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Blaze on Little Gudger Road



At 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Monroe County requested mutual aid for a structure fire on Little Gudger Road in Madisonville. Upon arrival, firefighters found the residence, garage, and several vehicles fully engulfed in flames. A neighbor reported nearly extinguishing the fire with a fire extinguisher before it ran out. After retrieving another extinguisher, he returned to find the garage engulfed and the fire spreading rapidly to the residence.

Several fire departments and emergency agencies responded to the scene, including Notchey Creek Fire, Monroe County Rescue Squad, Madisonville City Fire, Tri-Community Volunteer Fire, Mt. Vernon Fire, Gudger Fire, Hopewell Fire, Englewood Rural Fire, and Athens Rural Fire. Monroe County EMS, the Monroe County Sheriff's Department, Fort Loudon Utilities, McMinn Hazmat Air Support, and Monroe County EMA also provided assistance. Special thanks were extended to Etowah Rural Fire Department for standing by for the Madisonville City Fire Department. The operation was commanded by Notchey Creek Deputy Fire Chief Tyler Bryson.

Photo credit: Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department.

Suspect Arrested after Threats Made to Schools



At approximately 1:34 p.m. on Wednesday Sept. 11, the McMinn County Sheriff's Department and local school administrators were alerted by 911 dispatchers to a potential threat made by a suspect near Niota Elementary School. The suspect allegedly made a general threatening statement toward area schools.

In response, and out of an abundance of caution, the sheriff's office and school administrators placed Niota Elementary in a "Hold" state, securing all students and staff inside the building. Although the threat was not specifically directed at Niota Elementary, the measure was taken to ensure safety. Deputies also contacted the local Homeland Security Agent and proceeded to the suspect's residence on County Road 255. "With 15 minutes of receiving the call, our deputies and the Homeland Security Agent had the suspect identified and in custody," said Sheriff Joe Guy. "It was also determined that he had made a threatening social media post as well."

According to School Security Director Justin Wallace, the "Hold" was lifted once the suspect was detained. "We are thankful for the quick response of our administrators and local law enforcement in prioritizing the safety of our school district," said Wallace.

Sheriff Joe Guy confirmed that 44-year-old Joshua Webb was taken into custody and transported to the McMinn County Jail. Webb faces felony charges of Making Threats of Mass Violence on School Property, a serious offense under Tennessee law.

Source: Sheriff Joe Guy - Facebook

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McMinn County Living Heritage Museum

Upcoming Events

HERITAGE SCHOOL
EAST TENNESSEE PREHISTORIC CAVE ART WITH JAN SIMEK
SATURDAY, SEPT. 21st @ 11:00 AM
He will present the story of Native American cave art and rock art in Tennessee and the Southeast.
Heritage School is \$5 or free for members

HISTORY FOR LUNCH
Join us for a presentation and book signing with Aime Alley Card, author of *The Tigerbelles: Olympic Legends of Tennessee State*.
THURSDAY, SEPT. 26TH @ 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

TRASH AND TREASURE 2: FALL SALE
SEPTEMBER 19-21
THURS+FRI: 10AM - 5PM SAT: 10AM - 3PM
MUSEUM ANNEX ONLY - FREE ENTRY - SPONSORED BY THE MUSEUM GUILD

Hours:
Tuesday - Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM
Saturday: 10 AM - 1 PM
Sunday - Monday: Closed

Admission:
Adults: \$5.00
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Thursday, September 12, 2024

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

Starr Regional welcomes Thomas Henry, FNP-BC



Starr Regional Medical Center is pleased to announce that Thomas Henry, FNP-BC, has joined its medical staff and will be offering cardiovascular services to patients in McMinn County and the surrounding region.

“We are pleased to welcome Thomas to Athens to practice at Starr Cardiology Associates,” said John McLain, chief executive officer of Starr Regional Medical Center. “His education, training and experience in management of chronic and emergent cardiac conditions have given him the expertise needed in treating a wide range of cardiovascular conditions. This is important as Starr Regional Medical Center works to expand the services our community needs most.”

Henry, a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner, brings over 30 years of nursing experience. He earned his Master of Science in Nursing from Carson-Newman University in Jefferson City, Tenn., in 2020, where he was awarded the Clinical Excellence Award. Prior to joining Starr Regional, Henry worked in Knoxville, Tenn., where he provided cardiology night call coverage for multiple facilities and catheterization teams, as well as emergency department care.

In his free time, Henry enjoys outdoor activities such as mountaineering, hunting, hiking, fishing, and camping. His wife, Emily, and their daughters often join him in these outdoor pursuits.

Henry will be seeing patients at Starr Cardiology Associates, located at 711 Cook Drive, Suite 220, Athens. To schedule an appointment or receive a referral, please call (423) 381-8478.

