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Today's News...This Morning

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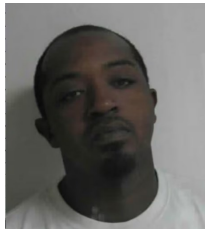
Free Outreach Deliverance Classes are held every Thursday 7:00 pm at Planted in Christ Outreach Fellowship Located at: 317 Maple Street in Athens. For more information: call 423-435-8986 HOPE to see you there!

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Athens Man Sentenced to Four Consecutive Life Sentences Without Parole



In a follow-up to our lead story from Tuesday, April 16, found [HERE](#), Curtis Smith was convicted of four counts of First-Degree Murder, two counts of Attempted First-Degree Murder, one count of Especially Aggravated Kidnapping, one count of Aggravated Arson, and one count of Possession of Weapon by a Convicted Felon. On Sept. 25, 2021, Smith and Co-Defendant Jazzmine Hall traveled to a camper in Riceville where Hall's husband and infant son were living. Present in the camper were five other people. The defendants entered the camper armed where Hall took the baby at gunpoint. After taking the child, Hall shot her husband, then Smith shot the husband again and three other persons in the camper, killing them. Smith left the camper and set it on fire. Two victims who were not shot were able to escape and contact authorities.

Story Continued on Page 4

Community News You Can Use

- Join the Relay for Life on Saturday, May 18 beginning at 2:00 pm at the Market Park Pavilion in Downtown Athens for the Family Festival of Hope. Activities include: Axe Throwing, Crafts and Food, Live Auction, Entertainment, Inflatables, Games, Fire Truck Pull and more. This is a free event and everyone is encouraged to attend. See the full list of events and performers on their Facebook page at the link [HERE!](#)
- The Athens Lions Club's 15th Annual Red, White, and Moo Run will occur on Saturday, June 1, 2024 with the race starting at 7:30 am. Moo Run 2024 is a 5K run/1 mile walk taking place at Eureka Trail in Athens. Register by May 16th to get a t-shirt and reduced entry fee. Best Red, White, & Blue/ Cow apparel wins a prize!. You must be a registered participant to win. For more info, visit www.AthensTNLions.org

Define Your Tomorrow

Cleveland State Community College
Define your tomorrow today. Register for fall classes at registration.clevelandstate.cc.

WEATHER FORECAST

Wednesday— 80% Chance of Storms, High 71

Wednesday night - Mostly cloudy, Low 59.

Thursday—Mostly Sunny. High 76

Thursday night - Partly Cloudy, Low 59.

More Weather at: wyxi.com

READY TO BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME THIS SUMMER?

Just unloaded a semi truck full of gorgeous, simple to maintain styles & colors of high quality 100% water-proof, pet proof & kid proof plank flooring for unbeatable prices! We have a large assortment of budget friendly specials starting @ \$1.49 sq ft or buy it by the full pallet & get it for only \$1.39 sq ft. Also have a large selection of beautiful carpets, sheet vinyl & hardwoods. Ask about our match & best any price policy! You can't buy flooring for less, unless it's a lot less flooring!

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Wednesday, May 15, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Acadia Brynn Linton, 14, passed away on Sunday, May 5. Acadia loved movies, music, and video games (especially old school games like Zelda & Mario). She enjoyed swimming and spending summers in the pool. An animal lover, she loved bowling and skating. Acadia fiercely loved her family, and her siblings adored her. She was very intelligent, and her favorite subject was science. A visitation will be held on Sunday, May 19th from Noon - 4 pm at Good Samaritan Funeral Home, Athens, TN. Casual dress is encouraged by the family and wearing your favorite band or music group tee is appropriate as Acadia loved music. Good Samaritan Funeral Home, Athens, TN is honored to serve the family of Acadia Linton.

TODAY IS:

- Bring Flowers to Someone Day
- National Juice Slush Day
- National Chocolate Chip Day
- National Nylon Stocking Day
- Peace Officers Memorial Day

Ribbon Cutting for Dooley Tractor Company

A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, Dooley Tractor Company, located at 109 Congress Parkway N, Athens. This day marked a milestone for Dooley Tractor Company as they celebrated 85 years in business. Mr. Leslie Dooley started the company in 1939 in downtown Athens where he sold Ford products. In 1952 Mr. E.B. "Bo" Bohannon Jr. bought the Ford Tractor and implement portion of the business. Around 1974, E.B "Eddie" Bohannon III came on board and later stepped into his current role as President in the early 90's.



Shown here are Kim Bohannon, Isaac Bohannon (Sales), Rob Preston, Eddie Bohannon (Owner & President), Kathy Sherlin (Retired 40 years), Bill Burris (Parts Manager) Nellie Kyker (Retired 40 years), Donna Gibby (VP Finance), Rachel Bohannon, Larry Malone (Retired 33 years), Ken Keaton (Sales & Marketing Manager), Jonathan Bohannon, Not Pictured Travis Haun (General Manager) & Richie Janow (Service Manager).

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Bohannon Farms 2nd Annual Open House

Store opens at 10 am with 10% off everything in-stock

Free Lunch beginning at 11 am

Live Music from Saved By Grace 12 pm - 2 pm

Kids can enjoy the bounce house!

