

The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

Former First Tennessee Bank employee sentenced to served 3 years in prison

For Embezzlement of funds and tax evasion

On Monday, Kenneth L. Miller, 37, of Greeneville, Tenn., was sentenced by the Honorable J. Ronnie Greer, U.S. District Court Judge, to serve 36 months in federal prison for embezzlement of funds and tax evasion. Upon his release from prison, he

will be under the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office for five years. He was also ordered to pay restitution in the amounts of \$844,254.79 to First Tennessee Bank (First Tennessee), \$161,018.00 to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and \$81,014.18 to two additional victims of his

crimes, for a total of \$1,086,286.97.

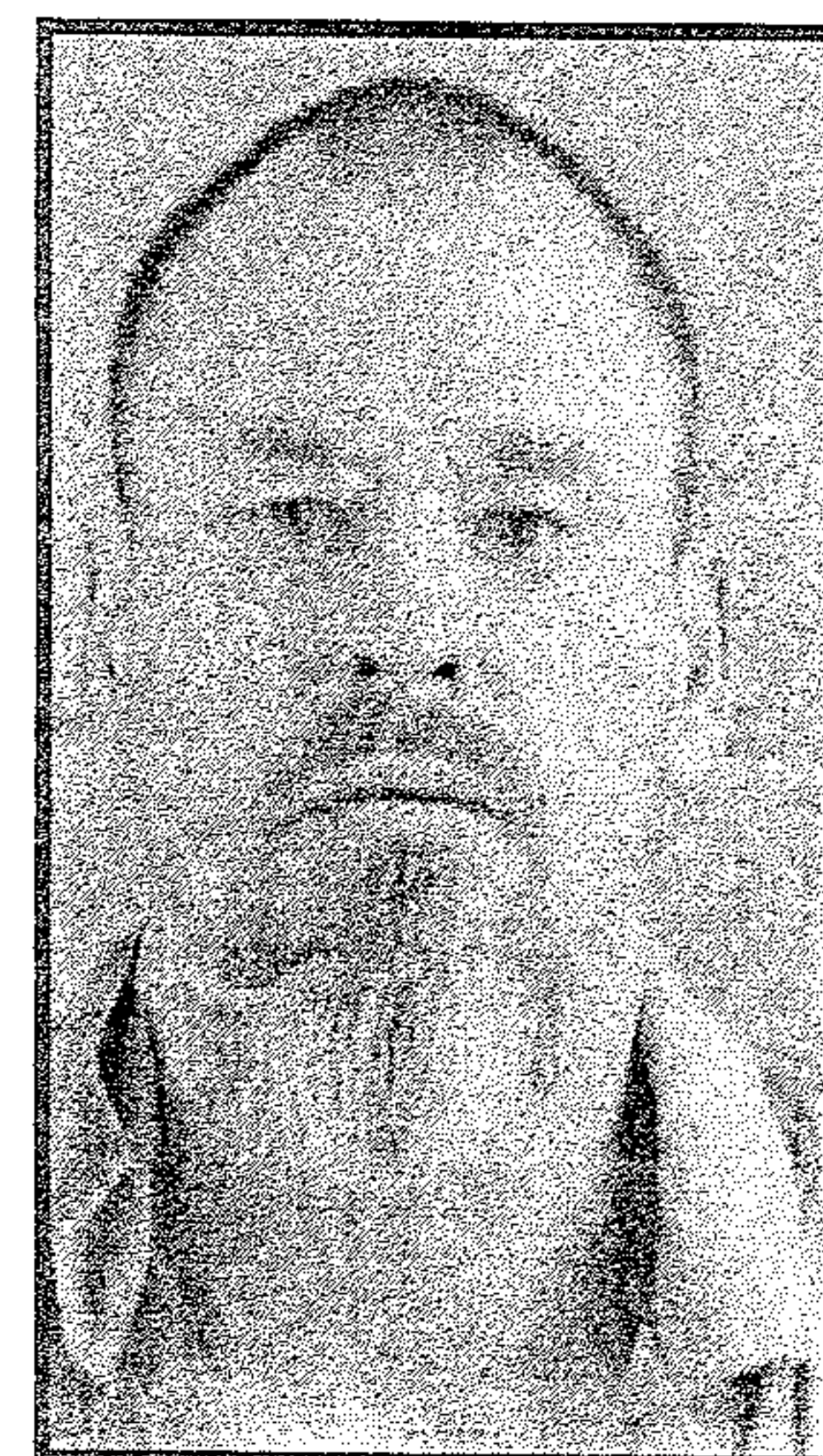
Miller was an employee of First Tennessee from May 2000 until February 2016. In October 2016, he pleaded guilty to an information charging him with one count of theft by a bank officer or employee and four counts of attempting to evade or defeat

