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Monday, August 13, 2018

Athens, Tennessee

## State & Local News

### ◆ JUDGE CLOSES BLUE COVE PERMANENTLY

McMinn County Circuit Court Judge Michael Sharp has issued a permanent injunction against Blue Cove Hideaway, calling it a "public nuisance." The judge ordered that Blue Cove be permanently closed. Two people have drowned in recent years at Blue Cove, which is a former rock quarry on County Road 116. In addition police have investigated multiple complaints of underage drinking and illegal drug use at Blue Cove. The owner, Charles Womac, recently locked two McMinn County deputies inside the Blue Cove gates and refused to let them leave for almost 30 minutes. Judge Sharp said he ordered the owners to close Blue Cove because the activities there present a danger to the public's health, safety, and welfare.

### ◆ TBI INVESTIGATING TEENAGER'S DEATH

✓ Kelby Fritts, age 18, a recent Salutatorian graduate of Polk County High School, died last Monday, August 6th, at an area hospital. Kelby was attending an event in the Ocoee area when she began having some unknown medical issues, according to investigators. The TBI has been asked to determine what caused the 18-year old to start having the medical problems at the event and later die at the hospital. Her Obituary is on page 2.

## National & World News

◆ Omarosa Manigault Newman's former White House colleagues are looking into legal options to stop her from releasing more tapes and to punish her for secretly recording her conversation with Chief of Staff Gen. John Kelly. She appeared on Meet the Press Sunday, during which she played one of the recordings she made in the Situation Room when she was being fired after working as an assistant to President Trump.

◆ The USDA, for the first time, has approved a birth control app to be marketed as a method of contraception. The "Natural Cycles" app calculates when a woman is most likely to be fertile.

### ◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The McMinn County Election Commission will have a Called Meeting today, August 13th, at 5:30 pm in the Conference Room of the McMinn County Courthouse for the purpose of certifying the August 2nd elections and conduct any other election business to come before the board.

✓ The guest tomorrow on the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce weekly radio show, "Chamber Chat," will be Jennifer Pennell-Aslinger, Director of Junior Achievement for the Ocoee Region. You can hear Chamber Chat each Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO FM 94.5 and AM-1390 or [ONLINE](#).

✓ The Good Faith Clinic will be held Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. GFC is primary medical clinic and is open to all McMinn and Meigs residents that are uninsured. Proof of residency is required. The clinic is located at Christ Community Church at 14 South Congress Parkway.

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We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to: [wxyi@bellsouth.net](mailto:wxyi@bellsouth.net)



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## WEATHER FORECAST

**Monday** - Mostly sunny. High near 88.

**Mon. night** - Mostly clear. Low near 65.

**Tuesday** - Sunny with calm winds. High around 89.

More Weather at: [wyxi.com](http://wyxi.com)

**Monday, August 13, 2018      Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2      Athens, Tennessee**

## Obituaries

♦ **Pamela Elaine Roderick**, age 52, of Athens, died Saturday at Parkwest in Knoxville. A graveside service will be Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. at Idlewild Cemetery with visitation from 2 to 4 p.m. at Ziegler Funeral Home.

♦ **Merita Faye Mowell Head**, age 79, of Athens, died Friday at Parkwest Medical Center in Knoxville. She served as the Officer Manager at L&M Motors for 43 years. A funeral service will be Tuesday at 8 p.m. at Smith Funeral Home with visitation at 6 p.m.

♦ **Ida Mae Shelton**, age 80, of Decatur, died Thursday at her residence. Funeral services were held Saturday at the First Baptist Church of Decatur with burial in the Mountain View Memorial Gardens. Bowers Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

♦ **Millie Altizer Fields**, age 93, of Athens, died Friday at UT Medical Center. A graveside service will be at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday at Green Hill Cemetery in Etowah with visitation at 10 a.m. at Smith Funeral and Cremation Services of Athens.

♦ **Kelby Johnanna Ruth Fritts**, age 18, of Old Fort, died Monday, August 6th, at an area hospital. She graduated from Polk County High School where she was the Salutatorian of her class. She was a two sport athlete and excelled in playing softball and basketball. A Celebration of Life service will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Family Worship Center in Cleveland with visitation Monday from 3 to 8 p.m. at the church. Companion Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

♦ **Fred Allen Millsaps**, age 84, of Cleveland, and formerly of Athens, died Saturday at Garden Plaza of Cleveland. He was the Exxon Distributor for over 30 years and served in the U.S. Army. A Celebration of Life will be Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Companion Funeral Home of Cleveland with visitation from 4 to 6 p.m.

## Tennessee's First Execution since 2009

Tennessee carried out its first execution since 2009 last Thursday evening. Billy Ray Irick died by lethal injection for the rape and murder of a seven-year-old girl in 1985. His last meal was a burger combo. Witnesses say condemned inmate Billy Ray Irick at first signaled he would have no last words, but then gave a brief statement to those watching. Irick, who was convicted of the child's 1985 rape and murder in 1986, told those present "I'm really sorry" shortly before he was executed at a prison in Nashville. The execution came after a final appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court was turned down. Attorney General Herbert Slattery said, "The death penalty is constitutional and it is the law of the State of Tennessee. It has taken decades and multiple court hearings, but justice was finally served for the murder and aggravated rape of 7-year-old Paula Dyer. Justice was delayed too long for this little girl and her family. I hope tonight's lawful execution in some way eases the heartache Paula's family has lived with and brings a degree of closure to a chapter of their lives that has been indescribably difficult."

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