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Today's News... This Morning

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Wednesday, December 4, 2024

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Athens Native Dr. Robert Dooley Named Interim UTC Chancellor



Dr. Robert Dooley has been named interim chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Dooley has been dean of the Gary W. Rollins College of Business since 2011. Athens' native, Dr. Robert Dooley, graduated from UTC in 1983. He returned to the campus and completed his MBA in 1991, focusing on finance. He earned his doctorate at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, and then spent 15 years at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma. When the Rollins College of Business position at UTC became available in 2011 due to the retirement of Dean Richard Casavant, Dooley returned to his roots in the Scenic City, and to the campus where his career began. University of Tennessee System President Randy Boyd has now appointed Dr. Robert Dooley as interim chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC). Dooley, who will assume the role Jan. 1, is a longtime leader at UTC and a proud alumnus of the university. Dooley earned a B.A. in religion/philosophy and an M.B.A. with a concentration in finance from UTC. He holds a Ph.D. in business administration with a focus on strategic management from UT Knoxville. Dooley has served as dean of the UTC College of Business since

July 1, 2011, following his tenure as associate dean for graduate programs and research at Oklahoma State University's Spears School of Business. "Dr. Dooley's exceptional leadership and his deep understanding of UTC's culture make him an outstanding choice to guide the university during this transition," Boyd said. "His proven success in developing a nationally recognized College of Business and strong relationships within the community will help maintain momentum as we look toward the future." The UT Board of Trustees held a virtual Executive Committee meeting back in November to discuss the search process for the next permanent chancellor, with plans to launch a national search in January. UT Martin Chancellor Yancy Freeman will lead the search committee. Freeman's strong connection to and deep knowledge of UTC will provide valuable guidance in the search. The university expects to select a search firm by the end of the year, with finalist interviews planned on campus in Spring 2025. *Photo by Angela Foster. Source: UTC Communications and Marketing*

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WEATHER FORECAST

Wednesday - Sunny. High 50.

Wed. night - 40% Rain. Low 40.

Thursday - Sunny. High 40.

Thurs. night - Mostly Clear.

Low 18.

More Weather at: wyxi.com

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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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Paul Edd Howard, age 75, of Decatur, passed away on Tuesday, December 3. He retired from Thomas and Betts in 2016. A Funeral Service will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, December 6 in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. The family will receive friends from 5 – 7 p.m., prior to the service. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Howard Family.

Esther Judd Altizer, age 87, of Decatur, passed away on Friday, November 22. She was a member of Shiloh Baptist Church. A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11 in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Altizer Family.

Charlotte Ann Akins, 74, of Athens went to be with the Lord on December 1. Funeral Services will be held at Companion Funeral Home of Athens on Monday, December 9 at 1 pm. Visitation will be prior from 11am-1pm. Graveside services will follow the funeral at the McMinn Memory Gardens. Companion Funeral Home of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the family with these arrangements.

Maynard Lee Wilson, 82 of Riceville, passed away Sunday, Dec. 1 at Tennova Healthcare of Knoxville. He was retired from National Linen Co. and Georgia Mountain Water. He was a Gideon, member and Deacon at Eastanallee Baptist Church. He was a veteran of the U. S. Army. Funeral services will be 2:00 P.M. Friday in Eastanallee Baptist Church. Interment will follow in Eastanallee Cemetery with military honors. The family will receive friends from 12:00-2:00 P.M. Friday at the church.

Steven Samples, age 60, of Decatur went home to be with the Lord on November 28. He was a member of Calvary Baptist in Decatur. The family will receive friends from Thursday, December 5 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the chapel of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. The Funeral Service will follow at 7:00 PM. A graveside service will be Friday, December 6 at 10:00 AM in Sullins Cemetery. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, Athens, TN is in charge of arrangements.

Armfield Dance Academy presents:

THE Nutcracker



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

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Drive Thru Play
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December 6-7
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Solid Rock Baptist Church
4975 Hwy 11
Calhoun, TN 37309
Pastor Scott Martin

Milk and Cookies with Santa and Maggie



Mayfield Visitor Center -- Thursday, December 5th, 4 - 6 pm

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

PUBLIC INPUT REQUEST: ADA Transition Plan

As required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Athens is re-evaluating its mandatory ADA Transition Plan. As part of the process public input is being solicited about the plan. A copy of the existing Transition Plan can be found at the City's website www.athenstn.gov.

To see the current plan and give input towards the new plan

- Click on the ADA Transition Plan Input pop up at the bottom right of the screen and follow prompts
- Or contact the ADA Coordinator at hresources@athenstn.gov or 423-744-2703.

Comments will be accepted until December 21, 2024. Proposed changes to the Transition Plan will be placed on the agenda at a regular monthly meeting of the City Council prior to adoption of the plan.

