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Today's News... This Morning

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(See page 3 & 4 for more news)



Owners:

T J Roberts 423-506-3918
Christian Mason 423-368-1807
Call, Text, and Please Leave Voicemail. Athens, TN

Friday, December 15, 2023

Athens, Tennessee

Walmart Shoplifters Nabbed by MCSO



Dottie Yearwood



Jacob Jarnow



Daniel Yearwood

McMinn County Sheriff Joe Guy says some good police work by a McMinn Co deputy sheriff resulted in the arrest of 3 suspects found to be part of a Walmart shoplifting scheme. According to Sheriff Guy, around 9 pm on Monday night, Corporal Michael Richmond noticed a blue and gray Chevrolet pickup traveling down Hwy 30 west of Athens. The vehicle was using an off road only light, so Richmond was suspicious, and activated his blue lights. After a few moments, the vehicle eventually came to a stop. Richmond spoke with the driver of the vehicle, Jacob Jarnow, 21, of Athens, and the passengers Dottie Yearwood, 36, of Dayton, and Daniel Yearwood, 43, of Cleveland. Richmond also noticed that the back of the truck was full of brand-new retail items, several with security tags still attached. "When Cpl Richmond questioned the suspects about the items, they claimed they had been Christmas shopping," said Sheriff Guy. "But there were no shopping bags or receipts." Richmond discovered that Jarnow was driving on a revoked license and located drug paraphernalia in the vehicle. When Richmond patted down Jarnow during the arrest, he noticed that the man was wearing a Walmart vest under his coat, which caused Richmond to become even more suspicious. While speaking to all three suspects, it became evident that the items had been taken from Walmart, so Richmond asked for Athens Police to pay a visit to Walmart to confirm the theft. Athens Police spoke with Walmart management, who were already suspicious that shoplifting had occurred earlier. Athens Police and Walmart Loss Prevention began an investigation. After reviewing security cameras, it was discovered that Jarnow had entered the store, put on the employee vest, and then pretending to be an employee began to take items out of the store. "He took them right out the door," said Sheriff Guy. "He looked like he was just any employee taking some items outside." Dottie Yearwood had also shoplifted several of the items, all of which were estimated to be valued at \$1770. The items were returned to the store and all three suspects were charged in the theft. Jacob Jarnow was charged with Possession of Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, Driving on a Revoked License, and Shoplifting. Dottie Yearwood was charged with Possession of Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, Theft of Property, and Shoplifting and was released after making a \$2000 bond. Daniel Yearwood remains in custody on charges of Possession of Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia and a Fugitive from Justice warrant out of Georgia under a \$152,000 bond. Sheriff Guy says that Corporal Richmond was on duty as part of a Crime Suppression Unit, an effort of the Sheriff's Office to deter crime and drug trafficking. Photos Submitted by McMinn County Sheriff's office.

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Join Us For A Holly Jolly Night
Free MERRY Free
TUBACHRISTMAS
Saturday, December 16, 2023
Gem Theater, Etowah - 7:30 pm

Featuring Local Musicians
Tubas, Euphoniums, Baritones & Sousaphones

GUEST CONDUCTOR:
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Friday, December 14, 2023

Morning Fax® Today's News This Morning

Athens, Tennessee

Property Transfers

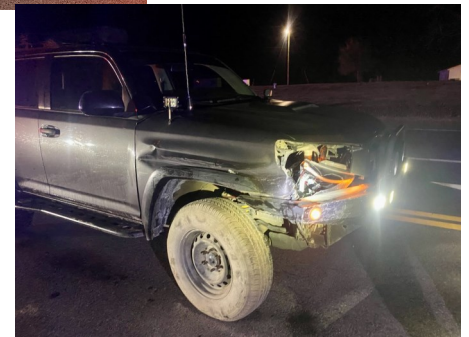
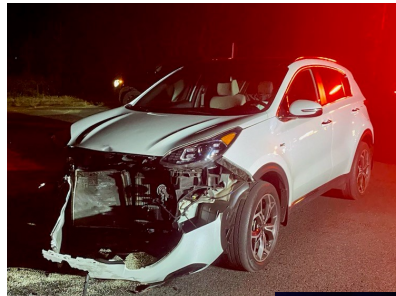
Listed below is a sampling of verifiable property sales for November in McMinn County:

