Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, March 16, 2020

DA seeks out of the norm Grand Jury indictment amid possible court closure



DA General Russell Johnson

District Attorney General Russell Johnson reported they were having a meeting of the Loudon County Grand Jury Friday morning on the case involving Melani Sue Brown and the apparent homicide of her three year old son from early Wednesday morning at McGhee Square Apartments in Lenoir City.

see Murder pg. 2

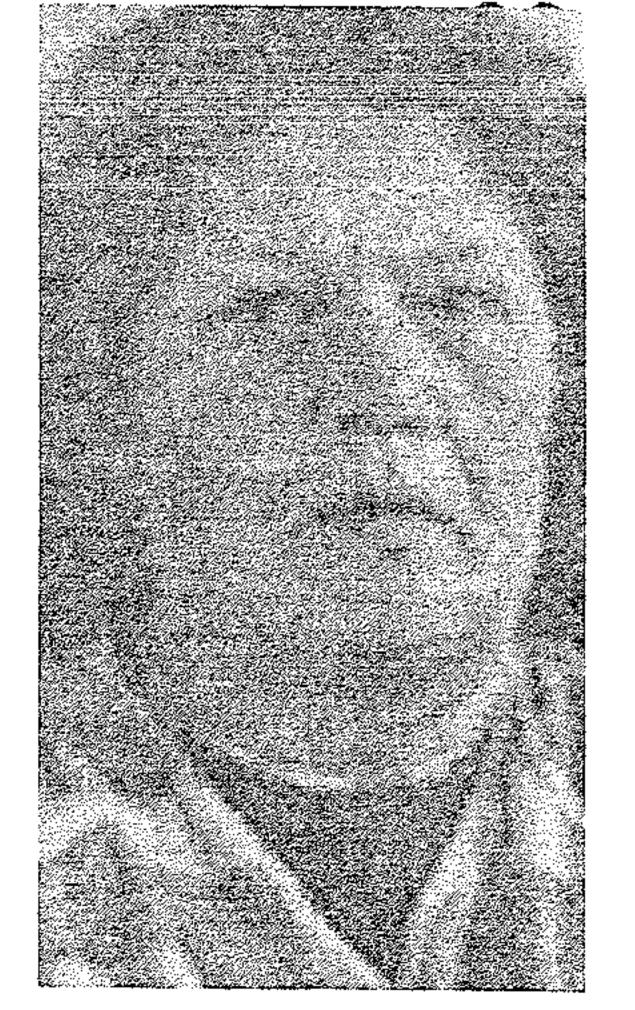
Loudon man charged domestic assault



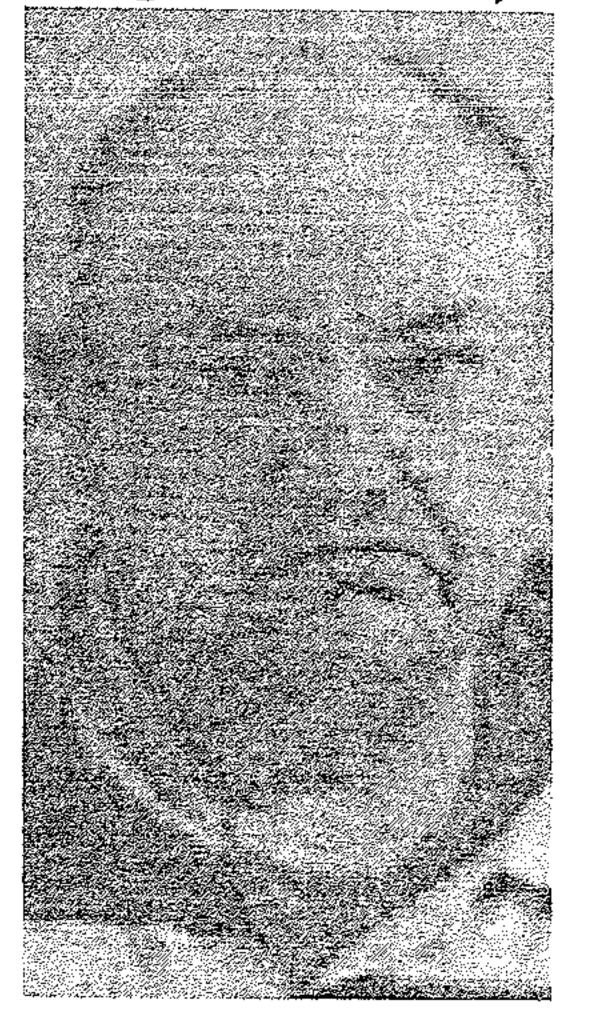
Daniel Hardin

see DV pg. 3

Heroin, meth and more found after stolen vehicle stopped by LCSO; trio charged



Letina Azure



Brandon Laducer



Marissa Thomas

Public Assistance Remains Crucial to Helping Catch Dangerous Fugitives

The seeds of the reporter—who'd FBI's Ten Most asked for a list of Wanted Fugitives the "toughest guys" list were planted on the Bureau want-February 7, 1949, ed to arrest—the after The Wash- names of 10 danington Daily News gerous individuals. published the article The resulting "FBI's Most Wanted news story be-Fugitives Named." came so popular The FBI's public af- that the FBI crefairs function at the ated the Ten Most time had given the Wanted Fugitives

See FBI P.4

Verse of the Day

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

—Galatians 3:13

Wazzup

This Coronavirus is Today: Clear. High of Pisces 2/19-3/20 shutting everything the bills won't take a break! Stay safe everyone and wash your hands!

