

#### Friday, December 09, 2022

RETIREMENT

GUYS

# **Sheriff Responds to Lawsuit**

A federal lawsuit was recently filed against McMinn County, Sheriff Joe Guy, and Deputy Dalton Townsend. The lawsuit claims Deputy Townsend killed two dogs while searching the home of Erin Johnson, Adriana Wilkins, and Matthew Able on County Road 675. The lawsuit says the sheriff's office was acting on a tip that a suspect was inside the home at the time, but the plaintiffs claim deputies didn't have a search warrant to be on the property. The lawsuit says the incident was a violation of the plaintiffs' 4th Amendment rights and they are asking for \$1million in damages. Sheriff Guy responded with the following statement: "Yesterday I was made aware of a lawsuit regarding our deputies shooting two dogs. Many of the claims in the lawsuit against our officers are unfounded or completely false. On April 4 (2022) at around 4 am, McMinn Co deputies arrived at a residence on CR 675 attempting to locate a suspect wanted on 2 felony warrants who had already fled from officers that night. This suspect was believed to frequent the residence and he had been reported as being at the property an hour or so before. As officers knocked on the front door, two other officers went to the back of the residence. Noticing an open window, deputies made efforts to call out the suspect. At that moment, 2 large vicious dogs lept from the window into the yard toward the deputies. The deputies retreated but were forced to shoot the dogs as they ran aggressively toward the officers in the yard. Much of the incident was captured as evidence on body camera. The suspect was not located at the residence, although it appeared through later investigation that he had been on the property. Officers did not enter the residence through any door or window, nor conduct a search of the home. The officers were where they were supposed to be, and performed their duties according to law and our policies. The McMinn County Sheriff's Office values dogs in our community, our own K9s, and those we partner with the Humane Society for inmates to train for adoption. The Sheriff's Office regrets the loss of the two animals in this incident, but officers are allowed to protect themselves if necessary." Local3new

## **Community News You Can Use**

The Critters For A Cure Online Auction is still going on thru  $\checkmark$ December 10th. There will be 17 collections as well as 3 Wagg gift certificates from Wagg-n-Purr Retreat. For more information visit the Relay for Life of McMinn County Facebook page; click or tap: HERE

✓ The McMinn County Election Commission office is closed today. The staff and election commissioners are attending the East Tennessee Election Officials winter seminar and training.

✓ The City of Niota Old Fashioned Christmas will be this Saturday December 10th from 10 to 5. Outdoor activities start at 2 p.m. The Parade begins at 6 p.m.

✓ The USA Warehouse Sale continues today from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Simmons Bank Financial Center located at 1610B Congress Parkway S. in Athens in the basement warehouse under Mat Makers. They have a variety of wrapping paper, gifts, foods & candies, novelties and more. All items are \$0.50 - \$10.00.

We are now offering FDIC INSURED CD's BROKERED thru RAYMOND JAMES THIS WEEKS FIXED RATES: 12 MONTH CD: 4.70%; 24 MONTH CD: 4.85%; 36 MONTH CD: 4.90% Annual percentage yields (APY's) as of 11/16/2022. Rates are subject to change and availability. Minimum quantity may apply. Monthly income CD's are available, call for rates & info. The Retirement Guys of Tennessee, LLC., 130 E. Washington Ave., Ste 6 Athens 745-7434





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Athens, Tennessee

### **Obituaries**

✓ James Edwin Guffey, age 69, of Athens, passed away Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at his home. He was a lifelong resident of McMinn County. He graduated from the University of the South (Sewanee), he received his Masters Degree from the University of Tennessee in Engineering. He was associated with ABB and Thomas & Betts until his retirement. A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is in charge.

✓ Dolores Eleanor Shea McNabb, age 81, of Blountville, passed away on Wednesday, December  $7^{th}$  at her residence. A funeral service will be at 1 PM Tuesday, December  $13^{th}$  at Ziegler Funeral Home. Interment will follow at McMinn Memory Gardens. Visitation will be 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, December  $13^{th}$  at Ziegler Funeral Home. Ziegler Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

✓ **Barbara Jean Jones,** age 82, of Englewood, passed away on Wednesday, December  $7^{th}$  at her home. A memorial service will be announced later. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

### **Church News and Events**

- East Athens Baptist Church Handbells Ring Christmas will be at 10:45 a.m. on December 11th.

- North Etowah Baptist Church presents the Christmas musical "A Promise Kept" on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. Our children will present special music during the 6 p.m. service.

- If you or someone you know is battling addiction, struggling with anger, or other life issues, Planted In Christ Outreach Fellowship, 317 Maple Street, in Athens, invites you to attend Outreach Deliverance Classes every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

If you have suffered the loss of a loved one, Mars Hill Presbyterian Church of Athens now offers a Griefshare program each Sunday at 2:00 p.m. For more information call 423-829-5052.
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.

**THURSDAY'S MARKET REPORT:** Stocks finished higher. Treasury yields climbed. Investors worry the Fed will hike rates further than currently expected if inflation proves sticky in the months to come. European and Asian shares were lower. Oil fell in the afternoon to around \$71 a barrel. At the closing bell the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 183.56 to 33,781.48. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 29.59 to 3,963.51, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 123.45 to 11,082.00.



# Welcome

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