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Today's News...This Morning

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IT'S TAX TIME AGAIN FOLKS!

Time for spring cleaning & fresh new flooring! Times are tight now & we understand that, so as everything else is going up, our flooring prices are coming down! We have carpet specials starting at .69 cents a sq ft. Sheet vinyl 1.89 cents a sq ft & waterproof plank flooring starting at \$1.49 a sq ft! Also, high end flooring from Shaw & Corretec for drastically reduced prices while supplies last! Ask us about our match & best any price policy! Also ask about our boat carpets & gorgeous grass yard turfs. We have the largest selection of in stock ready to go floorings at Dalton prices right here in beautiful Athens, TN! Everything we sell can be installed by the best of the best professional installers & most installs within 1 to 2 weeks of purchase!

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Wednesday, March 27, 2024 Athens, Tennessee

Lee Addresses A.I. Impact on Music Industry



Photo courtesy of the TN Governor's Office

On Thursday, March 21, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee signed the Ensuring Likeness Voice and Image Security (ELVIS) Act, a groundbreaking legislation aimed at safeguarding the voices of musicians and music industry professionals from the misuse of artificial intelligence (AI). Tennessee's music industry supports more than 61,617 jobs across the state, contributes \$5.8 billion to our GDP, and fills over 4,500 music venues. This act is the first of its kind, making Tennessee the first state in the nation to address the impact of A.I. in the music industry.

“From Beale Street to Broadway, to Bristol and beyond, Tennessee is known for our rich artistic heritage that tells the story of our great state,” said Gov. Lee. “As the technology landscape evolves with artificial intelligence, I thank the General Assembly for its partnership in creating legal protection for our best-in-class artists and songwriters.”

The law updates Tennessee's Protection of Personal Rights law to include protections for songwriters, performers, and other professionals in the music industry. This move comes in response to the growing threat posed by AI-generated synthetic media, which can lead to unauthorized fake works using the likeness and voice of artists. The ELVIS Act adds "voice" to the existing protections against unauthorized use of someone's likeness. Legislative leaders and industry professionals hailed the law as a crucial step in preserving the humanity and artistic expression of Tennessee's creators, while also maintaining public trust and protecting the livelihoods of those in the music industry. The legislation received broad support from various industry groups, signaling a united effort to combat the challenges posed by AI technology in the realm of creative arts.

EASTER DRIVE-THRU

MARCH 29 - 30
6 - 8PM

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Free Outreach Deliverance Classes are held every Thursday 7:00 pm at Planted in Christ Outreach Fellowship Located at: 317 Maple Street in Athens. For more information: call 423-435-8986
HOPE to see you there!

WYXI TRADING POST
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TUNE IN ON 94.5FM AND 1390AM
WEEKDAY MORNINGS
 8:30 - 9:30

EASTER EGG HUNT

TONIGHT, WED. AT
 6:30 PM for Grades K-8

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NIOTA
 6 E Main St, Niota, TN 37826

Food will be served.



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Wednesday, March 27, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Community News You Can Use

❖ Today's Holy Week service is being observed at St. Mark's AME Church which will be hosting Rev. Curtis Stapleton. Service starts at noon, with a light lunch and fellowship to follow. Services hosted by the Athens/McMinn Ministerial Fellowship.

❖ The offices of Athens Utilities Board will be closed on Friday, March 29, in observance of Good Friday. The offices will open under normal business hours on Monday, April 1. Stand-by crews from all divisions will be on call around the clock on Friday and throughout the weekend for service calls.

❖ There is an Easter Egg Hunt TONIGHT, March 27 at 6:30 pm at First Baptist Church in Niota (6 Main St.) for Grades K-8 with prizes and food. (See their ad on page 1)

❖ The VFW Easter Egg Hunt is this Saturday, March 30 at noon. There will be prizes for each age group. The Easter Bunny will be there for pictures and refreshments are served following the hunt.

◆ The guest this week on "Hope From the Well" will be Connie McIntosh discussing "Women of the Bible: Lois and Eunice." Hope From the Well is heard each Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

Noah Peters Comes to Etowah

The Etowah Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating their 60th Annual Chamber Banquet on Thursday, April 25th, 2024. They are excited to announce that they will be joined with Co-Host and Special Guest Noah Peters, The Singing Barber – American Idol Contestant and Golden Ticket Recipient on the show. The evening will be at Central High School and will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a silent auction, and the program to start with dinner at 6:00. The Chamber is excited to celebrate the 60th banquet this year, so make sure you get your tickets fast! Tickets are available at enterprisetowah.com or you can find the link on Facebook.

TODAY IS:

- Holy Wednesday
- Manatee Appreciation Day
- American Red Cross Giving Day
- Little Red Wagon Day



PreK and Kindergarten Registration

REGISTER NOW FOR 2024-2025

Enrolling Students for PreK & Kindergarten:
PreK: Age 4 on or before 8/15/24
Kindergarten: Age 5 on or before 8/15/24

Registration Date
April 5, 2024

8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Location: Athens City Primary School

316 McMinn Avenue
Athens, TN 37303

All students are required to provide documentation of the following:

Proof of Age: Such as a birth certificate, an adoption record; an affidavit from a parent; or previously verified school records.

