

# State & Local News

♦ FIRE DESTROYS CAR AT GAS STATION

The car pictured below was destroyed by fire Wednesday night at

the Marathon gas station on Highway 39 East. The 2005 Toyota Matrix was fully involved in flames as firefighters arrived. The Englewood and Athens Rural Fire Departments responded. (Photo by Lynn Ingram with the Englewood Rural Fire Department)



#### ♦ PRISON BECOMES TOURIST ATTRACTION

After decades of housing dangerous criminals, a former East Tennessee prison will officially open this weekend as a tourist attraction. The historic Brushy Mountain maximum-security prison will feature a museum, distillery, and restaurant. There will be tours with former prison guards on hand to answer questions and share stories. The penitentiary held notorious criminals such as James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Byron Looper, killer of Tennessee State Senator Tommy Burks.

# National & World News

Police in California arrested a 32-year-old man on Wednesday who is accused of setting multiple wildfires in Riverside County that have scorched thousands of acres and forced mass evacuations. He's been charged with five counts of arson to wildland.
 Investigators in Iowa have zeroed in on missing jogger Mollie Tibbetts' digital footprint, including her Fitbit, which can capture GPS data. Tibbetts, a 20-year-old sophomore at the University of Iowa mysteriously disappeared while jogging the evening of July

18 in her rural town of Brooklyn, Iowa.
◆ The House of Representatives wrapped up legislative business on Thursday without considering articles of impeachment against Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein. This gives the Department of Justice five more weeks to comply with a congressional subpoena.

• President Trump assured farmers in Iowa Thursday, who are feeling the fallout from his trade war, that he has achieved major gains in bringing countries to the negotiating table with threats of tariffs and doubled down on some of his tough rhetoric targeting China.

• Ohio Republican Rep. Jim Jordan, announced his intent to run for House Speaker if Republicans protect their majority in this fall's midterm election.

#### COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ Athens' own *Mending Wall* will headline Sounds of Summer this Saturday at 7 p.m. at Market Park Pavilion. Stephen Humphries will open the free concert.





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Athens, Tennessee

### **Obituaries**

• James Julian "JJ" Christman, age 81, of Athens, died Wednesday at Starr Regional Medical Center. He was a native of Arlington, Virginia. He served in the U.S. Army in Korea during the Korean War. He was an ordained minister and served as chaplain of National Healthcare-Athens and Morning Pointe Assisted Living from 2005 to 2012. He owned/operated Consolidated Ice Company from 1970 to 1977, and owned and operated Appliance Service Company from 1985 until 2012. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Saturday at Athens First Baptist Church with visitation from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the church. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is in charge of arrangements.

• **Cathy "Darlene" Krouse,** age 58, of Ten Mile, died at her home Wednesday. Funeral services will be Saturday at 7 p.m. at Bowers Funeral Home of Decatur with visitation from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

#### **Thursday's Market Report**

U.S. stocks closed mixed as eased trade tensions

remained a positive, but tech stocks weighed on the market. The technology sector was the worst-performing sector today. Shares of social media giant Facebook fell sharply following a negative earnings report after the market close on Wednesday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 113 points or 0.4% to 25,527. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 9 points or 0.3% to 2,837, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was down 80 points or 1% to 7,852.

### **Church News & Events**

- Union-McMinn Baptist Church at 314 County Road 316 will have a Back to School Bash on Saturday, July 28th, at 4 p.m. There will be music, a meal, and a backpack and school supply giveaway.

- The Hymnsmen Quartet will sing this Sunday at 6 p.m. at Clearwater Baptist Church.

- The Carters will be singing this Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church on Old Mecca Pike in East Etowah. Following the singing, everyone is invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for an ice cream social.

- Lakeview Baptist Church will have a singing this Sunday at 10:45 a.m. The Travelers from Kentucky will be singing. The chuch is located next to Dynasty Spas in Athens.

- Overcoming Faith Christian Center will have its 2018 Backpack Giveaway tomorrow, July 28th, at 9 a.m. at Market Park Pavilion. There will also be music. Kids must be present for a backpack.

- Allen Memorial United Methodist Church will be hosting an Alzheimer's Workshop on August 2nd. The workshop is for caregivers, family, and anyone who has a loved one in their life who suffers from Alzheimer's or other related dementias. For information, call the church at 745-1560.

- The Athens/McMinn Ministerial Association is sponsoring an All Church Family Picnic on Sunday, July 29th, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Athens Regional Park. For information, call 435-5867.

-Jews for Jesus will present "Still Not Ashamed" with Avi Snyder at Wesley Memorial UMC in Etowah this Sunday at 6 p.m.

- The Adult Senior Choir of First Baptist Church of Athens, directed by Sarah Cox, will present a patriotic musical entitled "Freedom" at their 10:45 a.m. worship Sunday; everyone welcome.

