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#### Wednesday, March 21, 2018

# State & Local News

#### ◆ TORNADO WAS SIGHTED IN McMINN CO.

The National Weather Service reported there was no tornado touchdown in McMinn County last Saturday night. However, a tornado did touch down near Ridgewood Golf Course southeast of Athens. The photo below was taken from a drone by Tim Trotter and shows some of the scores of trees that were blown down. A nearby barn was also flattened. Trotter says he watched as the tornado cloud passed by. He says it came from the golf course and went over the drive-in theater toward the north end of Etowah. He says there was debris in the cloud as it passed.



### National & World News

Athens, Tennessee

• A school resource officer jumped into action when shots were fired inside the halls of Great Mills High School in Maryland Tuesday morning and confronted the gunman. According to Maryland's Governor, the SRO's quick response may have saved lives. The shooter was injured during exchange of fire and died later at a hospital. A sixteen year old girl is in critical condition and a 14 year old boy is in stable condition.

◆ Investigators have obtained a suspicious package they suspect was sent by the same individual who mailed a package bomb that exploded at a FedEx facility near San Antonio, Texas Tuesday Morning. The package was discovered by FedEx workers and turned over to law enforcement. Two people died and four people were injured from the string of explosions in and around the Austin, Texas area recently.

#### ◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The YMCA Resurrection Run will be held this Saturday. Several streets will be affected, including Knoxville Avenue which will be closed from the YMCA parking lot to Jackson Street. Traffic will also be affected on North Jackson St., Washington Ave., Keith Lane, Crestway Drive, McMinn Ave., and West Madison Ave from 7 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

✓ Today (3/21) is World *Down Syndrome Day*. You can observe the day by wearing silly or mismatched socks to remind people that Down Syndrome occurs when you have 3 of chromosome #21 instead of 2. Chromosomes look like colored socks.





Wednesday, March 21, 2018 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

### **Obituaries**

• **Carla Mae Moore Jenkins,** age 58, of Sweetwater, died Wednesday, March 14th, at Sweetwater Hospital. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from 1 to 2 p.m.

• **Michael Anthony Dunn,** age 60, of Athens, died Sunday at Erlanger Medical Center. A celebration of life will be held Friday at 5 p.m. at the City Park Chapel, with visitation from 4 to 5 p.m. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

• Walter Hensley, age 77, of Decatur, died Monday at his home. He served in the Army during the Vietnam Conflict. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Bowers Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.

• **Terry James Harden**, age 49, of Georgetown, died Monday at his home. The family will receive friends from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday at Ziegler Funeral Home. There will be no formal funeral service.

• **Darrell Anthony Young,** age 55, of Etowah, died March 9th. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at Green Hill Cemetery. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.

• Joe Lee Merckson, age 70, died Feb. 2nd at Ft. Meade, Florida. He had formerly lived in Athens. A memorial service will be held this Saturday at 2 p.m. at Mt. Harmony Baptist Church in Niota.

• **Robert Tucker**, age 49, of Decatur, died Sunday at his home. The family will hold a memorial service at a later date. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

## Shamrock Run Winners

The Shamrock Shuffle 5K and 1 Mile fun run was held this past Saturday on Eureka Trail. The photos below show some of the winners. On the left, Whitney Kimball Coe won the award for best dressed. Brianna Hanson with the Athens Parks Department is admiring the trophy. In the photo to the right, Jackie Newman and Logan Bunch won best female and male overall runner.



**ALL RESCUED AFTER VAN RUNS INTO CREEK** A van operated by Life Bridges of Cleveland ran off County Road 20 in south McMinn County Monday afternoon, overturning on its top into a creek. The five occupants were trapped. They were rescued thanks to quick work by Calhoun police and McMinn County Rescue Squad personnel. The THP is charging the driver, Steven Verbeten, Jr., 25, of Cleveland with a drivers license violation and failure to exercise due care. Life Bridges is a non-profit that works with the physically and mentally challenged.

