

# The Daily Edition

50¢

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Friday, March 13, 2020

## Community mourns loss of child at hands of mother



see Murder pg. 2

## Teen charged after meth and more found in traffic stop



Jada Allison

see Meth pg. 3

## Man gets scared and flees wreck scene; LCPD files charge



Marvin Melendez

see Leave Scene pg. 5

## All Five Defendants Convicted in Federal Cream Fraud Scheme

All five defendants have been convicted in federal court for their roles in a scheme defrauding both private insurance companies and government insurance programs of over \$30 million dollars. The scheme involved sham prescriptions for compounded creams and

medications, often-times issued without the supposed patient even knowing about them, and were frequently signed by a health care provider who never even met the patient. Jerry Wayne Wilkerson, 40, Michael Chatfield, 31, Kasey

Nicholson, 34, Billy Hindmon, 39, and Jayson Montgomery, 40, were convicted in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee at Chattanooga. The Honorable Harry S. Mattice, Jr. presided over the tri-

See Scheme P.4



### Verse of the Day

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

—Colossians 3:12

### Wazzup

Everything is being cancelled nationwide over the coronavirus yet schools are still going every day across the country, yea makes sense.

### Weather

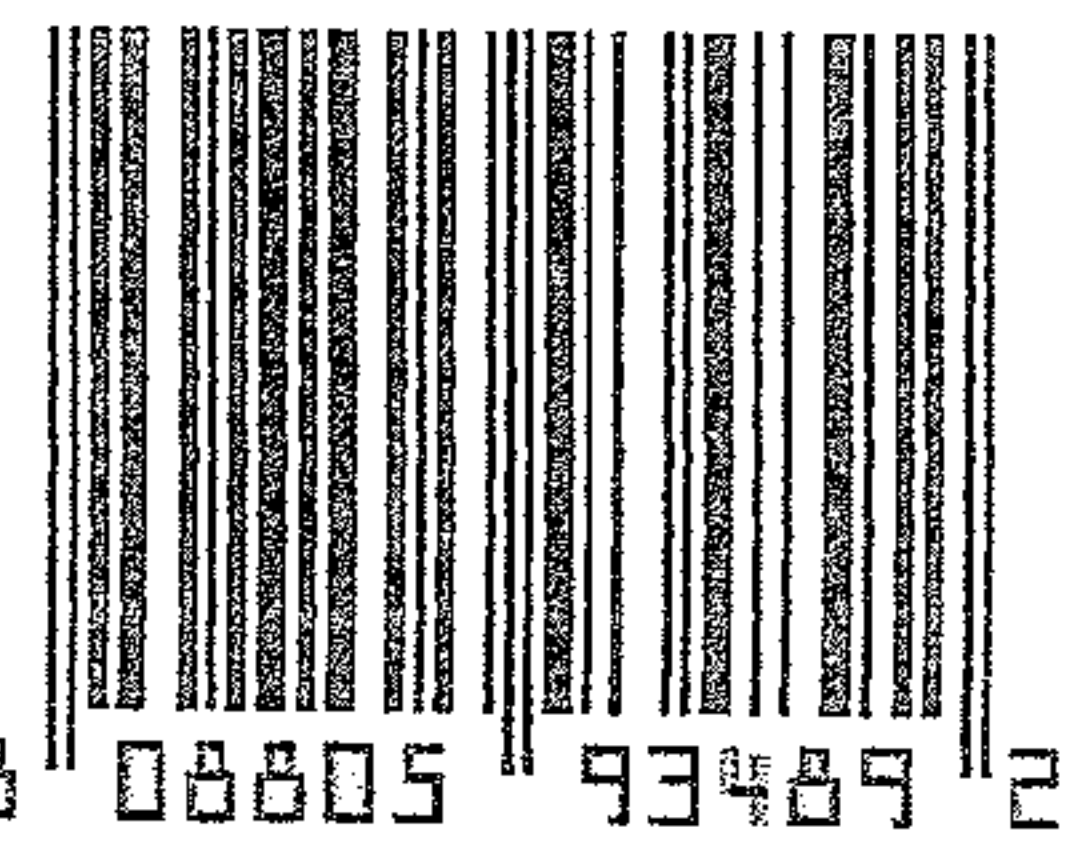
Today: Chance of rain. High of 66F.  
Tonight: Cloudy. Low of 53F  
Saturday: Chance of rain. High of 55F.  
Saturday night: Rain possible. Low of 46F.