Community News You Can Use

- Etowah Carnegie Library is hosting the following holiday programs: Pictures with Santa 12/7; Christmas Cookie Decorating 12/10. Visit etowahlibrary.com/programs for more info.
- UT Extension's SNAP Employment and Training Program: Skill Up Tennessee is a program that helps SNAP participants gain the skills and training they need to get a job. If you currently receive SNAP benefits and are NOT receiving TANF cash assistance, you may qualify for benefits including Gas cards for Transportation, Uniforms, Equipment, Tools, and Supplies, Testing fees and Textbooks. Visit tiny.utk.edu/SkillUpTn to see if you are eligible and to preregister.

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Wednesday, December 4, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

Attorney Indicted, Charged with Forging Chancellor's Signature

A Chickamauga, Georgia, man has been charged with forgery, following an investigation by special agents with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

At the request of 12th Judicial District Attorney General Courtney Lynch, on September 9th, TBI special agents began investigating allegations that the signature of a 12th Judicial District Chancellor had been forged. During the course of the investigation, agents developed information that identified Alan Norton, an attorney based in Hamilton County, as the individual responsible for forging the Chancellor's signature on court documents.

On December 2nd, the Rhea County Grand Jury returned an indictment charging Alan Christopher Norton with one count each of Forgery and Criminal Simulation. On December 3rd Norton turned himself in at the Rhea County Jail and was booked on a bond of \$15,000.

The charges and allegations referenced in this release are merely accusations of criminal conduct and not evidence. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt and convicted through due process of law.

Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

Athens Parade Winners



The annual Jimmy Liner Memorial Christmas Parade was held in downtown Athens on Monday night. The winning entries are listed below:

Business / Industrial

1. Athens Utilities Board
2. All Seasons
3. Dooley Tractor

Civic Clubs / Organizations / Schools

1. Cub Scout Pack #616
2. Cub Scout Pack #177

Churches

1. Mt. Harmony Baptist Church Niota
2. Triumphant Baptist Church
3. Union Grove Baptist Church

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Wednesday, December 4, 2024 Morning Fax[®]...Today's News This Morning Page 5 **Athens, Tennessee**

Updated College Football Playoff Rankings and What That Means for Tennessee Going Forward

Ranking	Team	Record
1	Oregon	12-0
2	Texas	11-1
3	Penn State	11-1
4	Notre Dame	11-1
5	Georgia	10-2
6	Ohio State	10-2
7	Tennessee	10-2
8	SMU	11-1
9	Indiana	11-1
10	Boise State	11-1
11	Alabama	9-3
12	Miami	10-2

Rivalry Week caused seismic shifts in the college football landscape, disrupting the latest College Football Playoff (CFP) rankings. Key upsets involving Ohio State, Clemson, Miami, and Tulane created opportunities and complications for playoff contenders ahead of conference championships.

Ohio State's loss to Michigan dropped the Buckeyes four spots to No. 8. Despite a 10-2 record and marquee wins over Penn State and Indiana, the Buckeyes' postseason hopes now depend on how other teams perform in conference title games. Meanwhile, Miami fell to No. 15 after a shocking loss to Syracuse. The Hurricanes are projected to miss the 12-team playoff entirely, as the Big 12 champion—either No. 16 Arizona State or No. 17 Iowa State—will claim a guaranteed spot as one of the top-ranked conference winners.

Tennessee, which concluded its regular season at 10-2 (6-2 SEC) with a dominant 48-17 victory over Vanderbilt, climbed to No. 7 in the CFP rankings. While the Vols surpassed Miami in the standings, they remain behind Ohio State, leaving them in the nine-seed slot for the playoff bracket. This position likely means an opening-round road matchup against the Buckeyes in Columbus, Ohio. If victorious, Tennessee would face No. 1 Oregon in the quarterfinals at the Rose Bowl.

The difference between being the eight- or nine-seed is significant, as the higher seed hosts the first-round game. Despite Tennessee's strong finish and consistent form, the CFP committee prioritized Ohio State's stronger overall résumé, which includes two top-10 wins, over Tennessee's standout victory against Alabama.

Conference championship outcomes could still influence the rankings. Losses by top-ranked Penn State or No. 5 Georgia in their respective title games could shake up the standings, but it remains unlikely that either would drop below Tennessee. If Ohio State jumps Penn State in the final rankings due to its head-to-head victory, Tennessee's first-round destination could shift to Penn State or Georgia. Hosting a playoff game at Neyland Stadium now seems out of reach for the Vols.

However, their postseason journey and matchup will be confirmed on Sunday, Dec. 8, when the final CFP rankings are revealed at noon ET on ESPN.