

## **Murder Charges Filed Against Lenoir Man**

Written by Steve Frank  
Saturday, 06 April 2013 15:46

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Friday night at 11:49 pm, Lenoir Police received a welfare check for a woman at a residence at 810 Wild Cherry Lane in Lenoir. There, officers found the woman, 38-year old Tammy Lynn Benge, deceased and have arrested and charged Michael Joseph Whisnant, 36, of that address with First Degree Murder for the death. Circumstances surround the 104 Pope Place woman's death are still being probed by Lenoir Police and the State Bureau of Investigation. Whisnant was jailed in the Caldwell County Detention Center under no bond pending a first appearance in Lenoir district court scheduled for Monday. No further information is being released at this time. Anyone with any information is asked to contact the Lenoir Police Department at 828-757-2100 or Lenoir/Caldwell County Crime Stoppers at 828-758-8300.