Sold Date	Sold Price	Street Name	City	State
11/9/2023	49,000	Mccroskey St	Englewood	TN
11/14/2023	150,000	Jackson St	Athens	TN
11/20/2023	168,500	Richardson St	Athens	TN
11/13/2023	174,900	Nancy St	Englewood	TN
11/3/2023	184,000	County Road 851	Etowah	TN
11/21/2023	189,000	Glendale Avenue	Athens	TN
11/14/2023	214,000	Highway 39	Englewood	TN
11/10/2023	220,000	Slack Rd	Athens	TN
11/22/2023	229,000	County Road 655	Athens	TN
11/20/2023	242,000	County Road 312	Sweetwater	TN
11/3/2023	244,000	Chesapeake Drive	Athens	TN
11/8/2023	260,000	Highway 39 E	Englewood	TN
11/20/2023	260,000	Echo Circle	Athens	TN
11/1/2023	265,000	County Road 176	Athens	TN
11/14/2023	290,000	County Road 360	Niota	TN
11/10/2023	300,000	County Road 750	Athens	TN
11/2/2023	305,000	County Rd 273	Niota	TN
11/3/2023	410,000	County Road 609	Etowah	TN
11/17/2023	480,000	County Road 116	Athens	TN
11/2/2023	565,000	County Road 3050	Athens	TN
11/9/2023	600,000	Highway 11S	Riceville	TN

Data provided by Tennessee Valley Appraisal Services
www.tvasinc.com

MVA Co Rd 424 Englewood

A 2021 Kia Sportage and 2011 Toyota ForeRunner collided close to 8 pm Wednesday on Hwy 411N at Co Rd 424, Englewood with no injuries reported. AMR, Englewood Police Dept and Englewood Rural Fire Dept all responded. THP Officer Caleb Ballard investigated the accident. Photos by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department




*East Athens
Baptist Church*

Rev. Mike Danhel Dr. Brian Trapp
Worship Pastor/Director Senior Pastor

Sunday, December 17th at 10:45 am
The Sanctuary Choir presents:
"Love Made A Way"

Sunday, December 24th at 10:45 am
The EABC Handbell Choir
rings Christmas

Christmas Eve service will be held at 4pm.
The public is invited to attend all services.

Church News and Events

-“Let There Be Peace “, Christmas Play presented by Cambria Baptist Church, 305 County Road 875, Etowah, TN. December 15th at 7 PM. Everyone is welcome.

-Planted In Christ Outreach Fellowship, 317 Maple Street, in Athens, invites you to attend Outreach Deliverance Classes every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

- Celebrate Recovery meets at the following churches: The Englewood Church of God every Sunday at 6 p.m. and Woodward Avenue Church of God every Tuesday at 6 p.m.

-Mars Hill Presbyterian Church (205 North Jackson Street) is sponsoring a free children's playgroup on Mondays, 9-11 a.m. for ages 0-5. For additional information, contact the Church Office (423-745-1403) or Mary Ann Reed (910-200-2905).

Community News You Can Use

✓**Santa** will be visiting Athens neighborhoods on December 20 & 21 from 5 to 9 p.m. He will visit the areas north of Decatur Pike the first night and will visit the areas south of Decatur Pike the next night. Updates will be provided every 30 minutes on Facebook. The Athens Fire Department will escort Santa Claus around the city in a UTV with red lights, to give his reindeer a rest and his elves time to perform maintenance on his sleigh prior to their journey around the world on Christmas Eve.

✓The scheduled ‘Meet the Author’ event for Saturday December 16 at the Meigs Decatur Public Library has been postponed. The Morning Fax has been informed that author Donna Barron was injured in an auto accident Saturday the 9th and is unable to be at the library on the 16th. When the event is rescheduled, we will republish that date in the Morning Fax.

THURSDAY'S MARKET REPORT Markets continued to move upward on Thursday. The Dow Jones was up 158.11 to 37,248.35. The S&P 500 was up 12.46 to 4,719.55, and the NASDAQ was up 27.59 to 14,761.56.