(see prison pg. 2)

Three charged after traffic stop

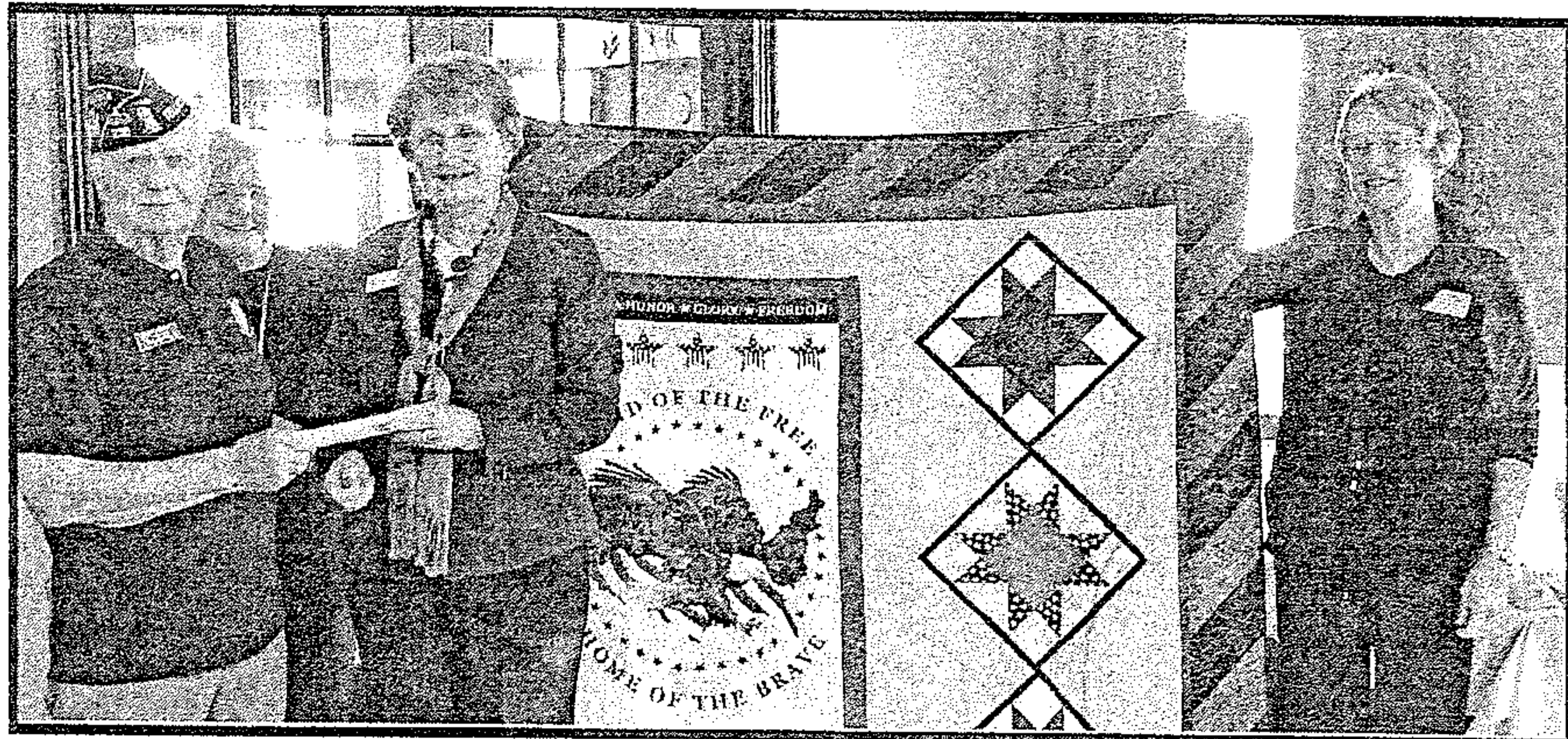


April Bivens
see charged pg. 7



Frederick Hall

American Legion Post 256 Supports The Village Quilters



Shown here is a "Quilt of Valor" and the American Legion Post 256 Commander presenting a check to the Village Quilters to help support their efforts with creating these distinctive and honorable works of art. Receiving a check is Rita Hollenbacher, left of her, Leslie Phillips and at the right of the photo Linda Arbuckle.

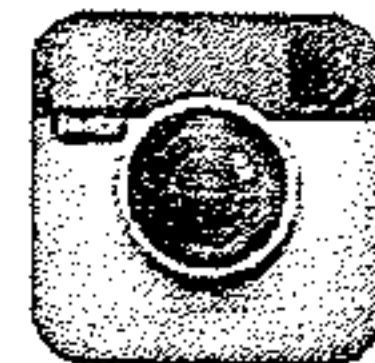
see Legion pg. 5

Man charged with DUI after speeding stop



(see DUI pg. 4)

Jerry Covington



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Verse of the Day

We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.
— Acts 5:32

Obituaries

see inside
Wazzup

When you call to order a medium thin crust pizza at Domino's in Lenoir City and they

say they are outta crust at 3pm, that's kinda like a burger place running out of burgers isn't it?

At least Loudon wasn't out! It's the best Domino's anyway!

Weather

Today: Cloudy skies. Slight chance of a rain shower. High near 65F.

Tonight: Cloudy with occasional showers

(Continued on page 6)



Prison

tax. The plea agreement on file with U.S. District Court details his scheme, which involved a variety of techniques, including: earning and then abusing the trust of various clients by telling them falsely that he would

engage in financial transactions for their benefit and using his position as a manager of the bank to identify clients who he knew did not review their monthly statements and also to identify inactive accounts from which to embezzle money because he knew the owners of such accounts

would be unlikely to detect the embezzlement. Upon learning of the embezzlement by Miller, First Tennessee reimbursed most of the losses to their accountholders.

Of the total amount he embezzled, Miller obtained ap-

proximately \$967,573.25 for his personal use. He lost or spent most of this through online gambling on various websites and making payments on various personal consumer debts. Miller

(see Prison ctd. pg. 7)

