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MORNING FAX

Today's News...This Morning

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Athens, Tennessee

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

RACOON BAIT TO BE DROPPED BY AIR

The Tennessee Department of Health and the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be distributing an oral rabies vaccine for wild raccoons in Southeast Tennessee next month. Packets containing the vaccine will be dropped from specially equipped airplanes from October 7 through 15 in McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Polk, and Bradley counties. If you find one of the packets on your property, you are advised to use gloves to pick it up and toss it into a wooded or fencerow area. The vaccine is safe, but should not be eaten by pets or children. There is a warning label on each packet advising people not to touch the bait. The warning also contains the rabies information line phone number.

♦ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

 $\sqrt{\text{Spay/Neuter Day}}$ is coming up tomorrow, Sept. 30, at the fairgrounds in Decatur. Call 435-3811 for reservations.

 $\sqrt{1}$ The Medic Regional Blood Center's Bloodmobile will be in the McMinn Plaza Shopping Center this Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. \sqrt{A} "Festival for Life" to benefit the Meigs County Relay For Life will be held this Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. on the square in Decatur. There will be live entertainment and food and craft vendors. Admission is free.

 \sqrt{V} Volunteers are being sought to help with the "Niota Depot Project" Day which is this coming Saturday, Oct. 2, beginning at 8 a.m. to 12 noon. People are needed to help work on the interior, exterior, and outside areas around the depot. You can register at Niota City Hall.

NATIONAL-WORLD NEWS

President Obama says it would be "inexcusable" and "irresponsible" for unenthusiastic Democratic voters to sit out the midterm elections. He warns that the consequences could be a squandered agenda for years.

• A gunman opened fire Tuesday inside the library at the University of Texas in Austin, then fatally shot himself. No one else was reported injured.

• Former President Jimmy Carter became ill aboard a Delta flight Tuesday. When the plane landed in Cleveland, Ohio, he was rushed to the hospital. He was kept in the hospital for observation.

• A hillside collapsed on a rural community in southwest Mexico on Tuesday and hundreds of people are feared dead.

• The UT Medical Center in Knoxville has closed two of its rooms for 17 days because of bed bugs. The bed bugs were found in visitor sleeper chairs in two patient rooms. The patients were moved to other rooms, the sleeper chairs were discarded, and a professional exterminator had to be called to treat both hospital rooms.

• A shortage of sodium thiopental, one of the drugs used in lethal injections, has put some executions on hold. It may be January before new batches of the drug are manufactured.



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Athens, Tennessee

Restaurant Inspection Scores

The following Athens restaurants were inspected between August 23 and September 7, 2010. A grade of 70 or above is passing. There was one failing score.

The Dairy Barn - 91 Stonehaus Deli - 90 McDonald's - 88 Krystal - 78 Taco Bell - 77 Asahi Japanese Grill - 60

The following school cafeterias were inspected between Aug. 20 and Sept. 9:

McMinn Central High School - 93 Englewood Elementary - 93 Niota Elementary - 92 Calhoun Elementary - 92 Westside Elementary - 91 City Park Elementary - 90 Athens Junior High - 90 Ingleside Elementary - 90 North City Elementary - 90 Mountain View Elementary - 90

Today In History - Sept. 29

1789 - The U.S. War Department organized America's first standing army--a total of 700 troops who would serve for three years.

1907 - Singing cowboy Gene Autry was born. He recorded hit songs, acted in over 90 western movies, and owned the California Angels baseball team. He wrote such hit songs as "That Silver-Haired Daddy of Mine," "Back In the Saddle Again," and "Here Comes Santa Claus." He died in 1998.

1935 - Singer Jerry Lee Lewis was born. He was nicknamed "The Killer" because of the way he pounded on the piano when playing it. His hit records include "Great Balls of Fire" and "Whole Lot Of Shakin' Going On."

1944 - Composer Mike Post was born. His hit recordings include "The Rockford Files" and "The Theme from Hill Street Blues."

1948 - TV journalist and sportscaster Bryant Gumbel was born. He's best known for his 15 years as co-host of the NBC "Today" show.

OBITUARY: Oran Jenkins, age 87, of Lenoir City (formerly a resident of McMinn County) died Tuesday at Ft. Loudon Medical Center in Lenoir City. He was retired from Cherokee Hardware in Athens. Funeral services will be at 8 p.m. Thursday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from 6 to 8 p.m.

