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Today's News...This Morning

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Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

Community News You Can Use

- ✓ An earthquake measuring 2.7 was felt Monday morning by many folks in McMinn County. The quake hit at 9:13 a.m., during the WYXI Radio Trading Post show. Several callers phoned in to say they had heard a boom or thunder and their house shook. The quake was centered 3.3 miles SE of Englewood.
- ✓ SETHRA will be distributing commodities to eligible Meigs County residents on Wednesday, Sept. 1st, starting at 8 a.m. at the SETHRA office in Decatur. You must have a commodity sheet.
- ✓ Directors of the Athens Utilities Board are considering two rate increases, one for water and one for power. The AUB board passed the first reading on the rate increases last week. The second vote will be Sept. 28th. The water adjustment will be .25 for each thousand gallons. That will go up another .25 every six months until April 2023. The power increase will be about \$1.78.

Council Meeting Cancelled

The reconvening of the Special Called meeting of the Athens City Council for Monday evening was cancelled due to COVID-19. One of the five council members, Frances Witt-McMahan, has experienced COVID in her office, and on her doctor's advice she could not attend the meeting. The special meeting had been requested by Council members Witt-McMahan and Mark Lockmiller. City Attorney Chris Trew said Lockmiller told him they needed to cancel the meeting if not all five members of the council could be present. The special session was called to allow the city council members to consider issues involving the city manager and the police chief. The meeting took place on August 10th but was adjourned after six hours. Since many items on the agenda were not covered, including City Manager Seth Sumner's arrest at the Knoxville Airport for having a handgun in his carry-on baggage, the meeting was adjourned and scheduled to reconvene last evening. No word yet on the new date for the meeting.

HOLIDAY CLOSING SCHEDULE

The Athens Public Works Department announces the following holiday closures:

The Municipal Building, Public Works, Recycle Center, and the Animal Shelter will be closed on Monday, Sept. 6th, for Labor Day.

The residential garbage route for Monday be picked up on Tuesday. All other garbage routes will be on the normal schedule.

◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Monday 8-30

Tennessee: 1,042,123 cases up 6,519. 13,429 deaths up 20.

COUNTY	CASES	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	8,107	685	110
Meigs	1,749	179	24
Monroe	7,492	857	102
Polk	2,514	169	25
Bradley	18,052	1,342	161
Rhea	5,492	623	83



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To VEC Board of Directors



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Tuesday, August 31, 2021

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

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Freeland Achilles**, age 51, of Athens, died Monday at home. Funeral arrangements will be announced later by Ziegler Funeral Home.

♦ **Brenda Lee Odum**, age 65, of Athens, died Saturday at Starr Regional in Etowah. The family will receive friends this Friday, Sept. 3rd, from noon to 2 p.m. at Companion Funeral Home of Athens with a celebration of life service to follow at 2 p.m.

♦ **David Lee Martin**, age 48, of Athens, died Sunday. A Celebration of Life will be held Tuesday, September 7th, at 2 p.m. at Companion Funeral Home of Athens, with visitation from noon to 2 p.m.

♦ **Brandon Glenn Burger**, age 37, of Benton, died Thursday, August 26th, in a Savannah, GA hospital. A service celebrating his life will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Chestnut Worship Center, 1444 Athens Road in Calhoun, with visitation from 12 noon to 2 p.m. prior to the service. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

♦ **Kristy Annette Richesin Sewell**, age 54, of Westmoreland, TN, and formerly of Athens, died Thursday, August 26th. She was a graduate and former employee of Women at the Well. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. prior to the service.

♦ **Alfred McKenzie**, age 64, of Tellico Plains, died Friday at Sweetwater Hospital A memorial service was held Monday at Biereley-Hale Funeral Home in Madisonville.

◆ MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ Coordinated Charities Assistance has reopened for those with emergency rent, utility, and food needs. The Thrift Store remains closed to the public due to staffing shortages.
- ✓ The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation has announced it is giving the City of Etowah a \$1 million loan to improve its water infrastructure. The loan has a 20-year term at 0.8 percent interest.

MONDAY'S MARKET REPORT: Stocks were mixed after posting a record on Friday. Interest rate hikes remain a ways off. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 55.96 points to 35,399.84. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 19.42 points to 4,528.79, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 136.39 points to 15,265.89.

Volunteers Show They Care

Scores of volunteers turned out last Thursday to take part in the Day of Caring held each year by the United Way of McMinn and Meigs Counties. After the United Way kickoff breakfast, the volunteers went to various United Way partner agencies to do yard work, paint, or work on other projects that normally cannot be done due to lack of funds or understaffing. The photo below shows volunteers from Crye-Leike Realty working in the library at the McMinn Senior Activity Center.



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in the
Morning Fax.*



**For Details,
call 745-1390
or email:**

wysi@bellsouth.net