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Wednesday, September 23, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

Local & State News

◆ PIONEER FURNITURE IS CLOSING

H.T. Hackney is closing its sister company, Hackney Home Furnishings (formerly Pioneer Furniture), in Athens. Kathy Price, Executive Director of the McMinn County Economic Development Authority, says her office has been notified that 47 employees will be impacted and as many as possible will be absorbed within the H.T. Hackney Company. The company is headquartered in Knoxville, and is one of the largest wholesale distributors in the U.S. The company also has a chain of convenience stores in Tennessee and North Carolina, including several former Jiffy stores in McMinn County.

◆ SATURDAY WILL BE A "DAY OF UNITY"

The City of Athens invites everyone to attend a "Unity Day" event this Saturday from 3 to 7 p.m. at Market Park in Downtown Athens. Dick Pelley, who is commander of the American Legion Post, a TWC professor, and a member of the Athens City Council, came up with the idea for a day to bring people together regardless of their cultural, religious, or political background. Pelley says the July shooting deaths of five military members in Chattanooga and recent shootings across the U.S. were the inspiration for the special observance. Pelley describes the event as something akin to a "church social," with food and music. Several naturalized citizens will speak about their experiences of being born in another country and immigrating to the U.S. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served at 4:30 p.m.

NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS

◆ Tuesday was a rough day on Wall Street, driven by investor concerns over China, European markets, bio-tech stocks, Volkswagen's major recall and falling prices of commodities. The Dow closed down 179 points while the Nasdaq lost 72. The S&P closed down 24. US crude oil closed down at 45 dollars per barrel.

◆ Retired Gen. David Petraeus apologized to lawmakers for sharing classified information with his biographer and mistress Paula Broadwell. This was his first public testimony before lawmakers since resigning as CIA director.

◆ Hillary Clinton states that she is against the Keystone XL pipeline, and takes a stance on the controversial issue for the first time.

◆ VANDALS DAMAGE COOK PARK

For the second time, vandals have hit Cook Park in Athens. They destroyed the two backboards on the basketball court. Parks Director Austin Fesmire says it will cost about \$2,000 to replace them. New backboards have been ordered and should arrive next week. Fesmire says police are aggressively looking for the vandals. Meantime, the rest of the park remains open.

✓ The monthly Fish Fry of the American Legion will be this Friday from 5 to 7:15 p.m. at the VFW Post on N. Congress Parkway. You are invited to bring the whole family. All you can eat for just \$9 per person. Proceeds help keep the flags flying at Exit 49.

✓ The Friends of the Etowah Carnegie Library will have their annual fundraising GALA this Saturday from 6 to 10 p.m. at Savannah Oaks in Delano. Tickets are \$25 each.

VFW
Turkey Shoot
from 8a.m.-12 Noon
Each SATURDAY
Oct 3rd thru Dec 12th at
VFW Post #5146
To Benefit Needy Vets &
Widows of Needy Vets
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WESTERN SIZZLIN' Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike
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STEAK SPECIAL: (M-Thu) 12 oz. Angus Large Top Sirloin +side-rolls-bakery-dessert \$11.49.

10th Annual Chamber Benefit Dinner
Saturday, June 25,
2016 - 6:00PM
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Tim Tebow
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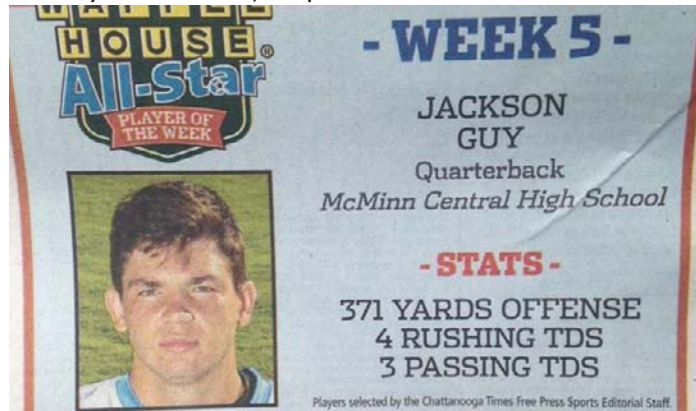
Wednesday, September 23, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

Honors for a "Guy" from Central

Jackson Guy, senior quarterback for McMinn Central, has been named the Waffle House All-Star player of the week by the Chattanooga Times-Free Press sports staff. Guy completed 9 of 14 passes for 219 yards and three touchdowns in Central's victory over Loudon last Friday night. He also ran for 152 yards including four touchdowns.

Guy is also one of four nominees for Player of the Week by the Knoxville News-Sentinel. You can vote for Guy by going on line to the newspaper's web site: www.knoxnews.com. Then, click on Sports, then Prep Extra, and cast your vote. Guy is the son of McMinn County Sheriff Joe Guy and his wife, Stephanie.



Obituaries

• **Mae Branam Randolph**, age 68, of Englewood, died Sunday at a Knoxville hospital. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Serenity Funeral Home of Etowah, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. at Serenity.

TODAY IN HISTORY- September 23

- 1800** - American educator William McGuffey was born. He wrote a book called "McGuffey's Reader" which was used by almost all schools for many years in teaching children to read.
- 1806** - The Lewis and Clark expedition returned to St. Louis from the Pacific Northwest.
- 1846** - The planet Neptune was discovered by German astronomer Johann Gottfried Galle.
- 1950** - Congress adopted the U.S. Internal Security Act, requiring all Communists to register. The U.S. Supreme Court later ruled the law as unconstitutional.

◆ ATHENS FIRE DEPARTMENT EARNS AWARD

The Athens Fire Department was recently presented with a Life Safety Achievement Award for its fire prevention accomplishments in 2014. The award was presented by the National Association of State Fire Marshals Fire Research and Education Foundation and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company. The Athens Fire Department is one of 96 fire departments across the U.S. to receive the award this year for recording zero fire deaths in 2014.

VANDALS STRIKE CEDAR GROVE CEMETERY

Gerald Hodge, Jr., Executive Director with the Tennessee Overhill Heritage Association, sent us the photos below of recent acts of vandalism at the Cedar Grove Cemetery in Athens. The TOHA has been photographing and documenting unusual gravesites, tombstones, and burials sites in the Overhill for the past few months. If you know any information about the destruction of tombstones at Cedar Grove Cemetery, you're asked to contact the Athens Police Department or the nearest law enforcement agency.

