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(SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE NEWS)

Monday, February 19, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

Burke's Gospel Jubilee 57th Annual Celebration

Burke's Sunday Morning Gospel Music Jubilee met yesterday afternoon at the new Light of Life Ministry International Church on North Congress Parkway in Athens for their 57th annual celebration. The Gospel Jubilee was founded in July 1967 by the late W.E. Burke of Athens. Since its founding, it has aired exclusively every Sunday at 9 a.m. on WYXI Radio in Athens. And it is the longest running radio program of its type in McMinn County. Burke's Sunday Morning Gospel Jubilee is hosted by: Stanley Blair, Karen King, and Jasmine Porter-McDermott. The benefit concert was sponsored by Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA) and McMinn County, Tennessee. The Douglass Family Gospel Singers began the program followed by the Georgia Mass Choir featuring the Rev. Dr. Milton Biggham. The Photo below is the Georgia Mass Choir with Rev. Dr. Milton Biggham.



Monday, February 19, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

United Way Award Recipients

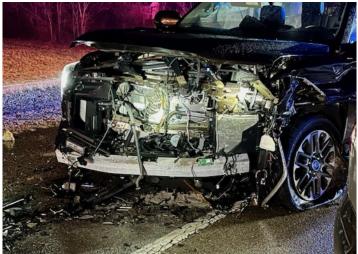
The United Way held its annual meting on Thursday, February 15. Below is a group photo of the award recipients. Pictured Front from L-R are the following: Randy Mullins – outgoing President's Council Co-Chair; Randy Dunlop – Dick Dyer Award; Ross Dodson – James H. Willson Award; Phil Graves & Amy McDonald – Athens Utilities Board, Spirit of the Community award; Taquiya Thompson – TVA, Spirit of the Community award; Ray Johnson – Joseph T. Frye award; The Roughnecks McMinn-Bradley-Meigs – Meigs County Volunteer of the Year award; Back: Greg Moses – 2023 United Way Board Chairman; not pictured – Muddy Waters Two – Spirit of the Community award.



Hyundai Collides with Toyota Tundra

Friday around 10pm on Hwy 411S at Co Rd 852, Delano the driver of a 2005 Hyundai Santa Fe was traveling north in the southbound lane and collided with the 2024 Toyota Tundra. The driver of the Hyundai was transported by AMR to Erlanger in Chattanooga and the driver of the truck was uninjured. Etowah Rural Fire, Englewood Rural Fire, and McMinn County Sheriff's Department all responded along with Investigating THP Officer Jackson Mowrer. Photo below and at right by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department.







Monday, February 19, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

◆ Joe "Floyd" Rolen, age 99, of Sweetwater, passed away Friday, February 16. A funeral service will be held at 12:00 p.m., Monday, February 19th at Bordwine Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Monday prior to the service. Interment will follow in Mars Hill cemetery. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

◆ Robert John "R.J." Leonard, Jr., age 35, of Decatur, formerly of Hannibal, NY, unexpectedly passed away on Thursday, February 15. He did construction for most of his life, until recently moving to Tennessee to pursue his dream of becoming a police officer. Upon completing the police academy, he became a deputy sheriff at the Meigs County Sheriff's Department, where he instantly became part of the family. A funeral service will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, February 19, in the Meigs County High School Gymnasium. Interment will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, February 20, in the Decatur Cemetery. Visitation from 4p.m.– 7p.m., prior to the service on Monday. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is in charge of arrangements.

• **Rev. Charlie Mack Jr.** age 82 went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Wednesday, February 14, at his home surrounded by his family. Rev. Mack was well known in the A.M.E. Zion Church, where he served as pastor at Harwell Chapel A.M.E. Church in Etowah. He worked for McMinn County Schools as a bus driver and spent many years driving an 18 wheeler for companies like Catnapper. Funeral services will be Tuesday, February 20, at 2:00 p.m. in the chapel of M.D. Dotson and Sons Funeral Home of Athens with visitation beginning at 1 p.m.

• Mary Truslow, age 50, of Decatur, passed away on Monday, February 12th. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date, per Mary's wishes. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is in charge of arrangements.

Community News You Can Use

✓ In honor of Black History Month, E.G. Fisher Public Library will host Terrie Ruff Long on February 20 as she discusses skills taught by Chattanooga Connects that draw out compassion through the use of personal storytelling. The event will be held in the Varnadow Community Room at noon. A light lunch will be provided.

✓ Etowah Senior Center will be offering the Matter of Balance Program conducted by the UT Extension Agency beginning March 19 and ending April 11. This 8-session series will be held each Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 until 1:30. Many older adults have concerns about falling and will restrict their activities. This program is designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. For more information or to register call the UT Extension Agency at 423-745-2852 or Etowah Senior center at 423-781-7632.

✓ Daffodil Days is scheduled for March 4th - March 9th in Downtown Athens. Elaine Newman & Rebecca Houk (Athens Flower Shop) are coordinating this annual event and will be in touch with people to get their orders to help paint downtown yellow with flowers! The cost is \$8.00 per pot. If you are interested in placing an order please send email to <u>athensmainstreet@gmail.com</u> The deadline for ordering is Thursday, February 29th.

