a threat to himself or the public he was placed under arrest for Public Intoxication and transported to Loudon County Jail. This did occur in Loudon

Four ctd. from pg. 4

25, Victory Drive Georgia, was charged with Theft of Property, Forgery, and Mon-

ey Laundering.

Agents from the 9th JDTF and LCSO were conducting an operation at Wal-Mart. during this operation Agents were notified of possible fraudulent returns at the customer service desk. The vehicle involved was identified and had a headlight out.



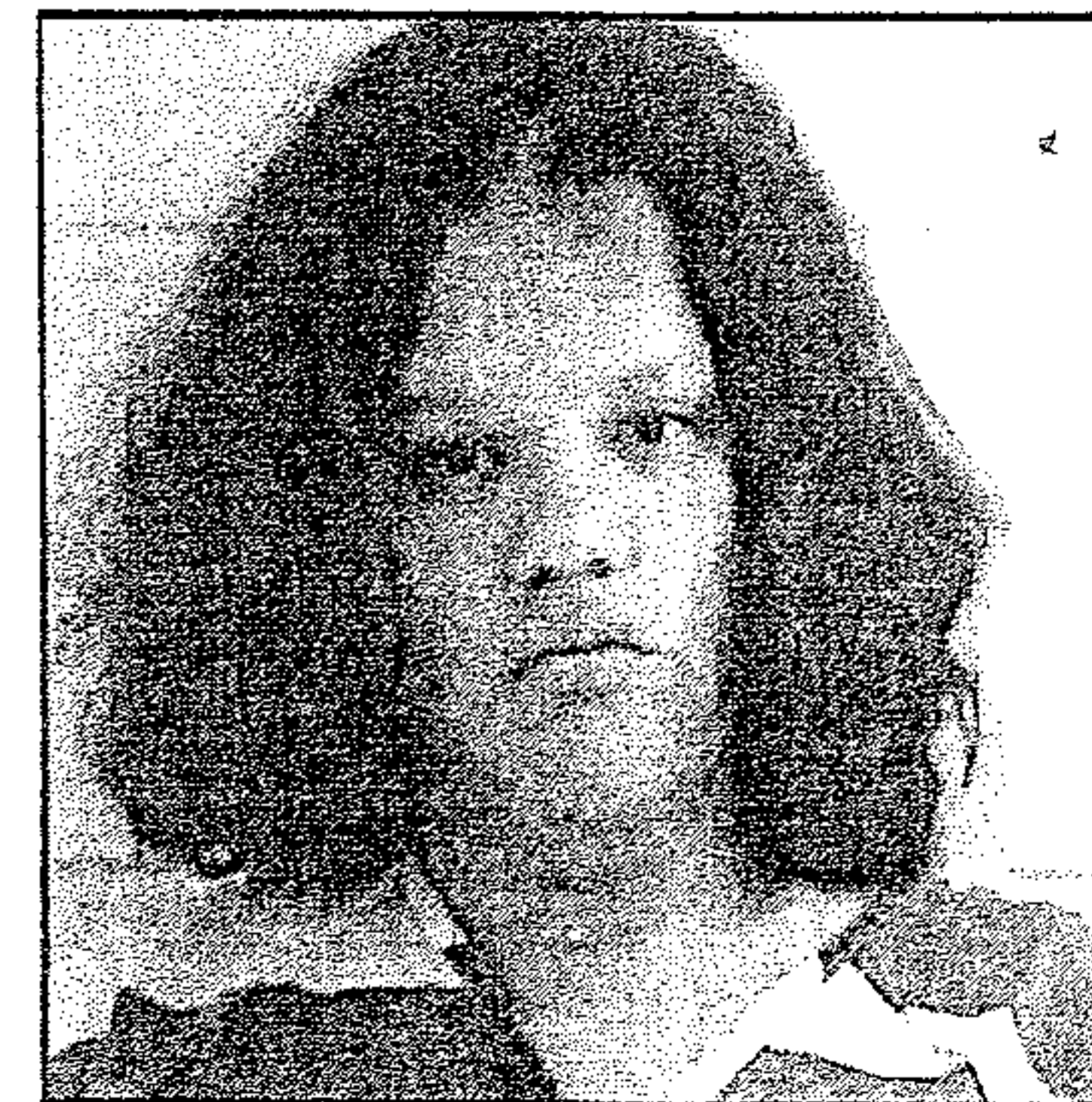
Kimberly Adams



Emily Redding



Rita Redding



Ashley Robinson

Agents made contact with the vehicle and identified the occupants. During this encounter agents observed a fraudulent GA Id in plain view in the vehicle. Agents were given consent to search the vehicle by owner Rita Redding (driver). A search of this vehicle resulted in locating \$1693.08 in suspected stolen property from Wal-mart, numerous fraudulent Georgia and Alabama ID cards, over 40 Wal-Mart Gift Cards and a large amount of pre-paid Visa cards. During this incident it was uncovered that another individual that arrived with this group,

Ashley Robinson, was at Food City. Affiant made contact with her and asked to see her ID. ROBINSON presented a GA Id card that appeared, on its face, to be authentic but did infact have an altered ID number. During this investigation it was determined that this group, involving 4 individuals, was traveling to numerous Wal-Mart stores in multiple states stealing property form the stores, returning the stolen property and structuring the return in \$50 dollar increments to not alert attention from store management. They would recieve the refund for the stolen items on a Wal-Mart gift card due to the lack of a receipt. After several returns they would transfer these balances onto Visa cards to launder the money for use anywhere. Occupants