

Local & Area News

◆ MAN CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTED MURDER

Athens police have arrested and charged a man with attempted murder after officers say he assaulted two women at a home. Around 1:15 p.m. this past Monday, police officers were dispatched to the area of Caesar Street on a disturbance call. Dispatch said a man had been seen hitting a woman in the yard, and gunshots were heard in the area. Police found the scene to be a home in the 100 block of Ray Street. Once on scene, officers say they found Jamar Williams moving frantically around a car in the yard. Officers say they determined that Williams had allegedly physically assaulted two women in the yard, one being his girlfriend. Williams is accused of firing a weapon in the yard during the incident. He was charged with attempted first degree murder, aggravated assault, and reckless endangerment.

♦ ATHENS POLICE CLOSE A DRUG HOUSE

The Athens police department has closed a drug house on Bud Street. Athens police and members of the drug task force raided the house earlier this week and discovered meth, prescription pills, and drug paraphernalia. They arrested James Moore. Police Chief Cliff Couch says the same house was the target of a search warrant for drug activity three months ago. Officers observed dangerous and dilapidated conditions in the house. The Athens Code Enforcement officer determined the house was unfit for habitation and boarded it up.

Athens Loses a Community Pillar

A man known as "Buddy" died this week. Buddy Liner was a native of Athens and served in the U.S. Air Force on a B-29 bomber. On his return to Athens, he served as Director of Admissions at Tennessee Wesleyan College. He worked in the insurance field for over 50 years at Liner and Associates and Athens Insurance Agency. He was known for his fundraising for local projects, including the Boy Scouts, United Way, the McMinn County Senior Center, and the Athens 4th of July fireworks show. He was chairman of the Athens Utilities Board for 21 years and served on the Athens City Board of Education for 19 years. He was named Athens "Man of the Year," and was Grand Marshal of the Jimmy Liner Memorial Christmas Parade. Buddy, we will miss you!

• COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Good Faith Clinic will be open next Tuesday, January 14th. This is the first clinic of the new year. The clinic is located on the campus of Christ Community Church at 18 South Congress Parkway. It provides basic medical care for uninsured residents of McMinn and Meigs counties. The doors will open at 2:30 p.m. A counselor will also be present for those who would like to talk with him.

✓ The Athens City Schools Board of Education will hold its monthly meeting this coming Monday, January 13th, at 5:30 p.m. at Athens City Middle School.





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

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Friday, January 10, 2020

• Melisa "Gail" Head Higdon, age 59, of Athens, died Tuesday at Starr Regional Medical Center. Gail was associated with L&M Motors as Office Manager for 23 years. A funeral service will be Friday at 7 p.m. at Smith Funeral Home with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. prior to the service.

• William Neal "Bill" Harper, age 57, of Newport News, VA, and formerly of Etowah, died January 2nd at Riverside Regional Hospital in Newport News. He was a designer for Gibbs and Cox Maritime Solutions based in Newport News, and Strom International. A memorial service will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 18th at Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah.

• Cheryl Ann Moore, age 64, of Ten Mile, died Wednesday at Parkwest Medical Center. According to her wishes, there will be no formal services or visitation. Bowers Funeral Home is in charge.

◆ MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE: ✓ A Freedom From Smoking Workshop will be held on Tuesdays beginning next Tuesday, January 14th. One workshop is from 12 noon to 1 p.m. at the McMinn County Health Department. The other is 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens. To register for the free 7-week program, call 745-7431.

✓ The Athens Public Works Department advises that a parking space, loading zone, and sidewalk on Jackson Street from Bank Street to Madison Avenue will be closed from Monday, January 13th, until Saturday, February 29th, for a building construction.

Church News & Events

- Jones Chapel UMC will have their 15th annual ladies conference, "Seasons of Life," on January 11th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. The cost is \$10 per person. Lunch will be served, The guest speaker will be Stephanie Greene from Benton. For more information, call Tammy Barker at 920-1236.
- Journey Home, a local gospel group from the Sweetwater area, will be singing at Clay Hill Baptist Church (located at 594 County Road 675, Riceville) this Sunday, January 12th, during the 10:45 a.m. morning service. The public is cordially invited to attend.
- One in ten women of marital age is widowed. Ten percent of any church is made up of widows and widowers. What is being done to minister to these folks and to help them learn that life is not over when their spouses die? On January 25th, Dean Miller (a widower) will be conducting a Widowhood Workshop at Athens Church of Christ. The workshop starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 12:30 p.m. The public is invited. No collections will be taken. For more information about the workshop, call the church at 745-0554.
- Celebrate Recovery meets each Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Englewood Church of God. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Star Pickett at 506-4851.