Weather

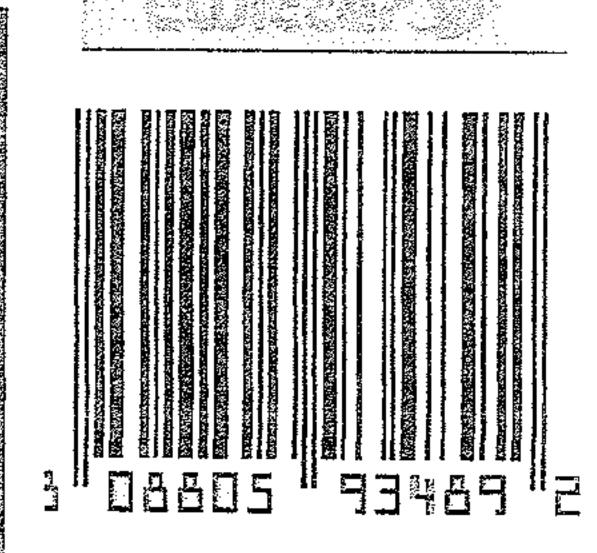
Low of 53F.

63F. 49F 65F.

LIKE US ON see Trio pg. 5 El facebook

Horoscopes

A friend may come to down but you can bet Tonight: Clear. Low of you for guidance today, and this is a resource you Tuesday: Clear. High of have in spades and are happy to offer. Let your Tuesday night: Clear, depth of wisdom shine (Continued on page 6)



Murder

The reason for the grand jury meeting today on this case is that on Wednesday evening and all day Thursday, UT Hospital was telling us that they were going to release the suspect in this case, Melani Brown, within the next day of so. So, if she is to be released, we need to either have her arrested on an arrest warrant or on a capias from an indictment

issued by a grand jury. In order to hold her in custody and not be released back into the community we have to have some sort of criminal process issued - warrant or indictment.

The next scheduled regular meeting of the Loudon Grand Jury is not until April 13th. Grand juries meet once a month in one of our four counties. They meet in Loudon County in April, August and Decem-

ber.

If we proceed by warrant, then the suspect would be entitled to a preliminary hearing in General Sessions Court. In these types of cases (homicide), invariably the defense attorney will want to have his or her client undergo extensive and often multiple mental evaluations. These are difficult to

