



Suspect wanted in woman's death now in custody

By Alex Bridges
The Northern Virginia Daily

The suspect wanted in the death of a Shenandoah County woman turned himself in to West Virginia state police on Friday.

Larry Johnson Little Jr. went to the state police barracks in Lewisburg, West Virginia, shortly before noon, Shenandoah

County Sheriff Timothy C. Carter said by phone on Friday afternoon. Police took Little, 44, into custody without incident, Carter said.

The Shenandoah County Sheriff's Office identified Little as a suspect in the death of Melanie Rose Little, 42, of 424 Deloris



Little

holds a warrant for his arrest on a charge of sec-

ond-degree murder. The Sheriff's Office confirmed the identity of the victim and released her name on Thursday night.

Larry Little Jr. now remains in the custody of the West Virginia State Police. The Sheriff's Office

shot wounds, Carter said Friday. The sheriff cited the results of a preliminary autopsy conducted by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner this week. Carter pointed out that the results are preliminary and he would not disclose the locations of the bullet wounds.

Larry Little Jr. will face an extradition hearing in a West Virginia court in the next few days, Carter explained. If a judge orders Larry Little Jr.'s extradition, the suspect will be transported to Shenandoah County to face his charge.

Melanie Little likely died from multiple gun-

shot wounds, Carter said Friday. The sheriff cited the results of a preliminary autopsy conducted by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner this week. Carter pointed out that the results are preliminary and he would not disclose the locations of the bullet wounds.

SUSPECT, A2



Photos by Rich Cooley/Daily

Charles French and his wife Debbie stand along the food counter inside Walton & Smoot Drugstore in Woodstock. The 1930s Hamilton Beach milkshake maker at left does not work anymore, but serves as a relic of days past.

Walton & Smoot Pharmacy bids farewell

By Melissa Topy
The Northern Virginia Daily

WOODSTOCK – During the past 113 years, generations of area families have visited the Walton & Smoot Pharmacy to pick up prescriptions and sit at its 1960s-era lunch counter to chat and enjoy a coffee or a milkshake. That all changes on Oct. 23, when the business closes its doors forever.

Pharmacy owners Charles French and Nancy Miller recently announced the closing, which Miller said has to do with a number of changing factors, including the influence of insurance companies and mail-order pharmacies.

When asked what he hoped the store's legacy to the community will be, French said: "That we have met the needs of the community for medicine."

Long-time customer Barbara Wright, of Woodstock, has visited Walton & Smoot for the past 50 years to pick up needed items and prescriptions.

"I was really sad to hear the news," Wright said. "It's a historical place we are losing. When I was working at Blue Bell and then Wrangler, I even came in for lunch."

For 67 of those 113 years



Above, Pharmacist Nancy Miller dispenses a prescription inside the pharmacy.

Right, Ray Good Jr. and his son Ray Good III enjoy ice cream at the counter.

in business, members of three generations of the French family have worked behind the counter at Walton & Smoot, including Miller, who is Charles French's niece.

FAREWELL, A3



EDA adds seven defendants, \$4 million to civil lawsuit

By Josh Gully
The Northern Virginia Daily

FRONT ROYAL — Seven new defendants and \$4 million were added Friday to the Front Royal-Warren County Economic Development Authority's civil lawsuit that alleges a series of embezzlements and financial misappropriations during the tenure Jennifer McDonald, the authority's former executive director.

Two of McDonald's family members, her husband Samuel D. North and her mother Linda Hassenplug, were added to the lawsuit. Little Rugratz Daycare LLC, which is registered to Hassenplug, was another new defendant, along with former EDA administrative assistant Michelle "Missy"

EDA, A2

EDA lawyers: McDonald is in contempt of court

By Josh Gully
The Northern Virginia Daily

FRONT ROYAL – The Front Royal-Warren County Economic Development Authority's lawyers are asking that former EDA Executive Director Jennifer McDonald be held in contempt of court because she violated a court order by conveying her property at 68 Pine Hills Road.

According to land records, McDonald and her husband Samuel D. North on Aug. 16 gifted the 68 Pine Hills Road property to McDonald's sister Gail Addison.

CONTEMPT, A2



McDonald



OUR SUBSCRIBERS
Thank you for subscribing

Sandra Hall
Jeanie Dellinger
Mike Fleming

OUR ADVERTISERS
We appreciate our advertisers

Museum of Shenandoah Valley
Fort Valley Nursery
Cross Keys Barn

NVDAILY.COM
Submit your news online

Visit nvdaily.com to upload your news, photos and letters to the editor.

CONTACT US
Northern Virginia Daily

152 N. Holliday St., Strasburg, VA 22657
540-465-5137
news@nvdaily.com

Farewell

Continued from A1

Charles French graduated as a pharmacist in 1973 and came home to work with his father Millson French, who in 1952 took over 50 percent ownership in the pharmacy when he bought out George Clower.

Over the years, Charles French's wife Deborah, a co-owner of the business, said that many people who needed a prescription were given their medication, quietly and without fanfare, even if they could not pay. She said she recalls one time watching Miller work with a mother who came in with a young child with a fever. The mother did not have any money.

"Here you go, your child needs this," Deborah French said of the conversation she overheard.

"It's been blood, sweat and tears but a blessing," she said about the business.

Donna Lutz has worked at the pharmacy for the past 47 years with all three generations of the French family.

She recalled Millson French having an apothecary bottle that at times over the years would hold a red ring.

"I asked Mr. (Millson) French about that," Lutz said. He told her the ring belonged to a customer.

