

Daily Edition

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Wednesday, February 28, 2024

First Degree Murder Charge Follows Stabbing In Apartment Complex



Daniel Stinnett

see Stabbing pg. 2

Nigerian Man Sentenced To Prison For Covid-19 Unemployment Insurance Benefits Scam

Valentine O. Odije, 35 years old, a Nigerian citizen currently residing in Georgia, was sentenced to 21 months in prison by the Honorable Thomas A. Varlan, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Odije pleaded guilty to conspiracy to use an unauthorized access device related to

his and his coconspirators' unlawful use of debit cards funded with Covid-19 unemployment insurance ("UI") benefits in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1029(b)(2). Following his incarceration, he will be on supervised release for a period of three years. In addition, he was ordered to pay restitution in the

see Scam pg. 4

Boat Accident Ends with Charges for Driver



Raymond Brannick

(see BUJ pg. 3)

Investigation Raises Concerns about Nashville Nonprofit's Use of Grant Funds

An investigation by the Tennessee Comptroller's Office shows that a Nashville-based nonprofit used grant money to make \$42,249.74 of unallowable payments, including checks written to the executive director

Successful Survivors is a nonprofit that assists individuals with mental illness and substance abuse issues. In 2018,

the organization partnered with the Tennessee Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (MHSAS) to obtain \$299,670 in grant funds to purchase and renovate a home in Nashville to use as a rehabilitation house

Investigators determined the executive director used these grant funds to pay himself "developer fees" totaling \$27,000. The

executive director told investigators that he believed he deserved the payment for facilitating the property purchase and overseeing the renovation. Successful Survivors did not receive approval from MHSAS to pay these "developer fees" and failed to provide any written documentation justifying the payments.

see Grant pg 5

Verse of the Day

Daniel replied, "No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries." — Daniel 2:27-28

Wazzup

Early Voting Is Over It's Election Day to Vote or Don't Fuss After!!

Weather

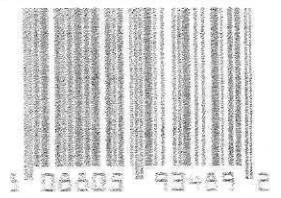
Today: Rain and wind High of 62F
Tonight: Overcast. Low of 59F
Thursday: Mostly

cloudy High of 52F
Thursday night Overcast Low of 56F

Horoscope

Pisces 2 19-3 20
An unexpected conversation with a current or potential romantic partner could

end with both of you revealing a lot of your deepest feelings. Pisces. This discussion may only indirectly concern the status of your relationship, but you will learn a lot about each other that



Stabbing

Lenoir City Police Officers responded before 7:30pm on Friday night (February 23rd) to a 911 call in reference to a stabbing in an apartment complex which is located at 791 Pearl Drive in Lenoir City. This apartment complex is located next to Lenoir City Fire Department Station No. 2 behind the Ford dealership on Hwy 321. Upon LCPDs arrival, first responders had confirmed that there was a female deceased in a common area of the apartment complex, just outside the door to the unit where she resided. LCPD Investigators, along with three agents from the Ten-

nessee Bureau of Investigation responded to the scene to assist with the crime scene and interviews of the subject and witnesses, at the request of District Attorney General Russell Johnson and LCPD Chief Don White.

The investigation revealed that the deceased female was Clara Long (age 35), and that Daniel Stinnett (age 34) was the person who stabbed her multiple times, leading to Long's death. Long's social media posts suggest that Stinnett is Long's boyfriend. Stinnett was taken into custody and charged by an arrest warrant (Case No. 202-40211262) with First-Degree Murder of Long. Stinnett was original-

ly being held without bond, and his arraignment was held Monday (February 26th) at 2:30pm. A review of his bond status along with his preliminary hearing being scheduled will take place at that time. If he cannot afford an attorney, one will also be appointed at the same time.

All persons charged with a crime are deemed innocent until proven guilty by a court of law after a jury trial or a guilty plea.

Daniel Stinnett, 34, Pearl Drive Lenoir City, was charged with First Degree Murder.

Public Notice

The Lenoir City Beer Board will meet Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Room.

