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Today's News...This Morning

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Athens, Tennessee

Tuesday-July 8, 2014

Local and State News

◆ WARNING AGAINST TEXTING & DRIVING

An injured McMinn County deputy and the 17-year-old boy who hit him head-on while texting is having a positive outcome. Nick Austin and Deputy Randy Gabrel met last week for the first time after the accident. Nick suffered a broken wrist and fractured ankle. He was leaving summer football camp when his car drove across the center line. He says he was texting a friend when he hit the patrol car head-on. Nick says he now knows firsthand that texting while driving could cost someone their life. He promises he'll never do it again. Deputy Gabrel is still on crutches due to his injuries. The two are planning to work together on a Don't Text and Drive program at the McMinn County schools this coming school year.



NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ In Atlanta, investigators are seeking medical records for 22-month-old Cooper Harris, as well as information about any medical conditions he may have had and his growth and development. Cooper died on June 18th after his father left him in a hot SUV for about seven hours after forgetting to drop him off at day care. His father now faces murder and child cruelty charges.

◆ Washington State becomes the second state in the nation to legalize recreational marijuana. The first stores in Washington will open for business this week. Colorado was the first state to legalize recreational marijuana more than seven months ago.

◆ THP INVESTIGATES FATAL SUNDAY WRECK

A single vehicle crash around 6:50 p.m. Sunday evening has claimed the life of 33-year-old Christopher D. Raper of Niota. Trooper Bradley Baker's report says that Raper's vehicle, a 2002 Isuzu Rodeo, ran off the right side of County Road 250 and overturned. A passenger, identified as 36-year-old Delondra Arnwine of Athens, was injured. Trooper Baker says that speed was a factor and that neither Raper or Arnwine were wearing any safety restraints. He says that the safety restraints probably would have made a difference.

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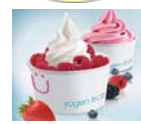
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Tuesday-July 8, 2014

Athens, Tennessee

PROMISES KEPT GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 5th annual Promises Kept Golf Tournament will be held this Saturday at the Ridgewood Golf Club. The tournament is dedicated to the memory of 7-year-old Cole Puryear.

Cole suffered a sudden and massive stroke and died in December of 2009. He enjoyed playing baseball and basketball, but his real skills were in the game of golf. He won the Knoxville Player of the Year in the six and under age group. In 2009, he qualified for the US Kids World Golf Championship. He played in Pinehurst, North Carolina, and in the second round of the tournament he shot his best score ever of 39 on 9 holes. He suffered a stroke on December 15, 2009. Three days later, he received an invitation in the mail to play in the US Kids British Open Championship in Scotland. That dream did not come true. Cole died on December 19.



Promises Kept was later organized to provide college scholarships to area youth who exemplify sound Christian principles and strong academic work ethic and athletic abilities, to provide games and toys to needy children in East Tennessee at Christmas, and to provide clothing, medicine, and Christian books to orphans in Jamaica. For information about Saturday's tournament, call Bobbie Maddron at 336-3591.

Obituaries

- **Michael William "Tyler" Womack**, age 20, of Athens, died last Friday, July 4th. Funeral services will be at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Bowers Funeral Home in Decatur, with visitation from 5 to 8 p.m.
- **Ellen Irene Gurley Hall**, age 90, of Delano, died Sunday at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. Funeral services will be at 8 p.m. Wednesday at Bordwine Funeral Home; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m.
- **Christopher Raper**, age 33, of Athens, died Sunday afternoon from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ If you live in the City of Athens, the cost of having your garbage picked up has just gotten a little more expensive. The Public Works Department says the McMinn County Landfill has increased its disposal feeds, and that increase will be passed along to residents of Athens. The new rate is now \$9 per month for one garbage tote or \$15 for two totes. The rate increase also affects businesses in the City of Athens.
- ✓ On Tuesday, July 8 at 8:30 a.m., the McMinn County Election Commission and Harp Enterprises will be setting the machines for the upcoming August 7, 2014 elections at the McMinn County Courthouse Annex. Anyone may attend the setting of the machines.

WEATHER Tuesday-Mostly sunny. 20% rain/t/storms. High-upper 80's to lower 90's. **Tuesday night** - Mostly cloudy. 60% rain/t/storms. Low- lower 70's. **Wednesday**-Mostly cloudy. 60% rain/t/storms. High mid to upper 80's. See our Zoom Radar at: www.wyxi.com

★ ★ ★ ELECT ★ ★ ★

Dan Evans

McMinn County Highway Commissioner

QUALIFICATIONS:

- TDOT Certified Asphalt Inspector
- TTAP Certified Traffic Signs & Pavement Markings
- State Certified in Underground Storage Tanks
- TN Election Board Certification
- OSHA Certification in Safety Procedures
- 20 years Construction Management Experience

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I would deeply appreciate your complimentary vote on August 7th.

JOHN FORGETY

Tennessee House of Representatives

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