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Today's News... This Morning

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Wednesday, October 25, 2023

Athens, Tennessee

Skeletal Human Remains Found

An investigation is underway after human remains were found last week off Highway 30 west of Athens, according to the McMinn County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Joe Guy stated in a press release that sheriff's deputies responded to the report Thursday, Oct. 19th just after 10 a.m. after hunters found what appeared to be skeletal human remains in a wooded area off Highway 30 west of Athens, near County Road 119, in the area of the Double C and Friendly City Auto Care. "Our deputies spoke with the group of hunters, who directed them to the site several yards off the highway," Sheriff Guy said. "The area was immediately secured as a possible crime scene." Deputies and detectives processed the scene, and located and collected the partial human remains. A full investigation is underway with the assistance of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and members of the District Attorney General's Office. Sheriff Guy also said the remains were sent to the Knox County Regional Forensics Center.

Community News/This n That

✓The NEST meets today at the event space at White Street Market located at 3 West College Street, Athens from 8:30 am. to 9:30 a.m

✓Athens Community Theatre (ACT) has announced that auditions for the beloved Rogers & Hammerstein musical *The Sound of Music*. Auditions are Sunday and Monday, November 12th and 13th at The Arts Center. Sunday's audition is at 4pm, and Monday's audition is at 6:30pm. Show dates for *The Sound of Music* are February 15-25, 2024.

Saturday, Oct. 28 has been designated as National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. The goal is to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medication. Drop off times are between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. For a list of drop off places within a 25 mile radius visit [HERE](#)

TODAY IS:

- **National Greasy Foods Day**
- **International Artist's Day**
- **National Merri Music Day**

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Wednesday, October 25, 2023

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

◆Lawrence Bennett "Ben" Varnell, age 85, passed away on Tuesday, October 24th surrounded by his family at his farm in Decatur. He was a lifelong resident of Decatur, where he touched many lives through his selfless love and generosity to others. His dedication to his faith and family will leave an unforgettable legacy. He served his country in the United States Navy from 1956-1960 as a Radar Operator. He served on two Naval Aircraft Carriers, the USS Boxer and the USS Kearsarge. After returning home from service, he joined his father's home building business and took over the business after his father's passing. He then continued building homes in Decatur and surrounding areas for more than 25 years. He retired from the United States Postal Service in Decatur after 30 years of service. He was a lifelong member of Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Decatur, where he was chairman of the deacons. A funeral service will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 26th at Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Interment will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, October 27th in Decatur Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5 - 7p.m., prior to the service on Thursday. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is in charge of arrangements.

Power Rates Fall in November

Local electric power rates will decrease in November based on a slightly lower TVA fuel charge. The residential power rate for Athens Utilities Board (AUB) customers in November will be \$0.09749 per kwhr compared to October's rate of \$0.09858. With both October and November being "transition" rate months in TVA's rate scheme, the November base rate of \$0.07505 will be unchanged from the current month. "These two 'transition' months carry the lowest base rates of the year," said AUB spokesperson Amy McDonald. The fuel charge for November will lower slightly to \$0.02244 cents per kwhr versus \$0.02353 cents currently. "These fall season transition months are a time that can help households keep their overall annual utility budget in check. Customers have the potential to save money when we have the lowest rates of the year coupled with weather that requires little cooling or heating compared to the past few months," she said. "It's the time of year to take advantage of moderate temperatures," she said. "The AC doesn't run much and the heat doesn't yet kick on constantly." Winter bills will be here soon enough, McDonald warned. "So, these fall months can be a good time to consider your utility budget, maybe set aside savings now to plan for the winter of 2023." AUB is one of 154 local power distributors that directly serve the 10 million people of the Tennessee Valley seven-state region. AUB also serves Athens and parts of McMinn County with water, wastewater, and natural gas services.

◆ The guest this week on "Hope From the Well" will be Connie McIntosh discussing "Casting Your Cares". Hope From the Well is heard each Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.



Fall
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5 - 7 p.m.

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