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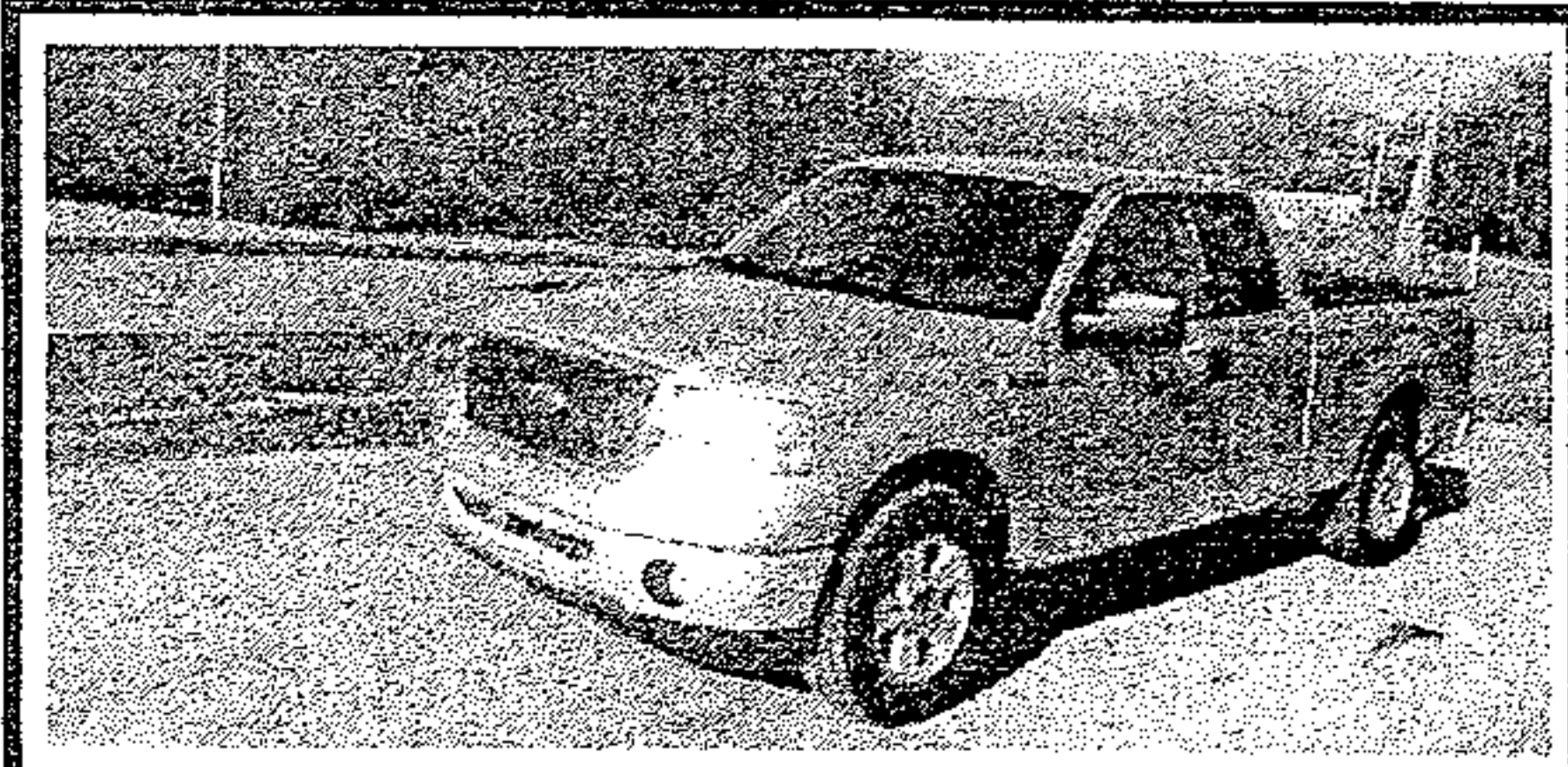
2005 Toyota Highlander 4x4, 99k, Leather, V6, Auto, PS, Sunroof, 3rd Row Seat,



