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Today's News... This Morning

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(FOR MORE NEWS SCROLL TO PAGE 3 & 4 IN TODAY'S EDITION)

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Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Athens, Tennessee

New Director of Schools for ACS

Joe Barnett will be the next director of Athens City Schools. He is a native of Athens and a product of Athens City Schools. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Lee College in Cleveland in 1989. He received his Master of Arts degree from the University of Alabama in Biology and School Administration and Supervision. He completed his Educational Specialist degree at the University of Alabama as well. Throughout his thirty-four-year education career, mostly in Whitfield County Georgia, he has served as a high school science teacher, a middle school assistant principal, an elementary principal, a middle school principal, as well as an adjunct faculty member and student teacher supervisor with Lee University in Cleveland. He currently serves part time as a high school principal with the Mountain Education program in Murray County, Georgia. Mr. Barnett has been married to his wife Anda for 34 years and they have four adult children and one grandchild. Mr. Barnett will begin as Director of Schools at Athens City Schools on January 4, 2024. Photo and story courtesy of Athens City Schools.



Community News You Can Use

✓The main office of Athens Utilities Board will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23 and 24, in observance of Thanksgiving. Standby crews from all divisions will be prepared around the clock throughout the holiday and weekend to handle any customer calls and field-response needs across the AUB service territory. The office will re-open at 7:30 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 27. The people of AUB wish our community neighbors the very best for the holiday.

✓Etowah Carnegie Library will be presenting Christmas at the Carnegie on Saturday, Dec. 2nd. There will be Christmas crafts, seasonal snacks, storytime, and pictures with Santa! This event is FREE and no registration is required. Event runs from 10:30am-1:30pm; Santa will be taking photos from 11:30am-1:30pm. For more information, call (423) 263-9475 or visit the library on the web at: www.etowahlibrary.com

MONDAY'S MARKET REPORT:

The U.S. stock markets were broadly higher. The technology-heavy NASDAQ led the way. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 203.76 to 35,151.04. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 33.36 to 4,547.38, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 159.05 to 14,284.53.

HUGE BLACK FRIDAY SALE AT COX ENTERPRISES GIFT SHOP & BOUTIQUE THIS FRIDAY! DOORS OPEN AT 10 AM ~ 50% OFF STOREWIDE!



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Please give to your United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties

Our local United Way includes multiple agencies that help those in our community who are not always able to help themselves. United Way has always been about those who can, helping those who cannot.

It may be a child down the street who receives much needed social and physical activity at the Athens-McMinn Family YMCA or the Boys & Girls Club of Decatur; it could be an adult from your church who is functional in society because of training through the Tri-County Center; maybe a female friend has a better chance for tomorrow because the H.O.P.E. Center was there when she needed shelter and support; and any one of us could someday require the services of the Rescue Squad. Being able to financially support United Way is one way of giving back to the community that has given so much to our families. Please consider becoming a President Council member with a gift of \$500 or more to help those who cannot help themselves. If you cannot give \$500, any amount will help and will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Randy Mullins & Carter Runyan
Co-Chairs, 2024 United Way Leadership Giving Campaign

You can donate by clicking on the link below, scanning the QR code below, mailing a check to PO Box 1681, Athens, TN 37371 or by calling the United Way office at 423-745-9606.

<https://www.uwmcminn-meigs.com/Donate>



United Way
of McMinn and Meigs Counties

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Tuesday, November 21, 2023 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦**Sonya Daugherty Williams**, age 69, of Englewood, passed away Sunday, November 19 at Erlanger Hospital. She was a 1972 graduate of McMinn Central High School. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, November 24 in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home with Pastor Chris Alexander officiating. Visitation will be from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., Friday prior to the service. Interment will follow the service in McMinn Memory Gardens. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements

♦**Vera Virginia Davis Bunch**, age 88, of Decatur passed away on November 17. Vera loved her family and was a long-time member of Union Grove Baptist Church. She was loved by so many. A funeral service will be at 12 noon Saturday, November 25 at Union Grove Baptist. The interment will follow at Decatur Cemetery. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

TODAY IS:

- World Television Day
- World Hello Day
- National Gingerbread Cookie Day
- National Red Mitten Day (Canada)
- National Stuffing Day

TVFCU Leap Grant

On Thursday, Tennessee Valley Federal Credit Union (TVFCU) opened applications for the Seventh Annual Idea Leap Grant competition in which the credit union will award a total of \$225,000 in grants to local small business owners across its 17-county service area. TVFCU will host separate competitions in the Chattanooga, Ocoee, and North-west Georgia areas, awarding grants between \$10,000 and \$30,000 to entrepreneurs. "Our Idea Leap Grant program has been very impactful to the small business communities in our region," said Tommy Nix, vice president of business and commercial services. "To date, we've provided over \$485,000 in grants and scholarships to dozens of entrepreneurs in the area through this initiative. Now, we're working to make the program even more beneficial by offering a total investment of \$225,000 into the small business ecosystem." Applications are open online until 5 p.m. EST on Dec. 18, 2023, and all submissions will be reviewed in collaboration with independent panels of community volunteers in each region. TVFCU will announce quarterfinalists for each competition on January 12, 2024. Semifinalists will be selected in February based on video submissions and site visits. Then, the community will select one finalist in each contest via People's Choice Voting. The other finalists in each competition will be selected by their respective panel of community judges. During National Small Business Week 2024, April 28 through May 4, TVFCU will host a pitch night in each region where the finalists will present themselves, their businesses, and their plans for growth in front of the judges and the general public. At each of these pitch competitions, the First-Place prize is \$30,000, the Second-Place prize is \$15,000 and three Runners-Up will receive \$10,000 each. Each small business owner may only apply for one of the three competitions, and they are asked to apply in the primary region in which their business operates and provides most of their goods and/or services. To apply, the small business must have between two and 25 employees (including the owner), annual revenue may not exceed \$2.5 million, and the business must be based within TVFCU's 17-county service area.

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Illegal burn CR 570 Englewood & Fire on CR 587 Englewood

A report of an illegal burn came in at the Fire Department close to 5:30 pm Sunday on Co Rd 570, Englewood. Upon arrival of fire personnel they found multiple items of household garbage burning. It is illegal to burn household garbage in the State of Tennessee. The fire was extinguished quickly and the renter was advised of the law. Please remember a No Burn Ban remains in effect. Englewood Fire Department and McMinn County Sheriff's Department both responded. Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department



Close to 9pm Thursday evening on Co Rd 587, Englewood, a neighbor was walking to his truck when he heard the smoke alarm across the street and then went to check and found a smoke haze coming from the garage. Upon arrival of fire personnel the fire was discovered in the kitchen which sustained minor fire damage with heavy smoke damage. The rest of the residence sustained minor smoke damage. Englewood Rural Fire and Athens Rural Fire Departments along with AUB all responded.

Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department

