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Today's News... This Morning

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Friday, November 29, 2024

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Vacant Home Destroyed in Delano Fire



A vacant home on Ashley Drive in Delano was destroyed in a fire early Tuesday morning. West Polk Fire Department requested mutual aid from Etowah Rural Fire,

Etowah City Fire, and Englewood Rural Fire Departments to combat the blaze.

The house was already a total loss by the time mutual aid units arrived. Additional assistance came from AmeriPro, the Polk County Sheriff's Department, and EUB.

West Polk Operations Chief Keith Jeskee commanded the scene. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department

Community News You Can Use

- The McMinn County Historical Society will have their monthly meeting on Sunday, December 1 at 2:00 pm in the Blue Room of the McMinn County Courthouse. Click or tap ad below for more info.
- The Optimist Club of Athens will hold its annual Christmas Parade Chili & Soup Supper on Monday, Dec 2, from 4:30 to 7 PM at Mars Hill Presbyterian Church. The price is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids age 10 and under. All proceeds will support their youth community programs. Drive-thru or to-go orders.
- Join The LITE House (1 W. College St., Athens) for a N.E.S.T. session on December 4th from 8:30-9:30 AM with Beth Simpson, M.A., C.G.F.P. Discover fun, practical ways to relieve stress, rebalance, and fully enjoy the holidays. With 20 years of experience in healing, pain relief, and adapting to change, Beth will guide us toward a more peaceful and purposeful season. Don't miss this chance to stress less and find joy this holiday!

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McMinn County Living Heritage Museum
Upcoming Events

Heritage School:
 Sustainable Holiday Crafts
 with April Greer Saturday, Dec. 7th @ 11:00 am
 Join us for a fun crafts class with April Greer! Learn how to make sustainable holiday crafts using natural materials like pinecones, twigs, recycled cloth, acorns, & leaves.

Take Your Cooking to the Next Level with Paul Semenoff
 Saturday, Dec. 14th @ 11:00 AM
 Learn how to make sauces to make your meals fantastic.
 Heritage School is \$5 or free for members

HISTORY FOR LUNCH
 JOE GUY WILL SPEAK ON THE HISTORY OF CALHOUN FROM ITS BEGINNING AS A CHEROKEE RESERVATION, ITS PLACE AS A CHEROKEE AGENCY AND LAST HOME OF GOVERNOR JOSEPH McMINN, TO ITS ROLE IN THE FOUNDING OF McMINN COUNTY & INVOLVEMENT IN THE TRAIL OF TEARS.
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH @ NOON FREE ADMISSION

Programs sponsored by C. Scott & Muriel S. Mayfield Family Foundation, Tennessee Arts Commission, Hugh M. Wilson Family Foundation, and City of Athens

**Kanunisita Garden Club presents NGC Flower Show
 Christmas Around The World**
 Thursday, December 5th from 2:00-4:00 pm

Hours:
 Tuesday - Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM
 Saturday: 10 AM - 1 PM
 Sunday - Monday: Closed

Closed 11/28-11/30 for Holiday

Admission:
 Adults: \$5.00
 Senior 60+: \$3.00
 Students: \$3.00

More Information
 522 W Madison Ave.
 Athens, TN 37303
 423-745-0329
www.livingheritagemuseum.org

Cabin at Sugar Ridge

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OCTOBER 25 - 26 2024
 NOVEMBER 2024
 1 - 2 8 - 9 15 - 16
 15 - 16 22 - 23 29 - 30

DECEMBER 6 - 7 2024

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McMinn County Historical Society Monthly Meeting

Sunday at 2:00 pm
 in Blueroom of Courthouse





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Friday, November 29, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Harold Ray Idol, 84, passed away peacefully on the morning of November 26. He was surrounded by his wife, Sheila, and their family. One of his most treasured contributions was to the local, state and International Special Olympics. After retirement, Harold and his wife would settle in Decatur where he became a cherished member of Decatur First Baptist Church and the Decatur Civitan Club. The family will receive friends, Friday, November 29 from 3:00 PM- 6:00 PM at Decatur First Baptist Church, in Decatur. A Funeral Service will follow. Interment will be 11:00am Saturday, November 30 in McMinn Memory Gardens. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home of Athens is in charge of the arrangements.

Larry Dean Davis, age 85, native of Mt Vernon,

OH and longtime resident of Madisonville, passed away on Tuesday, November 26. He was retired from Athens Stove Works and was a member of 1st United Methodist Church in Madisonville. There will be no formal services at this time. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care of Larry Dean Davis.