2009 Jeep Liberty Chrome pkg, 52k, PW, PL, V6, Tow pkg, Luggage Rack



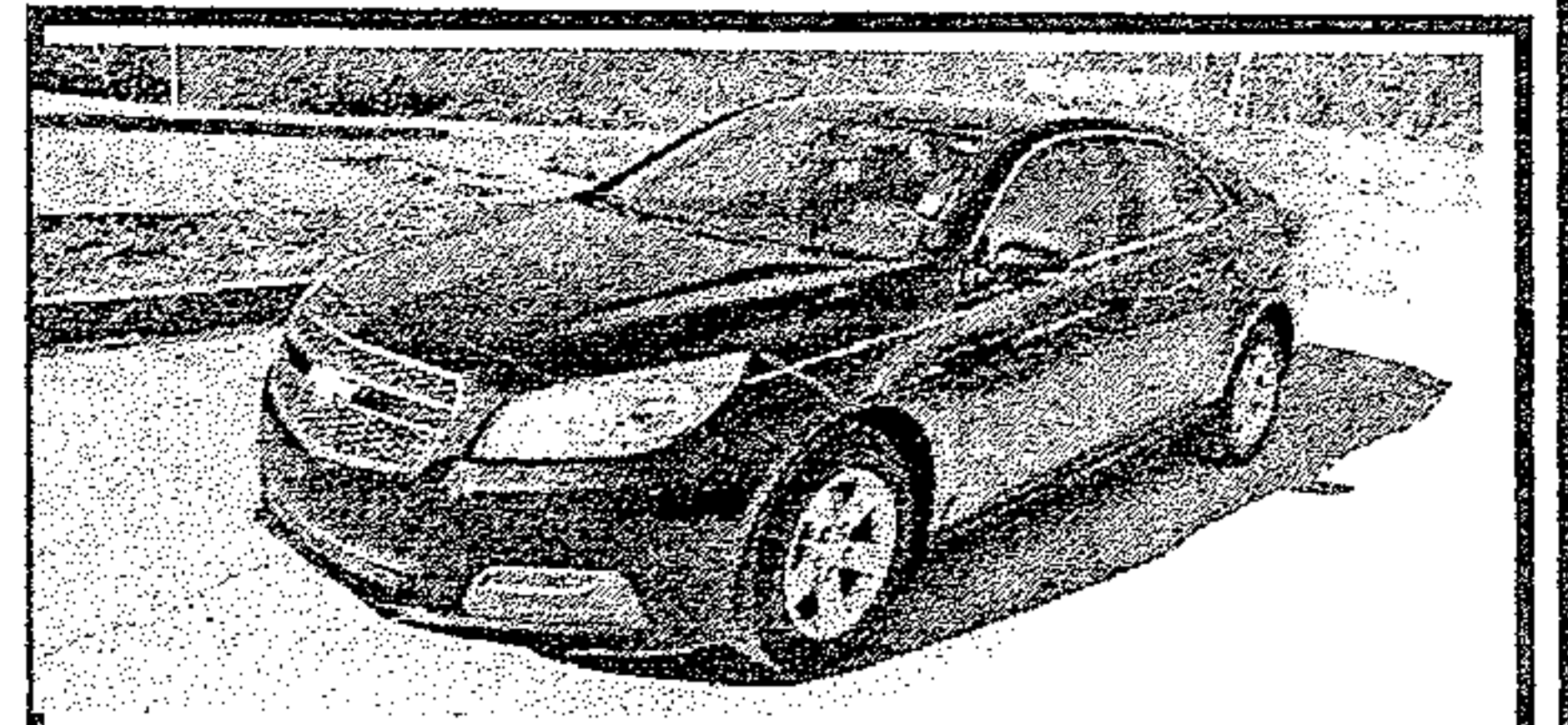
2013 Nissan Altima Remote Start, PW, PL, Auto, 2.5, Only 96k



2008 Ford F150 93k, EXT Cab, V8, Auto, Tow PKG, Bed Liner, Like New, PW, PL, A/C



2007 Chevy Tahoe NAV, Leather, PW, PL, PS, Tow pkg, Pwr 2nd Row, 3rd Row



2013 Chevy Malibu Alloy Wheels, Low Miles, Leather, Cruise, PW, PL, 37 MPG!

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DUI

Jerry Covington, 36, Dutton Road Loudon, was charged with DUI, Driving on Revoked/Suspended License, Violation of Implied Consent, and Refuse to sign agreement to appear. Deputy Lance Anderson LCSO, observed a silver vehicle traveling on Hwy 72 at 72 mph in a posted 55 mph zone confirmed by radar. Deputy traffic stopped the vehicle and made contact with the driver Jerry Covington. While speaking with Covington Deputy noticed he seemed

confused, Covington stated he takes medication to combat a pain pill addiction. Covington did poorly on sobriety test. A search of Covington revealed a prescription bottle in his pocket. Dispatch

advised his license were suspended.

Legion

What is a "Quilt of Valor" that the Village Quilters volunteer so much of their time to make? It is a special

patriotic quilt made to honor our service members and veterans; it is a civilian award to say, "Thank you for your service, sacrifice and valor". Do you know someone, a friend, relative or neighbor you would like to nominate for a "Quilt of Valor"? Check out these websites: www.govf.org/request-gov/ and the foundation site: www.govf.org. Also to learn more about your local American Legion visit www.tellicolakepost256.org or call Commander Vic Vickery, 423-884-6476. (Photo and article by James Patterson)

prison ctd. from pg. 2

did not claim any of these funds as income on his tax returns for 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015, thus evading paying taxes in the approximate amount of \$161,018.

