**State & Local News**

◆ "SEND THAT TEXT, YOU COULD BE NEXT"
What could have been a tragic accident in McMinn County is now the focus of a regional campaign to reduce texting and driving. On June 4th, McMinn County Deputy Randy Gabrel was returning home from work when an oncoming car drifted across the center line and struck his patrol car head-on. The other car was driven by Nick Austin, a 17-year-old McMinn County student on his way to a football workout. Both drivers were seriously injured. The investigation revealed that Austin was texting just prior to the crash. For the next week, Gabrel’s crashed patrol car will be on display at L&M Motors. Then, both cars will be on display at the McMinn County Justice Center. The cars along with Deputy Gabrel and Nick Austin will go to schools and public events in East Tennessee to talk about how texting and driving affected their lives. (The photo by Jay Thomson shows Austin and Gabrel in front of the patrol car)

Now Accepting Applications for part-time Personal Trainer through Aug. 8th. We offer competitive pay with performance incentives. If interested and qualified submit your application, resume, proof of certification, and references to Lane Davis, lane@athensmcminnymca.org

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**National & International News**

◆ The U.S. Centers for Disease Control has issued its highest alert in response to the Ebola crisis in West Africa. A total of 932 people have died since March in Sierra Leone, Guinea, Liberia and Nigeria. West Africa is experiencing the largest outbreak of the hemorrhagic fever in history.

◆ U.S. health regulators have authorized the use of an Ebola diagnostic test developed by the Pentagon to help contain the world’s worst outbreak of the deadly virus.

◆ The President will sign today a $16.3 billion plan to ease health care delays at Veterans Affairs facilities. The measure contains $10 billion in new emergency spending and allows veterans to use private doctors at the department’s expense if they cannot get an appointment in less than 30 days.

◆ Russia will ban all imports of U.S. food products as well as fruit and vegetables from the European Union after President Vladimir Putin ordered retaliation for Western sanctions against Moscow.

◆ Hawaii residents are furiously stocking up on essentials as two hurricanes churned toward the islands, prompting flash flood warnings, closing schools and disrupting travel plans across the islands.

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**Kathy Dougherty**
McMinn County School Board
3rd District
Paid for by friends of the candidate

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**Keep Keith Price**
Assessor of Property
Paid for by Committee to Keep Keith Price

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Community News You Can Use

- The Englewood Youth Football & Cheerleading sign-ups will be held again this evening from 6 to 8 p.m. at the concession stand at the Englewood School football field.
- Full Circle Medical Center for Women will sponsor a Life Run 5k race and a Family Fun walk on Saturday, August 23rd, starting at 7 p.m. at the Athens Regional Park. Registration fees are $30 for individuals and $55 for families. Each participant will receive a t-shirt. For information, call 744-3005.
- The first day of classes in the Meigs County Schools will be tomorrow, Aug. 8th.
- SETHRA will distribute commodities to eligible Meigs County residents on September 3rd from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the SETHRA office in Decatur.
- The McMinn County Circuit Court Clerk's office will be closed today for Election Day.
- The Sounds of Summer concert series continues at the Market Park Pavilion in Downtown Athens this Saturday evening. The featured performers will be the Tim Hughes Quartet with Will Boyd and Kelle Jolly. On August 16th it will be "Bluegrass Night" with music by Between the Lines and Just Us.

Obituaries

- William H. "Billy" Blair, age 74, of Loudon died unexpectedly this past Sunday. He was a veteran of the Air Force and was retired from P.B.R. He is survived locally by a brother and sister-in-law, Stanley and Harriel Blair of Athens. Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Loudon Funeral Home, with visitation from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

Wednesday's Market Report: The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 13.87 at 16,443.34. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 0.03 at 1,920.24 and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 2.22 at 4,355.05.

GOVERNOR HASLAM VISITS ATHENS

Governor Bill Haslam and the First Lady Crissy Haslam visited Athens yesterday to urge people to vote in today's election. In the photo with the governor are two future voters, Noah (L) and Nathan.