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### Thursday, December 28, 2017

## **STATE & LOCAL NEWS**

#### ◆ THE NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW LAWS

Sixteen new laws will go into effect in Tennessee on January 1st. Here is a list of some of the new laws:

- Talking on a handheld cell phone while driving through a school zone while the warning lights are flashing will be punishable by a fine of up to \$50.
- Applicants for a handgun carry permit will be exempted from taking firing range training if they can prove they successfully passed small arms training or combat pistol training in any branch of the U.S. armed forces.
- Barbers will be allowed to cut hair in a home for anyone. In the past, a barber could only go to a person's home to cut their hair if the person was ill.
- A law removes the Alcoholic Beverage Commission's jurisdiction over enforcement of criminal offenses involving marijuana.
- A new law prohibits any vehicle with steady-burning lights from having any color of light, other than white or amber, whether they are steady or flashing. Exceptions include emergency vehicles, school buses, mail carriers, and authorized law enforcement vehicles.
- A new law allows a homeowner to cancel a contract for alarm services that is longer that two years by giving 30 days notice if they have to sell the property for medical reasons.

# **National - World News**

◆ A suspect wanted for a triple homicide in Omaha, Nebraska, was located Wednesday afternoon in Jackson, Tennessee following a coordinated effort between the Nebraska USMS Metro Fugitive Task Force, the Western District USMS of Tennessee and the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

◆ A small plane overshot a runway at an Indiana airport on Wednesday sending the plane crashing through a fence and skidding across a highway on the snow-covered ground. The pilot and one passenger were already out of the twin-engine jet when responders arrived. The incident occurred at the Michigan City Municipal Airport in Michigan City.

• Four Ohio teens were charged with murder on Tuesday for allegedly throwing sandbags from a highway overpass as part of a prank that left one man dead.

### **♦** COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

 $\checkmark$  The City of Etowah advises that residential garbage collections next week will be delayed by one day due to the New Years holiday.

✓ If you want to pay your McMinn County Property Taxes before the end of the year, the Trustees Office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and Friday. You can also mail your payment or place your payment in the drop box on the right side of the steps on the Washington Avenue side of the Courthouse. Payments by mail must be postmarked no later than December 31st.



Athens, Tennessee



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## **Obituaries**

• James Emmette "Jimmy" Johnson, Sr., age 89, of Athens, died this past Sunday at his home. He and his wife, Hazel, had owned Johnsons Home Furnishings for many years. He had also served on the Athens City Council. He was a deacon, Sunday School teacher, and choir member at First Baptist Church of Athens for many years. He currently was a member of East Athens Baptist Church. The family will receive friends this Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. at East Athens Baptist Church, with a Celebration of Life service to follow at 4 p.m.

• Estus Lee Newton, age 100, of Athens, died Tuesday at NHC Healthcare of Athens. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Smith Funeral Home.

• Randy Ray Moss, age 59, of Niota, died Monday. He had coached Little League ball for eight to 10 years. The family will receive friends Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. at Kyker Funeral Home, with a Celebration of Life Service at 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks closed slightly higher. Gains in real estate and utilities stocks offset declines in energy and telecom stocks. Department store stocks fell sharply as they struggle to compete with online merchants. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 28 points to 24,774. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 2 points to 2,683, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 3 points to 6.939.

## A Boost for Two Charities

Bowater Credit Union member Melba Baumuller and BCU account owner Cheryl Bressler have each won \$1,000 from Bowater Credit Union for their favorite non-profits: American Legion Auxiliary Unit 81 and Kairos Prison Ministry respectively. The ALA Unit 81 serves veterans with a multitude of projects, including sending six high school junior girls to Girls State, hosting a Veterans Day luncheon, and providing supplies to the Chattanooga VA Clinic. The donation to Kairos Prison Ministry will be used for the upcoming Kairos Outside weekend, which will be attended by women whose families have been impacted by incarceration. In the photos below left, left to right: Melba Baumuller, Juanita Cooper, Sharon Mashburn, Janet Allen, Josie Rivers and Carol Smith with ALA Unit 81, and Tracy Plank with BCU. In the photo on the right, left to right: Amy Wilkins, BCU; Cheryl Bressler, Kairos Outside Chairwoman; and Gloria Murphey and Lori Freeman with Kairos. (Photo by Kim Gunter)

