

MCMINN TANK & PIPE
 We offer same day & next day delivery!
 • 1,000 gal Tank & Lowboys
 • 1,000 & 1,500 gal Pump Tanks
 • 2' & 3' Chamber Pipe
 • 3" Schedule 40 Pipe
 • Risers in Lids for Easy Pumping

Contact Us:
 423-507-9487
 423-744-0121

If it's not listed, call us!

Morning Fax[®]

Today's News... This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute **with attribution**)
 Phone: 423-745-1390 E-mail: vyxiradio@gmail.com

Tennessee Wesleyan University

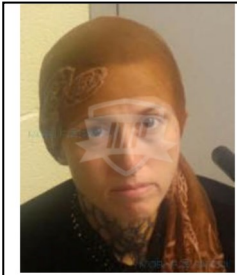
Finish What You Started
 Complete Your Degree in Less Than Two Years
Business Administration
 for as little as
\$13,440

Wednesday, July 31, 2024

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Two Charged in Meigs Co. Human Trafficking Case



CLARISSA MCKINNEY



TRISTIN EPPERSON

Two people face felony human trafficking charges following a six-month investigation by special agents assigned to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's Human Trafficking Unit.

Agents began investigating Tristin Epperson and Clarissa McKinney in early 2024, after receiving information concerning their interactions with a juvenile.

On Thursday, the Meigs County Grand Jury returned indictments, charging Epperson (DOB 4/19/1999) with one count of Commercial Sex Trafficking of a Minor, six counts of Statutory Rape, and one count of Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor. The grand jury returned indictments charging McKinney (DOB 7/30/1991) with one count of Commercial Sex Trafficking of a Minor, six counts of Facilitation of Statutory Rape, and one count of Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor.

On Monday, authorities arrested and booked both into the Meigs County Jail. The court set Epperson's bond at \$100,000, while McKinney was released on her own recognizance.

The charges and allegations referenced in this release are merely accusations of criminal conduct and not evidence. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt and convicted through due process of law.

EQUIPMENT RENTAL

SOUTHERNRESTORATIONTN.COM

MINI EXES · TRACK LOADERS · LIFTS · TRAILERS
 TRENCHERS · MINI SKIDS · SAWS · JACKHAMMERS
 FLOORS SAWS · AUGERS · CONCRETE MIXERS
 AERATORS · TILLERS · PRESSURE WASHERS
 SPREADERS · COMPACTORS · LOG SPLITTERS

SOUTHERN
 RESTORATION & RENTALS

Help for Addiction to Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco, Bondage, Anger Management and more Life Issues.

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!

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!

Easy to find and worth the drive!
 Across from McMinn County High School
 We can't wait to see you!

OSMENT FLOORING
UNBEATABLE PRICES

2410 Congress Parkway
 Athens, TN 37303
 423.252.0316
www.osmentflooring.com

Hugh Willson
 Financial Professional
 New York Life Insurance Company

Life Insurance
 Disability Insurance
 Long Term Care Insurance
 Fixed Annuities
 Investments*

423-299-1080
hmwillson@ft.newyorklife.com

265 Brookview Centre Way Suite 102, Knoxville, TN USA 37919
 *Registered Representative for NYLIFE Securities LLC. (Member FINRA/SIPC), A Licensed Insurance Agency and a New York Life Company.

MCMINN HOMEOWNERS!

SUMMER SPECIAL!!!

0% INTEREST

GET A FULLY INSTALLED AUTOMATIC GENERATOR AT 0% INTEREST FOR 60 MONTHS!

SCHEDULE YOUR FREE CONSULTATION TODAY! 423-506-3166

WEATHER FORECAST

Wednesday - 50% chance of Storms. High 93.
Wed. night - Partly Cloudy. Low 74.
Thursday - Sunny w/Heat Index 109. High 81.
Thurs. night - Mostly Clear. Low 76.

More Weather at: wyxi.com

Morning Fax[®]

Today's News...This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute with attribution)
Phone: 423-745-1390 E-mail: wyxiradio@gmail.com



InTouch
with DR. CHARLES STANLEY

Weekdays
10:00 am - 10:30 am

Sundays
Noon - 12:30 pm

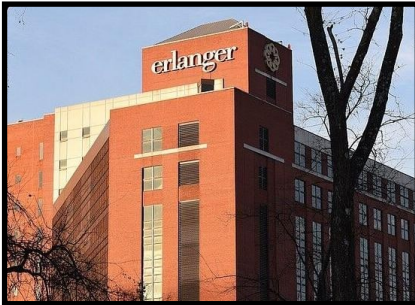



Wednesday, July 31, 2024

Morning Fax[®]...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

DOJ Files Lawsuit Against Erlanger Hospital



The U.S. Department of Justice has filed a complaint against Erlanger Hospital, accusing the facility of illegally billing Medicare for services referred by its physicians from 2014 to at

least 2021. This complaint stems from a lawsuit initially filed by former Erlanger executives Alana Sullivan and Britt Tabor in April 2021, which was recently unsealed. They allege that Erlanger submitted false insurance claims through an illegal self-referral process, violating the federal anti-kickback statute known as the Stark Law. This law prohibits physicians from referring patients to entities with which they have a financial relationship unless an exception applies. The lawsuit asserts that Erlanger's claims were fraudulent because the patients were not eligible for reimbursement under these conditions.