Sunday: Rain likely. High of 56F.  
Sunday night: Rain. Low of 48F.

### Horoscopes

Pisces 2/19-3/20  
Deep rumblings of adventure are stirring  
(Continued on page 6)

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**Murder**

Lenoir City Police Detectives are investigating the fatal stabbing of a 3-year-old boy stabbed at an apartment complex early Wednesday morning.

According to LCPD Chief Don White, Melani Sue Brown, 38, is considered the main suspect after police responded to a reported stabbing around 2:40 a.m. at the McGhee

Square Apartments on Kelly Lane.

Charges are expected soon as Lenoir City investigators are working with 9th Judicial District Attorney General Russell Johnson's office.

Chief White further reported the child's grandmother made the report. The initial investigation shows Melani Brown contacted the grandmother and said she was out walk-

ing around.

Officials say the grandmother found the child, King Brown, on the floor and began to administer CPR. Emergency Medical Services

took over once they arrived at the scene.

While this was happening, Melani Brown allegedly stabbed herself in the neck and chest in an

Murder ctd. pg. 3

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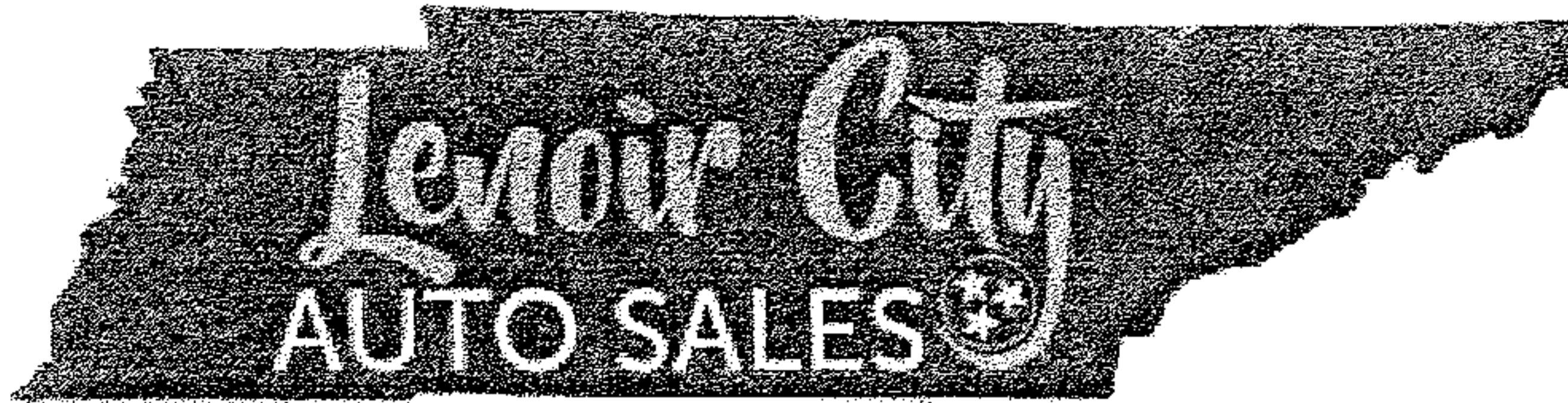