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Edition will gladly reprint at no charge that part of an advertisement in which an error occurs provided a claim is made within 3 days of the first publication of the ad. Information contained in the Wizard is received anonymously and the Daily Edition assumes no responsibility for information and reserves the right to edit or reject any and/or all submissions. The Daily Edition is a daily newspaper of general circulation in Loudon County defined under F.C.A. 2-4-304(a)(13).

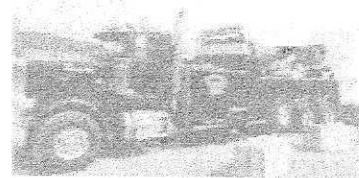
The Daily Edition also serves Mountain, Knox, Anderson, Blount and Elbert counties and serves 30,000 readers weekly. Send mail to P.O. Box 1240, Lenoir City TN 37771, 965-771-2249, email: dm1204@dailyedition.com

The Daily Edition is Loudon County's premier public interest and local advertising paper. The Daily Edition is produced and published and is circulated throughout Loudon County and parts of Monroe and Knox Counties. Daily advertising rates \$50 per line per week and printing discounts available. Call for information on advertising rates, rates, and terms.

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BUI

Raymond Brannick, 61, Ruth Street Maryville, was charged with Boating Under the Influence

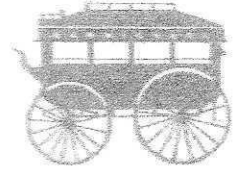
TWRA was notified about a boating incident that involved one vessel at Fort Loudon Dam in Loudon County. Upon arrival, the officer was notified that the individual later identified as Mr. Raymond Bert Brannick was the operator of the vessel. The officer went to Fort Loudon Regional Medical Center where the officer met Mr. Brannick. The officer immediately smelled the odor of alcohol on the breath of Mr. Brannick. Mr. Brannick slurred his speech as well as had difficulty with his finger dexterity. The officer asked Mr. Brannick if he had been drinking, and he admitted to drinking. The officer then requested that Mr. Brannick submit to a blood sample. Mr. Brannick gave blood. Mr. Brannick was then requested to submit to field sobriety. He consented and failed field sobriety. He was arrested and charged with violations of TCA 69-9-217 Boating Under The Influence

Police beat

Juan Garcia-Mendoza M. Mentor Road Louisville, was charged with Domestic Assault

Deputy Sean Yap LCSC, responded to Kanga Way reference to a domestic assault that just occurred. Upon arrival, Deputy made contact with the victim complainant who was at work cleaning the residence stated that her husband suspect Juan Garcia-Mendoza who she is separated from came to her job to give his co-worker something at which time they got into a verbal altercation over him cheating on her. The altercation became physical when Juan intentionally struck her on the right side of her face with an open hand and then scratched the left side of her neck causing a small laceration. The suspect then fled the scene in a Silverado truck. The victim refused fire rescue. The victim gave a written statement detailing the incident. The victim will prosecute. A photograph was taken of her injury. This did occur in Loudon County, Tennessee

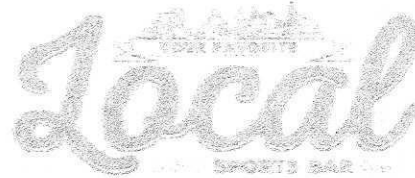
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Scam

amount of \$661,082.19 and to forfeit \$86,651.68 in cash.

As set forth in the written plea agreement filed with the court, Odije was recruited into an ongoing scheme by individuals who were filing fraudulent UI benefits claims during the pandemic. The fraudulent claims resulted in UI benefits being loaded onto debit cards that Odije possessed. Odije's role in the scheme was to use those debit cards to withdraw cash and purchase money orders. Odije knew the debit cards were funded with unlawfully obtained UI benefits. Odije recruited others to help him access the UI benefits on the

cards, selecting the cards for them to use and instructing them how to withdraw cash and purchase money orders.

On July 17, 2020, Odije and his coconspirators used four debit cards at a retail store in the Eastern District of Tennessee to collectively withdraw \$23,527.99 in UI benefits. When Odije and his coconspirators were arrested that day, Odije possessed 315 debit cards, 204 of which were funded with a total of \$661,082.19 in unlawfully obtained UI benefits.