For patients, this matter is significant because it suggests that decisions regarding their care may have been influenced by financial incentives rather than medical necessity. For example, one physician was reportedly rewarded with over \$1 million for generating more than \$9 million in hospital service fees through referrals, highlighting potential conflicts of interest.

The complaint details several actions by Erlanger, including employing more physicians to secure revenue, eliminating compensation oversight, and changing compensation models to attract physicians capable of generating substantial revenue. It alleges that Erlanger ignored fair market value assessments and overpaid certain physicians, disregarding warnings and concerns about overutilization and quality of care. These actions, according to the complaint, resulted in compensation to physicians that far exceeded the services provided, raising concerns about the prioritization of profit over patient care. To read the full complaint from the Department of Justice, click [HERE](#)

Photo Courtesy of The Chattanooga Times Free Press

ATTENTION ATHENS RESIDENTS!!
DPCA Officially Welcomes



directprimarycareassociates.com



620 N. Congress Pkwy, Athens

(423) 405-1990

*Superior Service For Your Loved One
In Your Greatest Time Of Need*



Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services
163 Arrants Avenue
Decatur, TN 37322
(423) 334-3661
www.decaturfuneralsandcremations.com
James A. Staton, Owner

MOMENTS
of Praise
WORSHIP ON WYXI RADIO
FM 94.5 / AM 1390
MONDAY - SATURDAY | 6:55 AM/4:00 PM
SUNDAY | 8:00 AM
PASTOR PETE MULLINS
GENESIS BAPTIST CHURCH
LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE.

Morning Fax[®]

Today's News... This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute **with attribution**)
Phone: 423-745-1390 E-mail: wyxiradio@gmail.com

WOMEN@THEWELL
MINISTRIES
WELL SALE
Thurs., Fri., Sat.
August 1, 2, 3
9am - 5 pm
FURNITURE, CLOTHING,
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS & MORE
Fill a Bag for \$5!
Wesleyanna Methodist Church
Community Building
649 County Road 609, Athens (423) 745-0010
Questions? Call (423) 745-0010
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE MINISTRY

Wednesday, July 31, 2024

Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

Hamilton Co. Awards \$100,000 Settlement to Family of Woman Baptized by Deputy



Shandle Marie Riley and Daniel Wilkey

A \$100,000 settlement has been reached in a lawsuit involving former deputy Daniel Wilkey, who was accused of baptizing Shandle Marie Riley in Lake Chickamauga after a traffic stop. The settlement, which is contingent on approval by the Hamilton County Commission, involves the county and Wilkey,

who faced multiple charges and lawsuits, some of which were dismissed or dropped.

The incident occurred in February 2019 when Wilkey stopped Riley, found a small amount of marijuana, and later suggested baptizing her, offering leniency in return. Wilkey and another officer, Jacob Goforth, carried out the baptism, which was filmed by Goforth.

Judge Travis McDonough dismissed some of Riley's claims but left others intact, including a claim against Goforth for failing to prevent a constitutional violation. Riley, who later passed away from unrelated causes, had filed the lawsuit alleging improper conduct and violations of her rights. Wilkey, previously indicted on 44 charges, has faced numerous legal challenges and still has a pending federal case related to an incident involving alleged excessive force in July 2019.

Photo Courtesy of: lawandcrime.com

Community News You Can Use

- The 2024 McMinn County Job Fair is taking place on Wednesday, August 14 at Athens Regional Park from 9 AM - 3 PM. Over 25 Employers are currently hiring and scheduled to attend. Job Seekers can register to attend at the link [HERE](#)
- The Athens Fire Department is hosting a Heartsaver CPR Training Course on Saturday, August 3 from 9 AM - 12 Noon at the Athens Fire Hall, 815 N. Jackson St. The class is limited to 20 participants and the cost is \$20 per student. Once completed, students will receive a certification card good for 2 years. To sign up, call the Athens Fire Department at 423-744-2789.
- The City of Athens Public Works Department announces the following street closures: Parking Spaces 102, 103, 104, and 105 on Madison Ave. from White Street to Jackson Street on Wednesday, July 31 and Friday, August 2 from 7:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Also, Madison Ave. from White Street to Jackson Street on Thursday, August 1, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. The purpose of this closing is the McMinn County Election Commission's election supply pick up and drop off and election returns.

