

### **Community News You Can Use**

✓ Women at the Well will have their annual charity banquet on March 17th at Woodward Avenue Church of God. The guest speaker will be Bob Sorge, a teacher, author, and pastor. Bob Sorge is known as "the speaker who can't talk" because he suffered a debilitating vocal injury over 20 years ago that reduced his speech to a whisper. Tickets are \$50. Proceeds benefit Women at the Well. For ticket information, call 745-0010.



✓ The Athens Parks Department is now taking registrations for McMinn County Little League Baseball and USA Girls Softball. Registration for boys and girls ages 5-14 will be accepted through February 15th. The fee for Little League Baseball is \$70 per player and includes hat, jersey, pants, belt, socks and secondary medical insurance. The fee for USA Girls Softball is \$65 per player. You can register at the Athens Parks office in the Municipal Building. For more information, call 744-2704.

✓ The Athens Community Theatre announces auditions for the spring production of John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* will be held Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 27th and 28th, at 6:30 p.m. at The Arts Center. The cast requires nine men of various ages, one of which must be African-American, and one woman.

## **National - World News**

◆ Sen. Jeff Sessions has been confirmed as the new attorney general of the United States despite protests from his Democratic colleagues. The Senate voted 52-47 Wednesday night in favor of Sessions' confirmation.

◆ Five circus performers were injured after falling from an eight-person pyramid in a high-wire accident at a Sarasota, Florida circus. The extent of the injuries and what led to the accident were not immediately clear. The performers were approximately 20 to 25 feet above the ground.

◆ A storm system developing in the Midwest will move across country and bring the heaviest snowfall of the season to major cities in the Northeast. It will sweep into the Northeast region and dump snow from Washington, D.C., to New York during most of the day Thursday.

#### **TODAY IN HISTORY - FEBRUARY 9th**

**1773 -** William Henry Harrison, our 9th President, was born in Virginia.

**1870 -** The U.S. Weather Service was established.

**1914** - Country singer Ernest Tubb was born. His signature song was "I'm Walking The Floor Over You."

**1950** - Wisconsin Senator Joseph McCarthy charged that the U.S. State Department was full of communists. **1971** - Apollo 14 returned to Earth after man's third landing on the moon.



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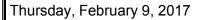
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# Athens, Tennessee

#### **TDOT HOLDS SIGN CONTEST**

The Tennessee Department of Transportation is holding its third contest to see who can come up with the best safety messages for the Dynamic Message Signs you see on the interstates. The contest gives Tennessee motorists a chance to help raise awareness about safety issues and save lives. Last year's winning entries were: "Turn signals, the original instant messaging," "Get the cell off your phone and drive," "Practice safe text. Don't do it while driving," and "Isn't nobody got time for a wreck. Slow it down." This year's entries will be considered for five highway safety seatbelt usage, impaired driving, distracted categories: driving, speeding, and aggressive driving. To enter the contest, go to TDOT's website: http://www.tn.gov/tdot/article/ dms-contest



### **Obituaries**

· Carrie Sue Brown McNabb Payne, age 97, of Etowah, died this past Monday. She was a beautician for many years, operating her own beauty shop from her home. She also taught cosmetology at the McMinn County Vocational Technical School in Athens until her retirement in 1981. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from 1 to 3 p.m.

• Elizabeth Ann "Gramsie" Fannin, age 82, of Athens, died Wednesday at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home.

• Cletus Benton, age 59, of Etowah, died on Monday. Funeral arrangements will be announced later by M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home of Athens.

• Shari Pavey-King, age 75, of Athens, died January 27th at Starr Regional Medical Center. She taught many women how to crochet at the McMinn Senior Activity Center. A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday at Allen Memorial United Methodist Church, with visitation from 1 to 3 p.m. at the church. Serenity Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks closed mixed as oil rebounded following the release of key supply data. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 35.95 at 20,054.34. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 1.59 at 2,294.67, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 8.24 at 5.682.45.