Two of Odije's coconspirators, Dianne M. Coffie and Ayesha Shah, previously pleaded guilty in the Eastern

District of Tennessee to conducting unlawful transactions with an access device. Coffie was sentenced to three years' probation and ordered to pay \$90,000 in restitution. Shah was sentenced to two years' probation and ordered to pay \$40,000 in restitution.

U.S. Attorney Francis M. Hamilton III of the Eastern District of Tennessee; Resident Agent in Charge, Jason Brown, of the United States Secret Service; and Special Agent in Charge, Matthew Broadhurst, of the United States Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General, made the announcement.

This case is the result of an investigation conducted by the United States Secret Service and the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General.

William A. Rouch, Jr., an Assistant United States Attorney who serves as the Eastern District of Tennessee's Coro-

onavirus Fraud Coordinator, prosecuted the case.

On May 17, 2021, the Attorney General established the COVID-19 Fraud Enforcement Task Force to marshal the resources of the Department of Justice in partnership with agencies across government to enhance efforts to combat and prevent pandemic-related fraud. The Task Force bolsters efforts to investigate and prosecute the most culpable domestic and international criminal actors and assists agencies tasked with administering relief programs to prevent fraud by, among other methods, augmenting and incorporating existing coordination mechanisms, identifying resources and techniques to uncover fraudulent actors and their schemes, and sharing and harnessing information and insights gained from prior enforcement efforts. For more information on the Department's response to the pandemic, please visit <https://www.justice.gov/coronavirus>.

Public Notice

The City of Philadelphia Mayor and Board of Aldermen will meet in a Workshop Meeting on Monday, March 25, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Philadelphia Public Library.



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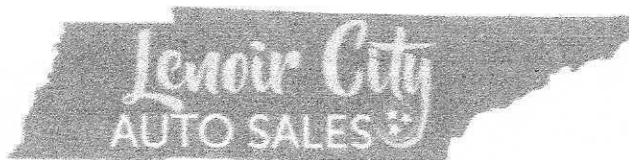
10 Hybrid, Loaded Up!!!
Only \$1600 Down Delivers*



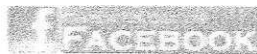
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Grant

Additionally, investigators found that \$4,000 in grant funds was donated to the Greater Heights Missionary Baptist Church, where the executive director of Successful Survivors serves as pastor. Contributions and donations are prohibited according to the Code of Federal Regulation grant guidelines.

Successful survivors also failed to provide invoices or receipts for 34 payments totaling \$9,404.11 related to the renovation of the Nashville home and paid miscel-

laneous unallowable taxes totaling \$1,845.63 with grant funds.

Other findings noted by investigators include Successful Survivors filing false information with the Internal Revenue Service and Tennessee Secretary of State.

The results of this investigation have been communicated to the Office of the District Attorney General of the 20th Judicial District.

"Nonprofits must ensure they collect and retain adequate documentation to support grant expenditures," said Comptroller Mumpon-

et. "It's also vital the Board of Directors provide adequate oversight to implement internal controls over financial reporting and other oper-

To view the investigative report, go to ncot.ec.doire

Public Notice

Loudon County Republican Women meets the 4th Monday of Apr, July, Aug, Sep, and Oct; and the 3rd Monday of May, at the Avalon Community Clubhouse (140 Deerfield Court, Lenoir City, TN 37772). Social time at 5:30 pm; meeting at 6:00 pm.

Further information, contact President Sandy Kennel 1-615-429-0010. Follow the Loudon County Republican Women (LCRW) on Facebook to keep up-to-date.

Public Notice

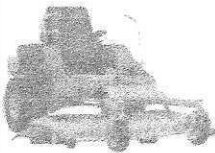
The City of Philadelphia Mayor and Board of Aldermen will meet in a Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, March 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Philadelphia Public Library.

Lenoir City Lawn

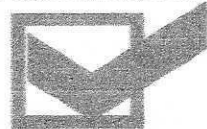
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Horoscopes

could cause you to seriously consider whether or not you want to continue the relationship.

Aries 3 21-4 19

Some rather intense work, perhaps involving in-depth research, could take up much of your time today, Aries. You could spend a lot of time in libraries or on the Internet trying to discern certain facts that you need for a project that could make a big difference in your income.