Renae McDermott, FBI Special Agent in Charge, Knoxville Division stated, "The defendant engaged in a pattern of illegal, unauthorized transactions which violated the bank customers' confidence and trust. Today's sentencing sends a message that the FBI

prison conc. pg. 5

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Prison conc. from pg. 4 will actively investigate and pursue prosecution of persons in a position of trust and hold them accountable for their actions.”

Agencies involved

in the investigation of this case include the FBI, IRS Criminal Investigation, and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Assistant U.S. Attorney TJ Harker represented the United States.

Sequatchie County Audit Reveals Credit Card Issues

The Tennessee Comptroller has released its annual audit of Sequatchie County government, and this year's report raises

concerns about the county's use of credit cards.

Auditors reviewed a total of 136 credit card transactions and noted several instances where purchases violated the county's

credit card usage policy. This problem could result in improper use of taxpayer money.

In 22 of the 136 purchases reviewed, auditors found that credit card invoices were paid without adequate documentation to support the charges. These charges included purchases such as restaurant meals, postage, vehicle maintenance, software, and parking charges.

Auditors also noted another 12 charges for lodging that did not include documentation indicating the reason for the stay. Without documentation, auditors could not determine if these hotel stays were for the benefit of the county.

Additionally, auditors discovered several travel reimbursement requests in which employees received reimbursement for non-travel related expenditures. These legitimate county purchases included vehicle parts and tires, a vacuum cleaner, roofing materials, and coffee supplies; however, they should not have been submitted with travel reimbursement requests.

Sequatchie County leaders must also improve oversight of the county's purchasing process to ensure that purchase orders are is-

see CC ctd. pg. 7

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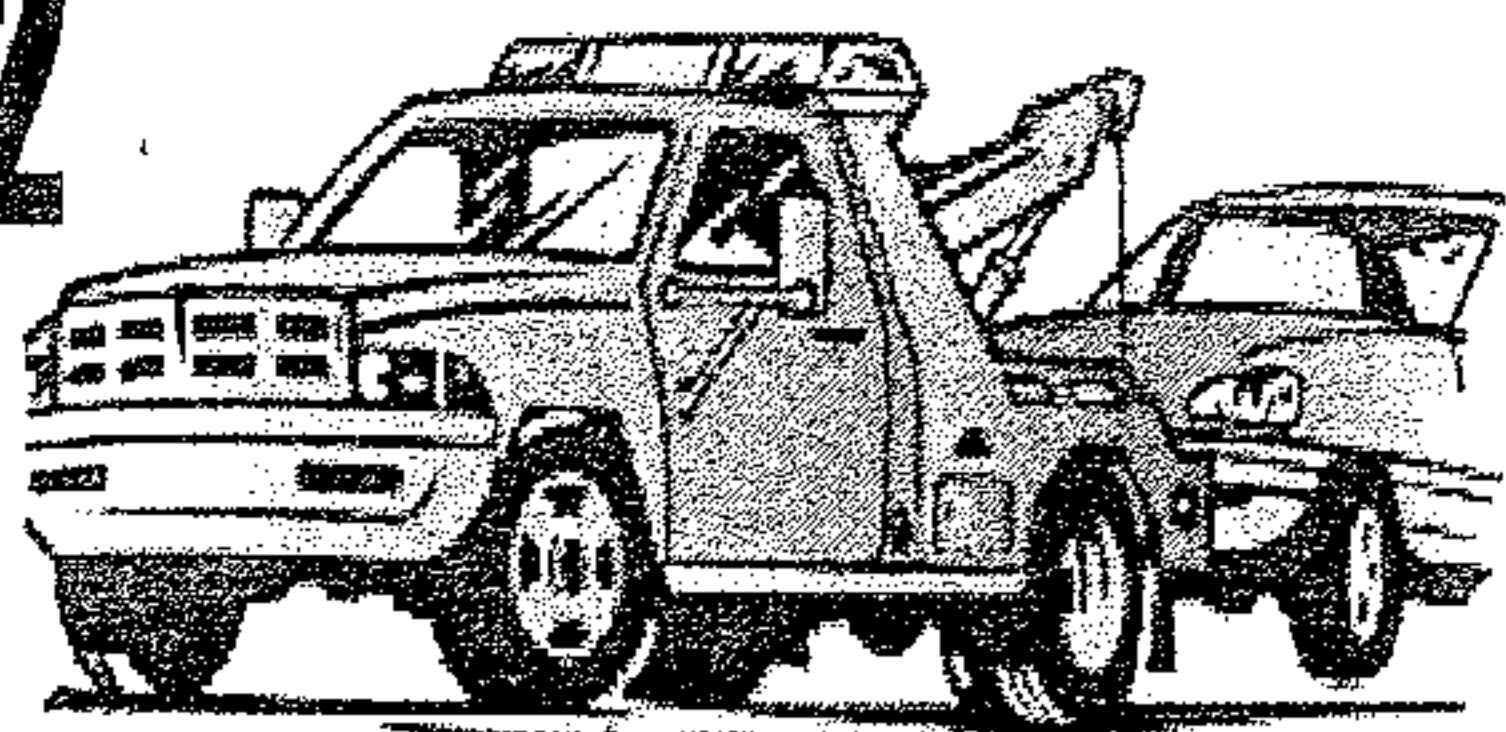
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Identity

