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Today's News... This Morning

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Wednesday, August 12, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

Local and Area News

◆ **WHO WILL REPLACE JOHN COKER?**
Lisa Dotson is the consensus choice of the Athens City Council as the person to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of John Coker who has moved out of the city. Four names were submitted by Council members--Lisa Dotson, Amy Goodin, Eric Morrow, and Eddie Arnwine. At Monday night's Council Study Session, Councilman Dick Pelly withdrew Eric Morrow from consideration since he is running for the city council. Amy Goodin was not present, and Eddie Arnwine withdrew his nomination in support of Dotson. Dotson is director of Main Street Athens, an independent non-profit organization. Each name submitted had been verified as eligible by the McMinn County Election Commission. Her name will be on the City Council's agenda for a vote at next Tuesday night's regular Council meeting. The position is only for the remainder of Coker's term, which expires in November.

COVID-19 UPDATE

- Tennessee:** 124,915 cases, up 1,001. Deaths total 1,271, up 38.
- McMinn Co:** 559 cases, up 6, with 153 active cases & 20 deaths.
- Meigs Co:** 108 cases to date, with 39 still active.
- Monroe Co:** 461 cases, 191 are active, and 9 deaths.
- Polk Co:** 213 cases, 71 are active, and 3 deaths.
- Bradley Co:** 1,991 cases, with 583 active. Deaths have increased to 15.
- Rhea Co:** 544 cases, 110 active, and 2 deaths.

AUB Launches New Database

Athens Utilities Board has been working for several months to transition its customer information database, as well as the computer system used for all of its back-office operations in accounting. The new system will "go live" this week.

Planning for the transition from old to new began in 2019 with reviews of several possible vendors to determine which would best fit AUB's needs. The decision was to use a system from Central Service Association (CSA) which is a non-profit company controlled by the utilities that use its services.

AUB's Eric Newberry says "this is huge for AUB and for everyone involved." Newberry says AUB has used the same billing system for decades and moving to an entirely new system will be a challenge. He asks AUB's customers to be patient and to work with the people who are prepping to put the new software to use. He says there may be bumps here and there, but they will work to smooth them.

Newberry says AUB's employees worked tirelessly to get all of the utility's data transferred and to prepare to work daily with the new software. He says AUB's employees have really stepped up. "From our information technology group through our billing people and from cashiers to customer service, everyone has worked to make the new system right and to prepare for a smooth launch. He expressed thanks to the project manager, Michelle Millsaps, who heads AUB's accounting system.

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WEATHER FORECAST
Wednesday - Mostly sunny.
40% t'storms. High 93.
Wed. night - Partly cloudy.
60% t'storms. Low 71.
Thursday - Partly sunny & humid. 60% t'storms. High 90.
Friday - Cloudy & humid.
60% t'storms. High 81.
More Weather at: wyxi.com

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Wednesday, August 12, 2020

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

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Michael Jason Morgan**, age 43, of Etowah, died Saturday at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. He was a former employee of Underground Technology. He also worked in construction, as a roofer and as a mechanic. Funeral services will be Friday at 1 p.m. with visitation beginning at 11 a.m. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

♦ **Paul Eugene Armstrong**, age 62, of Etowah, died on July 7th. He was a U.S. Army veteran. A memorial service was held with the immediate family attending. Companion Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

TODAY IN HISTORY - AUGUST 12th

1851 - Inventor Isaac Singer patented his sewing machine. He made \$13 million in his sewing machine business.

1877 - Thomas Edison invented the phonograph on this date in 1877. (Get out those old records and celebrate!)

1898 - Hawaii was formally annexed to the United States.

1927 - Country singer Porter Wagoner was born. He was noted for his colorful outfits and for discovering Dolly Parton. Wagoner's hit records included "A Satisfied Mind" and "The Carroll County Accident." He died October 28, 2007.

1929 - Country singer Buck Owens was born. He was a co-host of the TV show "Hee-Haw." His hit records included "Love's Gonna Live Here," "I've Got A Tiger By The Tail," and "Waitin' In Your Welfare Line." He died in 2006.

1966 - John Lennon apologized at a news conference in Chicago for saying "the Beatles are more popular than Jesus."

Don't Forget the Baby!

Secretary of State Tre Hargett is providing free car hangtags to help prevent heat-related child deaths in cars while simultaneously making it even easier to register to vote. Secretary Hargett says he is passionate about the health and wellbeing of fellow Tennesseans. On average, every ten days, a child dies from heatstroke in a car. In more than half of these deaths, the caregiver forgot the child was in the car. The hangtags (example shown on the right) will be distributed statewide at children's hospitals, county health departments, and the Tennessee Highway Patrol. They should be hung on the rearview mirror of your vehicle. The tag reminds you that there may be a "baby in the back" and also remind you to register to vote.

GoVoteTN.com
REGISTER TO VOTE





Look before you lock.

WHERE'S BABY?

Hang this tag from your rearview mirror facing the driver.

It's time to **Thrive** with
Free Checking for ages 60 plus!*



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Online
Now!

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a **HIGHER INTEREST RATE** on our CD Specials!

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