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Today's News... This Morning

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Monday, February 1, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

Jobless Rate Up Statewide

The latest jobless numbers show unemployment went up in each of Tennessee's 95 counties during December. Williamson County had the lowest unemployment among the counties at 4.2%. Lake County was highest with 10.6%. Here in the Athens area:

McMinn County: 6.6% unemployment in December, up from 4.9% in November

Meigs County: 7.2% in December, up from 5.6% in November

Monroe County: 5.9% in December, up from 4.7% in November

Bradley County: 6.0% in December, up from 4.6% in November

Polk County: 6.5% in December, up from 4.8% in November

Rhea County: 8.1% in December, up from 5.9% in November

City Council To Vote On Phase II

The Athens City Council will hold a called meeting Tuesday at 5:15 p.m. to vote on a motion which would include both Phase One and Phase Two in the Athens City Schools Building project. If the motion passes, the entire school project would be funded and the new consolidated elementary school would be built all at once rather than in phases. Phase One will build the Pre-K through 2nd grade portion of the project where City Park School is currently located. Phase Two covers 3rd through 5th grade. The School Board asked the City Council to agree to fund both phases now due to a lower than expected bid for the total project.

Health Dept. Vaccinates 500 More

The McMinn County Health Department gave COVID-19 vaccinations to approximately 500 people at Athens Regional Park this past Friday. Many of those were getting their 2nd vaccination. It was a drive-thru event. Signs were posted along the road as people entered the park directing them where to go. They wound up under the covered arena where the rodeos are held. After getting the vaccine, they were directed to park in a waiting area for 15 minutes to be sure they did not have any immediate side effects. If you are 75 or older and want to schedule a shot, call 1-866-442-5301.

◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE SUNDAY P.M.

Tennessee: 727,861 cases, up 3,119. 9,650 deaths, up 76.

COUNTY	CASES	RECOVERED	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	5,395 up 25	5,022	294	79
Meigs	1,224 up 8	1,142	64	18
Monroe	4,864 up 14	4,540	257	67
Polk	1,563 up 5	1,430	114	19 up 1
Bradley	11,580 up 42	10,882	587	111
Rhea	3,993 up 6	3,783	147	63 up 1

 • Monday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:00
• Tuesday-Madisonville - WilSav - 10:30 - 2:00
• Wednesday-Etowah-10:30 - 2:00
• Thursday-Loudon-10:30 - 2:00
• Friday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30

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RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT

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LISTENING REMINDER:
The guest on Main Street Moments on Tuesday will be Kavitha Reddy, Manager of Athens Movie Palace. The interview will be heard at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio: AM-1390 FM-94.5 & **ONLINE**

Five Love Languages Workshop for Families

Helpful for couples, parents, grandparents... learn strategies to strengthen bonds in all relationships. Helps families grow stronger! Learn the secret as to how to love!



Date: Tuesday, February 2nd
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Virtual (visit www.athenscityschools.net for link)

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*Having more fun than a human being should be allowed to have
WYXI FM 94.5 & AM 1390

Monday, February 1, 2021 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Danny Fyke Fisher**, age 75, of Niota, died last Thursday. He had been Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer of Plastic Industries for 28 years. He was partner or co-founder of 12 Athens businesses, including Keith Meadows Subdivision and Shoney's Restaurant. The family had a private service at Fisher Family Cemetery. Smith Funeral Home was in charge.

♦ **Josephine Trotter Brady**, age 97, of the Lower Spring Creek Community, Riceville, died Saturday at NHC Healthcare. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Tuesday at Mt. Harmony Baptist Church #2 of Riceville. Smith Funeral Home is in charge.

♦ **David Allen Swafford**, age 62, of Riceville, died Friday at his residence. He served four years in the U.S. Army and was a farmer. A memorial service will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from 4 to 6 p.m.

♦ **Benny Ray Locke**, age 66, of Benton, died Monday, January 18th. He was born in Athens. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Feb. 6th at the Mountainview Baptist Church in Benton, with visitation from 1 to 2 p.m. at the church.

FORECAST CALLING FOR SNOW

At FAX time Sunday night, both Meigs County and Polk County schools announced that there will be a 2-hour delay in classes on Monday due to possible snow on the roads.

Library Celebrates Black History

~ In celebration of Black History Month, E.G. Fisher Public Library will host the 7th annual Professor W.E. Nash & Principal E. Harper Johnson Lecture Series in partnership with First United Presbyterian Church. This year's virtual series will include several interviews with prominent local figures focusing on "African American Women in Leadership" and the "Culture of the Negro Baseball Leagues." These interviews will be available through the library's social media and will be available to watch on demand through the entire month of February.

~ Alongside the interview series, the **Black History Month "Fact Find" Scavenger Hunt** will be making a return. Those wishing to participate are invited to the library to pick up a Fact Find sheet before they set off into the City of Athens to find information about our local African-American history. Those who complete the Fact Find sheet may return them to the library to receive a prize. Prizes and Fact Find sheets will be made available upon request for curbside pickup. Call 745-7782.

GOVERNOR LIFTS SPORTS RESTRICTIONS

Governor Bill Lee has suspended Executive Order 74 effective today, Feb. 1st. His action removes the restrictions on who can participate in or attend indoor school sporting events, including cheerleaders, bands, and dance teams. The governor says there has been a 60% decline in the number of COVID-19 cases in the state and a 40% decline in hospitalizations.

E&E Manufacturing is HIRING!

Please Join Us For Our Opening Hiring Event
Tuesday, February 2nd, 2021

at **SOUTHEAST TENNESSEE & CONFERENCE CENTER**,
122 Regional Park Dr. Athens, TN

Session 1: 9am-12pm

Session 2: 1pm-4pm

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