◆ The guests this week on *Hope From the Well* will be **Connie McIntosh & Robin Nation**. *Hope From the Well* is heard every Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.



On August 1, we welcome

Katie Hawks, DO

to our team at

Athens Medical Group

Call to schedule an appointment today

(423) 745-6575



Now Accepting New Patients

Methodist Meeting

All Methodists and interested folks, join us for a casual get-together where you can meet others going through the same process of looking for a place to worship that follows scripture and obeys God's word as written. Just because the world is changing does not mean that your faith in God must.

Confused ? Need Answers ?

We will discuss the recent changes made by the UMC and how we can move forward without remaining members of the UMC.

Sunday August 4th 2 pm to 4 pm

TWU at the Colloms Campus Center
204 E College Street Athens, TN 37303

HOPE FROM THE WELL
 HOSTED BY: **JULIE TILLIS**
THURSDAYS AT 8:15 AM
 "If you have Jesus in your life, you will always have hope."
  **WOMEN OF THE WELL MINISTRIES**
 FM 94.5 AM 1390

Morning Fax[®]

Today's News...This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute **with attribution**)
 Phone: 423-745-1390 E-mail: wyradio@gmail.com

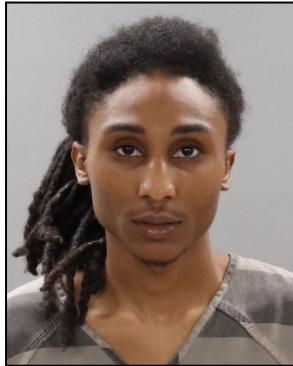
InTouch
 with DR. CHARLES STANLEY
 Weekdays
 10:00 am - 10:30 am
 Sundays
 Noon - 12:30 pm
 
 FM 94.5 AM 1390

Wednesday, July 31, 2024

Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

Suspect Charged in Knoxville Home Robbery Investigation



The Knoxville Police Department announced that they have identified and charged 20-year-old Dwan Woodley in connection with a home robbery on Chester Avenue early Monday morning. Woodley faces multiple felony charges, including aggravated robbery, aggravated assault, and aggravated burglary. The incident occurred around 4 a.m. when two masked individuals broke into a 27-year-old woman's home, with one suspect holding her at gunpoint.

The suspects stole a PlayStation 5 and over \$3,000 in cash before fleeing in a white SUV.

Woodley, known to the victim, was later apprehended by KPD officers at a home on Blue Star Drive, where they also recovered the stolen items and a gun matching the description used in the robbery. The KPD has not provided additional information regarding the second suspect.

Photo Courtesy of the
 Knox County Sheriff's Department



Obituaries

Michael Gene Morrow, 66 of Decatur, passed away on Monday, July 29. He was an outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting and fishing. A funeral service will be held on Friday, August 2, 2024 at 11 a.m. in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Interment will follow in the Clear Springs Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 10 – 11 a.m., prior to the service. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Morrow Family.

Gia Lee McKhean, age 53 of Athens, passed away, Saturday, July 20, at Parkwest Medical Center in Knoxville. She was a gardener, an artist, an excellent cook and loving wife, mother and grandmother. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home will be in charge of the arrangements.

Today in History - July 31

1875 - Andrew Johnson, the nation's 17th President, died at the age of 66 on a visit to Carter County, TN.

1914 - The New York Stock Exchange closed due to the outbreak of World War I. Trading didn't resume until December.

1971 - Apollo 15 astronauts James B. Irwin and David Scott first used the four-wheeled battery-powered Lunar Roving Vehicle to extensively explore the Moon's surface, in particular the Hadley-Apennine site.

1977 - The "Son of Sam" killer claimed his last victims when he shot and killed Stacy Moskowitz, 20, and seriously wounded her date as they sat in a parked car in Brooklyn, N.Y. David Berkowitz was arrested less than two weeks later. He is serving six sentences of 25 years to life.

1991 - President George H.W. Bush and Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev signed the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty in Moscow.

2012 - At the Summer Games in London, American swimmer Michael Phelps captured his 19th career Olympic medal when he helped the U.S. team win the 4x200-meter free-stroke relay.

WYXI TRADING POST
 BUY | SELL | TRADE

 TUNE IN ON 94.5FM AND 1390AM
 WEEKDAY MORNINGS
 8:30 - 9:30

@THEMORNINGFAX ON X (TWITTER)

Never Miss an Update!
 Don't forget to

SUBSCRIBE



What is GYB?



G.Y.B.

/dʒi- wai- bee/

Grow Your Business - and ADVERTISE with The Morning Fax! Expose your business (or event!) to an estimated 10,000+ daily readers! With options as low as just \$20, there's more value in every dollar by advertising with us!

Contact:

Stephanie Devine
 Account Sales Representative
 (423) 462-5309
radiostephaniedevine@gmail.com

ADVERTISE WITH THE MORNING FAX