Taurus 4 20-5 20

Today, Taurus, you could direct an overwhelming amount of love and passion toward a current or potential romantic partner. Your friend might feel a little taken aback, but is likely to be flattered and therefore respond in a positive manner. This might not have the potential to become a committed relationship, so don't expect anything from it.

Gemini 5 21-6 20

Information that you retrieve from deep within your psyche might lead to a revelation as to a great way to increase your income, Gemini. This could be something you read and forgot, or it might be something you overheard in a restaurant.

Cancer 6 21-7 22

Today, Cancer, you might attend a group event of some kind. While there, you could encounter an old friend who seems to have changed. As a result, you might find this person very attractive and direct a rush of physical passion their way.

Leo 7 23-8 22

A new creative project of some kind, perhaps involving modern technology, could set your career in a new direction, Leo. This may be the break you've been hoping for, and you're apt to be very excited about it. Any new enterprise begun today is going to have its ups and downs,

but all signs indicate that it will succeed.

Virgo 8 23-9 22

If you're taking a trip any time soon, Virgo, you can expect to experience a powerful attraction for someone you meet along the way. This will definitely make your journey more interesting; however, the friendship might not survive the trip. You may be from opposite sides of the country, and one or both of you could be involved with other people.

Libra 9 23-10 22

You could soon receive news of an unexpected cash inflow, Libra. This might be money earned on your own, but it's more likely to be investment income. If you own stocks, bonds, or land, expect their value to skyrocket.

Scorpio 10 23-11 21

Today the energy is on partnerships, Scorpio, probably those begun on the spur of the moment. You and a colleague might have a conver-

sation about the possibility of going into business together.

Sagittarius 11 22-12 21

Have you been entertaining the idea of changing jobs, Sagittarius? If so, put out some feelers today. You've been working hard and may have felt as if you've been barking up the wrong tree.

Capricorn 12 22-01 19

A rebirth of romance in your life could take place today, Capricorn. If you're currently involved with someone, a happy event could enrich the bond between you and bring you closer together. If you aren't presently attached, you could be by the end of the day.

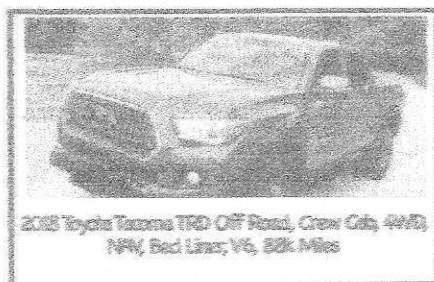
Aquarius 1 20-2 18

Today you might notice a change in yourself, Aquarius. You could look in the mirror and see that you suddenly look as gorgeous as a movie star. This change in your outer self is due to transformations taking place within. Treat yourself to some new clothes. It's a great time to do it!

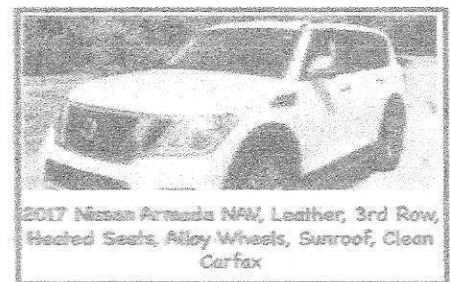
Good Credit OK • Bad Credit OK • Bankruptcies OK • Repo OK



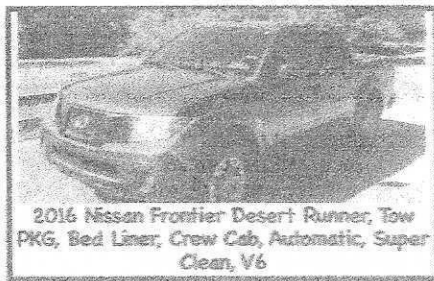
2018 Toyota Rav4 Adventure Edition, Sunroof, AWD, Luggage Rack, NAV, Sport Mode, 28 MPG



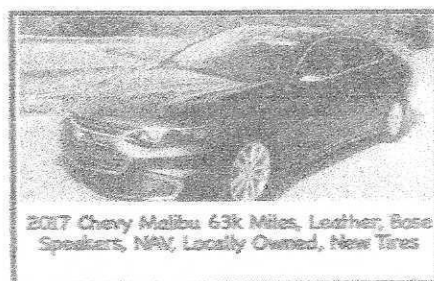
2018 Toyota Tacoma TRD Off Road, Crew Cab, 4WD, NAV, Bed Liner, V6, 88k Miles