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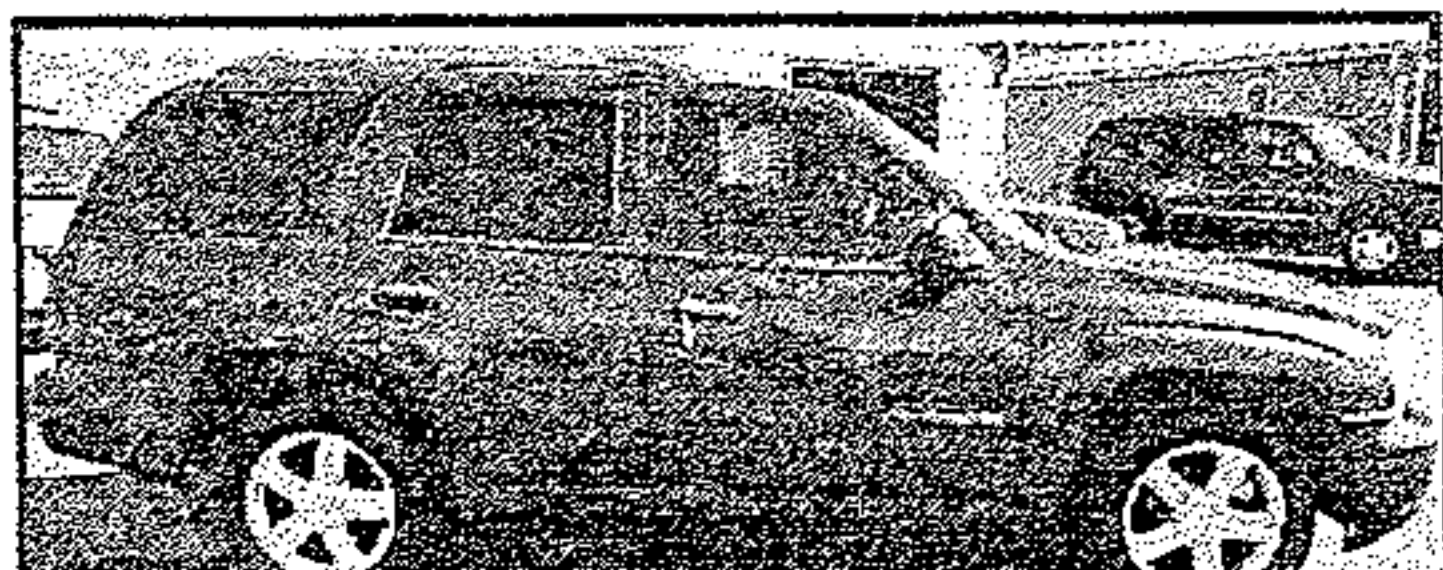
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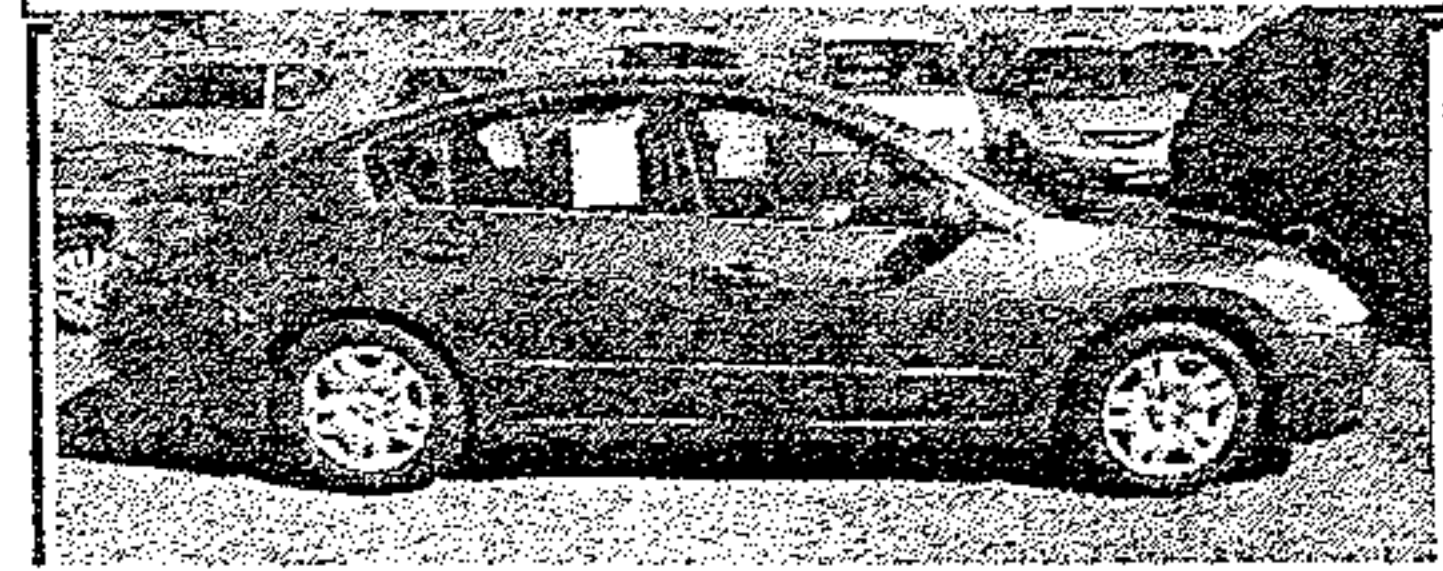
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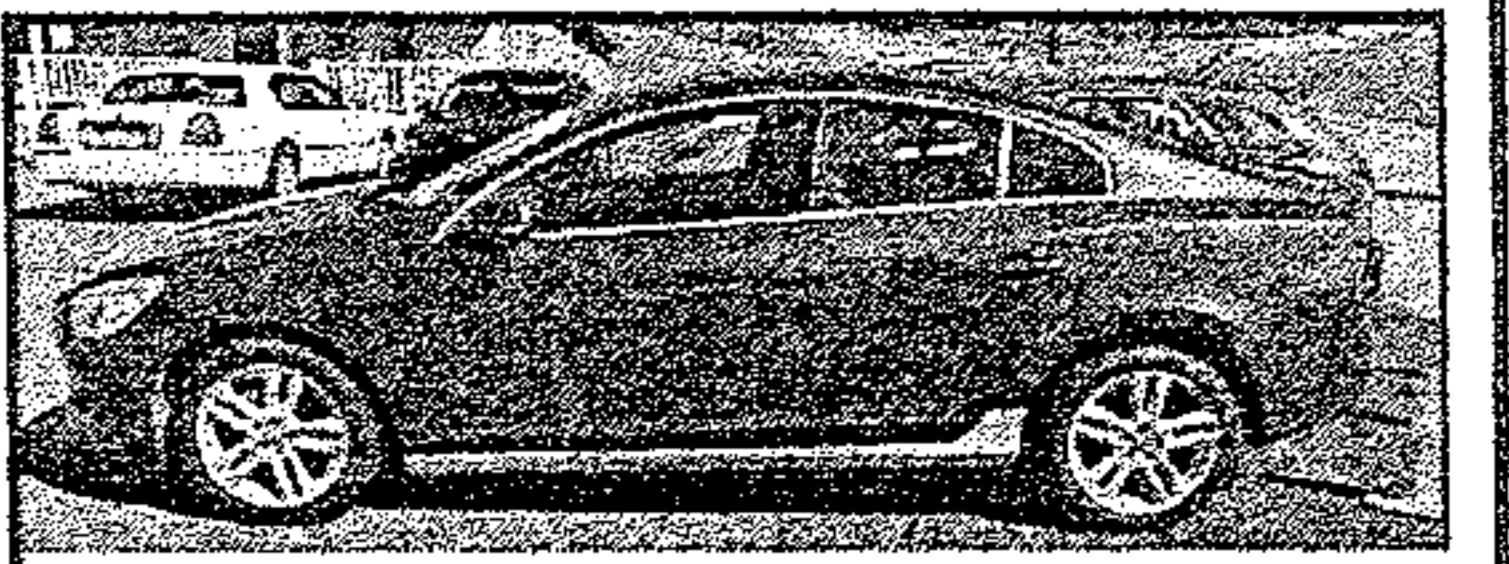
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Murder ctd. from pg. 2

