

Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, July 3, 2017

Won't speak without a lawyer? No problem we will do it at the jail!

Benjamin Cordero, 26, Cress Lane Lenoir City, was charged with DUI. Trooper Paul Clendenen THP, paced a vehicle at 83 in a 65 mph zone on I-40. A traffic stop was conducted, when Trooper approached the vehicle the driver Benjamin Cordero only cracked the window about 3 inches and

(see THP pg. 2)



Benjamin Cordero

The Case of the 'Kung Fu Panda' Fraud Massachusetts Man Made Bogus Claim Film Was His Idea

Drawing on left depicts panda from a 1996 Disney coloring book; drawing on right is one that Jayme Gordon traced and claimed was his own during his attempt to defraud the makers of the film Kung Fu Panda.

Jayme Gordon claimed the makers of the animated film "Kung Fu Panda" stole his idea and drawings for the movie, but it was discovered that Gordon had traced some of his

panda sketches from a Disney coloring book.

A Massachusetts man is behind bars after his scheme to defraud the makers of the animated film Kung Fu Panda backfired.

Jayme Gordon claimed that DreamWorks Animation SKG, Inc. stole his idea for the characters and story behind the popular 2008 film, and in 2011, the Boston-area resident filed a civil suit against

see Fraud pg. 5

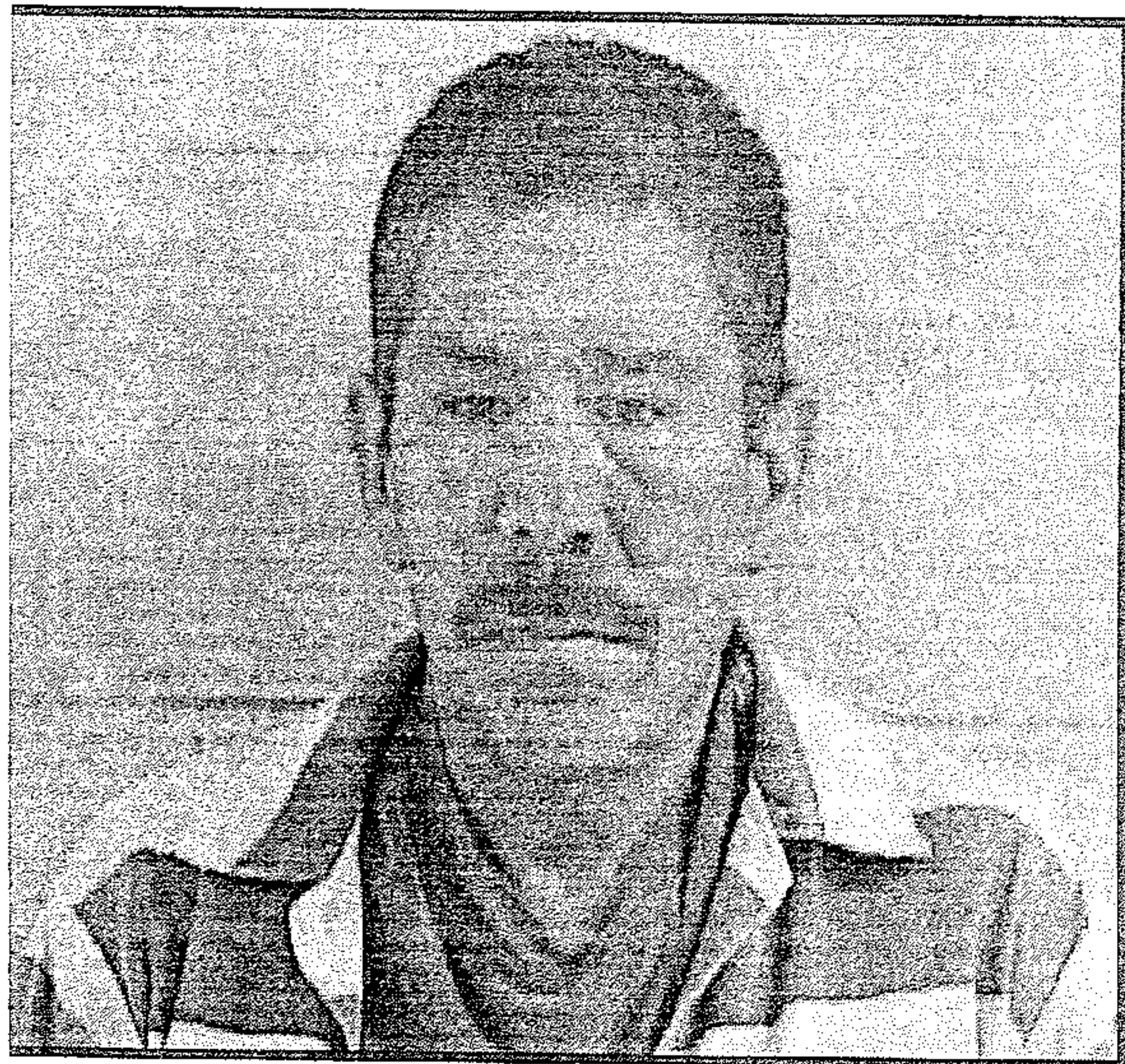
GB driver charged in DUI



Stephanie Ledbetter

see GB pg. 7

Victim cut during aggravated assault



Adan Salazar

see Assault pg. 3

Wreck call ends with DUI charge and more



Joshua Wright

(see wreck pg. 4)

Verse of the Day

Blessings crown the head of the righteous, but violence overwhelms the mouth of the wicked. — Proverbs 10:6

Obituaries

see inside **Wazzup**

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Weather

Today: Partly cloudy in the morning followed by scattered thunderstorms in the afternoon. High 88F.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible. Low

69F.

Tuesday Intervals of clouds and sunshine. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible. High 88F.

Tuesday Night Variable clouds with a slight

(Continued on page 6)



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THP

kept his hands on the wheel he would not make eye contact with the Trooper.

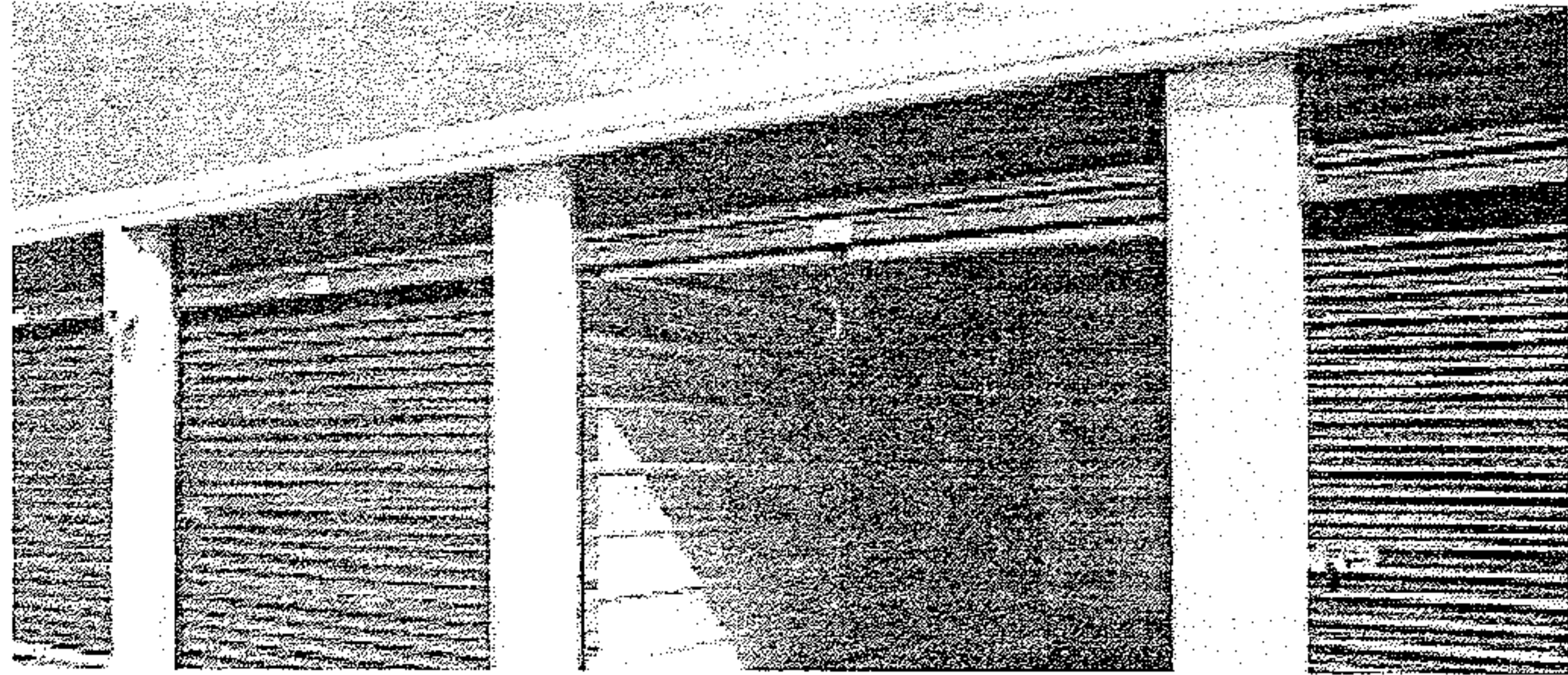
When Trooper ask for eye contact he noticed Cordero had bloodshot eyes. Trooper could smell the odor of marijuana on Cordero breath, and observed a glass pipe in the floorboard when he had Cordero exit the vehicle. Cordero did poorly on sobriety test and stated he would