Georgia Mass Choir In Athens in February

Renowned Gospel vocal ensemble, Georgia Mass Choir, performs under the direction of Reverend Milton Biggham in Athens on Sunday, February 18, at 5 pm. Georgia Mass Choir headlines this benefit concert for Gospel Jubilee, a Sunday morning radio show that airs on WYXI. The concert is free and, while no admission is charged, event organizers will accept donations as a love offering to celebrate the show's 54th anniversary. Gospel Jubilee has aired on WYXI every Sunday from 9am to 10am for more than fifty years. The show was founded by W. E. Burke in 1967 and is currently hosted by volunteers Stanley Blair, Karen King, and Jasmine Porter-McDermott. Proceeds from the benefit concert will go toward the expenses required to keep Gospel Jubilee on the air. Primarily, the event celebrates Gospel Jubilee's more than fifty years of heritage and provides our community access to world class gospel performances. This benefit concert is sponsored by Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA) and McMinn County, Tennessee. The Douglass Family Gospel Singers begin the program. The headlining performance is by Georgia Mass Choir featuring the Rev. Dr. Milton Biggham. In his more than 40 years in the gospel music industry, Biggham has recorded, performed with, written for and/or produced some of the biggest names in gospel, including the Rev. James Cleveland, Albertina Walker, the Rev. Clay Evans, the Rev. Timothy Wright, LaShun Pace, The Mississippi Mass Choir, Dorothy Norwood, Inez Andrews, and others. Biggham is credited with the discovery of Kirk Franklin and Donnie McClurkin. Biggham produced Franklin's first hit, “Joy,” with the Georgia Mass Choir and McClurkin's debut hit, “Speak To My Heart” with the New York Restoration Choir. As co-founder of the New Jersey Mass Choir, the Florida Mass Choir and the DFW Mass Choir, Biggham helped start a thriving choir music scene in the 1980s. In 1983, he founded the award-winning, 100-voice Georgia Mass Choir, with whom he scored a handful of Grammy nominations. In 1996, the Georgia Mass Choir was brought to the attention of Hollywood producer Penny Marshall, resulting in a featured role in the Touchstone film, “The Preacher's Wife,” starring Denzel Washington and Whitney Houston, for which Biggham also served as gospel music director. For his work in traditional gospel, this Vietnam veteran who has more than 500 compositions to his credit, including “Prayer Will Fix It Every Time,” “The Storm Is Over,” “I Still Have A Praise Inside Of Me,” “I'm Blessed,” “Come On In The Room,” and “I Owe You The Praise,” has become one of the most sought-after producers on the gospel music scene. The concert will be held at International Light of Life Church, located at 1112 Congress Parkway North in Athens. For more information about the Georgia Mass Choir Benefit concert call Karen King at 423-829-7021 or Stanley Blair at 423-745-0298. More information about McMinn County, Tennessee is available at mcminncounty.gov. More information about AACA programs is available at athensartscouncil.org, or over the phone at 423-745-8781. Staff is available via phone, or in person, at The Arts Center. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The Arts Center is located in Historic Downtown Athens, Tennessee, in the Main Street District, at 320 North White Street.

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Friday, December 14, 2023

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Catherine S. May**, age 96, passed away on December 12. She was born in Knoxville. Catherine and her husband Kyle built and operated the Copper Kettle Restaurant on Oak Ridge Hwy in Knoxville before moving to Athens in 1964 and building/operating the Copper Kettle Restaurants for 36 years. In 1985, Catherine started a 30-year career in Pigeon Forge as general manager of the Grand Hotel & Convention Center. She was instrumental in bringing the rod run to Pigeon Forge. She was general manager for Hidden Mt. Resort then went on to oversee all construction of the Clarion Inn Willow River where she managed for 17 years. At 85 years old, she went to work for Tn. State Bank, flipping their repossessed hotels, completely renovating and reopening them and managing until they sold. She was recently named "The Legend of Sevierville Hospitality Association for her dedication and work in Sevierville. After her semi-retirement, she enjoyed being on her farm in Athens, she loved to mow about 6 acres a week and she enjoyed church, family, friends and a weekend on her houseboat. She served on several committees and was instrumental in the Englewood Water Tower Restoration Project and getting the water tower restored and listed on the National Historical Registry. She volunteered for Ducks Unlimited and helped at several banquets thru the year. The family will receive friends Friday from 4-7 pm at Englewood First Baptist Church in Englewood, with the service to follow at 7pm. Family and friends will meet Saturday at 12:45 pm at Highland Memorial Cemetery for a 1 pm interment. Weaver Funeral Home of Knoxville is in charge of arrangements.

Obituaries Continued

♦ **Mable Lee Ratledge Dills**, age 86, a native and lifelong resident of McMinn County, passed away on Wednesday, December 13. Family and friends are invited to attend the graveside service which will be held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, December 16 at Niota Cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

♦ **Charlotte Ford Harmon**, age 93, passed away on Wednesday, December 13 at her home in Decatur. She was born and raised in Meigs County, and attended Fort Sanders Nursing School in Knoxville. She served as a public health nurse with the Meigs County Health Department for 40 plus years. Charlotte was a member of the Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church of Decatur. A funeral service will be held Saturday, December 16 at 2 p.m. at Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Interment will follow in the Decatur Cemetery. Visitation will be from 12 noon - 2 p.m. prior to the service. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is in charge of arrangements.

♦ **Lollie M. Haney**, age 72, of Athens, passed away at home, Tuesday, December 12. Lollie spent several years as an LPN at Woods Memorial Hospital in Etowah. Her life was dedicated to her loving family. A funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, December 17 at Bordwine Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sunday prior to the service. Interment will follow the service in Goodsprings Cemetery. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

♦ **Lela Ruth Henderson**, age 86, longtime resident of McMinn County, passed away on Tuesday, December 12, 2023. Funeral arrangements will be announced later by Ziegler Funeral Home.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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