used Altered ID cards in furtherance of this criminal conspiracy. Emily Redding is also trespassed from Wal-mart. Rita Redding had an Altered GA ID card. Kimberly Adams possessed an Alabama ID card and attempted to make a fraulenet return at this Wal-Mart using this ID. Two ID's located were altered to individuals not involved in this case and were altered stealing someone elses information. This occurred in Loudon County.

# ATTENTION

## Under New Management

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**Audit**  
of Tennessee counties will receive an audit report without a finding indicating weaknesses or deficiencies in government operations.

These audits each revealed a strong system that allows for accurate financial reporting and clear checks and balances that help protect taxpayer money. The residents of these counties should be encouraged that county leaders and elected officials are taking their responsibilities seriously.

This achievement is even more significant for Tipton County

which has received a clean audit report for the third year in a row. Bedford and Union counties have each received their second consecutive clean audit.

"A clean audit is a positive sign that a county government is on track," said Comptroller

Justin P. Wilson. "I commend all of the elected officials, leaders, and county staff who have committed to a well-run government. This is an accomplishment worth celebrating."

Only 12 counties audited by the Comptroller's Office received

clean audit reports in fiscal year 2016. The Comptroller's Office will continue to release fiscal year 2017 audits through March of 2018.

All eight audit reports can be found at <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/la/>.

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](http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/hotline). Follow us on twitter: @TN-COT.