Murder etd. pg. 3

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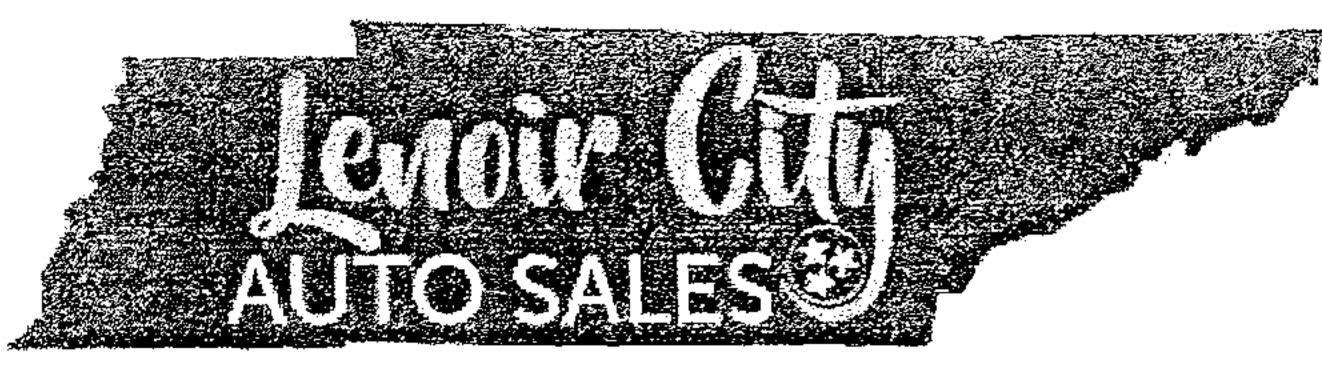
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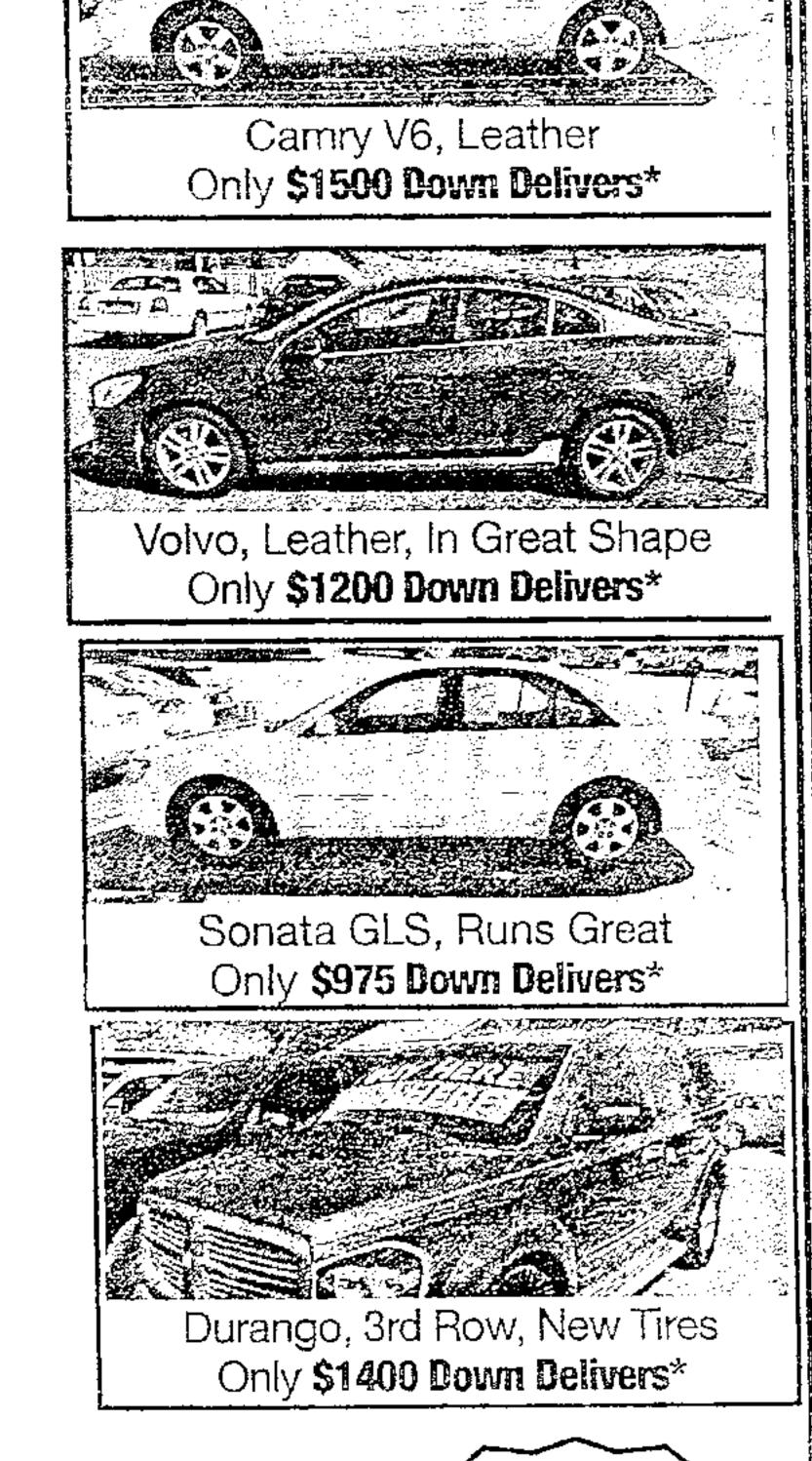
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* Plus Tax, Tag, Title and Fees. See Dealer for Details GALL 986-1100 Murder ctd. from pg. 2