Bring your chairs and celebrate!



bohannonfarms.com

Rain or Shine!
Saturday, May 18th
144 County Road 219, Niota



SATURDAY, JUNE 1

ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

- 7AM - 9AM ATHENS LIONS CLUB MOO RUN
EUREKA TRAIL
- 7AM - 9AM VENDOR CHECK-IN
MARKET PAVILION
- 7AM - 3PM ATHENS SOAP BOX DERBY TRIALS
KEITH LANE/ATHENS MIDDLE SCHOOL
- 10AM - 5PM AG AVENUE
MARKET PARK
- ??? ALL AGES BOVINES & BLIND COW
COSTUME CONTEST
MARKET PARK



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Wednesday, May 15, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3 Athens, Tennessee

WYXI Radio Helps Celebrate 85 Years of Dooley Tractor Company



Dooley Tractor Company celebrated 85 years in business on Friday, May 10 and WYXI Radio FM 94.5/AM 1390 was there to cover the celebration. Host of the *Trading Post Morning Show*, J.P. Vasquez and Account Sales Representative, Stephanie Devine represented the station as Vasquez interviewed a variety of notable people from Dooley Tractor Company as well as the City of Athens about Dooley's contributions to the community and the impact that they have made to the area over their 85 years. Rob Preston, CEO of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, was one of those interviewed, with an excerpt of his interview viewable [HERE](#). Much of the Chamber itself came by to celebrate Dooley Tractor Company and held a ribbon cutting in their honor, pictured on Page 2 of today's Morning Fax. Ken Keaton, Sales Manager at Dooley Tractor Company was interviewed, with an excerpt of his interview available [HERE](#). City of Athens Mayor Steven Sherlin came to Dooley to talk about how important a long-standing business like this is to the community, with his interview available [HERE](#). Owner and President of Dooley Tractor Company, Eddie Bohannon was present to speak about how honored he was to be part of one of the longest running and most prestigious businesses in the McMinn County area and East Tennessee as a whole, with his interview available [HERE](#).



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to the
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Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Morning Fax[®]...Today's News This Morning Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

Athens Man Sentenced to Four Consecutive Life Sentences Without Parole

The McMinn County Sheriff's Office, 10th Judicial Drug Task Force, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Polk County Sheriff's Office, and U.S. Marshals Service located and apprehended the Defendants within a few hours. The state initially was seeking the death penalty, however upon Smith pleading guilty, the state withdrew its notice. Upon pleading to four consecutive life without parole sentences for each homicide victim, the State withdrew its notice to seek the death penalty.

Defendant Smith also pled guilty to two counts of attempted First-Degree Murder and received the maximum 25-year sentence on each count to be served at 100%. He also pled guilty to four counts of Felony Murder which merged with the other First-Degree Pre-Meditated Murder counts. Smith pled guilty to Especially Aggravated Kidnapping and received the maximum sentence of 40 years to serve at 100%, to Aggravated Arson and received the maximum sentence of 25 years to serve at 85%, and to Possession of a Weapon by a Convicted Felon and received the maximum sentence of two years to serve.

Smith was also convicted of Possession of Methamphetamine over 26 grams for Resale, Possession of a Weapon During the Course of a Dangerous Felony, Possession of a Weapon by a Felon, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Driving on a Suspended License 2nd Offense which occurred in Bradley County and a Possession of Methamphetamine over 0.5 grams for Resale which occurred in McMinn County prior to these homicides. Smith received an additional 28 years to serve consecutive to his four consecutive life without parole sentences.

"This case has been very difficult for the victims' families and the surviving victims. Today as the remaining defendant entered his plea, they received some justice for the murder of their loved ones at the hands of these defendants." District Attorney Tayloe said. "Again, I appreciate the McMinn County Sheriff's Office, TBI, DTF, the Polk County Sheriff's Office, and the U.S. Marshals Service working together to facilitate the successful prosecution of this case."

District Attorney Shari Tayloe, with Assistant District Attorney Generals Dorothy Cherry and Matthew Walden, along with Victim/Witness Coordinator Nichole Knox, prosecuted this case. District Attorney Shari Tayloe serves the 10th Judicial District which includes Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk Counties. *Photo Courtesy of the McMinn County Sheriff's Office*

TODAY IN HISTORY - MAY 15

1859 - Pierre Curie, co-discoverer of radium, was born in France. He and his wife, Marie, shared the Nobel Prize for Physics for discovering radium.

1918 - The world's first regular air mail service was established between Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and New York. The aircraft used was a Curtiss "Jenny" biplane.

1918 - Country singer Eddy Arnold was born. He was known as the Tennessee Plowboy. His hit records included "Anytime," "Cattle Call," and "Make the World Go Away."

1930 - Ellen Church, the first airline stewardess, went on duty aboard a United Airlines flight from San Francisco and Cheyenne, Wyoming.

1948 - Hours after declaring its independence, the new state of Israel was attacked by Transjordan, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon.

1972 - Alabama Governor George Wallace was shot and critically wounded at a presidential campaign rally in Laurel, Maryland.

The City of Etowah is hiring 6 concession workers to staff the new Etowah Community Pool beginning May 25.

Looking for a summer job? Etowah is an ideal place to get ahead. Apply Today!

Applications are available at:
www.cityofetowahtn.com

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