not answer any questions without his lawyer present. Cordero was placed under arrest.

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The Daily Edition also serves Monroe, Knox, Anderson, Roane and Blount counties and serves 30,000 readers weekly. Send mail to PO Box 1240, Lenoir City TN 37771. 865-771-2249. email: dan1204us@yahoo.com

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2011 Nissan Pathfinder Luggage Rack, Back Up Camera, Tow PKG, PW, PL, PS,



2008 Ford F350 V10, Auto, Dually, Leather, Heated & Cooled Seats, 5th Wheel Compatible, PW, PL



2012 Jeep Liberty Alloy Wheels, Luggage Rack, V6, Auto, A/C, Low Miles, Back-Up Camera



2012 Dodge Ram 5.7 V8, 4x4, Remote Start, Flip Up Tow Mirror, Bed Liner, Tow PKG, Chrome



2007 Mazda RX8 Alloy Wheels, Sporty, 6 Spd, Sunroof, PW, PL, Bose Premium Speakers



2014 Chevy Captiva 49k, PS, PW, PL, V6, Auto Alloy Wheels, Luggage

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Assault

Adam Salazar, 44, W Broadway Lenoir City, was charged with Vandalism, and Aggravated Assault.

According to the report, Officer Christian Dragon LCPD, investigated a past assault that occurred at West Broadway. Upon Contact with the victim, he stated that he went to talk to

Adam Salazar, about his stepson's vehicle that was vandalized by Salazar.

The report noted the Victim told Salazar that he shouldn't have vandalized the vehicle, and left. Salazar came back with a knife in his hand charged victim and cut his face and left check.

Cheerleading Fund Raiser

Help out the local young ladies this Saturday, July 8 from 8am-3pm at Dependable Tire Center on East Broadway. All donations benefit the cheerleader team! All Donations are welcome also!

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Applicants should apply at the Tellico Village POA office 112 Chota Center Loudon. Directions: Highway 444 in Tellico Village turn onto Chota Road at the traffic light. Take the second driveway on left across from The Welcome Center. The POA Office is in the building on the left in the rear with the drive-thru.



