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Thursday, December 5, 2024

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Athens UPS Facility Up in Flames



On Tuesday, December 3, at approximately 11:53 p.m., the Athens Fire Department was dispatched to a structure fire at the UPS facility located at 200 Lawn Drive. The Athens Fire Department arrived on the scene and Battalion 3 immediately established command. The first units on the scene reported that the building was fully involved, with heavy smoke visible. Once it was confirmed that all occupants had safely evacuated, fire crews entered the structure to begin suppression efforts. Flames were visible from all corners of the building and had spread to multiple trucks both inside and outside the facility. Tri-State Mutual Aid was deployed to provide support and backfill coverage at our city stations. Additionally, the Athens Utilities Board arrived to disconnect utilities. The building and approximately 24 trucks suffered significant damage. Two employees were inside the building when the fire started, but both escaped without injury. The estimated dollar loss is currently undetermined, and the cause of the fire remains under investigation.

◆ This week on *Hope From the Well*, **Connie McIntosh** and **Robin Nation** discuss the "Wonderfully Made Well Banquet." *Hope From the Well* is heard every Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

Story Continued on Page 3

ATHENS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

A FRIENDLY PLACE WHERE ALL ARE WELCOMED AND TRUTH IS SPOKEN



802 S. MATLOCK AVE., ATHENS (423) 333-5085 theathenschristianchurch.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY SUN. & WED. 6PM

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

20th Annual Etowah Community Christmas Concert
 Thursday, Dec 12 @ 7 pm
 First Baptist Church Etowah

FEATURING
 Etowah Town Band
 Etowah Community Choir
 Central Harmony

FREE ADMISSION

Bring non-perishable food or monetary donations to help the Etowah Cooperative Food Pantry.

Union McMinn Baptist Church
 LIVE DRIVE THRU NATIVITY
 Fri. & Sat., Dec. 6 & 7
 6 pm - 8 pm



In Niota off Exit 56



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 Semenoff
 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 12/24-12/26 & 12/31 for Holiday

Admission:
 Adults: \$5.00
 Senior 60+: \$3.00
 Students: \$3.00

More Information

522 W Madison Ave.
 Athens, TN 37303
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www.livingheritagemuseum.org

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Thursday, December 5, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Dan A. Tummins, 92, of Etowah, passed away Tuesday, December 3. Dan served his country in the United States Army, he was also a member of the Masons. He spent most of his adult life working for Gulf Oil Company. No formal services will be held. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Kathy Bates Hilbert, 76 of Delano passed away on Monday, December 2. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Albert Ray Gill, 74, passed away on Monday, December 2 at his home. He graduated from Capitol Hill High School in 1968; and he worked as a carpenter for many years. There will be no formal services. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Janet Marie Sexton, 73 of Ludowici, Georgia, passed away on Saturday, November 23. A Graveside Service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 14, 2024, in the Shiloh Cemetery. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Sexton Family.

Aaron Raper, 41, of Englewood, TN passed away on Tuesday, December 3 surrounded by loved ones. Aaron was an animal lover. He enjoyed being outdoors, looking at waterfalls, hiking, and gardening. The family will receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 10, 2024 in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. Per Aaron's wishes, there will be no memorial service following the visitation. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.



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Thursday
December 5th, 2024
4 - 6 pm

Mayfield Visitor Center
Athens, TN

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Thursday, December 5, 2024

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

Athens UPS Fire (Continued)



Athens Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth stated, "Quick response and aggressive fire operations by our firefighters prevented the incident from becoming much worse." No injuries were reported. We would like to thank Athens Police for controlling the scene while our crews were occupied with the fire and AMR for

providing rehab." We would also like to thank Athens Rural Fire, Bradley County Fire, Cleveland Fire, Englewood, Madisonville Fire, and Riceville Fire for their assistance. For more information, please contact Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth at 423-744-2789 or bainsworth@athenstn.gov. For questions concerning package delivery, contact UPS Public Information Office.

Story Source: Athens PD.

Fire Pictures Courtesy of Tri-State Mutual Aid Association

After Picture Courtesy of Mike Womack

East Athens Baptist Church

301 Central Ave Athens, TN 37303
Rev. Mike Dannel Dr. Brian Trapp
Worship Pastor/Director Senior Pastor

Sunday, December 8th at 10:45 am
Handbells Ring Christmas
during morning worship

Sunday, December 15th at 10:45 am
The Sanctuary Choir presents
"One Small Child"

Sunday, December 22nd at 10:45 am
Handbells Ring Christmas
during morning worship

Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00 pm
Christmas Eve Service

The public is invited to attend all services.

