

Wednesday-January 19, 2011

MORNING FAX

Today's News...This Morning

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STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

♦ MEIGS COUNTY MAN IS GUNSHOT VICTIM

A Meigs County man, 35-year-old Jason Howard, is listed in stable condition at Erlanger following a shooting early Tuesday morning. A short time later, a resident on County Road 53 in McMinn County called 911 to report he was holding the suspect in handcuffs. Meigs County Sheriff Jackie Melton says James Wyatt, 43, of Riceville will be charged with aggravated assault. Melton says the two men were involved in an argument that led to Howard being shot twice.

♦ WAS THAT REALY A....TIGER??

Several motorists called 911 Monday afternoon to report seeing a

tiger along I-75 south of exit 56. A deputy who responded spotted the tiger and her cub and alerted the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. A closer look revealed the tiger and the cub were very lifelike "stuffed toy" tigers, obviously the work of a prankster.



• UNEMPLOYMENT CHECKS TO END

If you are receiving unemployment benefits, those checks may stop showing up in the mailbox. The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development says all unemployed workers will start receiving their benefits electronically at a future date. To get the new system going, when newly unemployed workers apply for unemployment benefits, they'll be given the option of direct deposit or a debit card. Last year, Tennessee issued nearly 8-million unemployment checks. Switching to electronic payments could save the state annually \$3-million in postage and paper costs.

NATIONAL-WORLD NEWS

• A suicide bomber blew himself up in a crowd of police recruits in Iraq on Tuesday, killing at least 52 people and undercutting Iraqi security efforts.

• Former Vice President Dick Cheney says he will have to make a decision at some point on whether to have a heart transplant. On another matter, Cheney complimented President Obama on his handling of the Tucson shooting, calling it "one of his better efforts."

• Stocks advanced on Tuesday as optimistic reports from Caterpillar and Google offset worries about another medical leave by Apple CEO Steve Jobs. The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 11,837.93; up 50.55 points.

• Regis Philbin says he will retire from the TV show "Live With Regis and Kelly" around the end of the summer. Philbin has hosted the show for more than a quarter-century.

• Two students were wounded at a Los Angeles high school when a gun in a student's backpack discharged when the backpack was accidentally dropped. A 15-year-old was shot in the head and is listed in critical condition. Another 15-year-old was hit in the neck.

• More than 20 animals died or were injured or lost on Delta Air Lines flights last year. Animals that died included a Jack Russell terrier, a pit bull terrier, a Labrador retriever and a bird. Animals that were lost included a dog missing after a flight from Mexico and a cat. Last month, a dog traveling on Delta was lost in Atlanta and was run over by a car. A Delta spokesman says the airline transports thousands of animals annually.





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Through the Camera Lens

The photo below was taken by Jay Thomson at a structure fire on Fifth Street in Etowah on Monday. The building was unoccupied at the time. The fire was believed to have started from a kerosene heater. Etowah City, Etowah Rural, and Englewood Rural fire departments responded.



The photos below were taken by Dick Pelley showing former Athens Mayor Burkett Witt speaking at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Day celebration at Tennessee Wesleyan College Monday night. To his right is the Athens Community Chorus.





Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Elizabeth Muriel McQueen Lee Camp of Madisonville died last Saturday at Parkwest Medical Center in Knoxville. She was a former resident of Niota and a former employee of Niota Textiles. A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday at Niota United Methodist Church, followed by visitation in the fellowship hall. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge.

Robert Marshall "Bob" Patton, age 67, of Delano died Sunday at Woods Memorial Hospital. He was a self-employed construction worker. Graveside services were held on Tuesday. Ralph Buckner Funeral Home of Etowah was in charge of arrangements.

REMINDER: Pris Cornwall will host her semi-annual "Healthy Eating on a Budget" grocery shopping tour tomorrow, Jan. 20, at Ingles in Athens. The event is free and the public is invited. Participants should meet at 5 p.m. inside the right door of Ingles.

The rain on T u e s d a y washed away most of the snow. Here's one more snow photo from Donna Webb of Athens.

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