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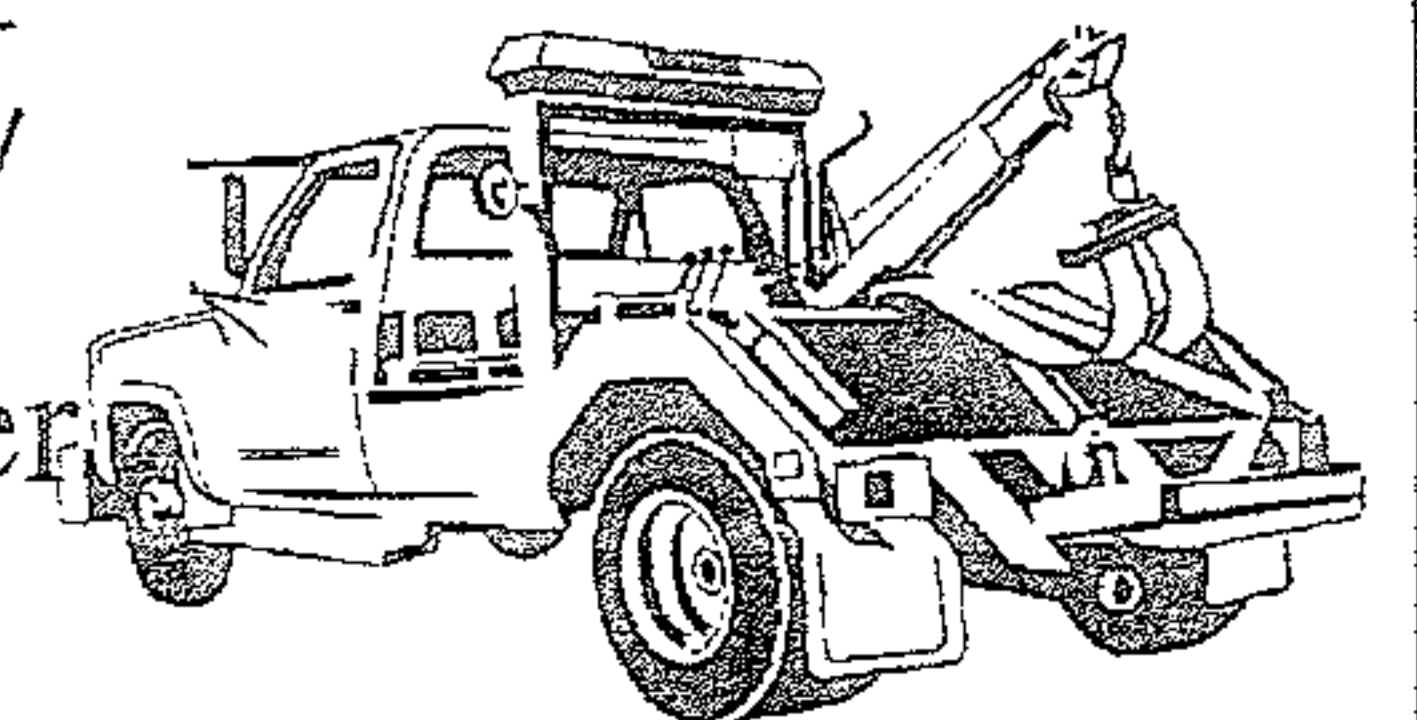
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*note: the "Rotation List" is a list of wrecker services that provide service for wrecks, DUI's, breakdowns, etc. and are on an on-call basis for service. This list is approved by the Sheriff.

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Wreck

Joshua Wright, 22, Bishop Road Knoxville, was charged with DUI, and Poss. of Drug Para. Deputy Kevin Dailey LCSO, was advised by dispatch about a caller who stated she thought she had heard a wreck around Hwy 72 at Matlock Bend Road. While in the area Deputy found a brown vehicle in the ditch at the intersection of Hwy 72 and Matlock Bend Road. Contact was made with a male at the back of the vehicle identified as Joshua Wright, who was sweating profusely which was not normal for the weather. Wright had an odor of an alcoholic beverage, and bloodshot eyes. Wright stated he would not be able to perform sobriety test due to hurting his leg but refused medical treatment. He did perform the eye portion of sobriety test and did poorly. Wright stated there was a marijuana grinder, pipe, and rolling papers in the vehicle. Wright was placed under arrest.

Obituaries

James Allen Nix, age 53 of Sweetwater, passed away Thursday, July 29th, 2017.

Known by family and friends as Jamie and "Bubba" to the kids, he was born to the late Aubrey Lee and Goldie Irene (Phillips) Nix. He was a candy maker for more than 20 years for the Blanton Candy Company, Sweetwater. He enjoyed working on his old 1970 Dodge Charger and was an avid collector of KISS and Evil Knievel memorabilia.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his nephew, Scott.

Survivors include his wife of 23 years, Yvette Fridley Nix, Sweetwater; children, Jonathon Nix, Ryan and Michael Smallwood; grandchildren, Trinity and Isaac Nix; brother, Kenneth Nix; sister, Pam Traylor; sisters in-law, Katrina Neuhard (and fiancée Donnie Erickson), and Melinda Puckett;

brother in-law, Larry Grooms; nieces and nephews, Jessica Nix, Ashley, Devin and Jared Neuhard, Tori and Mitchell Puckett, Kevin Grooms and special former brother in law, Kelly Neuhard.