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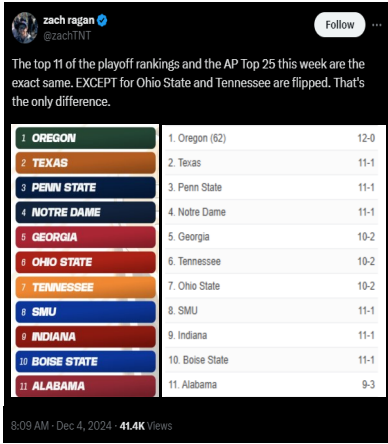
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Thursday, December 5, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4 Athens, Tennessee

Inconsistency in CFP Committee has Tennessee Fans Up in Arms



The Tennessee Volunteers are projected as the No. 9 seed in the latest College Football Playoff rankings, setting up a likely first-round matchup at Ohio State later this month. While there are scenarios where Tennessee could host a playoff game, such as Penn State suffering a decisive loss in the Big Ten Championship, the odds favor the Vols heading to Columbus.

Some argue that Tennessee deserves a higher ranking, especially as a two-loss SEC team with a strong case over Ohio State. The Vols went undefeated at home this season, while Ohio State suffered a high-profile home loss to Michigan in the regular season finale. Tennessee's ability to protect Neyland Stadium should weigh heavily in their favor, critics say, but the playoff committee appears to prioritize Ohio State's perceived better wins.

The debate is razor-thin. The AP Top 25 poll ranks Tennessee above Ohio State, yet the playoff committee reversed that order, making the Vols the only team in the top 11 ranked lower in the CFP rankings than in the AP poll.

This decision has sparked frustration among Tennessee fans, who feel the committee is inconsistent in applying key data points. After a dominant home season, many believe the Vols have earned the right to play in front of their fans at Neyland Stadium. Instead, they're left to feel slighted by a process that seems, at times, arbitrary.

For now, Tennessee looks to prove its worth on the road in what could be a statement game against the Buckeyes.

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Thursday, December 5, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

Apex Pro Ribbon Cutting

Community News You Can Use



- The Athens City Schools Board of Education draft agenda and packet for the Monday, December 9, 2024, board meeting can be viewed online on the Athens City Schools [WEBSITE](#).
- The next [Work Session](#) of the Athens City Council will be held on Monday, Dec. 9 at 5 pm at the Athens Municipal Building. The time change, from 3 pm to 5pm, was approved by the Athens City Council during the regular meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 19.

A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for new Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, Apex Pro Home Repair, located in Athens. Apex Pro Home Repair is certified, licensed, and insured serving our community with quality handyman and home improvement services.

Chamber friends joining the celebration and pictured above from left to right are: Stacey Hester (Chamber Diplomat), Hugh Willson (Chamber Diplomat), Eric Ayers, Ryan Albright (Owner Apex Pro Home Repair), Ashley Albright, Karen Sullivan (Athens Chamber), Lisa Rhea (Chamber Diplomat). Back: Melinda King, Stephanie Devine, Walt Bowman, Sarah Becht, Rob Preston (Chamber President/CEO), Garrett Frye (Field Rep. for Fleischmann), John Rodriguez (Chamber Board).

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, December 8th
1:00 – 8:00 PM

SHOP & MEET OUR
LOCAL ARTISTS

white street
market

2:00 – 4:00PM Book Signing &
Discussion with David Graybeal





Thursday, December 5, 2024

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 6

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

April Boe, 39 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Domestic Assault. Total Bond: \$2,000

Jacob Williams, 34 of Riceville, was arrested by the MCSO for Failure to Appear (Morgan County). No Bond.

Cheyenne Blackwell, 25 of Madisonville, was arrested by the MCSO for Failure to Appear. No Bond.

Lisa Lafond, 55 of Decatur, was arrested by the Athens PD for Simple Possession- Casual Exchange of Fentanyl, and Unlawful Drug paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$14,000.

John Lewis, 47 of Englewood, was arrested by Englewood PD for DUI and Violation of Implied Consent. Total Bond: \$2,000.

James Hudson, 25 of Niota, was arrested by the Athens PD for Public Intoxication, Resisting Arrest, and Disorderly Conduct. Bond Not Reported.

Those accused remain innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered from Public Sources

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Christmas Tree Lighting

Thursday, December 5 at 6 p.m.
on the TWU Quad

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Letters to Santa • Hot Chocolate

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