"He said: 'I am sure it is not a ruby, just red glass, but when he needs money he comes in. I give him money and I hold this ring. When he pays, I give it back,'" Lutz recalled Millson French explaining.

When Lutz was told the news of the closing, she asked if she could have the apothecary's bottle as a reminder of Millson French.

Charles French has also been known to come to a custom-



Rich Cooley/Daily

Walton & Smoot Drugstore in Woodstock will close its doors on Oct. 23.

er's aid. The family shared a story about Becky Hoover, Donna Lutz's mother who was the business' bookkeeper, demanding an explanation from Charles French about a \$100 debt.

"The man said he would send me a check," Charles French said, laughed. Lutz added with a laugh: "And my mom is still waiting on that check."

"That is what this store has been about, a community store," Charles French said.

After Oct. 23, prescriptions will be transferred to the CVS store at 221 W. Reservoir Road in Woodstock. Mowery Orchard farm market in Woodstock will be carrying the Lorann flavoring oils and baking ammonia after the business closes.

"This is a huge thing for our customers," Miller said.

The French family wants the community to know that even though the pharmacy is closing, they will still worry about their customers, who they said they will always consider family.

Business Timeline

In 1906, Clyde Walton and Dr. James Smoot bought a drug store owned by Lin Irwin that was located at the corner of Main and Court streets in Woodstock.

They changed the name of the store to Walton & Smoot. The drug store was on the first floor and the Irwin Opera house was on the second floor. Walton & Smoot then moved to the Magruder building on North Main Street.

In 1935, H.A. Moore and George Clower purchased the store from Smoot, who was then the sole owner. Millson French, a graduate of the Medical College of Virginia, owned half of the business when he purchased Clower's share in July 1952. Later, Millson French would become sole owner.

He moved the store in 1962 to its current home, the former site of the Woodstock Hotel.

— Information provided by the French family
— Contact Melissa Topey at mtopey@nvdaily.com



Rich Cooley/Daily

Debbie French, center, wife of Charles French, left, chats with her great niece Kenzie Miller, 11, inside the drugstore after Kenzie stopped by after school.



Rich Cooley/Daily

Walton & Smoot Drugstore co-owner Nancy Miller waits on a customer inside the store.

"Roll Out The Barrel"

Bill McElroy
Emcee/Accordionist

Polkas Irish Ballads

Parties • Dinners • Weddings
All Occasions

Specializing in Oktoberfest & Sing-A-Long

Leave Message: (540) 459-5454 | Email: McElroy@shentel.net

MILLS/BARB
FAMILY Reunion

Sunday, October 13, 2019
Noon - 5pm (Lunch begins @ 2)

Please bring a main dish, side dish and/or dessert to share with enough for your family plus one more. Paper products and utensils will be provided along with Tea, Lemonade and Water to drink.

Leeds Ruritan Park/Community Center
12032 Hume Rd.

Join us for food, family and fun!

SKYLINE MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSO PRESENTS
FUN RUN & FALL FESTIVAL 1st Annual

Registration at 8:30am
Run at 9:30am
Adult \$25 • Youth \$15
Day of \$25 for all

October 5th, 2019
AT SKYLINE MIDDLE SCHOOL
240 Luray Ave., Front Royal, VA, 22630

Festival 10am-2pm
C&C Frozen Treats • Giveaways
Dunk Tank • Moonbounce • Petting Zoo Games & More

Vendor & Craft Show • 9am-3pm
All Events are Rain or Shine

WOODSTOCK FIRE DEPARTMENT STEAK DINNER

Saturday, October 19, 2019
4:00 until 7:00
AT WOODSTOCK FIRE DEPT.

Tickets on sale, **NOW!!!**
Meal: Adult \$16 & Children under 12 - \$8

Steaks by Jay Ross

Sponsor
Keplinger
161 Woodhuck Lane
Winchester, VA 22602
FIRE - RESCUE APPARATUS SALES

For Tickets Call:
459-8078

Tickets available at
Woodstock Equipment Company

Blackout
BING

Read The Daily Every Day For...

Today's Lucky Numbers

B 2 I 24 N 33

BIG PRIZES UP TO \$350

Entries due in The Daily office by November 8
Be sure to put your name & phone number on the back of each of the six cards & cut them apart!

(152 N. Holliday St., Strasburg, VA 22657)

FOUR WAYS TO WIN

HORIZONTAL WINS \$50	VERTICAL WINS \$50	DIAGONAL WINS \$50	FULL CARD WINS \$200
1 21 31 48 61	1 31 48 61	21 31 48 61	21 31 48 61
9 29 37 53 66	5 42 49 65	5 42 49 65	9 29 37 53 66
11 27 37 54 70	9 37 53 66	9 29 37 53 66	11 27 37 53 66
15 30 44 58 74	11 37 54 70	11 27 37 53 66	15 30 44 58 70
15 30 44 58 74	15 44 58 74	15 30 44 58 74	15 30 44 58 74

Any Row Any Column Either Direction Every Square

Kiwanis Club OF STRASBURG

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday - October 12th
7am - 11am

Benefiting the Tribute To Trent Skate Park

Pancakes, Crabill's Sausage & Sausage Gravy
Cost \$5.00 in advance - \$6.00 at the door

Sandy Hook Elementary School
162 Stickley Loop • Strasburg, VA 22657

Tickets available at Sager Real Estate or Thomas Family Dentistry in Strasburg

Proceeds to benefit Scholarship Fund and local youth projects/programs. If you're interested in becoming a member please contact us thru Facebook at Kiwanis Club of Strasburg. We are always looking for good members.