Services honoring and remembering Jamie will be held 11:30 AM Saturday, July 1st in McGill Click Chapel with Rev. Gail Fridley officiating. Interment to follow in Sweetwater Valley Memorial Park. Jamie struggled with cancer which spread throughout his body and ultimately took his life. The family has asked that in place of floral or charitable gifts that financial donations may be made to the funeral home to help during this difficult time. The family will receive friends 10:00 – 11:30 AM Saturday prior to the service at McGill Click Funerals & Cremations, 1366 Hwy 72 N, Loudon
Sammie Joe Lowe, 78 of Cleveland, passed away Thursday, June 29, 2017. He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank "Roadman" and Laura (True) Lowe;

sisters, Nora and Dora Lowe; brothers, Jimmy, Charlie, Amos, Bill and Frank Lowe. Survivors include his daughters, Sandra and Cindy Lowe, of Calhoun; sister, Lucy (J.T.) Letterman, of Loudon; nephew, Billy (Pamela) Lowe, of Loudon; and grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Funeral service will

be 7:00 pm Saturday, Loudon Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Anthony Sutton officiating. Interment 11:00 AM, Sunday, Roberson Cemetery. The family will receive friends 5:00 - 7:00 pm, prior to the service on Saturday. Loudon Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.



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Fraud

the studio seeking more than \$12 million in damages.

"He said DreamWorks used his ideas, and he claimed to have evidence," said Special

Agent Scott McGaunn, who investigated the case from the FBI's Boston Division, "but it was all lies."

Protecting its intellectual property was a serious matter for DreamWorks, and the

company spent \$3 million defending itself against the charges in a case that dragged on with motions, e-mails, and depositions for more than two years.

Gordon produced drawings that appeared

to validate his claims, and his attorneys were convinced he had a strong case. "We later showed that those drawings had been falsified and backdated as part of Gordon's elaborate ruse," McGaunn

said.

Investigators learned that months before the release of Kung Fu Panda, Gordon saw a trailer for the movie. He had previously created drawings and a story about pandas—which he called "Panda Power"—that bore little resemblance to the movie characters. He proceeded to revise his "Panda Power" drawings and story, and renamed it "Kung Fu Panda Power."

Gordon later filed the copyright infringement suit against DreamWorks, and during the course of that lengthy civil litigation, he perjured himself and provided falsified documents to the court. "He was using the legal system to try and extort over \$12 million from DreamWorks," McGaunn said.

Ultimately, in addition to fabricating and backdating sketches that supported his suit, it was discovered that Gordon intentionally deleted relevant evidence on his computer that he was required to produce, and he lied during court-ordered depositions.

The truth came to light when DreamWorks learned that Gordon had traced some of his panda drawings from a Disney The Lion King coloring book. Those sketches, which he claimed to have drawn in 1992 and 1993, were copied from the coloring book, which was not published until 1996.

"The coloring book see fraud ctd. pg. 7

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GB

Fraud ctd. from pg. 5

Stephanie Ledbetter, 41, Cloyds Church Road Greenback, was charged with DUI.

According to the report, Deputy Kevin Dailey LCSO, observed a silver vehicle on Meadows Road West cross the center line multiple times. Traffic stop was initiated where the driver pulled into a driveway on Sheets Hollow Road.

Deputy made contact with the driver Stephanie Ledbetter, who had a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from her person. Ledbetter did poorly on sobriety test, and placed under arrest. Deputy located a Bud Light half full in the passenger floor board.

discovery was the smoking gun in the civil case," McGaunn said. Gordon dropped his copyright infringement lawsuit, but he was by no means done with the legal system—he was now the subject of a criminal case for the crimes he had committed. Gordon was ultimately charged with perjury and wire fraud.

At his criminal trial in 2016, Gordon maintained he had not traced his drawings from the coloring book. Instead, he claimed, Disney—like DreamWorks—had copied his drawings and based characters in The Lion King on his work. He also claimed that DreamWorks and Disney had copied other characters from his

work.

"The jury didn't buy it for a second," McGaunn said.

Gordon was found guilty on numerous counts of perjury and wire fraud. In May 2017, the 51-year-old was sentenced to two years in prison and ordered to pay more than \$3 million in restitution.

"It's possible that when Gordon first saw the movie he had believed that DreamWorks stole something from him—that he came up with the original idea for a kung fu fighting panda," McGaunn said. "But even if he did initially believe that, his actions afterward were criminal: He copied and backdated others' drawings, destroyed computer evidence he was ordered

to turn over, and lied under oath—all to further his civil suit."

In the end, McGaunn said, "Gordon was using the civil court sys-

tem to extort DreamWorks in the hopes that they would quickly settle. He was counting on that, but he was sadly mistaken."

