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Today's News...This Morning

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Tuesday, April 2, 2024 Athens, Tennessee

MVA on County Road 475



At approximately 9:30 in the evening on Sunday, March 31, a driver accidentally backed off a steep embankment after a day of fishing. The vehicle landed into the Conasauga Creek on County Road 475 in Etowah with no injury being reported. Etowah Rural Fire and Englewood Rural Fire Departments responded. McMinn County Sheriff's Deputy Megan Chandler investigated the scene. Photo Credit: Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department.

Harper Ousted, Lady Vols Fire Head Coach



Photo Credit: Kate Luffman/Tennessee Athletics

Tennessee's women's basketball program has decided to part ways with coach Kellie Harper after five seasons, aiming to revitalize the team's performance, which has declined since the era of legendary coach Pat Summitt. Despite her connection to Summitt as a former player, Harper struggled to bring the program back to its former glory, never advancing beyond the Sweet 16 despite winning 20 or more games four times. The decision comes after Tennessee's recent loss in the NCAA tournament second round, finishing 20-13 for the season. Harper, who had four years remaining on her contract, saw her buyout drop significantly. UT Athletic director Danny White expressed gratitude for Harper's dedication but emphasized the need for change. Tennessee has not won the SEC conference since 2015, with South Carolina emerging as a dominant force in women's college basketball. (Story Continued on page 3)

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Zion Hill invites you

Men's PRAYER BREAKFAST

APRIL 20
 8 - 9:30AM BREAKFAST 9:45AM SERVICE HOURS
 SPEAKER: STEVE MORGAN
 CLEVELAND - FBC
 Tennessee Wesleyan University Cafeteria

...the prayer of a righteous man is very powerful.
 James 5:16

Register Online at zhbc.com/breakfast
 Sign Up by April 8

IMA Internal Medicine Associates
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A division of **SUMMIT MEDICAL GROUP**

Our Friday Walk-In Clinic is **REOPENING**

Walk-in clinic hours start on May 3rd
 Open Every Friday, 8:30am - 2:00pm

SOAKY MOUNTAIN WATER PARK TICKETS!

Donate blood with MEDIC between April 10th and May 10th, and receive a Soaky Mountain Waterpark admission ticket.

Ticket will be valid from May 11th, 2024 to June 15, 2024.

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Tuesday, April 2, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

AUB Rate Increase

The Athens Utilities Board (AUB) has approved a rate increase effective April 1 of 2.9% for the power division starting in the second quarter of 2024. AUB claims this decision comes in response to rising costs for materials to maintain operational efficiency. In a press release last week, AUB emphasized their approach to rate changes, ensuring increases are only made when necessary to sustain utility operations. Despite the increase, April's rates will actually decrease due to lower base rates and fuel costs. This marks the fourth increase in 16 years, totaling a 6.0% increase since 2008. It's important to note that the rate increase only applies to the AUB portion of customers' bills, with TVA controlling seasonal base rates and fuel cost adjustments. TVA expects higher fuel costs due to cold temperatures and increased demand in January. AUB typically allocates 83 cents of every dollar collected to cover their monthly power bill from TVA.

Federal Funds Coming to McMinn Co.

McMinn County has been awarded \$19,729 in Federal Funds through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program, aimed at supplementing local emergency food and shelter programs in Phase 41. The selection was made by a National Board chaired by FEMA, comprising representatives from various organizations. A Local Board in McMinn County will determine how the funds are allocated among local service agencies, ensuring they meet specified criteria. Interested agencies are encouraged to contact the United Way office for application details before the April 22, 2024 deadline. Past recipients of Emergency Food and Shelter funds in McMinn County include Coordinated Charities, Grace and Mercy Ministries, Better Living Center, Love Thy Neighbor Project, Table Graces, and others. For further information or to apply, agencies can contact Paige Zabo at: paige@unitedwaymm.com or call the office at 745-9606. The Local Board will convene on April 23 at 2:00 pm at the United Way office.



WE'RE HIRING

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE

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You're Invited
to the YMCA
ANNUAL MEETING!
April 18th, 2024
11:30am-1pm

Join us as we celebrate the 2023 year
 with lunch included!

RSVP to Tiffany Hayes at
tiffany@athensmcminnymca.org

Athens-McMinn Family YMCA
 205 Knoxville Ave.
 Athens TN 37303



or scan to
 RSVP!

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

Harper Ousted, Lady Vols Fire Head Coach

Harper, who succeeded Holly Warlick in 2019, acknowledged the honor of coaching at her alma mater but acknowledged the challenges in living up to Summitt's legacy. Despite consistent NCAA tournament appearances, the Lady Vols failed to advance far enough, underscoring the high expectations set by Summitt's historic success. In the seven years under Harper, the Lady Vols never once reached the Final Four and lost in the first or second round in five of their past seven NCAA tournament appearances. As a former player under Summitt, Harper remains a significant figure in Tennessee's basketball history, having contributed to three consecutive national championships between 1996-1998. In fact, in Harper's last season as the starting point guard at Tennessee, the 1998 team went 39-0, Pat Summitt's only undefeated season. Despite speculation, as of now, it is unclear to whom the Lady Vols' Head Coach position will be offered. However, by firing Harper, Tennessee's administration has sent a clear message about what its expectations are.

Obituaries

Patricia (Pat) Lee Lowe Hale, 86, passed away peacefully on Thursday, March 14. Pat was an active member of First Baptist Church in Athens. She was a lover of animals and theater and worked for 50 years as a paralegal in Athens, supporting her husband's law practice. The family will receive family and friends Thursday, April 4 from 12 - 2 PM at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home in Athens. The interment service will be held at 2:30 PM at McMinn Memory Gardens. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Hubert R. Armstrong, 104 of Niota, passed away on Sunday, March 31. Hubert was a WWII veteran, serving with the aviation and combat engineers where he ultimately obtained the rank of sergeant. The family will receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m on Wednesday, April 3. Funeral service will be held afterwards at 7:00 p.m., in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. Family and friends will assemble on Thursday, April 4th at Conasauga Cemetery for the 11:00 a.m. committal service.

Elizabeth Ann Mullins Couch, 84 of Meigs County, passed away on Sunday, March 31. She was a member of Five Point Baptist Church in Decatur. The family will receive friends from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Friday, April 5, 2024, at Ziegler Funeral Home. Graveside services will follow at Bethsadia Cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



CONGRESSMAN
CHUCK FLEISCHMANN

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:



Arrest Reports

03/29/24

- John Seymore, 84 of Athens, was arrested by the Etowah PD for Second Offense DUI, Open Container, and Driving on a Revoked License with bond assigned of \$3,000.
- Corey Peters, 33 of Chattanooga, was arrested by the Tennessee Highway Patrol for Driving on a Suspended License, Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl for Resale, Possession of Marijuana for Resale, Possession of Cocaine for Resale, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia.. Bond was assigned of \$68,000.
- Phillip McInturff, 34 of White Pine, TN, was arrested by Blount County Sheriff's Office for State Violation of Probation. He was not assigned bond.

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



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DOORS OPEN: 11 A.M.
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&
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LISTENING REMINDER: This week's guest on Main Street Moments will be Rob Preston with the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce. The broadcast will be aired at 8:15 a.m. TODAY on WYXI RADIO: AM-1390 and FM-94.5.

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Athens Regional Humane Society, United Way, Relay for Life

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