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Invitation

Thursday Sept 12
4:30 to 6:30

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Athens Kiwanis Club 72nd Annual BBQ Sale Friday, September 13 11am to 7pm *(or until sold out)*

**Due to the threat of
inclement weather
Market Park Pavilion in
Downtown Athens ONLY**

**\$12 for one package* of BBQ
\$6 bottle of Gus Bagley's Famous BBQ Sauce**

*Tickets sold in advance by Kiwanis members,
cash and check accepted at location.*

Proceeds benefit the Youth of McMinn County

**packages are approximately 1lb each.*

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\$100 Ticket Includes Shrimp Dinner & Drinks at 6:30pm

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Thursday, September 12, 2024

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

Lopez Roque Arrested and in Custody

Here's an update on a story we had earlier this week: Dayren Lopez Roque, 41, is now in custody after being arrested by Texas authorities. The Cleveland Police Department confirmed in a release that they are working with Texas Rangers and local law enforcement agencies to bring him back to Tennessee. Lopez Roque will be facing First-Degree Murder charges in the death of 25-year-old Dayana Garcia. He was only 30 miles from the U.S. - Mexican border when he was arrested at a Family Dollar outside of La Pryor, Texas, according to the Zavala County Sheriff's Office. Last Sunday, officials responded to a call about a missing person. A search of an apartment found Dayana Garcia, 25, deceased. Investigators have deemed her death a domestic-related homicide. The department issued a First-Degree Murder warrant on Dayren Lopez Roque, a 41-year-old Hispanic male who was captured on Tuesday in Texas.

Obituaries

Carol Tapner Poe, died gracefully at home on Friday, Sept. 6 surrounded by her loving family. She was a co-founder of Cottonfest, the annual bluegrass festival fundraiser for pancreatic cancer research. She was an active volunteer with Grace and Mercy Ministries, and a member of Keith Memorial UMC. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Companion Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Community News You Can Use

From Niota Mayor Lois Preece: "The Niota Fried Green Tomato Festival and Bingo have been **POSTPONED** due to the heavy rain predicted for this area on September 13th and 14th. We feel this is being done for the safety of vendors and festival attendees. The Festival is rescheduled for October 5th from 9am to 5pm. Bingo will be held the following Friday, October 11th 6pm to 8pm in the Niota Depot."



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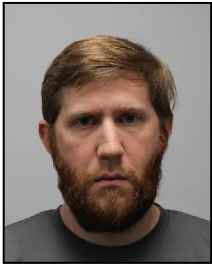


Thursday, September 12, 2024

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 5

Athens, Tennessee

Former Teacher Sentenced after Secretly Recording Students



A former Tennessee teacher who admitted to secretly recording students in a locker room and taking inappropriate photos learned his sentence on Monday. According to court documents, 33-year-old Christopher Schroll pleaded guilty to attempted aggravated unlawful photography of a minor. Schroll was sentenced to four years, with five months to be served in jail and the remainder on supervised probation. Upon release, he will be required to wear an ankle monitor for 90 days.

The judge also issued a no-contact order, prohibiting Schroll from having any contact with the Cleveland school system, Champy's restaurant, the Mouse Creek Soccer Complex, and any of his victims. He is also barred from contacting any school system. Several families of the victims testified during Schroll's sentencing, sharing how his actions impacted their lives.

The case stemmed from an investigation in April 2022, when a detective discovered secret surveillance footage on Schroll's laptop. The videos included recordings of students changing in the locker room at Cleveland Middle School and footage taken up a student's skirt. Schroll admitted to installing the spy camera, which he purchased on Amazon, in the girls' locker room, claiming it was to address complaints of bullying and harassment. However, school administrators confirmed that Schroll never reported any such complaints to them. Families of the victims testified during the sentencing about the impact of his actions.

Source: [NewsChannel9](#)

Arrest Reports

James Fry, 45 of Tellico Plains, was arrested by the MCSO for Theft of Services and Failure to Appear. Total Bond: \$4,000

Mary Kitchens, 42 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for Possession of Schedule I Ecstasy, Schedule VI Cannabis, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$8,000

Devin Bradley, 21 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Aggravated Domestic Assault. Total Bond: \$15,000

Aaron Daugherty, 44 of Athens was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Order of Protection. Total Bond: \$6,000.

Matthew Knight, 41 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Three Counts of Harassment. Total Bond: \$1,500

Brandon Reese, 40 of Niota, was arrested by the MCSO for Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl with intent to sell, Possession of Schedule VI Cannabis, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, and Armed Dangerous Felonies, and Possession of a weapon by a convicted felon. Total Bond: \$29,000.

Cameron Lacey, 33 of Harrison, TN, was arrested by the Athens PD for Theft of Property. Total Bond: \$5,000

Kimberly Powers, 57 of Athens, was arrested for Failure to Appear, Shoplifting, Burglary, and Possession of Schedule II Meth. Total Bond: \$66,000

Robert Dyal, 39 of Niota, was arrested by the MCSO for State Violation of Probation. No Bond.

The accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered from Public Sources.



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Friday - High 80. 70% Storms

Friday Night - 60% Storms. Low 63.

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