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Today's News...This Morning

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Sunday Fire at Lee Manor Displaces Nine Families



On August 4, 2024, around 7:00 p.m., the Athens Fire Department responded to a fire at Lee Manor Apartments, located at 1800 Lee Drive, after a neighbor reported seeing black smoke coming from apartment 79. Upon arrival, Battalion 1 established command, and firefighters observed flames along the roofline and heavy smoke from the building's front.

After confirming all occupants were safely evacuated, the fire crew entered the building and began suppression efforts. The fire was found to be on the Delta side of the building, spreading up the wall into the attic. Firefighters quickly contained the blaze to

apartments 78 and 79, with additional units arriving to support the initial responders. The Athens Utility Board disconnected water and electricity.

Apartment 79 suffered the most fire damage, while apartments 78 and 80 experienced smoke and heat damage. Firefighters conducted salvage and overhaul operations to prevent further spread, and fans were set up to clear smoke. The scene was secured, allowing tenants from nearby apartments to retrieve belongings.

In total, three apartments were damaged by the fire, and others sustained smoke and heat damage, displacing nine families. The fire originated on the first floor and spread to the attic. The two occupants of the burning apartment escaped without injury. The financial loss is currently undetermined, and the cause of the fire remains under investigation.

Chief 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." AMR EMS was on scene for anyone needing triage or treatment.

.....Athens Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth 423-744-2789 bainsworth@athenstn.gov

Photos Courtesy of Boggess Photography

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Vehicle and Victim Recovered from Lake Ocoee



LOCAL 3 NEWS: Polk County Sheriff Steve Ross says crews recovered a vehicle from Lake Ocoee Saturday afternoon. Authorities say there was one body inside. Earlier Friday afternoon, authorities responded to a tip saying

a car had hit a guardrail and plummeted into the lake below. The search for the vehicle began an investigation which continued on Saturday. The vehicle was very hard to find because rescue personnel had to determine where the car floated before it went completely underwater. A spokesman said that the vehicle could be anywhere within three square miles and the lake is over 100 feet deep in certain areas. The vehicle was eventually recovered on Saturday. The Tennessee Highway Patrol identified the deceased driver as 46-year-old Michele L. Lorino. The THP says that Lorino's 2019 Toyota Camry, traveling eastbound, went off the right side of US-64, where it hit a rock wall and guardrail which sent the vehicle airborne, causing it to land in the lake. *Photo Courtesy of WTVC*

Obituaries

Cody Joe Lloyd, age 35, of Etowah, died Friday, August 2, 2024, at his home. Cody was formerly associated with Waupaca Foundry and C&R Construction. There will be no formal visitation or funeral services. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Cody Joe Lloyd.

Athens Travelers Cruise-In

The monthly Athens Travelers Car Show is coming up on Saturday, August 17 at 4 pm. There is no entry fee and alcoholic beverages are not allowed. The City of Athens Public Works Department announced the following street closures: The areas to be affected are Jackson Street from Green Street to Washington Avenue and Madison Avenue from White Street to Green Street. These closures will be on Saturday, August 17, 2024, from 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Expect delays when traveling in this area. For more information about the road closures, please contact the Office of the Public Works Department at 423-744-2745. For more information about the Athens Travelers Cruise-In events, contact Danny Richesin at (423)744-4835, Shawn Gourley at (423) 746-9879, or Loretta Swafford at (423) 252-4408. You can keep up with the Athens Travelers at their Facebook page [HERE](#).

WEATHER FORECAST

Tues. - Mostly Sunny. Light Winds. High 92.
Tues. night - Partly Cloudy. Light Winds. Low 71.
Wed. - Sunny. High 92.
Wed. Night - Partly Cloudy. Low 73.
 More weather at: wyxi.com

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Tuesday, August 6, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

Tim Hughes Quartet Takes Over Sounds of Summer



Friendly City Festivals announces the ninth concert in the 2024 Sounds of Summer concert series will showcase The Tim Hughes Quartet.