attempt at suicide, a police official said. She has been transported to UT Medical Center.

According to White, Brown was recovering from surgery, but was considered 'in serious condition.

Chief White also said that the department of child services had been notified about Melani Brown multiple times within the last three years.

A spokesperson for TDCS said she can confirm that "DCS has opened an investigation. State privacy protection laws prohibit me from making any other comments or confirming any other information."

Editors Note: This once again is another example of DCS failing another child in America. DCS has failed on numerous occasions across the country and continue to hide behind their blanket of "privacy protection laws". There should no such thing in this case since the child is now deceased.

**Dui**

Jada Allison, 19, Town Creek Circle Lenoir City, was charged with Man/Sell/Del/Sale or Poss. Of Meth, Simple Possession, and Poss. of Drug Para. Deputy Green LCSO, observed a gold vehicle traveling South on Hwy 11 near Fork Creek Road. The vehicle registration plate was not illuminated. Deputy followed behind the vehicle and observed the driver of the vehicle drop a cigarette out the window. Deputy also observed the vehicle drift into the opposite lane of travel. Deputy conducted a traffic stop and made contact with

3 occupants. Jada Allison was identified as the front seat passenger. Deputy could smell a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. Allison handed Deputy a small marijuana cigarette. Deputy had all occupants exit the vehicle, Allison then handed Deputy a baggie of a green leafy substance weighting approx.. 4 grams. Deputy ask Allison if there were any other drug inside the vehicle, she then stated she had a quarter of meth. Upon search of the vehicle Deputy recovered three separate baggies containing a combined 16 grams of white crystal like substance believed to be meth located in the back seat floor board inside a makeup bag, and a glass pipe. Allison stated that all of the items were hers. Jada Allison was placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail.

**IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR LOUDON COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

Regarding the Estate of:  
JOYCEANN HARRIS, deceased DKT# 6056

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
(As required by Chapter No 180, Public Acts of Tennessee 1809  
As Amended by Public Chapter 806 on 05/09/2012 )

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd DAY OF MARCH 2020 Letters of Testamentary in respect of the estate of JOYCE ANN HARRIS who died on the 17th day of January 2020be issued to the undersigned by the Loudon County Probate Court of Loudon County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and nonresident, having claims, matured or unmatured against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claim will be forever barred:

- (1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or
- (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or
- (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

THIS THE 3rd DAY OF MARCH 2020  
Steve Harrelson, Clerk  
BY: Robyn Shannon, Deputy Clerk  
Penny Glasgow, Chief Deputy Clerk

By Personal Representative(s)  
RANDALL HARRIS

Notice to Creditors:  
All Claims must be submitted on a claim form, notarized with invoices/statements; in triplicate, with a fee of \$11.00 to Loudon County Probate Court , 12680 Highway 11 West Ste. 3, Lenoir City , TN 37771  
Run date: 3-6-20 & 3-13-20

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**Public Notice**

The City of Philadelphia Mayor and Board of Aldermen will have the second and final reading of the Ordinance No. 20200113 "Purchasing Policy" for the City of Philadelphia on Monday, March 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. located at the United Methodist Church of Philadelphia.

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## Scheme

al and scheduled sentencing for all five individuals for June 8, 2020.

The charges of healthcare fraud, wire fraud, mail fraud, illegal kickbacks, and money laundering in the 178-count indictment centered on a scheme in which the defendants marketed topical creams and other medications through prescription drug coverage plans that paid for the creams and medications. The creams were compounded by a pharmacy, meaning they were supposed to have been uniquely formulated specifically for the needs of an individual patient, thus justifying the exorbitant cost—sometimes more than \$15,000 per tube. However, the proof at trial showed there was nothing unique about these creams, and in fact the prescription forms were usually pre-printed documents filled out in mass by the marketers. A health care provider's signature was oftentimes stamped on the document by employees of the defendants. The defendants all profited from the fraud, including the pocketing of millions of dollars of kickbacks from prescriptions billed to Tricare, which is the government-funded health insurance program for active duty and retired military servicemen and women.

The four-year investigation revealed that the defendants used a network of in-person marketing by convincing friends and family members to sign up for revolving ship-

ments of exorbitantly priced topical creams and medications, some prescribed without seeing a physician or others which were not medically necessary. The majority of the time, these medications were neither needed nor wanted by the named patient: but were ordered strictly for monetary gain. On some occasions, orders were placed without the knowledge or approval of the patient, and their insurance would then be billed for these items. The proof at trial showed that Wilkerson collected at least \$13 million in commissions from the scheme.

Insurance companies and Tricare paid a total of roughly \$35 million for the compounded medications in this case.

"Fraud such as this affects everyone. It increases what we all pay for healthcare and prescription drugs. Scam artists put their own financial interests ahead of the safety of others and ignore instituted laws, which protect the taxpayer and our funded healthcare system," said U.S. Attorney J. Douglas Overbey. "Worse, much of the fraud in this case was directed at Tricare, the government program which insures our active duty and retired military personnel. The Hamilton County School System, a self-insured system funded by the taxpayers of Hamilton County, was also defrauded of over \$950,000. When people steal from the taxpayers, they steal from all of us."

"A key aspect of the FDA's mission to protect the public health is creating a regulatory framework that helps ensure that compounded drugs are dispensed only under a valid prescription and to patients who have a legitimate medical need for them," said H. Peter Kuehl, Acting Special Agent in Charge, FDA Office of Criminal Investigations Miami Field Office. "We will continue to investigate and bring to justice those who put profits above the health and safety of Americans."

