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Today's News... This Morning

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Monday, August 29, 2022

Athens, Tennessee

Two Charged with Sexual Assault

McMinn County Sheriff Joe Guy says two staff members of a local private school have been arrested and charged with Sexual Assault and Solicitation of a Minor. According to Sheriff Guy, detectives began an investigation after receiving a complaint that a series of incidents had occurred that involved staff members at Liberty Christian Academy on Hwy 11 south of Athens. As a result of the investigation,



Jason L. Kennedy

Jason L. Kennedy, 46, of County Road 172 Athens, was charged with 2 counts of Sexual Assault by an Authority Figure and 1 count of Solicitation of a Minor; Brittany Branham, 28, of County Road 172 Athens, was charged with 1 count of Solicitation of a Minor. Kennedy is the principal and a teacher at Liberty Christian Academy, Branham is a secretary and home school coordinator at the school. Both were booked into the McMinn County Jail early Friday morning, Kennedy under a \$60,000 bond and Branham under a \$15,000 bond. Both have since made bonds and were released. "It appears, at this point, the case involves a single juvenile female who was previously a student at Liberty Christian Academy. At this point, the incidents occurred in the Kennedy home where Ms. Branham also lives," said Sheriff Guy. "But we are continuing the investigation. It is always possible in cases like this that there may be other victims, and if so we hope they will contact us. We will always work to provide justice, closure, and support for victims of crime." Sheriff Guy asks any other possible victims to reach out to Detective Doug Reed at the Sheriff's Office at 423-745-5620, or by email at:

dreed@mcminncountytv.gov



Brittany Branham

Community News You Can Use

✓ There will be a Special Session of the McMinn County Commission on Wednesday, August 31st, at 8:30 a.m. in the Blue Room of the McMinn County Courthouse. The Commissioners will meet for the purpose of filling the vacancy in the 1st Senatorial District of Tennessee created by the resignation of Senator Mike Bell.

✓ The Athens Municipal Building, Public Works, Recycle Center, and Animal Shelter will be closed on Monday, September 5th in observance of Labor Day. They will re-open on Tuesday, September 6th. Monday's residential garbage route will be picked up on Tuesday, September 6th. All other residential garbage routes will be on their regular schedule.

FOOTBALL SCORES: The McMinn County Cherokees were defeated by Cleveland 6 to 3. The McMinn Central Chargers beat Tellico Plains 42 to 21. Meigs County was defeated by King's Academy 34 to 24. Bradley Central beat Walker Valley 22-21. Polk County defeated Sequoyah 42 to 13.

LISTENING REMINDER: The guest on Main Street Moments this week will be Lauren Brown, Executive Director of Athens Area Council for the Arts. The program will be aired at 8:15 a.m. Tuesday on WYXI RADIO: AM-1390 and FM-94.5.

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- Monday-Decatur-10:30 - 1:30 @ Farmers Market on Hwy 58 (Across from McDonald's)
- Tuesday-Madisonville-WilSav-10:30 - 1:30
- Tuesday PM-Calhoun Elementary School 5:30 - ?
- Wednesday-Etowah-10:30 - 2:00
- Thursday-Loudon - Viskase - 10:30 - 1:00
- Thursday PM MCHS Football Field 5:45 p.m. - ?
- Friday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30

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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:
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521 W. Madison Avenue • Athens, TN

423-745-3123

www.zieglerfuneralhome.com

Monday, August 29, 2022

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

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

◆ **Patricia Ellen Dunn Brazil**, age 86, of Riceville, passed away Friday, August 26th at her residence. She was a native of San Pedro, CA and a resident of McMinn County for 16 years. There will be no formal visitation or funeral service. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge.

◆ **Luis Elias Hernandez**, age 88, of Calhoun, passed away Thursday, August 25th at Etowah Health Care in Etowah. He was a native of Monterrey, N.L. Mexico and a resident of McMinn County for the past 5 years. A funeral service was held Saturday, August 27th at Ziegler Funeral Home.

◆ **Wm. "Bill" Bigham**, age 83, of Etowah, passed away Saturday, August 6th. Visitation will be from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, September 1st at Bordwine Funeral Home. A graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Friday, September 2nd at Jones Chapel Cemetery. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.

◆ **Charlotte Faye Mayotte**, age 86, passed away on August 24th at her home in Philadelphia, TN. She was the manager of the Kilpatrick Farm in Sweetwater for over 20 years and had worked in Oak Ridge at the Y-12 and K-25 nuclear facilities. Services were held yesterday with interment in the Sweetwater Memorial Gardens. M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home was in charge.

◆ **Ola Mae Clark**, passed away Friday, August 26th. She worked in many sewing factories. Funeral services will be Monday, August 29th, at 7 p.m. at Bordwine Funeral Home with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. A committal service will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Green Hill Cemetery in Etowah.

Athens Arts Performances

✓ The Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA) announces the return of a full performing arts season in honor of our city's two hundredth birthday. The Bicentennial Celebration Performance Season includes a diverse lineup of performers offering something for everyone with three performances in the Sue E. Trotter Black Box Theater (The Arts Center) and three performances in the Athens City Middle School Auditorium. U.S. Bluegrass Ambassadors, The Henhouse Prowlers, open the season at the Black Box Theater on Friday, September 16, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. Founded over 16 years ago with the simple desire to play original and powerful bluegrass, this quartet has played in over 25 countries and spreads the commonality we share as human beings through the universal language of music. Tickets are on sale now for all events in the Bicentennial Celebration Performance Season. More information is available at www.athensartscouncil.org or over the phone at 423-745-8781 or by visiting The Arts Center during office hours, Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Arts Center is located in Historic Downtown Athens in the Main Street District at 320 North White Street. All Athens Area Council for the Arts performances are sponsored by Friendly City Festivals. Edward Jones of Athens, Willsonthropic, Inc, and Mintie C. Willson, and Wolfenden Family Pharmacies who are AACA premiere sponsors and support all programming, as does Tennessee Arts Commission.

FRIDAY'S MARKET REPORT: Equities moved sharply lower. The 10-year yield moved down to 3.03%. At the closing bell, The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 1,008.38 to 32,283.40. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 141.46 to 4,057.66, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was down 497.55 to 12,141.41.



Tsali Notch Vineyard's Fall Shopping Event
September 10th, 2022
10am-4pm

Bring the family to enjoy a day at the vineyard and shop with local artisan vendors.

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- Living Life Creative Works • The Little Farm • Front Door & Home Decor by Beth •
- Short Stack Wicks • Queen B Expressions • Heart Shaped Potholders by Dee Bowes •
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Tsali Notch Vineyard
162 Harrison Rd. Madisonville, TN
Rain Date scheduled for September 11th

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