The concert will be held at Market Pavilion on 106 South Jackson Street in downtown Athens, Tennessee starting at 7:00 p.m. Concert goers are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs, blankets, family and friends for an entertaining evening of blues and jazz instrumentals.

The Tim Hughes Quartet has been playing together as a group for over 16 years. While other musicians have filled in with the band over those years, the core four have remained the same.

Tim Hughes is the leader of the group and plays trumpet and fugelhorn. He has written many of the group's original compositions and was the founder and original producer of Sounds of Summer. Robin Payne is the keyboard player and happens to be married to the drummer. She has performed with several big bands in the Chattanooga area and other small ensembles. In addition to playing with the quartet, she can be heard on Sundays playing keys for the Brainerd Baptist Church Orchestra. David Payne is the drummer for the quartet and has been playing percussion instruments since his junior high days. His musical endeavors include playing in various area big bands, small combos and Brainerd Baptist Church. Robert Grier is the bass player of the band but also supports other groups and projects such as A Springsteen celebration, Scenic City Soul Review, MESA Rio and Slow Fuze Blues

The remaining series lineup includes:

August 16th-Trailer Hippies

August 23rd-Mendingwall

August 30th-The Dexter Thomas Band

This free to the public series is produced by Friendly City Festivals, a 501(c)3 subsidiary of Willsonthropic, Inc. and is made possible by the financial support of: The City of Athens Hotel/Motel Tax Fund, McMinn County Tourism Board, Wolfenden Family Pharmacies, Dynasty Spas and Pools, TVA Tennessee Overhill Association, Tennessee Arts Commission, Mayfield Dairy Farms, DENSO, Humana, VEC Customer Shares, Citizens National Bank of Sevier County, Valley Oil, Starr Regional Medical Center, Kona Ice, Pendleton's Playground, Simmons Bank, Simmons Wealth Management Group, Warren Jackson CPAS, and Athens Kiwanis Club. Special thanks to The Morning Fax, The Daily Post-Athenian, Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, The Arts Center and Main Street Athens for social media and advertising support.

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Arrest Reports

Walter Byas, 43 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Burglary, Violation of Probation, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$31,566.45

Manuel Saucedo, 31 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Driving on a Revoked License and Domestic Assault. Total Bond: \$2,000.

Debbie Dillon, 47 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Theft over \$1,000, Fraudulent Use of a Credit Card, and Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$4,916.40

Austin Witt, 23 of Niota, was arrested by the MCSO for Theft of Property - Motor Vehicle, Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$51,000.

Cody Smallen, 30 of Tellico Plains, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$610.95

Sara Clift, 24 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Failure to Appear, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl, and Simple Possession / Casual Exchange of Suboxone. Total Bond: \$28,000

The accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The preceding information was compiled from public sources.

What Day Is It?

Today In History - July 30

1806 - After a thousand years the Holy Roman Empire came to its official end, with the secession of its confederated states, when Emperor Francis II of Austria put down the imperial crown.

1890 - The electric chair was used for the first time, to execute William Kemmler a convicted murderer at Auburn State Prison in New York.

1926 - 19-year-old Gertrude Ederle of New York became the first American to swim the English Channel.

1945 - An American bomber dropped the first atomic bomb used in warfare on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. Eight days later, after Nagasaki was also bombed, Japan surrendered, ending World War II. About 140,000 people died in the two bombings and the aftermath.

1962 - Jamaica became an independent dominion within the Commonwealth of Nations.


1965 - U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act, which sought to overcome legal barriers at the state and local levels that prevented African Americans from exercising their right to vote; the legislation was weakened through several lawsuits in the 21st century.

2012 - NASA's robotic vehicle Curiosity (also called Mars Science Laboratory) landed on Mars and soon began transmitting images of the planet's surface.






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