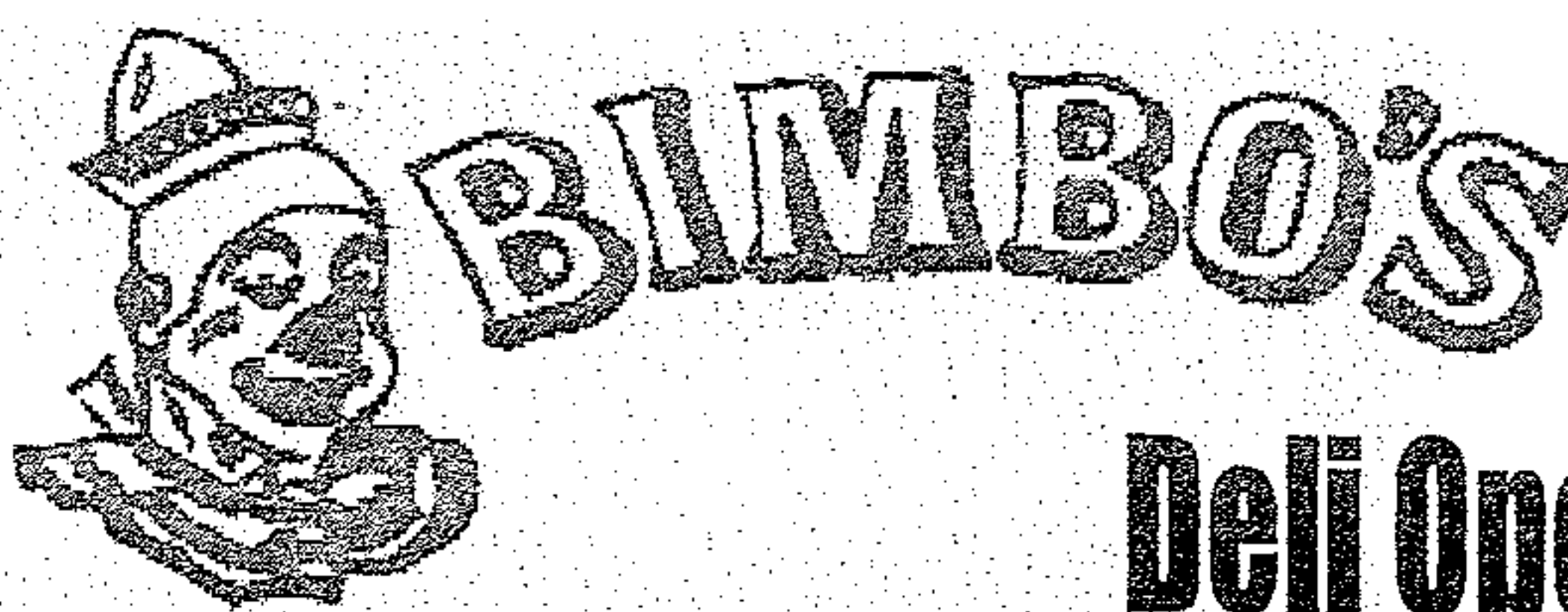
Assistant United States Attorneys Perry H. Piper and Frank P. Clark represented the United States at trial and were assisted by paralegal Kris Eslinger. The case was investigated by Special Agent Brian Kriplean, Food and Drug Administration, Office of Criminal Investigations, and Special Agents Erik Srock and Marian Schmidt, Department of Defense Office of Inspector General, Defense Criminal Investigative Services.

### Help Wanted

AAA septic is looking to hire a full time and part time employee. Septic or plumbing experience is preferred; however, CDLs are required. Please contact Robby at 865-388-6939 with any questions or how to apply.

## Public Notice

The City of Philadelphia Mayor and Board of Aldermen will meet in a regular scheduled monthly meeting on Monday, March 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. located at the United Methodist Church of Philadelphia.



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*It's bad when even the mexican restaurant wants ya to leave!*

Regina Helton, 40, Abbott Road Lenoir City, was charged with Public Intoxication.

Officer Shannon Runyun LCPD, was dispatched to the Casa Fiesta on Hwy 321 to a disturbance, and possible public Intoxication call. Upon arrival Officer made contact with Regina Helton walking circles in the parking lot obviously under the influence of a drug or alcoholic beverage. Once other Officers arrived Helton was detained for further investigation. Patrons of Casa Fiesta and management stated Helton was eating inside the dining area and started causing a verbal disturbance causing customers to be afraid and disrupting normal business. Helton was ask to leave by staff who also called for assistance by the Police Dept. Regina Helton was placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail.



Regina Helton

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**Leaves Scene**

Marvin Melendez, 23, Maple Street St Lenoir City, was charged with Leaving the Scene of an Accident. Officer Jonathan Yates LCPD, worked a wreck with property damage on E Street at 7th Ave. The offender had hit a parked vehicle. The offender fled on foot prior to Officer arrival. Officer cleared the wreck with out locating a driver. Later Officer was able to identify the driver/owner of the vehicle as Marvin Melendez. Marvin offered to meet the Officer at the Police Dept. and show ownership of the vehicle. Marvin

did admit to driving the vehicle, and became scared and fled the scene. Marvin Melendez was placed under arrest.

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