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Today's News...This Morning

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Early Voting July 15th  
thru July 30th

I would appreciate your  
complimentary vote on  
August 4th

**JOHN FORGETY**  
Tennessee House  
of Representatives

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Monday, July 25, 2016

Athens, Tennessee

## Local and Area News

### ◆ SHOPLIFTER STEALS AMBULANCE

A bizarre incident in Sweetwater Friday afternoon led to the arrest of a man who tried to steal some merchandise from a store in the Sweetwater Plaza on Highway 68. He and a female accomplice fled from the store when Sweetwater police arrived. The woman was arrested, however, 29-year-old Joshua D. Hackler, (in photo) went next door and stole an ambulance parked at a dialysis clinic. When he fled the parking lot, he struck Sweetwater Police Officer Susan Ward, injuring her. He drove the ambulance with an EMS tech, who was inside the back of the ambulance, about 3 miles and abandoned it in McMinn County. The GPS unit in the vehicle allowed law enforcement to see where he went. McMinn Sheriff Joe Guy said that Hackler was then tracked by K-9 officers and apprehended near a corn field. He is now in jail and faces charges of kidnaping, attempted second degree murder, theft, and avoiding arrest.



### ◆ NIOTA WOMAN GUILTY OF TENNCARE FRAUD

A judge has ordered 44-year-old Traci Hamilton of Niota to repay the state \$18,346 in restitution for the theft of services that she received from the TennCare program. Hamilton pleaded guilty to theft of services over \$10,000 and has also been sentenced to 3 years of probation. She was arrested in June of 2015 when she was charged with inaccurately reporting her household income in order to appear to be eligible for TennCare benefits.

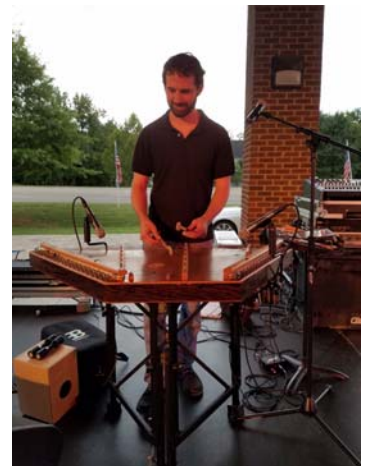
## NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ DNC Chairman Debbie Wasserman Schultz has been removed from the speaking schedule at the Democratic Party's Convention in the wake of the leak of 20,000 emails that revealed a substantial bias toward Hillary Clinton and against Bernie Sanders.

◆ The 18-year-old gunman who officials say fatally shot nine people before killing himself at a busy shopping mall in Munich, Germany on Friday, had a book about the Columbine and Virginia Tech shooters at his home. The shooter was born in Germany and was of Iranian descent.

### SOUNDS OF SUMMER AT MARKET PARK

The Sounds of Summer Concert Series last Saturday night featured "Acoustic" and "Bluegrass" Music. The opening act was Stephen Humphries playing a hammered dulcimer. The instrument is believed to be from the middle east and originated around 900 A.D. The Spanish brought it to Europe in the 12th Century. The hammered dulcimer is part of the "Zither" family of instruments. (Photo from Tim Hughes and Cheri Harrison) See more SOS pix on page 2.



### BASKETBALL CAMP

August 1st - 5th

Session times are by ages. Call the Y for pricing and session details.



423  
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### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



**Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike**

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## WEATHER

**Monday** - Partly sunny. 40% rain & t'storms. High-low 90s.  
**Monday night** - Mostly cloudy. 40% rain. Low-72.  
**Tuesday** - Partly sunny. 50% rain & t'storm. High-low 90s.  
More Weather & Zoom Radar at: [www.wyxi.com](http://www.wyxi.com)

Hear

**DAVE RAMSEY**

Daily

3 to 4 p.m. &

7 to 9 p.m.

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Monday, July 25, 2016

Athens, Tennessee

## State Official Visits Athens

The Tennessee Coordinator of Elections, Mark Goins, was in Athens last Friday. Goins (pictured on the right) is the chief administrative election officer for the State of Tennessee. He was appointed to the position in 2009. Previously he had served three terms as a member of the Tennessee House, where he represented Campbell, Claiborne, and Union Counties. He was the guest of State Representative John Forgety (pictured on the left) who invited him to speak to the Athens Kiwanis Club last Friday. (Photo special to the Morning Fax)



## Obituaries

• **Richard Leland Duncan**, age 75, of Athens, passed away last Friday at Tennova Healthcare in Cleveland. Funeral services will be Monday at 2 p.m. at Serenity Funeral Home. Visitation was held Sunday evening at Serenity.

### ◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

- ✓ The guest tomorrow on "Chamber Chat," the weekly radio show produced by the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, will be Sarah Gordon with AirMedCare Network. Chamber Chat is broadcast immediately after the 8 a.m. news each Tuesday on WYXI Radio AM-1390 and online at: [www.wyxi.com](http://www.wyxi.com)
- ✓ The Athens Parks and Recreation Department says that the Ingleside Tennis Courts will be re-opening today after extensive renovations. To celebrate the newly renovated tennis courts, free bottled water will be given to all court users today from 4-9 p.m.
- ✓ Anyone interested in having a brick placed in the Veterans Park walkway, in honor or in memory of a veteran, must place their order by 4:30 pm on August 5, 2016 to be included in the November 6, 2016 ceremony. Contact the Athens Parks and Recreation Department at 744-2704 for details.
- ✓ An earthquake measuring 1.8 in magnitude struck 1 mile north of Athens on Sunday at 4:01 a.m. The USGS said that it was about 5 miles underground.

## "JUST US" PERFORMS AT SOUNDS OF SUMMER

The Bluegrass Band "Just Us" was the featured performer last Saturday night. The band members are (L-R) Stacy and Teresa Wilson, Brent Womac, and Blake Atkins. The event was sponsored by Starr Regional Medical Center (Photo by Blake McCaslin)



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## TODAY IN HISTORY - JULY 25TH

- 1866** - Ulysses S. Grant was named General of the Army, the first officer to hold the rank.
- 1894** - Actor Walter Brennan was born. He was a famous character actor and appeared in several movies and TV shows including "Sergeant York" and "The Real McCoys." He also recorded several hit records including "Old Rivers" and "Dutchman's Gold."
- 1946** - The United States detonated an atomic bomb at Bikini Atoll in the Pacific in the first underwater test of the device.
- 1952** - Puerto Rico became a self-governing commonwealth of the U.S.
- 1956** - Fifty-one people died when the Italian ocean liner Andrea Doria sank after colliding with the Swedish ship Stockholm off the New England coast.
- 1984** - Soviet cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya became the first woman to walk in space as she conducted experiments for more than three hours outside the orbiting space station Salyut VII.