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Today's News...This Morning

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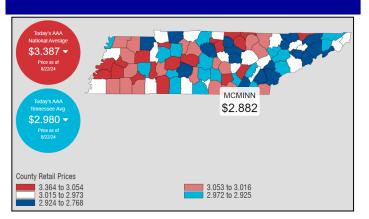


Friday, August 23, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

Pump Prices Fall, Plug-In Holds Steady



The national average price for a gallon of gas has dropped six cents in the past week, reaching \$3.38—a price last seen on March 6. Over the past month, the average has fallen by 12 cents, and it is now 47 cents lower than this time last year. This decline comes as gas demand slightly increased from 9.04 million barrels per day (b/d) to 9.19 million b/d, while gasoline stocks dipped from 222.2 million to 220.6 million barrels. Despite the slight rise in demand, steady gasoline production and low oil costs are expected to keep prices at the pump on a downward trend. Tennessee's average is lower than the national average, coming in at \$2.98, with McMinn County even lower than the state average at \$2.88. Meanwhile, the cost of Level 2 (L2) commercial electricity has held steady, with the national average price per kilowatt-hour at 34 cents. This stability is significant for the estimated 1.2 million AAA members living in households with one or more electric vehicles. As gas prices fluctuate, the steady electricity costs provide some predictability for electric vehicle owners. *Source:* AAA Gas Prices

Church News & Events

- There will be an "Operation Christmas Child" Project Leader Workshop on Saturday, August 24 at Union McMinn Baptist Church located at 314 County Road 316 (I-75, Exit 56) in Niota. Check-in begins at 9:30 a.m. and the workshop will begin at 10:00 a.m. Guest Speaker will be Yuri Lopez from Honduras who received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox as a child. Learn how you can be involved in this exciting ministry that shares Jesus worldwide.
- St. Mary Catholic Church (1291 E. Madison Ave., Athens) will be having a yard sale today and tomorrow, August 23 and 24 beginning at 8am. There will also be homemade baked goods for sale and Jack's BBQ Food Truck will be on-site.
- Old National Bank and the leadership of St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church have met and have established an account for anyone that would like to make a monetary donation to assist the church going forward. Donations can be made at any Old National Bank office or mailed to Old National Bank, 106 West Washington Avenue, Athens, TN 37303. Checks should be made payable to St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church.

REMINDER: WYXI RADIO FM 94.5 & AM 1390 will be broadcasting live today at Osment Flooring, 2412 Congress Parkway, South, across from the McMinn County High School Tennis Courts. There will be several dozen free giveaways and the CHICK Fil A Food Truck will be there from 11 a.m. until ?? See you there!!





out init better quanty or prices anywhere e not buy flooring for less, unless it's a lot less flo Easy to find and worth the drive! Ve're across from McMinn County High School Friday Night - Mostly Clear. Low

Saturday - Sunny. High 87. Low 64. Sunday - Sunny. High 89. Low 64.

More Weather at: wyxi.com

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Athens, Tennessee

Grace Therapy & Wellness Joins the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce



A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for new Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, Grace Therapy & Wellness, located in Athens. Bethany Stokes of Grace Therapy & Wellness is a licensed and registered occupational therapist specializing in pediatric bowel and bladder dysfunction and women's pelvic health.

Chamber friends joining the celebration and pictured here from left to right are: Zeke Hembree, Janice Hembree, Stacey Hester (Chamber Diplomat), Bethany Stokes (Owner Grace Therapy & Wellness), Hunter Stokes, Mackenzie Stokes, Melissa Stokes, Beverly Hembree, Jeff Hembree, Lisa Rhea (Chamber Diplomat). Second row: Hugh Willson (Chamber Diplomat), Traci White (Chamber Board), Karen Sullivan (Athens Chamber), Bryan Stokes, Walt Bowman, Stephanie Devine. Third row: Tod Marner (Chamber Board), Rob Preston (Chamber President/CEO).

Sign Up to be a Poll Worker!

Ahead of the Nov. 5th State and Federal General Election, Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett is again encouraging Tennesseans to consider becoming poll workers later this fall.

"Our poll workers are critical to a successful election," said Secretary Hargett. "We anticipate a robust voter turnout, and there is always a need for poll workers, especially during a presidential election cycle."

During early voting and on Election Day, poll workers conduct various tasks — including greeting voters, answering questions, explaining how to cast a ballot, and counting votes at their community locations. They are paid for their work and for attending required training sessions.

Most citizens are eligible to work at polling locations, regardless of political affiliation. The minimum age is 16, and anyone over 18 must be a registered voter in the county where they desire to serve. Other qualifications include:

- 1. Be able to read and write in the English language.
- 2. Cannot be a candidate or close relative of a candidate.
- 3. Cannot be supervised by an elected official on the ballot.

All City, County, and Metropolitan government employees (unless working directly under the supervision of an elected official on the ballot) are eligible, as are state employees. Federal employees should consult with their individual Human Resources Department to determine eligibility.

