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MORNING FAX™

Today's News...This Morning

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Monday-April 29, 2013

Athens, Tennessee

Local and State News

◆ **JOBLESS RATE IN AREA DOWN SLIGHTLY**
 The unemployment rate in McMinn County for March was 9.2%, down from 9.3% in February. In Meigs County, the jobless rate in March was 10%, down from 10.2% in February. Monroe County's unemployment rate in March was 10.9%, unchanged from February.

◆ **McMINN METH LABS DOWN SHARPLY**
 Not many years ago, McMinn County was #1 in Tennessee for meth labs. However, Sheriff Joe Guy says that has changed dramatically in the past three years. Last year, McMinn County had 49 meth lab seizures, compared with 161 in 2010. Sheriff Guy credits the return of the DARE program into the schools, stepped up law enforcement, and cooperation on the part of the county's pharmacists to reduce the availability of pseudoephedrine, a major component for manufacturing meth. (The photo shows a collection of meth lab components seized in a McMinn County raid)



NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ In Nashville, a SWAT team was parked near the starting line of the Country Music Marathon, which went off without a hitch on Saturday despite the rain. Scott Wietecha of Hendersonville, TN, won.

◆ Congress seems determined to spend \$436 million to build more tanks despite the Army's insistence that the tanks are not needed.

◆ Another newspaper is charging for accessing its online content. Starting this week, the Chattanooga Times Free Press will charge to read the paper online if you do not subscribe to the print edition. Breaking news stories will remain free.

◆ One of country music's greatest singers, George Jones, died last Friday at Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville. He was 81. He had 13 number one hit records, including "He Stopped Loving Her Today" and "She Thinks I Still Care." He also recorded several hits with his former wife, Tammy Wynette. (The photo shows Jackie Baker of Athens with George Jones in Nashville several years ago)



the Y
2nd Annual Adult & Youth Dodgeball Leagues
 Signups: March 25th-May 3rd
 More details: 423-745-4904 or ldavis-ymca@birch.net

Adult League: Mondays beginning May 6th-Tournament June 8th
 Youth League: Tuesdays beginning May 7th-Tournament, June 8th

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RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT
Cristiano's LUNCH BOX Delivery Service, 304 W. Washington Ave., Athens. 423-368-2698, Fax: 746-5081-Monday's special:
 Spaghetti w/ Meatballs, side salad & bread, \$4.00. Free Delivery: 10:30a-2p, \$15 order, Athens; \$30 order, outlying areas. Numerous \$5 Menu Items.
BOjangles Famous Chicken & Biscuits-S. Cong. Parkway (744-5292)
APRIL Specials »» Any Chicken Biscuit 2/\$5. 5 Meals for just \$5 each.
 20 Box Bone-in w/10 biscuits or 12 PC homestyle tender tailgate w/2 large fixins, 4 biscuits & 1/2 Gal Tea \$19.99. 32 oz. tea just 99¢.
Toscana Pizza & Italian Grill, Ingles Shopping Center, Athens 746-9900. ALL DAY MONDAY SPECIAL. Pick up or dine-in only ! LARGE (one topping) PIZZA \$5.99.
Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike (745-2626)
 Monday: (All Day) 8 oz. CHOPPED SIRLOIN, Choice of Side, Bakery & Dessert Bars, \$6.49. **Monday-Friday:** (11a-4p) Enjoy the "Whole Thing" for Lunch, \$7.49. Fresh Rolls Everyday!!

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 8am - 6pm (Sat. 4pm)
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Englewood 1st Baptist
Englewood's Largest Yard Sale
 with 3 tractor trailers
 of donated merchandise !



PAGE TWO

Morning Fax™

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BELK
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Belk Land Surveying, LLC
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Monday-April 29, 2013

Athens, Tennessee

TBI To Probe Niota Officials

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation is investigating to see whether Niota city commissioners harassed city employees. The district attorney's office asked the TBI to investigate. The move comes a few days after the city of Niota lost its liability insurance and had to shut down its police and fire protection and garbage collection service. Niota had been insured by the Tennessee Municipal League's Risk Management Pool. The TML declined to renew the coverage because employees had filed harassment claims against Commissioners Richard Rutledge and Leesa Corum. Niota has been able to get its liability insurance renewed for 60 days.

VACANT HOUSE BURNS IN ETOWAH

Authorities are trying to determine the cause of a fire which destroyed an abandoned house in Etowah Saturday night. Earlier, Etowah police had checked on a suspicious van with Missouri tags which had been seen at the house. The Etowah Fire Department was assisted by Etowah Rural. (Photo by Jay Thomson)



Obituaries

Jewel Lewis Sparkman, age 79, of Athens died last Friday at his home. He was a retired truck driver and a veteran of the U.S. Army. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Monday at Ward Cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge.

Jane Miller Shultz, age 77, of Athens died Saturday at Athens Regional Medical Center. Arrangements will be announced by Smith Funeral Home.

James "Tooter" Collins, age 81, of Athens died last Thursday at his home. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon. Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Cleveland was in charge.

Pamela Patton West, age 47, of Delano died Friday at SkyRidge Medical Center. Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from noon to 1 p.m.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ The McMinn County School Board is holding a series of meetings in which it is asking for the community's help in identifying potential security issues in the county's schools. The first meeting will be tonight at 6 at Riceville Elementary School. The second meeting will be May 6th at Central High, and the third meeting will be on May 14th at McMinn County High School. The public is encouraged to attend.
- ✓ A reception will be held tomorrow from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the Athens Arts Center to honor outgoing Athens Arts Council Executive Director Ellen Kimball and incoming director Lauren Shepherd.

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Customer Appreciation



Saturday, May 4th
10am-2pm
Valley Farmers Co-op
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 920 North Congress Parkway • 423-745-0443
 10:15am TN Ag Enhancement Session / Question and Answer
 11:00am Beef Quality Assurance Class
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