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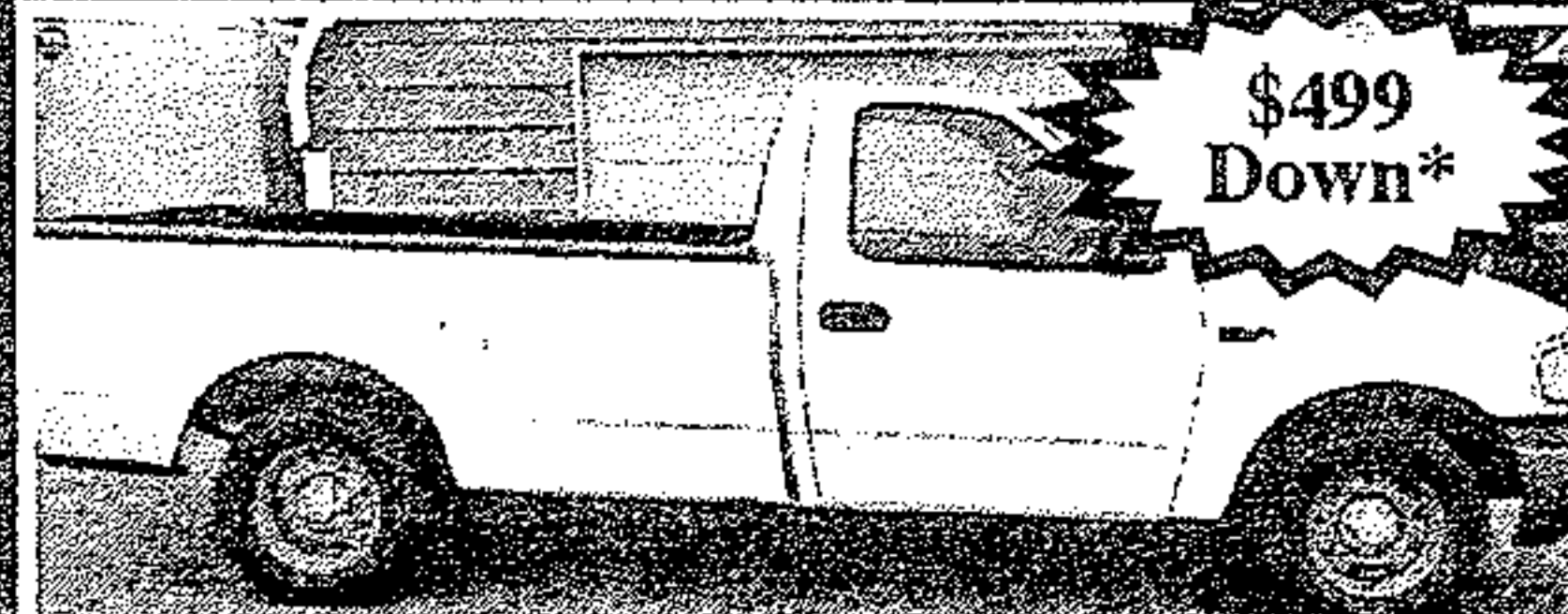
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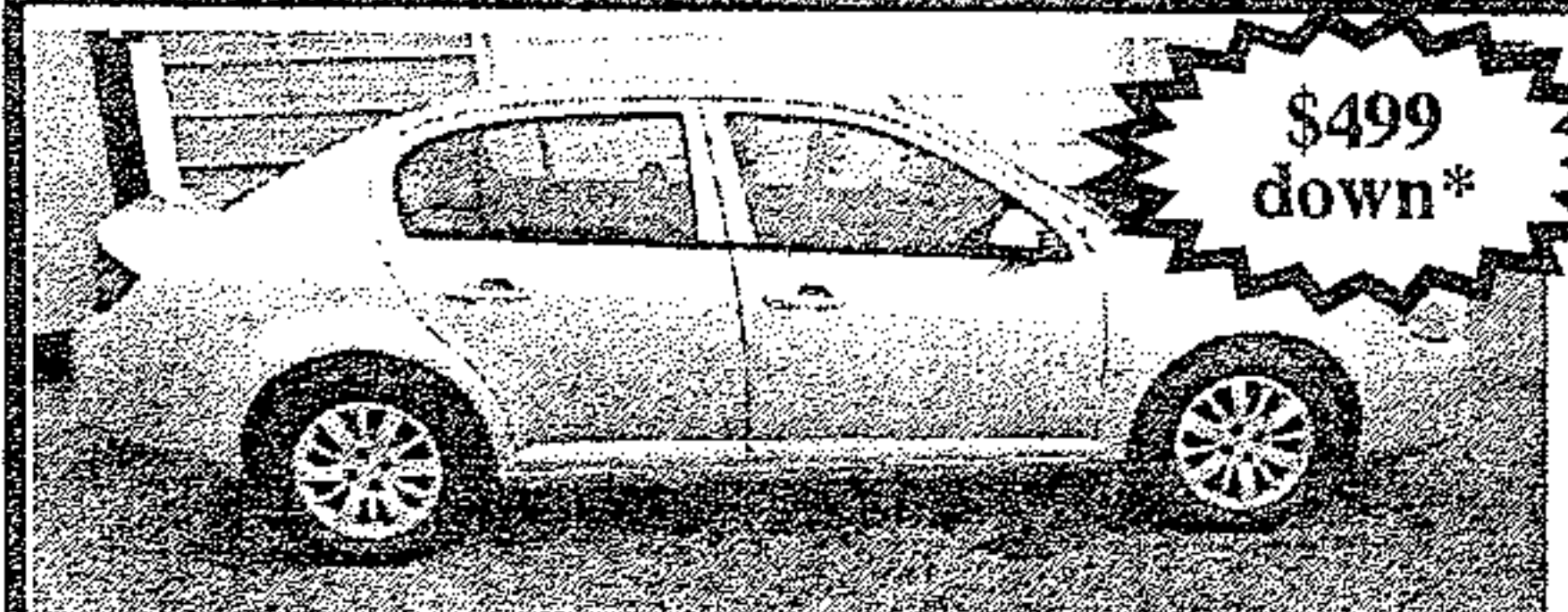
