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# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

## Today's News...This Morning

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Thursday, December 28, 2023

Athens, Tennessee

## State and Area News

◆ A Knox County man was arrested at a Knoxville church in the early hours of Christmas morning after a small fire was reportedly set in a bridal suite. 34-year-old Billy Walker of Seymour, entered Church Street United Methodist in Knoxville through a set of unlocked front doors around 3 a.m. He then went downstairs and locked himself in a bridal suite where investigators say he set a bench and paper towel dispenser on fire. A custodian who was in the building at the time heard the fire alarm and found Walker locked inside the bridal suite. The custodian noticed smoke inside the room and the smell of something burning after the door to the bridal suite was eventually opened. Walker faces one count of aggravated arson.

◆ Peg McKamey Bean, founding member of the award-winning, East Tennessee-based southern gospel music group 'The McKameys', has died. She and her two sisters, Carol and Dora, first founded the group in 1954. The Clinton-based group eventually expanded to include several more family members over several decades of performing across North America. The group earned multiple Singing News Fan Awards and had several songs reach No. 1 on Singing News magazine's charts. McKamey-Bean was inducted into The Southern Gospel Music Hall Of Fame in 2016. The group retired from full-time touring in 2019. McKamey Legacy, a trio consisting of group members Connie Fortner, who is McKamey-Bean's daughter, her husband Roger Fortner, and their son Elijah, began performing in 2021.

## Community News You Can Use

✓ Athens Parks and Recreation will host the 38th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance on Friday, February 16, and Saturday, February 17, 2024, at the McMinn County High School cafeteria. Ticket sales for this year's event begin online only at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, January 1, 2024, at [www.athenstn.gov](http://www.athenstn.gov). In-person sales will begin in the Athens Parks and Recreation office starting Tuesday, January 16, 2024. The four dances will be held Friday, February 16, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, February 17, at 1:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. Doors will open one hour prior to each dance for photos. There are only 500 tickets available for each dance. Tickets are \$12 per person, and each person attending must have a ticket to enter. Professional photography packages, which include two 5x7s and eight wallets, are also available for \$14 per package. Photography packages may be purchased with tickets or during the dance. All tickets are now digital and will be sent by email after purchase. They can either be printed or scanned from the purchaser's mobile device at the door. Tickets are available for purchase until they are sold out, including on dance day, however, no tickets will be sold at the door. All dads and daughters will receive a free commemorative pin at the dance. Door prizes will also be awarded during each dance. "The City of Athens Parks and Recreation Department welcomes back an event steeped in tradition. This program means so much to the citizens of Athens and will continue. For more information, please contact the Office of Parks & Recreation at (423) 744-2704.

✓ The City of Athens Public Works Department announces that due to mechanical issues, the residential refuse collection routes may be delayed. If your tote is not collected on your designated pick-up day, please leave it curbside to be picked-up as soon as possible. Residential customers may call 423-744-2749 for updates on the routes. For more information, please contact the Office of the Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.

Cleveland State Community College

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Sat. 8 to 12 Sunday CLOSED

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## Wednesday's Market Report

**S**tocks were modestly higher. The S&P 500 continued the rally that began nearly eight weeks ago. Stocks are now in the middle of the "Santa Claus Rally" period. Treasury yields also moved lower. The 10-year Treasury yield fell to around 3.84%. The Dow Jones was up 111.19 to 37,656.52. The S&P 500 was up 6.83 to 4,781.58, and the NASDAQ was up 24.60 to 15,099.18.

**TODAY IS:**

- **National Chocolate Candy Day**
- **National Short Film Day**
- **National Card Playing Day**
- **Pledge of Allegiance Day**
- **Holy Innocents Day** (The day commemorates the execution of the innocent, male children in Bethlehem as told in Matthew 2:16.)

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 news-worthy photograph, send it to:  
[wyxiradio@gmail.com](mailto:wyxiradio@gmail.com)

## McMinn Arrest Reports

**From the McMinn County Justice Center**

**Kimberly Hurr**, 50 of Sweetwater, charged by MCSO with state violation of probation. No bond.

**Brittany Branch**, 31 of Knoxville, charged by APD with casual exchange - possession of meth, simple possession - schedule VI marijuana, drug paraphernalia. \$16,000 bond.

**Jonathan Knox**, 23 of Athens, charged by APD with possession of schedule II meth for resale. No bond.

**Madison Robertson**, 22 of Athens, charged by APD with casual exchange - possession of meth, simple possession - schedule VI marijuana, drug paraphernalia. \$24,000 bond.

**Brian Morgan**, 34 of Athens, charged by APD with disorderly conduct. \$500 bond.

**Chloe White**, 49 of Athens, charged by APD with criminal trespass and drug paraphernalia. \$4500 bond.

**Tiara Wilcox**, 21 of Delano, charged by MCSO with state violation of probation - aggravated burglary. No bond.

**Austin Witt**, 22 of Athens, charged by APD with failure to appear - theft up to \$1000 and drug paraphernalia. \$4500 bond.

**Denny Camp**, 37 of Athens, charged by APD with leaving the scene of an accident and drug paraphernalia. \$1500 bond.

**Carrie Duggan**, 39 of Athens, charged by MCSO with misdemeanor violation of probation and state violation of probation. \$2242.45 bond.

**Christopher Kirby**, 44 of Athens, charged by MCSO with violation of probation - resisting arrest. \$571.45 bond.

**William West**, 45 of Athens, charged by MCSO with violation of probation - assault, violation of probation - DUI. \$4299.21 bond.

**David Smith**, 56 of Athens, charged by APD with failure to appear - theft of \$60,000 to \$250,000. No bond.

**April Howard**, 33 of Athens, charged by APD with violation of probation - possession of meth. \$2265.40 bond.

The accused are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered from public sources.



### McMinn County Living Heritage Museum

**Upcoming Events**

**Heritage School:**  
Italian Lessons with Joyce Simpson  
Saturday, Jan. 13th @ 11:00 am  
Learn basic Italian greetings and directions. Great class for beginners or travelers! Part I/III

LIFE & CAREER OF FMR. SECRET SERVICE AGENT  
SATURDAY, JAN. 20TH @ 11:00 AM  
WILL BOLTON WILL SPEAK ABOUT HIS 31 YEAR CAREER IN LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Herbal Remedies with April Greer  
Saturday, Jan. 27th @ 11:00  
Natural home remedies for your ailments.  
Free for members \$5 for non-members

History for Lunch - History of The Battle of Midway with Museum Director Brett King Thursday, Jan. 25th at Noon - free admission

Programs sponsored by C. Scott & Muriel S. Mayfield Family Foundation, Tennessee Arts Commission, Hugh M. Willson Family Foundation, and City of Athens

<b>Hours:</b>		<b>More Information</b> 522 W Madison Ave. Athens, TN 37303 423-745-0329 <a href="http://www.livingheritagemuseum.org">www.livingheritagemuseum.org</a>
Tuesday - Friday:	10 AM - 5 PM	
Saturday:	10 AM - 1 PM	
Sunday - Monday:	Closed	

<b>Admission:</b>	
Adults:	\$5.00
Senior 60+:	\$3.00
Students:	\$3.00

Grand Opening Celebration

Athens City Primary &  
Athens City Intermediate School

DATE: Sunday, February 4th, 2024    TIME: 2:00pm-4:00pm  
RIBBON CUTTING/DEDICATION CEREMONY TIME: 3:00pm-3:15pm



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