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## Today's News...This Morning

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Thursday, November 21, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

## Fire in Decatur on Monday



The Decatur Fire Department and Meigs County Emergency Services (MCES) responded to a structure fire at 2:00am on Monday, November 18.

Nobody was injured in the fire on the 300 block of E. Memorial Drive, according to MCES.

Upon arrival, the first engine began suppressing the blaze, preventing two nearby homes from also

catching on fire. Alongside the two responding teams, Tri-State Mutual Aid, Athens Fire Department, and McMinn County Fire Department all helped provide manpower. There is no word on how the fire started.

Source/Photo Courtesy of Local 3 News

## Athens City Council Recap



After the Athens City Council elected a new Mayor, Larry Eaton, and Vice Mayor, Jordan Curtis, on Tuesday night, the council approved several items on the consent agenda which included: Approval of Athens City Schools Budget Amendment #1 for Fiscal Year 2025; approved Revised Public Comment Rules; Approved an annual contribution, not to exceed \$500, to the Veterans Day Parade through American Legion Post 68. Approved a bid from Tim's Fencing, Inc. of Knoxville to install replacement ornamental fencing at the Cedar Grove Cemetery for a cost not to exceed \$110,000. Approved purchase of a 2022 Ford F550 Altec bucket truck for the Public Works Department Traffic Control Division and place on surplus a 2008 Ford F550 Altec bucket truck, to be sold using GovDeals.com. Appointed former council member Francis Witt-McMahan to the Council Advisory Committee and also, a city employee, Mary Scudder, to the Council Advisory Committee. Under new business, the council agreed to appoint several individuals to various boards and committees on an interim basis. Further discussion on permanent appointments will be conducted at the next city work session in December. The council also heard reports from the Fire Chief, Brandon Ainsworth, Police Chief, Fred Schultz and new City Manager, Randall Dowling.

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### WEATHER FORECAST

**Thursday** - Sunny. High 47.  
**Thurs. Night** - Mostly Cloudy. Low 34  
**Friday** - Mostly Sunny. High 48.  
**Friday Night** - Mostly Clear. Low 37.

More Weather at:  
[wyxi.com](http://wyxi.com)

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## McMinn County Living Heritage Museum

### Upcoming Events

#### Heritage School: Sustainable Holiday Crafts

with April Greer Saturday, Dec. 7th @ 11:00 am  
Join us for a fun crafts class with April Greer! Learn how to make sustainable holiday crafts using natural materials like pinecones, twigs, recycled cloth, acorns, & leaves.



Take Your Cooking to the Next Level with Paul Semenovoff  
Saturday, Dec. 14th @ 11:00 AM  
Learn how to make sauces to make your meals fantastic.  
*Heritage School is \$5 or free for members*



#### HISTORY FOR LUNCH

JOE GUY WILL SPEAK ON THE HISTORY OF CALHOUN FROM ITS BEGINNING AS A CHEROKEE RESERVATION, ITS PLACE AS A CHEROKEE AGENCY AND LAST HOME OF GOVERNOR JOSEPH McMINN, TO ITS ROLE IN THE FOUNDING OF McMINN COUNTY AND INVOLVEMENT IN THE TRAIL OF TEARS.  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH @ NOON  
FREE ADMISSION

Programs sponsored by C. Scott & Muriel S. Mayfield Family Foundation, Tennessee Arts Commission, Hugh M. Willson Family Foundation, and City of Athens

Hours:  
Tuesday - Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM  
Saturday: 10 AM - 1 PM  
Sunday - Monday: Closed

Closed 11/28-11/30 for Holiday

Admission:  
Adults: \$5.00  
Senior 60+: \$3.00  
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### More Information

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[www.livingheritagemuseum.org](http://www.livingheritagemuseum.org)

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Thursday, November 21, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

**Terri Annette Moore Tarver**, 52 of Ten Mile, passed away on Tuesday, November 19th at her home. A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m., on Saturday, November 30, 2024, at Beulah Chapel Church of the Nazarene (270 County Road 231, Niota). The family will receive friends from 2 to 4 p.m., prior to the service. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Tarver Family.

**Jeffery "Jeff" Eddington**, 60 of Riceville, peacefully passed away Sunday, November 17 at his home, surrounded by his family. Jeff coached several sports throughout the years, including basketball, softball, track, and cross country at Mountain View and McMinn Central High School. He was also an active member of Double Springs Baptist Church. Graveside service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, November 23, at Double Springs Baptist Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home on Saturday, November 23rd. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

## Community News You Can Use

- Athens Community Theatre (ACT) will present *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson, TONIGHT, Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7 pm, Saturday, Nov. 23 at 2 and 7 pm, and Sunday Nov. 24 at 2 and 7 pm, at the Sue E. Trotter Black Box Theater in Athens. Tickets are on sale and prices range from \$17 to \$22 including fees. Patrons are encouraged to purchase tickets early. Click or tap on the link [HERE](#)
- The McMinn County Library Board will meet on Monday evening, Nov. 25, 2024, at 6:00pm. The meeting will be held at the E.G. Fisher Public Library.