April Bivens, 39, Henry Lane Greenback, was charged with Poss. of Drug Para., and Simple Possession.

Fredrick Hall, 44, Sharp Drive Lenoir City, was charged with Failure to Appear, Poss. of Drug Para., Simple Possession x2, and Tampering/Fabricating with Evidence.

Michael Boyd, 41, Norwood Street, Lenoir City, was charged with Driving on Revoked/Suspended License, and Poss. of Drug Para.

Investigator Jamie Ketner LCSO, was watching a house that a wanted subject was at in the area of Steekee Creek, and Corinth Church Road. There were 3 subject around

a green vehicle at the house he was watching. The vehicle left the house and Inv. Ketner attempted a traffic stop. The vehicle continued for about a half mile. The driver appeared to be putting something under the seat, and the passenger threw a plastic bag out the window. The vehicle finally came to a stop at Circle Drive. The driver was identified as Michael Boyd, the passengers April Bivens, and Fredrick Hall. Boyd stated that he did not stop because he didn't have a license. Dispatch advise Boyd license was revoked and he had a warrant out of Wayne Co. Hall had a FTA out of Loudon. Deputy ask for consent to search and was given consent. Deputy

Chris Jenkins and K-9 partner Deja arrived on scene and Deja was deployed and gave a positive alert. The following items were located under the driver seat. pipe, several needles, and a spoon with residue. In Bivens possession: one gram of marijuana, 2 digitals scales, 14 needles, 5 pipes, and 2 pills. Inv. Cosner located the bag Hall threw out the window that contained less than 1 gram of methamphetamine. All 3 subject were placed under arrest.

CC ctd. from pg. 5

sued, documentation is on file to support purchases, and competitive bids are solicited for applicable purchases.

In all, Sequatchie County's fiscal year 2016 audit report includes 10 findings, which is up from four in fiscal year 2015. The findings are related to the Offices of County Executive, Highway Supervisor, County Clerk and Sheriff.

"Sequatchie County leaders must do a better job of demonstrating accountability over taxpayer funds," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "Documentation is necessary to satisfy the public's basic desire to know that money is being spent appropriately and in compliance with county policies."

View the full Sequatchie County Audit Report at <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/la/>