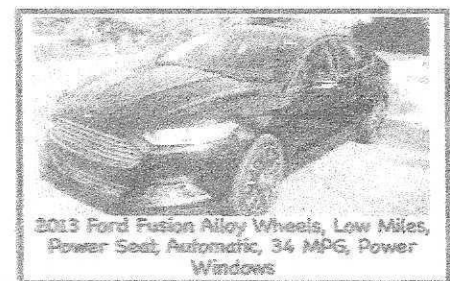
2017 Nissan Armada NAV, Leather, 3rd Row, Heated Seats, Alloy Wheels, Sunroof, Clean Carfax



2016 Nissan Frontier Desert Runner, Tow PKG, Bed Liner, Crew Cab, Automatic, Super Clean, V6



2017 Chevy Malibu 63k Miles, Leather, Bose Speakers, NAV, Locally Owned, New Tires



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Obituaries

Sarah C. Reynolds - age 92 of Lenoir City, TN, went home to be with her Savior on Thursday, February 22, 2024

Sarah was born on January 13, 1932 in Sparta, TN. She was a member of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in Loudon. Sarah loved her church and her church family. She enjoyed fishing, skiing and hiking. Sarah was a huge U. T. Sports Fan and loved the Pride of the Southland Band. Sarah and her late husband volunteered with Loudon County Habitat for Humanity for several years,

and they recognized her as a Loreal Woman of Worth and a Life Achievement Award for Volunteerism

Sarah was preceded in death by her husband, Richard F. Reynolds, parents, James O. Kimsey and Bessie Barber Kimsey, siblings: J.O. Kimsey, Kay Secrist, Elizabeth Daly, Georgina Parker, twin brother Edward Kimsey

Survived by her children: Melodie Spitzer, Larry Keel and wife, Nedra, John David Reynolds, Debra Williams and husband, Hazen, Barbara Swaggerty and hus-

band, Steve; grandchildren Lisa Hunt, Michael Swaggerty and wife, Ashley, Nicole Swaggerty, Richard K. Reynolds, Alison Cox and husband, Taylor, 9 great grandchildren: Lilly and Isabelle Hunt, Cooper Reynolds, and Landon Swaggerty, McKinley and Mollie Dunlap, Maverick, Ace and Goldie Cox, many nieces and nephews

The family will receive friends from 1- 3 p.m on Thursday, February 29th in the Parish House at the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in Loudon. Funeral services with communion

will follow at 3 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Rev. Amy Morehouse will be officiating. Serving as pallbearers will be: David Reynolds, Steve Swaggerty, Taylor Cox, Landon Swaggerty, Lisa Hunt, Nicole Swaggerty and Alison Cox

Family and friends will gather at 8:30 Friday morning, March 1st in the East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery on John Sevier Highway for graveside services and interment

Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements



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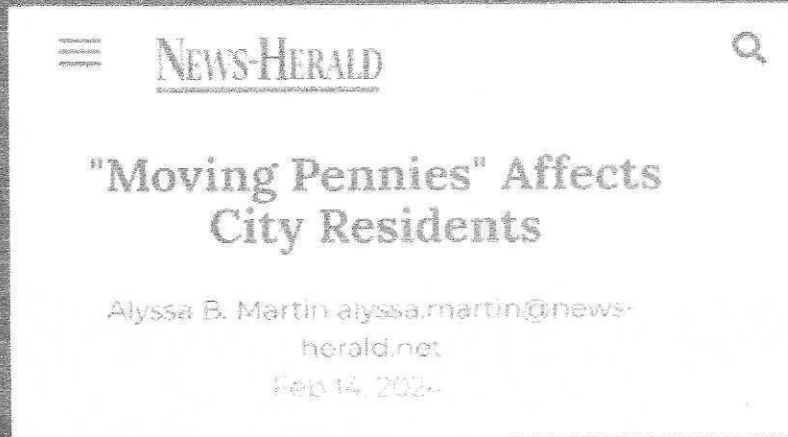
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