Public Notice

Notice of Meetings

Loudon County Budget Committee will meet at 2:30pm at the Loudon County Office Building on the following dates:

Monday, July 10, 2017

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Thursday, July 13, 2017

Friday, July 14, 2017

The regular July monthly meeting will proceed as previously scheduled, on Monday, July 17, 2017, 4:00 pm at the Loudon County Office Building

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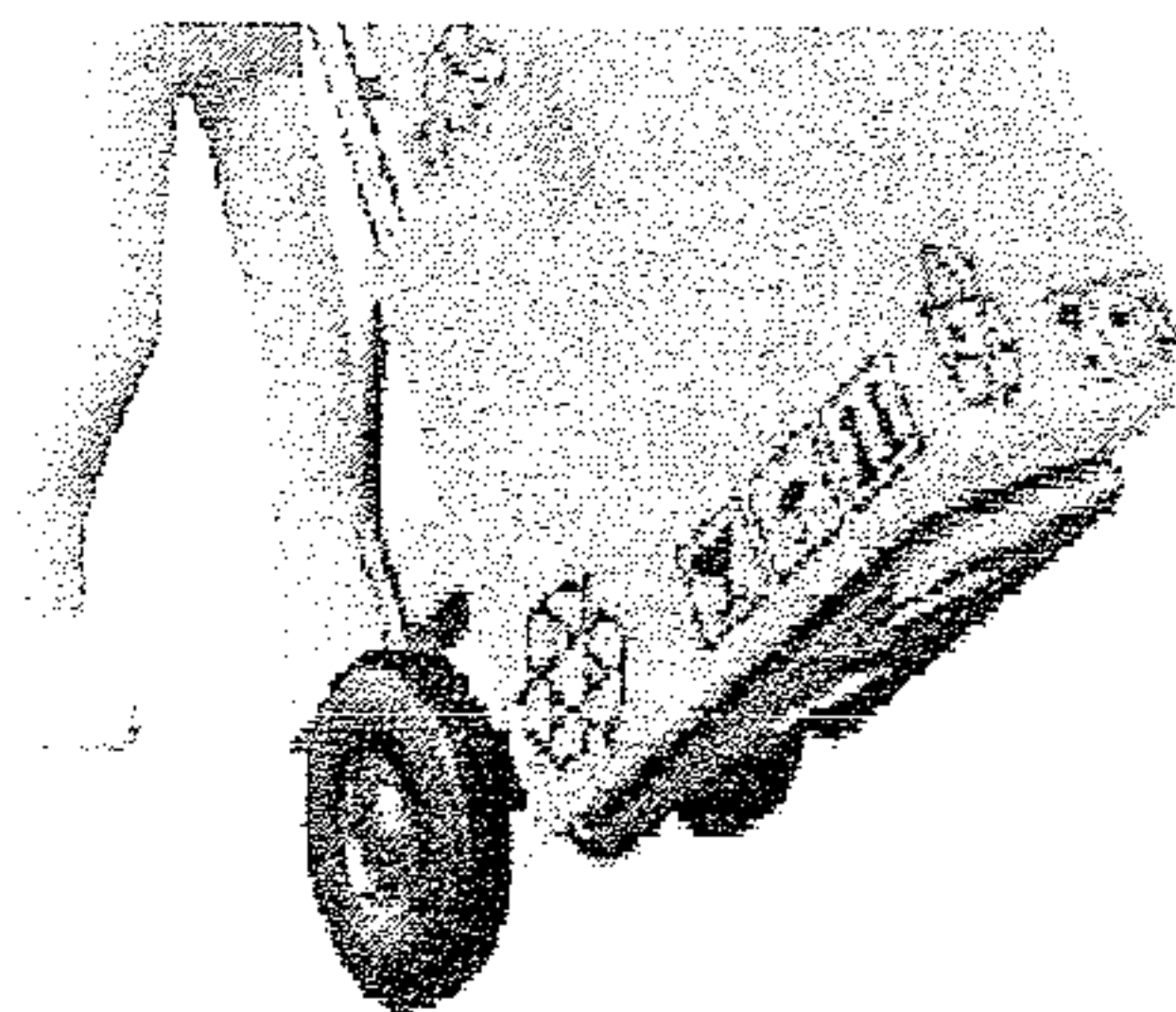
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FRIDAY 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.

