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Today's News... This Morning

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Monday, September 27, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

Quadruple Murder In McMinn

Two people are in custody after a quadruple murder that occurred Saturday morning at a residence on County Road 60 west of Riceville. McMinn County Sheriff Joe Guy says officers responded to the residence around 8 a.m. on a report of a shooting involving multiple people. As they arrived, they encountered two witnesses who had escaped the shooting. At the residence, deputies found four people--one adult male and three adult females--dead from gunshot wounds. Sheriff Guy says it appears there were six people present at the residence when a male and a female arrived.



Fatal Shooting (Continued)

Guy says there was a dispute between the female suspect and the male victim over their 10-month-old child. At some point, the dispute turned violent and the four victims were shot. One witness escaped and the other pretended to be injured and survived. The suspects then took the child and left the scene. The victims of the shooting were identified as Trevon Hall, 36, Skylar Hawn, 24, Jesse Dupree, 40, and Brandi Harris, 39. The suspects were identified as Charles D. Smith, 38, of Etowah and Jazzmine J. Hall, 27, of County Rd. 60, Athens. They were taken into custody several hours later at a residence just inside Polk County in a SWAT operation conducted by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office SWAT team with the assistance of the Polk County Sheriff's Office, the 10th District Drug Task Force, and U.S. Marshals. The 10-month-old child was recovered safe and released to the custody of the Department of Children's Services. Both Smith and Hall have been charged with four counts of premeditated murder.



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- Wednesday-Etowah: 10:30 - 1:30
- Thu: Loudon: 10:30 - 1
- Thu PM: MCHS FOOTBALL FIELD: 6 PM
- Fri: Sweetwater-Little Drugs: 10:30 - 2
- Sat: Calhoun Elementary School: - 4:45 pm-7

Hear

Dave Ramsey

Daily

3 to 4 p.m. &
7 to 9 p.m.

on **WYXI**
FM 94.5 &
AM 1390



We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to:

wxyi@bellsouth.net

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Monday, September 27, 2021 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

- ♦ **Joseph Thomas Crockett**, age 83, of Etowah, died September 24th. A memorial service will be held at 5 p.m. Tuesday, October 12th, at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from 4 to 5 p.m. prior to the service.
- ♦ **Lois Evelyn Goins Lingerfelt**, age 90, of Athens, died last Friday at NHC Healthcare of Athens. She was a former employee of Athens Hosiery Mill and Roses Department Store. Funeral services were held Sunday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home.
- ♦ **Vernon Osban Darnell**, age 78, of Athens, died last Thursday at his residence. He served in the Army during the Vietnam Conflict, and retired from Bowater Paper Co. Funeral services will be Monday at 7 p.m. at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.
- ♦ **Durant Tullock** of Etowah died Saturday at Parkwest Hospital after a battle with COVID-19. He was executive director of the Etowah Chamber of Commerce. Funeral arrangements have not yet been announced.

LISTENING REMINDER: The guest on Main Street Moments on Tuesday will be Sharon Johnson with Johnson's Home Furnishings, 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio: AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

- FOOTBALL: The McMinn Cherokees 30, East Hamilton 29...Meigs County 61, McMinn Central 0...and Cleveland 30, Walker Valley 0. In college football, Florida defeated the UT Vols, 38-14.

Athens Man Charged In Murder

There was a homicide in the City of Athens Saturday night. Police Chief Cliff Couch says officers responded to a house on View Street around 11 p.m. When they arrived, they found Steve McKeehan, age 39, dead at the scene. They arrested James Ramey, age 43, on charges of 2nd Degree murder. Chief Couch says the investigation showed that the two men had gotten into an argument at Ramey's house at 1715 View Street when Ramey allegedly struck McKeehan with a machete.



NOTE: The Cherokee Beekeepers Association meets Tuesday, Sept. 18th, at 7 p.m. at AgCentral Co-op.

◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Friday 9-24

Tennessee: 1,209,568 cases up 5,638. 14,825 deaths up 85.

COUNTY	CASES	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	9,975 up 41	566, -36	115
Meigs	2,064 up 7	83, -4	25
Monroe	9,155 up 38	442, -32	112
Polk	2,984 up 11	141, -4	25
Bradley	21,135 up 72	988, -47	169
Rhea	6,578 up 29	394, -19	89

Hiring Event & Free Lunch

Thursday, September 30th
10:00am - 3:30pm

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