

Morning Fax®

Today's News...This Morning

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Monday, October 21, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

ATHENS CITY COUNCIL RECAP

The Athens City met in regular session on October 15th. Here's some of the results:

A presentation by Mayor Steven Sherlin was presented to Mitch Moore for serving as Interim City Manager. New City Manager, Randall Dowling, was recognized and is now on the job as of October 7th.

The council approved new speed limits for Ingleside Avenue; 30 mph from Green Street (Hwy 30) to Tellico Avenue; 40 mph from Tellico Avenue to Congress Parkway North (Hwy 11).

Ordinance No. 1133 passed on 2nd reading 4-1 to regulate camping on public property inside the city. Athens became the 2nd Tennessee City to have such an ordinance which will be enforced to prohibit homeless camps.

The city approved a bid from Stansell Electric Co. Inc. for maintenance and repairs on the high mast lights at both exits of I -75 and for traffic signals. More recaps are forthcoming.



•Wednesday-Etowah Across from Johnsons-10:30 - 2:00

•Thursday-Athens Family Dollar 10:30 -1:30 •Friday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30

Englewood Crash Sends One to Hospital



A two-vehicle accident occurred Friday evening around 6 p.m. at the bridge construction site on Highway 39E and County Road 432 in Englewood.

A 2009 Subaru Forester collided with a 2023 Mitsubishi Mirage, resulting in the Mitsubishi driver being transported to Starr Regional Medical Center in Etowah. Eng-



lewood Rural and Athens Rural Fire Departments responded, along with Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper Tyra Johnson, who is investigating the crash.

Photos courtesy of Lynn Ingram of the Englewood Rural Fire Department.









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n times of grief, making difficult decisions about how best to honor the memory of someone so important can be overwhelming. We are here to help with complete,

professional and compassionate funeral planning services to meet your needs and respectfully celebrate the life and legacy of your loved one.



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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Karen Marie Fairbanks Denton, 58 of McMinn County and longtime resident of Madisonville, passed away on Thursday, October 17. She enjoyed camping, visiting Cades Cove, and driving in the mountains. She was employed with Denso. The family will receive friends on Monday, October 21 from 12:00 -2:00 PM at Ziegler Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 PM at the funeral home. Interment will follow funeral services at Walnut Grove Cemetery in Decatur. Ziegler Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Karen Marie Fairbanks Denton.

Ethel Jennings Layman, 77 of Decatur, passed away on Thursday, October 17. A funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22 in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Interment will follow in the Meigs County Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends from 1-3 p.m., prior to the service. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Layman Family.

Sammie Stokes Womac, 85 of Athens, passed away Saturday, October 19. Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Ziegler Funeral Home

Community News You Can Use

- The Good Faith Clinic will be accepting patients tomorrow, Tuesday, Oct. 22 beginning at 3:00 pm for refills and 3:30 pm for doctor visits. The Good Faith Clinic is free primary health care for residents of McMinn and Meigs counties, ages of 18-64, who do not have any form of medical insurance, including TennCare. The clinic meets on the campus of Christ Community Church at 18 S Congress Parkway in Athens.
- The annual "Niota Christmas Parade" is scheduled for Saturday, December 14th, at 6:00p.m. on Main St. in Niota. Application and guidelines are available at the Niota City Hall, 9 W. Willson St., or by calling 423-568-2584 ext.1 or by emailing cityofniota2@cityofniota.org. The parade theme this year will be, "Old Fashioned Christmas." All organizations, churches, businesses and industries are urged to begin building floats now and making plans to participate.
- The City of Athens Board of Zoning Appeals will be meeting at 1pm on Wednesday, Oct. 23 in the Athens City Council Chambers at City Hall.
- The Athens City Council will hold a called meeting at 1 pm on Wednesday, Oct. 30. They will be discussing 2 proposed amendments to the Athens Municipal Code. The meeting will be held at the Athens Municipal Building (Burkett L Witt Council Chambers) located at 815 North Jackson St., Athens.





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Athens, Tennessee

False Alarm at N. Etowah Baptist Church



Early last Tuesday morning, a passerby spotted what appeared to be smoke coming from North Etowah Baptist Church on Pennsylvania Avenue in Etowah. Upon investigation by fire personnel, it was determined that the issue was dust coming through the vent system of the central heating and air units, with no damage reported to the building. Etowah City Fire, Etowah Rural Fire, Etowah Police, and the Etowah Utilities Board all responded to the scene.

Photo courtesy of the Etowah Rural Fire Department.

LISTENING REMINDER: This week on *Main Street Moments*: Sandra Kinney invites Brianna Baker and Lindsay Ferguson to discuss McMinn County Economic Development Authority. The broadcast will be aired at 8:15 a.m. Tuesday on WYXI RADIO: AM-1390 and FM-94.5. *See ad on Page 5.*

TN Unemployment Rate Rises Slightly, Job Growth Continues

JAN	FEB	MAR 2024	APR 2024	MAY 2024	JUN 2024
3.5	3.3	3.2 %	3.1 %	3.0 %	3.0 *
96					
Tennessee Unemployment Rate 2 2					
September 2024					
JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
3.0	3.1 %	3.2			

Tennessee's unemployment rate rose slightly to 3.2% in September, up from 3.1% in August, but remains nearly a full percentage point below the national rate of 4.1%. The state hit a record-low unemployment rate of 3% earlier this year. Compared to September 2023, the rate is down by 0.2%. Tennessee added 3,300 nonfarm jobs between August and September, with the largest growth in the health care, retail trade, and professional services sectors. Over the past year, 31,100 jobs were added statewide, with education and health services seeing the most gains. National Apprenticeship Week will be celebrated Nov. 17-23, with regional conferences planned in Knoxville, Spring Hill, and Stanton. County unemployment data for September will be released on October 24.