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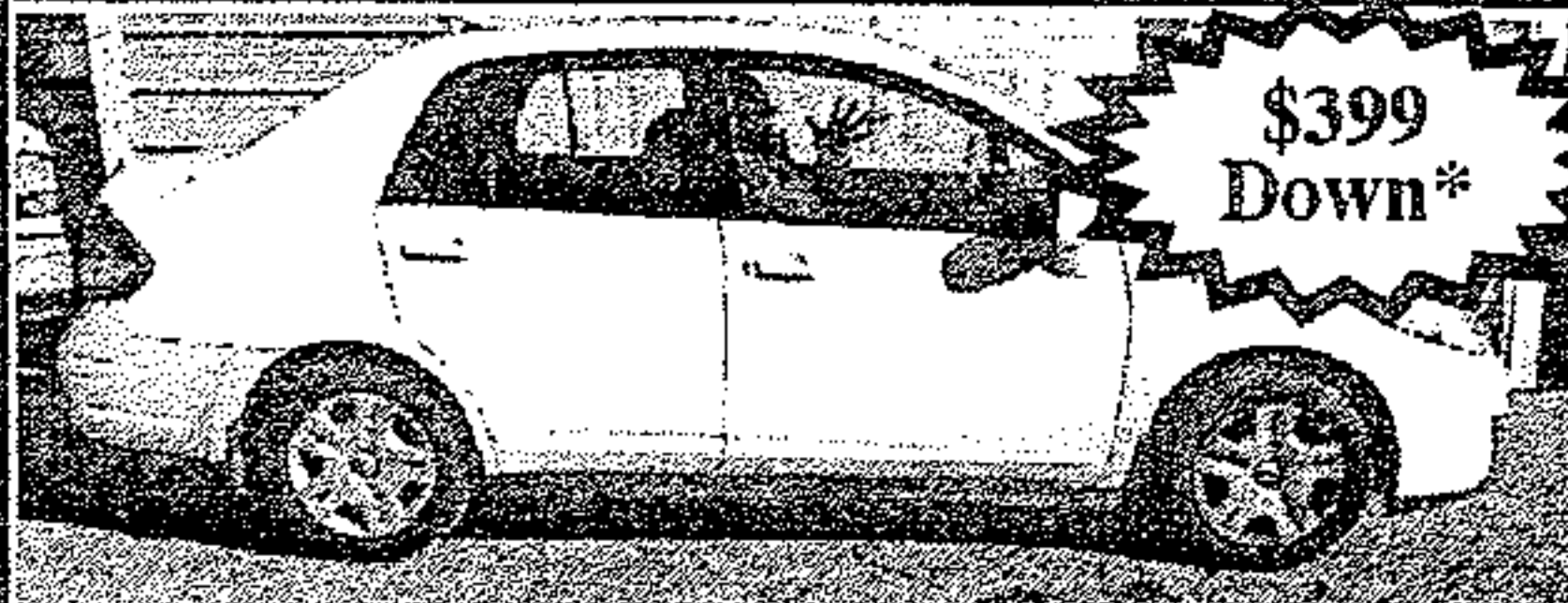
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