get funded at the General Sessions Court level and they take a long time. So if we went the warrant route, it would possibly be December before she would be indicted. If she is indicted today, this puts us six to nine months ahead in the process.

Another aspect somewhat driving this meeting is that we are still without a jury capable courtroom for murder trials where defendants are in custody. Going ahead with the indictment helps to at least put this case in the pipeline where we can be ready to schedule these cases when the County Commission and/or the Legislature comes up with a solution for us.

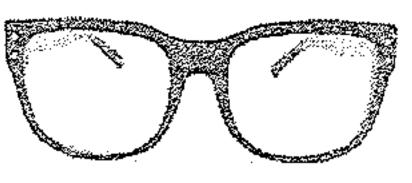
Also, with the coronavirus hype there is reason to suspect all courts in Tennessee will be closed by the Tennessee Supreme Court today until the end of the month.

DV

Daniel Hardin, 22, Vale Street Loudon, was charged with Domestic Assault. Officer J. Cogdill LPD, was dispatched to Summer Street for a possible domestic. Upon arrival Officer was met outside by the victim, who stated Daniel Hardin kicked her bedroom door in and started a verbal argument. Victim stated that Hardin started threatening her stating he was going to beat her up. After speaking with the other parties at the residence, they stated Hardin was not invited and was not suppose to be at the residence. They advised Hardin to leave and he refused. Victim and Hardin were previous roommates at

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the residence. After an investigation Daniel Hardin was determined to be the primary aggressor and was placed under arrest.

Simple possession charge for Ldn man

Marco Sisneros, 25, Old Lee Hwy Loudon, was charged with Simple Possession. Officer Brandon Nix LPD, witnesses a gold vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed on Hwy 11. Officer using his radar clocked this vehicle at 43 mph in a 30 mph zone. Officer conducted a traffic stop on Hwy 11 at the downtown fountain. Officer approached the vehicle and could smell the odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. After speaking with the driver Officer requested the passenger identified as Marco Sisneros to step out of the vehicle. Officer was given consent to search the vehicle. While searching the vehicle Officer located a cigarette pack between the passenger seat and arm rest, inside the pack was a rolled marijuana cig-

arette. When ask Sisneros did claim the substance. Marco Sisneros was placed under arrest, and transported to the Loudon County Jail.

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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.



FBI

March 14, 1950. This week marks the 70th anniversary of the list, which is commonly called the Top Ten. The program uses public outreach to capture offenders wanted for serious crimes.

Over the years, 523 fugitives have been placed on the list, In the earliest days, wanted posters or the crimes they're accused of. with 488 of them having been caught. As a testament to the effectiveness of the program, 162 of those captures were made with the public's direct assistance.

The early Bureau used identification orders as a way to get the word out about wanted fugitives. The first identification order was issued in December 1919 seeking escaped U.S. Army prisoner William N. Bishop, who was captured in April 1920.

"The FBI has been in the business of seeking fugitives from the law really since its beginning," says FBI Historian John Fox. "We started issuing, as early as 1919, our first identification orders—basically, fliers we would send out to law enforcement notifying them of criminals we were looking for. That's what eventually evolves into the Ten Most Wanted Fugitives program."