Jeanette Ann Neeley Fisher, 60, native of Lake Okeechobee, FL and longtime resident of Decatur, passed away on Tuesday, November 26. Visitation will be held at Ziegler Funeral Home on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, from 12:00-2:00 PM. Funeral services will be at 2:00 PM at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Hampton Cemetery in Englewood. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care of Jeanette Ann Neeley Fisher.



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The holidays are here, and beanies are back!

Donate between Dec. 2nd and Dec. 8th to get yours!



WEATHER FORECAST

Friday - Sunny. High 48.
Fri. Night - Mostly Clear. Low 24.
Sat. - Mostly Sunny. High 44. Low 27.
Sun. - Mostly Sunny. High 46. Low 20.

More Weather at: wyxi.com



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Friday, November 29, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

Church News & Events

- Solid Rock Baptist Church in Calhoun is hosting a drive through play next weekend. Click or tap their ad below for times and more details.
- McMahan Calvary Baptist Church (569 Co Road 172) Athens is having a "Hanging of the Greens" at their 11 a.m. Sunday Service on December 1st. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- *Trinity Trio* will be the special guest singers on Sunday, Dec. 1 at the 10:30 am service at Community Baptist Church in Niota.
- West End Baptist Church (803 Clark Street, Athens) will be having their annual Hanging of the Greens on December 1st at 6:00 pm.
- A Christian Men's Prayer Breakfast sponsored by New Hope Methodist Church will be held on Thursday, December 5 at 8 a.m. at Maddi Mae's Cafe in downtown Athens. This ecumenical monthly prayer breakfast is open to all men of Christian faith plus those who want to establish a relationship with Jesus. Contact Marcus Guinn for more information: 423-507-7769 or email marcusguinn@gmail.com
- Celebrate Recovery meets every Tuesday at 6:00 P.M. at Woodward Ave. Church of God (507 Woodward Ave., Athens).
- Planted In Christ Outreach Fellowship, 317 Maple Street, in Athens, invites you to attend Outreach Deliverance Classes every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
- St. Mark AME Zion Church is holding services at 11:00 am on Sundays at Keith Memorial UMC. Sunday School is at 9:45 in Ensminger Hall. Rev. Tiki Dixon is the pastor of St. Mark.
- First United Presbyterian Church is holding church services every 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 10:00 am. Minister Juanita McClure Lewis is the Interim Pastor.
- "The Isbells Celebrate Christmas" 2024 Concert Tour makes a stop at Athens Church of the Nazarene (1908 W. Madison Ave., Athens) on Friday, Dec. 6th. Doors open at 6pm and the concert will begin at 7pm.
- Allen Memorial UMC is hosting their annual "Hanging of the Greens" for the Christmas season on Sunday, Dec. 1 at 11 am.

Armfield Dance Academy presents:

THE Nutcracker



FRIDAY DEC 20TH AT 7:00PM
SATURDAY DEC 21ST 2:00PM & 7:00PM

Tickets sold at the door
adults \$15
students/seniors \$10

PERFORMING AT TWU'S TOWNSEND AUDITORIUM

Drive Thru
Play
for God so Loved

December 6-7
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Solid Rock Baptist Church

4975 Hwy 11
Calhoun, TN 37309

Pastor Scott Martin

TN WESLEYAN SUNDAY LUNCH

Start your Sunday off right with our delicious and decadent Sunday Lunch on the TN Wesleyan Campus! Join us for a wide variety of lunch classics and new favorites to satisfy your cravings. Served all you care to eat style!

Holiday Hours Update

Dec 1: Closed
Dec 8: Open
December 9 - January 11: Closed
January 12: Open



Scan and select the upcoming Sunday from the lunch meal period.



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Friday, November 29, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

"Jazzy Little Christmas" Comes to Athens

The Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA) will kick off the holiday season with the much-loved "Jazzy Little Christmas" as part of the 2024-25 House Blend Concert Series. Performances will take place in the Sue E. Trotter Black Box Theater at The Arts Center on:

- Fri., Dec. 6, and Sat., Dec. 7, at 7:00 PM
- Sun., Dec. 8, at 2:00 PM

Directed by Pam Thigpen, this festive event features a blend of sacred and popular holiday music performed by a talented lineup of vocalists, including both returning favorites and new faces. Performers include Josh Bragg, Blake Chastain, Janet Martin, Alex Sharp, and more, accompanied by Sylvia Gossett and Kay Simmons on keyboard, Cody Hensley Sharp on horn, and Matt Dannel on drums.

