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Today's News... This Morning

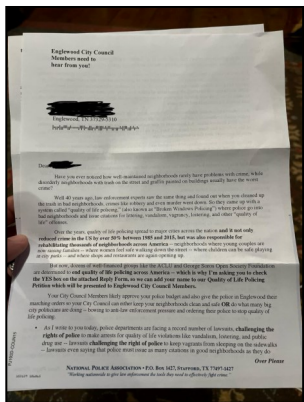
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Friday, June 28th

“National Police Association” Scam Letters



Some Englewood residents have received a letter from the "National Police Association" implying that donations to their organization will encourage local city councils to continue funding the police department. This letter is not endorsed by the City of Englewood or McMinn County. Sheriff Guy and Englewood Police Chief Mike Hayes advise residents not to fall for this solicitation. "Sheriff Guy, our City Manager, and I have read the

letter. We agree that this is definitely not credible," said Chief Mike Hayes. "We have never had any correspondence from the "National Police Association" ... we do not recommend anyone sending any donations to them... It is our belief that this is another attempt to prey on people's instinct to want to help law enforcement in any they can, simply because they believe it is the 'right thing to do'." They recommend ignoring any such requests for financial support and suggest that citizens check with them before donating to any "police support organization." *Photo Courtesy of Sheriff Joe Guy*

Community News You Can Use

- The Athens City Council held a called meeting Tuesday afternoon and voted to rescind a previously passed motion on June 18th to hold a public hearing about accusations against Council Member Dick Pelley, who has been accused of violating state code for digging holes at Veterans Park and allegedly causing disturbances at the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, the McMinn Senior Activity Center and TWU. Instead of pursuing a public hearing, the council voted to turn the matter over to the city attorney and authorized him to pursue an ouster suit against Council Member Pelley. After the Tuesday evening vote, Vice Mayor Larry Eaton issued the following statement: "The council wanted to be sure we are fair to councilman Pelley and to ensure proper dual (*sic*) process and making sure we do not have any bias procedures. The courts will ensure he gets a fair change (*sic*) at all charges and we pray for our city to move forward".
- [Studio 3:16 Community Art Space](#) is hosting a paint class this Saturday, June 29th at 3 pm. The [Patriotic Boot-quet](#) features Red, White, & Blue or customizable colored flowers on a 16" x 20" canvas for \$35 with a coffee & tea bar included. Attendees under 18 are \$25 with the purchase of an adult seat. If you have more than one person under 18, the discount will be honored. RSVP [HERE](#). The studio is located at 316 N. White St. in Athens.

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Wednesday, June 26, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Shooter Kills Self near Hamilton Place



A shooter fatally shot himself inside an office building near Hamilton Place mall on Monday afternoon, but no one else was harmed, Chattanooga police Sgt. Victor Miller stated at a news conference. Police and other law

enforcement agencies responded to an active shooter report at 2034 Hamilton Place Blvd. shortly after 2 p.m., according to Miller. Sources state that John Schultz, a longtime Investigator & Asbestos Coordinator with the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Air Pollution Control Bureau, entered the office of Executive Director Ron Drumeller along with another staffer, Amber Boles. Schultz became angry with Drumeller and tried to shoot him. The gun misfired, and Schultz ultimately turned the gun on himself. Over 100 law enforcement personnel were present in the nearby mall parking lot. Authorities believe the shooter acted alone and never left the building. The Chattanooga Police Department will provide more information as the investigation progresses. *Photo Courtesy of : Chattanooga.com*

Seven Arrested in Monroe County Sex Sting

FROM LOCAL 3 NEWS....Officers and deputies from multiple departments in Monroe County took seven people between the ages of 28 to 77 into custody for engaging in sexual conversations with an undercover agent posing as a minor online. Most of the men arrested offered \$100 to have sex with who they thought was a 16-year-old female or male. The Monroe County Sheriff's Office Violent Crime Task Force, Sweetwater Police Department, Vonore Police Department and the Covenant Rescue Group teamed up to conduct the sting from Thursday, June 20 to Friday, June 21. A Facebook post from Monroe County Sheriff Tommy Jones says the chats between the suspects and decoy juvenile were explicit. "These conversations were heinous in nature and most included money in exchange for sexual acts," Sheriff Jones said. Jones thanked the Covenant Rescue Group, an organization dedicated to rescuing victims and arresting criminals involved in human trafficking, for spearheading the project.

The following individuals were arrested during the sting:

- Roberto Lara Cuevas, 28**
- Gerardo Barahoma, 28**
- Brian Matthew Broome, 29**
- Honorio Herrera, 37**
- Enoc Gutierrez Velazquez, 55**
- James R. Barsuglia, 77**

The seventh suspect has not been identified.



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WEATHER FORECAST

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Thursday - 40% Chance of Showers. High 92.
Thursday night - Mostly Clear. Low 71.

More Weather at: wyxi.com

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Today's News...This Morning

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Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

Security Grants for TN Houses of Worship

The Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security is accepting applications for a grant that will fund security efforts at churches, synagogues, temples and mosques. The deadline to apply is coming up on July 12. "Unfortunately houses of worship can often be soft targets," said Department of Safety and Homeland Security Deputy Commissioner Greg Mays. "By their nature, these locations are easily accessible to large numbers of people and have limited security measures in place, which can make them vulnerable to an attack. With the Houses of Worship Security Grant, eligible organizations can hire trained security professionals who, in an emergency, can mitigate or prevent a tragedy." You can find more information on how to apply [HERE](#)

◆ The guest this week on "Hope From the Well" will be **Connie McIntosh** discussing "Where Our Thoughts Come From". "Hope From the Well" is heard each Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.



Obituaries

Ronald Eugene Hudson, "Honeybee" age 65, of Athens, passed away peacefully, Sunday, June 23, after suffering a stroke. He was a treasured friend greatly loved by a very large family, nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles and any friend he ever made. A celebration of Ronald's life will be Thursday, June 27, at 6:00 pm, at 2217 Robin Street, in Athens. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge of arrangements.

Joseph "Hunter" Watson, age 19, passed away on Monday, June 24. He grew up in Polk County, but recently moved to Cleveland. Hunter was employed with Jackson Manufacturing in the shipping department and was a member of Wings of Love House of Prayer in Cleveland. The family will receive friends beginning at 5:00 PM on Thursday, June 27, at Madisonville Church of God of Prophecy. Graveside services will be held at the church cemetery at 10:00 AM on Friday, June 28. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Kenneth Earl Cagle, age 81 of Athens, passed away Monday, June 24, at his residence. He was native and lifelong resident of McMinn County. He was a retired teacher at the McMinn County Career Technical Center and was a member of Eastanallee Baptist Church. Funeral services will be at 7:00 P.M. Thursday in the Chapel of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. Interment will be at 11:00 A.M. Friday in McMinn Memory Gardens. The family will receive friends from 5-7 Thursday at Laycock-Hobbs funeral home.

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