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Athens, Tennessee

E.G. Fisher Library to Host "Trick-or-Treat in the Wetlands" on October 24

E.G. Fisher Public Library will host its annual *Trick-or-Treat in the Wetlands* event on Thursday, October 24, 2024, from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM. Families can enjoy trick-or-treating along the wetlands trail, with themed tables set up by local organizations. Attendees are encouraged to dress in their best costumes and collect candy from themed tables hosted by local organizations. In addition to trick-or-treating, Athens Parks and Recreation will organize a Costume Contest, with exciting prizes provided by The Kiwanis Club of Athens. The contest times are as follows:

• Ages 0-5: 4:30 PM

• Ages 6-11: 5:00 PM

• Ages 12-17: 5:30 PM

• Ages 18+: 6:00 PM

Please note that while the wetlands trail offers a beautiful setting, it is not fully accessible in one direction for wheelchairs and strollers. However, participants can navigate backward along the path to access all candy stations. The event is free, family-friendly, and open to the public. Donations of individually wrapped candies are welcome to help provide treats for all participants. Don't miss this frightful fun and costume-filled evening! For more details, visit fisherlibrary.org or call 423-745-7782.

High School Football ReCap

McMinn Central (5-3) @ Roane County (Kingston) (5-4) District Standing: 4th (2-2) Final: Central- 41 Roane Co - 17

After trailing in the first quarter 17-7, the Chargers' offense caught fire to

hand the Yellow Jackets their fourth season loss.

Passing: Plemons 9/20 for 138 Yds, 2 Tds Rushing: McCarty 25 carries 226 Yds, 3 Tds

Plemons: 3 carries 26 Yds, 1 Td

Total Offensive Yards: Chargers: 429 Roane: N/A

Source: Charger Staff

Polk County (4-4) @ Meigs County (6-2)

District Standing: 1st (3-0) Final: Polk. Co - 7 Meigs Co - 42

The Meigs County Tigers kept firm control over the Wildcats this past week, securing their tenth consecutive win against Polk County. The Wildcats struggled to move the ball until the third quarter, where they ran the

ball in for a ten-yard score.

Passing: Ricker 3/4 for 68 Yds, 2 Tds, 1 Int

Rushing: Ricker 16 carries for 157 Yds, 2 Tds

Hiefner 17 carries for 85 Yds, 2 Tds

Total Offensive Yards: Wildcats: 186 Tigers: 403

Source: Ethan Cross (Meigs Student)

This Week's Match-Ups

Powell (7-2) @ McMinn County (5-4) 7:30 p.m.

Sweetwater (1-7) @ Polk (4-4) 7:30 p.m.

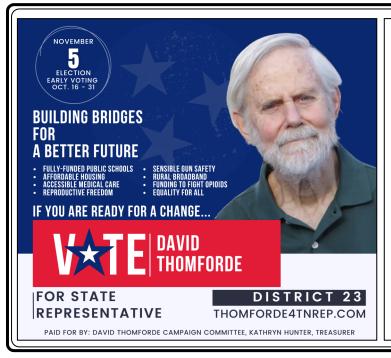
McMinn Central (5-3) @ Tellico Plains (5-3) 7:30 p.m.

Sequoyah (0-8) @ East Ridge (0-8) 7:00 p.m.

Rhea County (4-3) @ Tyner (5-3) 7:00 p.m.

Roundup courtesy of Sam Goodin

Other score: PURE Academy @ Walker Valley 8 - 49





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Never Miss an Update!



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Athens, Tennessee

Tennessee Extends Win Streak at Home, Keeps Playoff Hopes Alive



Tennessee's No. 11 Volunteers celebrated a thrilling 24-17 victory over No. 7 Alabama on Saturday, sending fans into a frenzy as cigars were lit and goalposts came down. The decisive moment came midway through the fourth quarter when Chris Brazzell II made a diving 16-yard touchdown catch from quarterback Nico Iamaleava, giving Tennessee a 21-17 lead.

Dylan Sampson led the charge for the Volunteers, rushing for 139 yards and two touchdowns. This victory keeps Tennessee (6-1, 3-1 Southeastern Conference) in the running for a College Football Playoff spot. "That's how they've played all year," said Tennessee coach Josh Heupel, praising his defense for holding strong when the offense struggled.

Alabama (5-2, 2-2) faces challenges ahead after quarterback Jalen Milroe connected on just 25 of 45 passes for 239 yards, one touchdown, and two interceptions. The Crimson Tide

struggled on the ground, gaining only 89 yards compared to Tennessee's 214. "I gotta take full ownership of the loss," Milroe admitted, acknowledging the need for better communication. Alabama was poised to take the lead late in the game, but an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty on receiver Kendrick Law derailed their drive. Tennessee capitalized, adding a field goal to extend their lead. Despite overcoming three turnovers in the first half, Tennessee rallied, with Iamaleava igniting the offense with a 55-yard pass to Dont'e Thornton. Early in the fourth quarter, Alabama answered the Vols' score with a 7-yard touchdown run from Justice Haynes to go up 17-14. Germie Bernard set it up with a 28-yard reception from Milroe. The win marked a significant moment for Iamaleava, who demonstrated resilience by completing crucial passes in the second half.

Next week, Alabama will host Missouri, while Tennessee prepares to face Kentucky at home on Saturday, November 2. *Photo Credit: Matt Keaton - Facebook*





