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Wednesday, July 17, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

Derby Week - Rally Challenge Day



The 86th annual *FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby* race week activities marched onward on Tuesday at Derby Downs in Akron with Rally Challenge Day. Three Rally Challenges took place Tuesday in Akron, Rally Masters, Rally Super Stock, and Rally Stock. Athens Champions, AnnieMaye Johnson and Titus Millsaps enjoyed their only day off of the week and went to enjoy the local attractions in Akron such as the beach at Lake Erie. Today will be the AAA Local Challenge Day. This will be a single-elimination, three car lane and wheel swap. Each race will be run until a champion is declared, in a similar fashion to the local qualifying race that took place in Athens.

Here at The Morning Fax and WYXI RADIO, we will be updating you daily on the events happening in Akron. Radio coverage of this week's All American Soap Box Derby can be heard on FM 94.5 and AM 1390 with the help and support of the following sponsors: A&J Body Shop and Wrecker Service, Dooley Tractor Company, Athens Barn Center, Athens Utilities Board, Starr Convenient Care of Charleston and Domino's Pizza. *Photo courtesy of Derek Phillips, Program Coordinator for the City of Athens.*

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Community News You Can Use

- Niota's *Music on Main* is scheduled for Friday, July 19th will be held at the Niota Depot. Two gospel groups will be featured: *Exodus* (from Chattanooga) and *Resurrected Vision* (from Alabama). The show will start at 5PM. Concessions will be available for purchase.
- The McMinn County Library Board will meet on Monday evening, July 22, 2024, at 6:00pm. The meeting will be held at the E.G. Fisher Public Library.
- The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce will be giving away up to \$15,000 to the winner(s) of the Athens Shark Chamber Pitch Competition. The pitch contest is open to businesses in and around McMinn County as well as those who have an idea for a business. Last year's finalists are not eligible to apply. The deadline for submitting applications is August 1st with the pitch itself taking place on September 12th from 5 pm - 8pm at the Collops Center on the campus of Tennessee Wesleyan University. You can apply by clicking the link [HERE](#) or calling the Athens Chamber at (423) 745-0334 or email rob@athenschamber.org.

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If it's not listed, call us!

WEATHER FORECAST

Wednesday - 80% chance of Storms. High 91.
Wed. night - 80% chance of Storms. Low 70.
Thursday - Thunderstorms. High 82.
Thurs. night - 30% Chance of Storms. Low 67.

More Weather at: wyxi.com



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Wednesday, July 17, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Fire at Anderson Auto Salvage And Recycling

Dana Tallent Shelton, 72 of Athens, passed away on Saturday, July 13 at Parkwest Medical Center. Funeral Services will be 2:00 PM Wednesday, July 17th in the chapel of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Short Creek Cemetery. The family will receive friends from noon - 2:00 pm prior to the service in the chapel. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home in Athens is in charge of the arrangements.



Jackie Julian Knox, 85 of Niota, passed away Monday, July 15 at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. A memorial service will be held at Union McMinn Baptist Church on Saturday, July 20 at 2:00 pm. Visitation will be held from 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm at the church. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home will be in charge of the arrangements.

On Monday around 9 am, Niota Rural Fire Department requested mutual aid after a significant fire erupted at Anderson Auto Salvage and Recycling on Highway 11S. The blaze started when employees were working near a recycling pile, and an adjacent pile caught fire from an unknown source. Responding to the call were North McMinn Fire, Clearwater Fire, Englewood Rural Fire, and Athens Rural Fire Departments. Unfortunately, a firefighter sustained injuries and was transported to Starr Regional Hospital in Athens by AMR. The operation was led by Niota Rural Fire Chief Lee Mason.

Photo by Lynn Ingram of the Englewood Rural Fire Department.

Charles Jackson Armstrong, 47, known by all as Charlie, passed away on Saturday, July 13. Charlie was a member of Keith Memorial United Methodist Church and for decades provided and wrangled the animals for the live nativity scene at the church. A graveside service will be conducted, 2:00 pm, Thursday, July 18 at McMinn Memory Gardens. The family will receive friends at Smith Funeral Home Wednesday, July 17th from 5:00-7:00 pm. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is honored to serve the family of Charles Jackson Armstrong.

◆ The guest this week on *Hope From the Well* will be **Tonya Gambrell**. *Hope From the Well* is heard each Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

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Athens, Tennessee

Gas Price Average Falls

Gas prices across the state reversed course last week and fell five cents, on average. The Tennessee Gas Price average is now \$3.11 which is seven cents more expensive than one month ago and two cents more than one year ago.

“Despite expected upward pressure on gas prices, we actually saw our gas prices move less expensive over last week here in Tennessee,” said Megan Cooper, spokeswoman for AAA – The Auto Club Group.

“If market conditions persist, it’s likely that we could see our gas prices hold steady again this week. As of Tuesday, Tennessee has the third least expensive state gas price average in the country.”

The national average for a gallon of gas rose two cents to \$3.52 from last week. The slight nudge higher came despite Hurricane Beryl smacking into the coast of Texas, a record number of July 4th car travelers, and oil costs hovering above \$80 per barrel.



What Day is It?

Today in History - July 17

1763 - John Jacob Astor, founder of a renowned family of Anglo-American capitalists, business leaders, and philanthropists, was born in Waldorf, Germany.

1918 - The Carpathia, the ocean liner that rescued the survivors of the Titanic in 1912, was sunk by a German U-boat during World War I.

1955 - The small town of Arco, Idaho, became the first community in the world to receive all its electric power from atomic energy.

1981 - Two suspended walkways collapsed and plunged to the ground floor of the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Kansas City, killing 111 and injuring 200.

1996 - TWA flight 800 crashed into the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Long Island, killing all 230 people on board; a U.S. government inquiry determined that a mixture of fuel and air had ignited accidentally within a fuel tank, though others believe the jetliner was shot down by a missile.

1998 - The United Nations completed the statute establishing the International Criminal Court, which began sittings four years later.

2014 - Malaysia Airlines flight 17 crashed in separatist-held territory in Ukraine, killing all 298 people on board; a Dutch investigation later determined that the aircraft was shot down by a Russian-made surface-to-air missile.

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