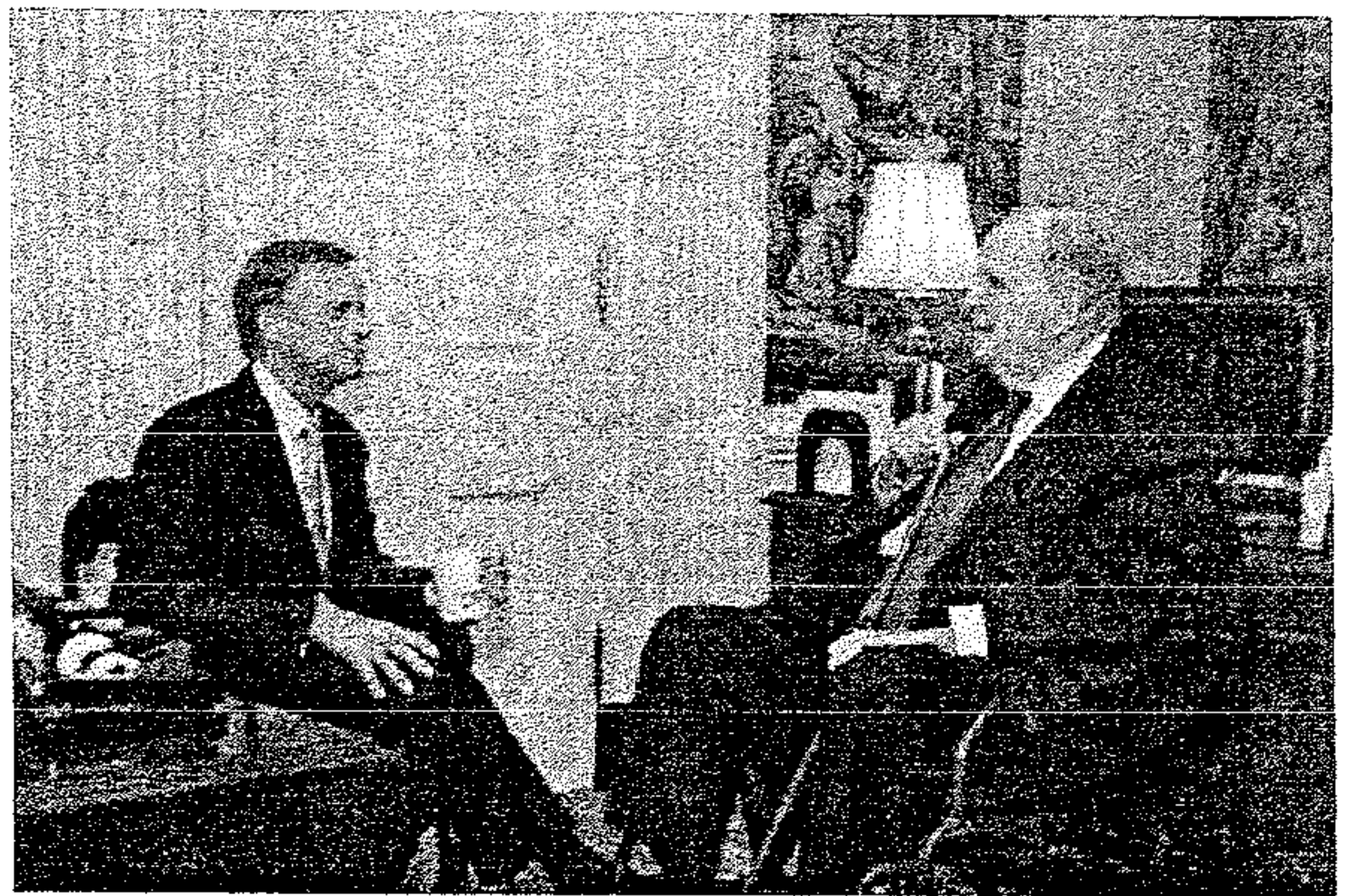
Haslam Issues Statement on Death of Sen. Douglas Henry

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam today issued the following statement on the death of former Sen. Douglas Henry:

"One of the most fun calls I have been able to make as governor was a call in 2015 to Sen. Henry when we knew we would be able to put funding for the new state museum in the budget. Sen. Henry was a tireless champion of the museum, its mission and the importance of preserving Tennessee history for future generations. His dedication to the museum may only be surpassed by his com-

mitment to the state's financial strength. I was fortunate to be able to visit with Sen. Henry Friday, and I can attest that the state's finances were still top of mind to him. He served the state for nearly 50 years, and it is not an exaggeration to say that he is one of the primary reasons the state is on such solid financial footing today. He was a powerhouse intellect, courteous, kind, genuine and a statesman, and I will miss knowing that his wisdom and perspective are only a phone call away."

- See more at: <https://www.tn.gov/news/48957#sthash.Myx59o4W.dpuf>



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