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# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

## Today's News... This Morning

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Monday, August 17, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

## Fire Destroys Street Sweeper

At around 9:30 last Thursday morning, crews at the Tennessee Department of Transportation facility on Highway 30 East were working on this street sweeper when it caught fire and was destroyed. The flames spread to the nearby building which received minor damage. The fire was quickly extinguished by the Etowah City, Etowah Rural, and Englewood Rural fire departments. Englewood Rural Fire Chief Billy Roach was in charge at the scene. (Photo from the Englewood Rural Fire Department)



## Community News You Can Use

✓ The Athens City Council will host a joint meeting with the Athens City School Board on Monday at 5:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building in the Burkett Witt Council Chambers. School Director Robert Greene will give a COVID-19 school opening update and there will be an update on the school building program and the timeline.

✓ Englewood city commissioners have fired the City Manager, Richard Clowers, and accepted Mayor Jason Hitt's resignation letter. The move followed an audit that revealed mismanagement of taxpayer dollars. Shawn Martin, interim City Manager and interim Mayor later fired Police Chief Zack Ellis.

**LISTENING REMINDER:** The guest on the Main Street Athens radio show, "Main Street Moments," this week will be Lisa Dotson, executive director of Main Street Athens. You can hear the program each Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio, FM 94.5 and AM 1390 or online at [wysi.com](http://wysi.com)

### COVID-19 UPDATE:

- Tennessee:** 133,708 cases, up 1,961. Deaths 1,366, up 21.
- McMinn Co:** 609 cases, up 13, with 166 active. Deaths are 20.
- Meigs Co:** 121 cases, with 32 cases still active.
- Monroe Co:** 511 cases, with 210 active. Deaths are 10.
- Polk Co:** 268 cases, with 90 still active. Deaths are now 8.
- Bradley Co:** 2,166 cases, with 610 active. Deaths are now 16.
- Rhea Co:** 581 cases, with 118 still active. Death count is 2.

### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT

**Bojangles'** AUGUST Specials >> Any Chicken Biscuit 2 for \$5 • 8 Pc Tail-gate w/2 picnic fixins, 4 Biscuits & 1/2 Gal Tea \$19.99 • 3 Tenders or Supreme Combo \$4.99 • 5 Meals for \$5 ea. • Pimento Cheese Biscuits are back!  
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- Monday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:00
- Tuesday-Athens-PaPaw's Place -10:30 - 2:00
- Wednesday-Etowah-10:30 - 2:00 (across from Johnson's Dept Store)
- Thursday-Loudon -10:30 - 2:00
- Friday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30

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**Monday, August 17, 2020**      **Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page**      **Athens, Tennessee**

**Obituaries**

- ♦ **Craig Donald Coleman**, age 52, of Athens, died August 1st in Gadsden, Alabama. The family will have a private celebration of life ceremony at a later date. Prestige Memorial Funeral Home of Gadsden is in charge of the arrangements.
- ♦ **Bonnie Rhea Burmood**, age 66, of Athens, died last Thursday at her residence. Funeral services will be Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.
- ♦ **Jerry "Papa Smurf" Croft**, of Delano, died Friday. He served as an over-the-road truck driver from 1962 until retirement in 2004. He also served in the U.S. military. A graveside service will be held in the Delano Cemetery at 11 a.m. Monday. Companion Funeral Home is in charge.
- ♦ **Estell D. "Dean" Womac**, age 84, of Athens, died Friday at his residence. He was a member of the United Iron Workers and spent most of his time at TVA's Watts Bar Nuclear Plant. Funeral services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Laycock-Hobbs.
- ♦ **Shelby Jean Davis**, age 83, of Athens, died Saturday at her home. She had been a Lieutenant with the McMinn County Sheriff's Department and was retired as a Superintendent in the Drivers' License Examiner Department. Graveside services will be 3 p.m. Monday in Cedar Grove Cemetery. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge.

**Community News You Can Use**

- ✓ Tomorrow, August 18th, is the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote. A new postage stamp commemorating the centennial will be unveiled on Saturday, August 29th, at the Niota Depot. The public is invited to view the new stamp at 12:30 p.m. Stamps, envelopes, and other memorabilia will be on sale. Masks and a safe distance will be required inside the renovated depot.
- ✓ Starr Regional Medical Center-Etowah announces the 55th anniversary of providing medical care to the residents of Etowah and surrounding communities. Woods Memorial Hospital District, the county's publicly owned, not-for-profit hospital, opened its doors in August 1965 with 14 patient beds and 25 employees. It was named in memory of Carrie Alice and George Woods, Sr., at the request of their son, George Woods, Jr., a former Tennessee speaker of the House from Etowah. The years that followed saw an increase in the number of patient beds, physician offices, a surgery suite, emergency medical services, wound care center, and radiology services. In 2012, the facility was purchased by LifePoint Health and in 2013 Athens Regional Medical Center and Woods Memorial Hospital joined forces to become Starr Regional Medical Center. The Etowah campus continues to serve the community's healthcare needs through its emergency department, outpatient services, an 88-bed skilled and long-term care nursing home, 18-bed Senior Care program, and Wound Care center.



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