Tennessee has been ranked number one in election integrity for three consecutive years; the Secretary of State's office is also the trusted source for all election information. For more information about becoming a poll worker, please visit https://sos.tn.gov/pollworkers.





WATER DAMAGE? CALL THE EXPERTS



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Friday, August 23, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

Six Arrested in Clarksville Human Trafficking Investigation

An undercover operation by special agents with TBI's Human Trafficking Unit, the Tennessee Human Trafficking Task Force, Homeland Security Investigations, Clarksville Police Department, and Office of the 19th Judicial District Attorney General resulted in the arrest of six men. Seven other individuals were recovered as potential victims of human trafficking.

Over a two-day period starting August 16th, as part of an undercover operation aimed at addressing human trafficking in the Montgomery County area, officers placed several decoy advertisements on websites known to be linked to prostitution and commercial sex. The focus of the operation was to identify individuals seeking to engage in commercial sex acts with minors. As a result, six men were arrested and booked into the Montgomery County Jail:

Franklin Poe (DOB 08/03/1999), Memphis – Two counts Trafficking for Sexual Servitude. \$15,000 bond.

Andre Johnson (DOB 03/02/1990), Fort Campbell, KY – One count each Possession of Firearm during Commission of Dangerous Felony, Solicitation of a Minor, Trafficking for Sexual Servitude. \$145,000 bond.

Dashuan Ramey (DOB 11/22/1991), Clarksville – One count Trafficking for Sexual Servitude. \$20,500 bond.

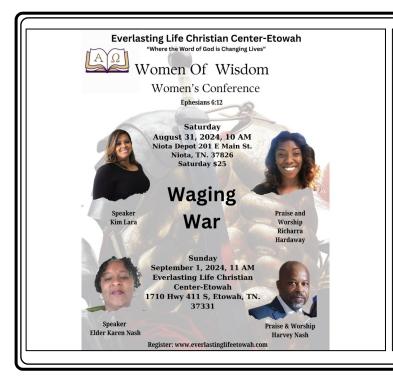
James Francis (DOB 09/02/1981), Clarksville – One count Promoting Prostitution. \$25,000 bond.

Patrick Kugler (DOB 02/07/1995), Clarksville – One count Trafficking for Sexual Servitude. \$5,000 bond.

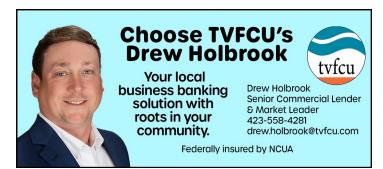
Anthony Rice (DOB 06/02/1992), Clarksville – Two counts Trafficking for Sexual Servitude. \$5,000 bond.

In an effort to identify human trafficking victims, law enforcement officials reached out to ads that had been placed on websites linked to prostitution and commercial sex ads. As a result of this part of the operation, seven individuals were recovered as potential victims of human trafficking and were offered services through an HT victim service organization. Information about human trafficking and TBI's efforts to address this type of crime can be found at www.ITHasToStop.com. The charges and allegations referenced in this release are merely accusations of criminal conduct and not evidence. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt and convicted through due process of law. Source: TBINewsroom.com

Obituary: Benny L. Graham, 83 of Etowah, passed away Thursday, August 22, 2024. Benny was of the Baptist faith. He retired from Bowater Paper Mill and served 26 years with the Tennessee National Guard. Private services will be held. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.









Friday, August 23, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

Kaylan Wooten, 26 of Old Fort, TN was arrested by the tanyl, Possession of a Schedule VI Substance and Unlawful THP for Possession of Schedule II drugs, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. No Bond Listed. Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$14,000.

\$2,000.

Task Force for Violation of Probation. Total Bond: PD for Criminal Trespass. No bond Listed. \$1,381,45

Task Force for Public Intoxication, Possession of Schedule No Bond listed II Fentanyl and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$7,500.

Hailey Duncan. 25 of Morristown, was arrested by the MCSO for State Violation of Probation, Possession of a Schedule IV substance, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. No Bond.

Tammy Langston, 56 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Criminal Trespassing. No Bond Listed.

Crystal Watson, 40 of Madisonville, was arrested by the MCSO for Felony Evading, Possession of Schedule II Fen-

Percy Moore, 48 of Madisonville, was arrested by the Isaiah Castro, 27 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO MCSO for Tampering with Evidence, Possession of Schedfor DUI and Driving on a Suspended License. Total Bond: ule II Fentanyl, Possession of Schedule VI, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. No Bond Listed.

Samuel Salsbury, 36 of Etowah, was arrested by the Drug David Langston, 54 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens

Dustin Love, 35 of Athens, was arrested by the Etowah PD **Joseph Anthony**, 49 of Etowah, was arrested by the Drug for Prohibited Weapon and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia..

> **Joseph King**, 21 of Calhoun, was arrested by the MCSO for Theft of a Motor Vehicle, Stated Violation of Probation, Failure to Appear. Driving on a Revoked License. No Bond Listed.

The accused remain innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. **Information gathered from public** sources. **GoComics**



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