Proof of Residency: Must provide 2 of the following: copies of phone and water bills, lease agreements, or affidavits.

Health Records: Certificate of Immunization and Physical on TN Dept of Health Form (provided by healthcare provider)

PreK Only- Proof of Income: Such as current paystub, W2 or tax return.

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By Ruth Elaine Schram
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of Allen Memorial UMC

Maundy Thursday
March 28, 2024
7 PM

Allen Memorial
United Methodist Church
800 Decatur Pike, Athens

Obituaries

Bobby Lee Queen, Sr., 77, a lifelong resident of McMinn County, passed away on Monday, March 25. Visitation will be held from noon to 2 pm on Thursday, March 28, at Ziegler Funeral Home in Athens. Funeral services will follow at 2:00 pm at the funeral home. Interment will then follow at Tellico Avenue Baptist Church Cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Theodore Thompson Rogers Jr., 58 of Englewood, passed away on March 25, at his residence. He was a lifelong resident of McMinn County. Theodore retired from Bowater Paper Mill and was a member of Trinity Methodist Church. Funeral services will be 4 pm Friday, March 29 in the Chapel of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. Interment will follow in Cedar Grove Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Friday in the funeral home.

Mimi's Ribbon Cutting



A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for new Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, Mimi's Jungle Gym indoor play and party center, located at 2012 B Decatur Pike, Athens.

Chamber friends joining the celebration and pictured here left to right are:

Karen Sullivan (Athens Chamber), Heather Brown (Mimi's Jungle Gym), Geri Brown (Owner Mimi's Jungle Gym), Hannah Brown (Mimi's Jungle Gym), Stacey Hester (Chamber Diplomat).

Second row left to right: Dennie Brown (Owner Mimi's Jungle Gym), Ryan Pope (Mimi's Jungle Gym), Shanna Ward (Mimi's Jungle Gym), Melinda King (McMinn County Clerk), Lisa Rhea (Chamber Diplomat).

Third row left to right: Rob Preston (Chamber President/CEO), Wesley Skinner (Chamber Diploma), Stephanie Devine, Kayleigh Heaton (Chuck Fleischmann Field Representative), Lindsey Ferguson (McMinn County Economic Development Authority), Hunter Star (Chamber Diplomat).

Back row: Walt Bowman, Larry Eaton (Athens City Council Vice Mayor), Brent Carter (1st District County Commissioner), John Sullivan, Hugh Willson (Chamber Diplomat), Joseph Ladner (Chamber Board), Jennie DeCook



EAST TENNESSEE MILITARY ACADEMY DAY

Saturday, April 20 | 10:00-11:30 am

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT CHATTANOOGA
UNIVERSITY CENTER - CHATTANOOGA ROOM

MEET REPRESENTATIVES FROM:



FAITH & FINANCE
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Addressing Today's
Financial Questions with
Biblical Answers.

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Mon. - Fri. 10:30 am
Sat. 6:30 am



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Today's News... This Morning

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@THEMORNINGFAX ON X (TWITTER)

Never Miss an Update!
Don't forget to

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Bradley Co. Sheriff in ICU

Bradley County Sheriff Steve Lawson and his wife are currently in recovery following a collision in Hamilton County on Sunday. The incident, reported by the Bradley County Sheriff's Office, occurred approximately at 1:00 pm near the Shallowford Road exit of I-75. Sheriff Lawson is presently in the ICU due to bleeding and severe discomfort. According to the sheriff's office, he had recently left a church service and was driving his personal vehicle at the time of the accident. Chattanooga police indicate that initial investigations suggest three vehicles had come to a stop or were moving slowly due to heavy traffic. However, a fourth vehicle failed to halt, resulting in a rear-end collision with one of the vehicles, subsequently causing a chain reaction involving the others by striking the vehicles ahead.

Arrest Reports

03/22/24

- Teresa Peck, 41 of Riceville, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for State Violation of Probation. Bond was denied.

03/23/24

- Blake Allen McConkey, 29 of Riceville, was arrested by the Tennessee Highway Patrol for Driving Under the Influence, Due Care, Open Container and a Traffic Violation. Bond was assigned of \$1,500.
- Kimberlyn Stephens, 21 of Vonore, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Child Abuse. Bond was assigned of \$10,000..
- Maurice Booker, 54 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for his Third Offense of Driving Under the Influence. Bond was denied.
- Tristin Wilson, 26 of Sweetwater, was arrested by the Athens PD for Violation of Probation, Simple Possession of Schedule II, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Bond was assigned in total of \$22,386.45.
- Lexie Morgan, 23 of Sweetwater, was arrested by Etowah PD for a Warrant in Monroe County. Bond was not assigned as she was awaiting transfer to Monroe County.

The accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered from public sources.

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