Historically, the Top Ten list has reflected the concerns of the time. In the 1950s, bank robbers, burglars, and car thieves populated the list. The 1960s saw fugitives wanted for kidnapping, sabotage, and destruction of government property. Members of organized crime groups and murderers were present on the

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the 1980s. And in the 1990s, the Not all fugitives meet both criteria.

Top Ten list has focused on the sition on the FBI website changmost violent of fugitives sought es randomly every week, regardfor homicides, armed robberies, less of their length of time on the

ing out a press release—but we now The most on the list at one time add in the more modern aspects," was 16, when six members of the says Chris Allen, head of the FBI's Weather Underground militant or-Investigative Publicity and Public ganization were added in 1970 Affairs Unit. "Now folks are on their for acts of domestic terrorism. smartphones, so we have a Wanted mobile app. We have social media we run Facebook ads, use Instagram."

The FBI also works with digital billboard companies to publicize wanted fugitives, Allen added.

There are two main criteria for adding an individual to the list. dangerous—based on crimes al-

lists of the 1970s. Drug kingpins vestigators believe publicity will and serial killers were a priority in help lead to the fugitive's arrest.

list reflected the increasing threat Criminals who appear on the of international criminal activity. Ten Most Wanted Fugitives list Over the past two decades, the are not ranked. Instead, their pogang activities, and mass shootings. Top Ten, how dangerous they are,

would be placed in local post offic- While the Top Ten is usually just es, and information on offenders was that, in 70 years, there have been provided to newspapers. This quick- 13 special additions—instances ly was supplemented with radio where the list has expanded past shows and television programs. As 10 individuals. These include the media has changed over the years, additions of James Earl Ray for so have the FBI's outreach methods. the assassination of Martin Luther "We still do the traditional stuff— King, Jr., and Ramzi Yousef for the the press conference, posters, send- 1993 World Trade Center bombing.

All fugitives on the list are considered armed and dangerous. If use to publicize fugitives—we tweet, you come across one of the Top Ten fugitives, contact the FBI's toll-free tip line at 1-800-CALL-FBI (225-5324) or submit a tip online. Additionally, you can contact your local FBI field office or nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Thanks to the public's help, our First, they have to be considered Ten Most Wanted Fugitives program continues to apprehend some ready committed—or likely to of the world's most dangerous crimcontinue committing crimes. Sec- inals—while reminding fugitives on ond, a fugitive may be added if in- the run that the FBI never forgets.



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Trio

Letina Azure, 41, Bia Road North Dakota, was charged with Man/Sell/Del/Sch. II &I, and Poss. Of Drug Para.

Brandon Laducer, 36, Bia Road North Dakota, was charged with Theft, Man/Sell/Del/Sch. I, and Poss. Of Drug Para.

Marissa Thomas, 26, Iris Drive North Dakota, was charged with Man/Sell/Del/Sch.I, Simple Possession, and Poss. Of Drug Para.

Deputy Anderson LCSO, was conducting a traffic stop on a stolen vehicle on Hubbard Road when a Letina Azure exited a white vehicle that had stopped in the middle of the roadway in front of the stolen vehicle and approached Deputy. Letina was the owner of the stolen vehicle. Dispatch advised Deputy that the white vehicle was stolen out of North Dakota. Deputy Gaumer, Bengel, and Gray responded to the scene and made contact with Brandon Laducer, the driver, and Marissa Thomas the passenger. The driver gave consent to search the vehicle. In the driver seat area 2 glass pipes with residue were located. In a jacket pocket where Thomas was sitting a baggie containing 11 grams of marijuana was found. Inside a backpack was a baggie.5 grams of a brown substance believed to be heroin, and medium size scales with a white powdery substance on it. Azure gave consent to search her purse that was in her possession. Inside the purse were several small baggies, scales, 2 spoons with residue, 1.5 grams of

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Rental Office: (865) 986-6955 TDD: (800) 848-0298 marijuana, 77.3 grams of meth in four separate baggies, and \$1699 dollars cash. All three parties were placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail.

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