◆ This week, *Hope From the Well*, host Julie Tillis invites **Regina Perez** to be on the program. *Hope From the Well* is heard every Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

### Join us for Starr Regional Medical Center's annual **Christmas Tree Lighting**

Thursday, Nov. 21, 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

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Thursday, November 21, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

## Athens City Holiday Closures

The City of Athens Public Works Department announces the following holiday closure: The Athens Municipal Building, Public Works, and Animal Shelter will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 28 & 29, 2024 in observance of Thanksgiving. These facilities will re-open Monday, December 2, 2024 during regular business hours. The Recycle Center will be closed Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, November 28, 29, and 30, 2024. This facility will re-open Monday, December 2, 2024 during regular business hours. Residential garbage routes for November 25, 26, & 27, 2024 will be on a regular schedule. Thursday, November 28 route will be picked up on the following Monday, December 2 and again on Thursday, December 5. Friday, November 29 route will be picked up on the following Tuesday, December 3 and again on Friday, December 6. Please have garbage totes to the road the night BEFORE your scheduled pick up. Commercial/Industrial garbage routes will be picked up on a limited basis. **ALL EMERGENCY SERVICES WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE ON A 24-HOUR BASIS. CONTACT MCMINN 911 COMMUNICATIONS IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY.** For more information, please contact the Office of the Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.

## Grant Applications Open for Oak Ridge Natural Resource Restoration Projects

Officials managing a \$42 million fund for natural resource restoration at the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) have opened Requests for Proposals for grants and released a manual detailing the application process. The funding aims to restore resources affected by contamination at the ORR, a site involved in the Manhattan Project during the 1940s.

The program, overseen by trustees from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), will support local projects that enhance or restore natural resources or improve public access to recreational opportunities. Eligible projects include habitat restoration, invasive species removal, land conservation, installation of permeable pavements, and public amenities like fishing piers, hiking trails, and boat launches. Grants are available to organizations and public entities for projects in Anderson, Roane, and parts of Loudon and Knox counties, with no minimum value and potential awards reaching millions of dollars.

Contamination released from the ORR negatively impacted natural resources and services from them. The goal is to restore natural resources in ways that match what was lost. Three workshops on the grants process will be held. They are:

Oak Ridge: TownePlace Suites, Dec. 12, 2024  
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. EST  
300 S Rutgers Ave., Oak Ridge

Kingston: Kingston Community Center, Jan. 9, 2025  
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. EST  
201 Patton Ferry Rd., Kingston

Clinton: Holiday Inn Express & Suites Knoxville-Clinton, Jan. 23, 2025  
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. EST  
111 Hillvale Rd., Clinton

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**Friday, November 22**

**5PM -8PM**

**Downtown Athens**

**Theme: "Christmas Around the World"**

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**Wednesday, Nov. 20th through  
Friday, Nov. 22nd, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, Nov. 23rd, 9:00-11:00 a.m.**

**Sunday, Nov. 24th, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

**Monday, Nov. 25th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**



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Thursday, November 21, 2024      Morning Fax@...Today's News This Morning Page 4      Athens, Tennessee

## What to Expect out of Tennessee for the Remainder of Their Season



Tennessee football is in a must-win situation as they enter the final two weeks of the regular season, needing not just victories but dominant performances to keep their playoff hopes alive. Currently projected as the first team out of the college football playoffs, the Vols are under pressure to prove their strength to the selection committee. Following a 14-point loss to Georgia, Tennessee must demonstrate their ability to bounce back with convincing wins, starting with their upcoming matchup against UTEP.

Historically, Tennessee has shown the ability to win in blowout fashion but has taken their foot off the gas in several games this season, including a close call against Oklahoma. The Vols now need to rekindle that aggressive edge, with their performance against UTEP expected to reflect their urgency. Tennessee is a 41.5-point favorite against the Miners, who come into the game after a bye week and a double-overtime win against Kennesaw State. UTEP, participating in a traditional SEC non-conference game, will also walk away with a \$1.6 million payday. *The game is set for Saturday, November 23, at 1 PM Eastern, airing on SEC Network+ and ESPN+.*

Tennessee's playoff aspirations hinge on not just defeating UTEP but also dominating Vanderbilt in their season finale. While Vanderbilt has been considered a strong win for teams like Texas, Tennessee's path to the playoffs requires them to "full-throttle" their opponents and leave no doubt about their credentials. Despite the setback against Georgia, the Vols still have multiple paths to the playoffs, but only if they finish the season with commanding victories to impress the committee. *Sources: [El Paso Times](#) / [Sports Illustrated](#)*

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## HOPE FROM THE WELL

HOSTED BY: JULIE TILLIS

### THURSDAYS AT 8:15 AM

"If you have Jesus in your life, you will always have hope."




**WOMEN AT THE WELL  
MINISTRIES**