Tickets range from \$17.50 to \$22.50 and include catered refreshments. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit athensartscouncil.org or call 423-745-8781. The Arts Center, located at 320 North White Street in Historic Downtown Athens, is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

MRHS Discounting Adoption Fees for the Holidays

The McMinn Regional Humane Society (MRHS) is bringing holiday cheer to the community with its **Santa Paws Holiday Market** this Saturday, November 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the MRHS shelter. The festive event features pet-friendly shopping, including a doggie bakery and pet bath product boutique, along with the opportunity for pet photos with Santa for \$10 each.

"We're really excited to offer a pet-friendly small business Saturday shopping event for our community. And having the chance to get their pets' photo taken with Santa, is our way of making sure even pet parents get to share in the holiday magic," said Kelley Seekins, MRHS volunteer and board member. To further celebrate, the MRHS Adoption Center is offering **discounted adoption fees** through December 21:

- **Adult dogs (1 year+): \$40**
- **Senior dogs (5 years+): \$20**
- **Puppies (under 1 year): \$75**
- **Cats and kittens: \$20**

To streamline adoptions, the humane society encourages completing online applications at mrhumane.org. Profiles of available animals are also listed on their [Facebook page](#).

Founded in 1990, MRHS partners with the City of Athens Animal Shelter to care for McMinn County's homeless animals, helping them find their "forever" homes.

RED SHOE GALA

THE BARN AT FAITH FARMS
 12.6.2024
 7PM TO 10PM
 DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM
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Admit One

12TH ANNUAL RED SHOE GALA

\$100

DECEMBER 6TH
 7PM TO 10PM



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Friday, November 29, 2024 Morning Fax[®]... Today's News This Morning Page 5 Athens, Tennessee

What is the Likelihood of Tennessee Hosting a CFP Game?



Entering Week 13 of the college football season, Tennessee has moved up three spots to No. 8 in the College Football Playoff (CFP) rankings after pivotal upsets by Florida, Oklahoma, and Ohio State. If the current trajectory holds, the Volunteers would secure the No. 9 seed in the CFP's 12-team format. However, one more jump in the rankings could allow Tennessee to host a first-round playoff game.

To keep their hopes alive, Tennessee must defeat Vanderbilt in their regular-season finale to secure a 10-2 record. Beyond that, a few key scenarios could boost their ranking:

1. **Southern Cal upsetting No. 5 Notre Dame:** A loss would drop the Fighting Irish to 10-2 with a less impressive résumé.
2. **Texas A&M beating No. 3 Texas:** A Longhorns loss could lead to a rankings shake-up, although their placement relative to Tennessee would depend on quality wins.
3. **Outcome of the SEC Championship Game:** In years past, the CFP selection committee has been known to drop the loser of the SEC Championship from the CFP rankings. Whether it's Texas A&M, Georgia, or Texas, either falling off would benefit Tennessee in the playoffs.

If Texas A&M advances to the SEC Championship and defeats Georgia, complications arise, as both teams would likely remain ahead of Tennessee. Ideally, the Aggies would lose to Georgia in Atlanta, keeping Tennessee in contention as the second-highest-ranked SEC team.

While less likely, an upset of Penn State by heavy underdog Maryland would also help Tennessee's case. First, however, the Vols must focus on Vanderbilt. Kickoff is set for noon ET this Saturday, as Tennessee looks to solidify its playoff aspirations. The broadcast airs on ABC Television.



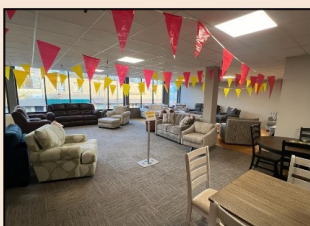
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Christmas in Etowah UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 30 *Shop Small Saturday - All Day*
Santa's Magical Movie Express - Gem Theater 4:00
Santa Selfies - L&N Depot Caboose - 5:30

Dec. 5 - *Durant Tullock Memorial Christmas Parade - 7:00*

Dec. 7 - *Matt Cordell Christmas Variety Show - Gem Theater - 7:30*

Dec. 14 - *Christ's Legacy Children's Play - Gem Theater - 7:00*

Dec. 15 - *Wesley Memorial Children's Play - Gem Theater - 6:00*

Dec. 20 - *Gem Players Movie -- Wizard of Oz - Gem Theater - 6:00*

Dec. 21 - *Merry Tuba Christmas - Gem Theater - 4:00*

