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# MORNING FAX™

## Today's News...This Morning

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Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

### Man With Gun Subdued at Wal-Mart

A wanted man on parole for murder pulled a pistol on McMinn County deputies as they attempted to arrest him at the Athens Wal-Mart last Saturday. Sheriff Joe Guy says off-duty Narcotics Detective Jared Price recognized Ricky Lee Womac, 44, of Charleston. Price kept surveillance on him until Deputies Paul Redrup and Dylan Presswood arrived. By then, Womac was at a cash register. Deputy Redrup approached him from behind and told him he was under arrest. Sheriff Guy says Womac pulled out a 22 caliber magnum handgun and cocked it. Both deputies grabbed him, and Deputy Redrup was able to place his hand in the revolver's action. When Womac tried to fire the weapon, the hammer came down on Redrup's hand. All three officers wrestled with Womac and subdued him in the nail salon. Sheriff Guy says a body camera worn by Redrup showed there were over 50 people in the immediate area of the checkout lanes at the time. Guy commended the officers for arresting him without having to fire their weapons. Womac faces multiple charges, including attempted murder. He



remains in custody on \$500,000 bond. Sheriff Guy says Deputy Redrup was wearing a body camera the department began testing just the day before. The photo shows Womac cocking the firearm at the checkout counter.

### NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

- ◆ California health officials are warning parents not to hold "measles parties" that intentionally expose their children to measles and other childhood diseases. The California Department of Public Health "strongly recommends against the intentional exposure of children to measles as it unnecessarily places the exposed children at potentially grave risk and could contribute to further spread of the outbreak."
- ◆ In Spokane, Washington, a concerned mother has turned her son in to police because she believed he wanted to become a serial killer. The mother drove her son to the police station because she recognized him in TV video footage stabbing a woman.
- ◆ The U.S. Senate confirmed Michael Botticelli as the director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy on Monday with a vote of 92-0. Botticelli has been a recovering alcoholic for nearly a quarter century, an experience he insists gives him a unique perspective in addressing substance abuse problems.

#### ◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ The McMinn County Board of Education holds its monthly meeting this Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the McMinn County Center for Educational Excellence, #3 South Hill Street.
- ✓ Tennessee Wesleyan College has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for 2014 by the Corporation for National and Community Service. This recognition is the highest honor a college or university can receive for its dedication to volunteer efforts and servant leadership.



#### Sweetheart Package

(\$100 Gift Certificate, Chocolates & Flowers for \$100)

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**The Prissy Closet**  
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### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



**FEBRUARY Specials**»»»» 5 Meals for \$5 each♦  
2 Sausage/Egg Biscuits-\$3.33♦12 pc. Box & 6 Biscuits-\$13.99 ♦Boberry-.99 thru Valentines♦32 oz tea 99¢  
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**Valentine's Day Dinner for Two.** Choose from: Ribeye Steak, Chicken Parmesan & Filet Mignon dinners. Call for details & reservations.  
**900 Ingleside Ave., Athens**



**Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike**  
Tuesday (11a-4p) 6 oz. Grilled Chicken, \$5.49  
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Register Now for the Youth Co-Ed T-Ball League Ages 4-5, 6-7

1st practice - week of March 9th Games begin Mon., March 30th Practice times at discretion of coaches. Games on Mon/Tues PM. Games & practices will be at the Y. Members \$30/child; Non-Members \$55/child. Discounts for multiple children upon request. Contact Lane Davis at 745-4904 or [lane@athensmcminnymca.com](mailto:lane@athensmcminnymca.com)

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## Morning Fax™

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### WEATHER

**Tuesday** - Mostly Sunny.

Highs in the upper 40's.

**Tuesday night** - Mostly clear.

Lows around 30.

**Wednesday** - Sunny. Highs in  
the upper 50's to lower 60's.

More Weather & Zoom Radar  
at: [www.wyxi.com](http://www.wyxi.com)

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Morning Fax™...Today's News This Morning

Athens, Tennessee

## What's Up With Knox Park?

If you've driven past Knox Park on Slack Road in the past few days, you've probably noticed that many of the trees have been cut. Athens Parks Director Austin Fesmire says those trees were either dead or were leaning and in danger of falling. Fesmire says there are plans on the drawing boards for developments in the park, including installing a fountain in the pond. The pond was once the location of a rock crusher, which provided the rock for many of the streets in Athens. The rock crusher was closed in the early 1950's and the land was turned over to the Athens Fire Department. It was made into a park around 1957 and named for the fire chief at the time, Bill Knox. The top of an old water pump can be seen in the pond when the water is low enough. (Continued in column two)



## Obituaries

- **Betty Jane Hammonds Dolan Plemons**, age 82, of Athens died last Saturday at her home. She spent over 10 years as a stylist and teacher in the beauty industry. Funeral services will be at 8 p.m. Wednesday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from 6-8 p.m.
- **Connie Moses**, age 51, of Englewood, passed away last Friday, February 6th, at the U.T. Medical Center. She was a native and lifelong resident of McMinn County. At her request, a private memorial service will be held at a later date. Serenity Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

(Knox Park continued)

Some little known facts about Knox Park: The road leading to the park was called Quarry Road. It was later renamed to Slack Road when a new road was built. There is also an old slave cemetery in the park hidden among the trees. A few years ago, Dennis Stewart, a local historian and NAACP member, installed a marker identifying the cemetery as an African-American Community Cemetery 1850. The photo shows an old grave marker.



## TODAY IN HISTORY - FEBRUARY 10

**1763** - France ceded Canada to England under the Treaty of Paris, which ended the French and Indian War.

**1840** - Britain's Queen Victoria married Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg-Gotha.

**1846** - Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints – the Mormons – began an exodus west from Illinois.

**1863** - History was made in New York City. Two of the world's most famous dwarfs, General Tom Thumb, (three feet, four inches) and his lovely bride, Lavinia Warren, (two feet, eight inches), exchanged "I do's" before a small gathering of 2,000 of their closest friends — most of them standing on the church pews to catch a glimpse of the couple.

**1893** - Entertainer Jimmy Durante was born.

**1939** - Singer Roberta Flack was born.

**1942** - The American auto industry shut down its civilian car assembly lines for the duration of World War II and converted to military production.

**1943** - Singer Ral Donner was born. His biggest hit was "You Don't Know What You've Got Until You Lose It."

**1949** - Arthur Miller's play "Death of a Salesman" opened on Broadway. (Miller died on the same date in 2005 at age 89.)

**1967** - The 25th Amendment to the Constitution, dealing with presidential disability and succession, went into effect.

**1989** - Ron Brown was elected chairman of the Democratic National Committee, becoming the first African-American to head a major U.S. political party.