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Today's News... This Morning

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(SEE PAGE 3 IN TODAY'S EDITION)

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Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Athens, Tennessee

Community News You Can Use

✓The McMinn County Commission meeting for December is scheduled for January 8, 2024 at 6:00. (The regularly scheduled meetings for December 2023 and January 2024 are being combined into this meeting.) More information for this meeting will be announced later.

✓The McMinn Senior Activity Center has announced a partnership with the Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services (TALS). Older adults (aged 50 and older) are invited to the Activity Center on Monday, December 18 at 10am to hear a representative from the Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services talk about the need for having a will. Participants will then be able to register to receive the necessary paperwork and information for writing a will. The TALS will return in January to assist in completing those wills at no charge. "Being prepared for what happens at the end of life can seem challenging, but it's important to leave a last will and testament to ensure your loved ones are taken care of. Almost half of Americans over 55 don't have a will, even though they believe they should have their affairs in order by 50. It can feel uncomfortable at first, but writing a will can be easier and simpler than you think," according to Diane Hutsell, Executive Director of the McMinn Senior Activity Center. The Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services is a statewide non-profit organization and serves as a statewide coordination point for civil justice issues, policy makers, advocates and the public about civil legal issues, and connect vulnerable Tennesseans with civil legal help. For more information on the services they provide, visit www.tals.org. For more information on the Activity Center, visit www.mcminnseniors.com, contact the Senior Center at 423-745-6830 or stop by from 8a-4p at 205 McMinn Avenue here in Athens.

Community News You Can Use

✓The City of Athens Public Works Department announces the following holiday closure:

The Athens Municipal Building, Public Works, Recycle Center, and Animal Shelter will be closed on Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26 in observance of Christmas. These facilities will re-open Wednesday, December 27 during regular business hours.

Residential garbage routes will be as follows:

Monday, December 25 route will be picked up on Wednesday, December 27.
Tuesday, December 26 route will be picked up on Wednesday, December 27.
Wednesday, December 27 route will be picked up on Thursday, December 28.
Thursday, December 28 routes will be picked up on Friday, December 29.
Friday, December 29 routes will be picked up on Friday, December 29.

Please have garbage totes to the road the night before. Additional garbage for the regular Monday and Tuesday routes only will be picked up by separate trucks. Do not set extra garbage on top of totes. Place extra garbage curbside 3 feet from side of totes to allow truck arm to grasp and empty totes. Commercial/Industrial garbage routes will be picked up on a limited basis. All emergency services will continue to operate on a 24-hour basis. Contact McMinn E 911 communications in the event of an emergency. For more information, please contact the Office of the Public Works Department at 423-744-2745. See our website at: www.cityofathensstn.com/publicworks/

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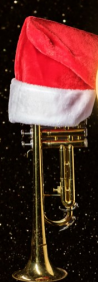


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Tonight, December 12
7:00 p.m.
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Tuesday, December 12, 2023 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Randy George Rogers**, 71, of Riceville, passed away on Saturday, December 9th, in Athens with family at his side. The legend of Randy "Joe" the charismatic "cowboy lawyer" as his momma, family and friends lovingly refer to him will live on. His colleagues say "he had a kind soul and quick wit about him" and that he was "one of the best." He also held the title of beloved father, grandfather, and friend. He was larger-than-life and one of a kind. Randy grew up in Athens where he attended McMinn County High School. He developed lifelong friendships playing baseball and basketball before he went on to graduate from The University of Tennessee. He then pursued a law degree at UT Memphis Law School before returning home to open his Athens law practice in 1977. McMinn County Bar Association friends say he had a mind like a NASA computer and could eloquently simplify and cross examine as well as his lawyer hero, Gerry Spence. He made significant changes to the law because of his litigation. He was a favorite among most judges and feared by others. He made enemies into friends. He was known as a bulldog lawyer and always dedicated himself to his client's cause. "Shoot Low Boys They're Ridin' Shetland Ponies". He was the master of one liners. He was proudest and most thankful for the opportunity to practice law with his son, Matthew Rogers, who has dallied trial litigation so the legacy will carry on. He developed a love of horses and all things cowboy when his children were young and spent the last 40 years of his life chasing their dreams all over the country. He shared his love of hunting and fishing with his father, friends, son, and grandsons traveling throughout his life to the best fishing holes and hunting grounds he could find from Hillsboro, TN to the Canadian Border. His family will host services at Laycock Hobbs Funeral home in Athens. Visitation will be Thursday, December 14th from 4-7pm with the funeral to follow.

Continued at right⇒

Obituaries Continued

The graveside service will be at Short Creek Baptist Church at 10 AM on Friday, December 15th. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

♦ **Brenda Mae Neill**, age 63, a resident of Athens, passed away on Sunday morning, December 10 in a Knoxville hospital. She was born in Athens. She was a member of the Sweetwater Church of Christ. Brenda enjoyed gardening, her work in photography but above all she enjoyed spending time with her family. Visitation will be on Thursday, December 14, from 4:00 PM until 6:00 at Companion Funeral Home located at 400 S White Street in Athens. A service celebrating her life is planned for 6:00 PM on Thursday evening following the visitation time. The interment and committal service will take place on Friday, December 15, at 11:00 AM in the McMinn Memory Gardens. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge of arrangements.

♦ **Sandra Gayle Wilson**, of Athens, passed away on Friday, December 8. She was a CNA at NHC of Athens and served in the U.S. Air Force. A memorial service will be held at Servant's Heart Fellowship at 414 Lynman Street in Athens on Saturday, December 16 at 2:00 PM. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Obituaries continued on page 3

Niota Christmas Parade

Saturday, Dec. 16th at 6pm
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Tuesday, December 12, 2023 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries Continued

♦ **Bradley L. Couch**, age 43, a resident of Athens, passed away on Thursday, December 7 at his home. He was born in Cleveland. He was of the Baptist faith and a member of Redemption Baptist Church. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, December 16 at 12:00 PM at Redemption Baptist Church located at 764 County Road 135 in Riceville, TN. Visitation will be at the church one hour prior to the memorial service on Saturday. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge of arrangements.

♦ **Robert (Bob) L. Wilson**, age 79 of Athens passed away on Friday, December 8. He attended Zion Hill and Claxton Elementary Schools as a child and graduated from McMinn County High School in 1963. From an early age, he had a love for automotive repairs. He was a longtime business owner in Athens; downtown Shell was a full-service gas station in Downtown Athens for many years. Later, he branched out into Bob's Wrecker Service and Bob's Used Cars, serving the Athens community for many years. He had many certifications for repairing car air conditioners and many in the region knew him for this specialty. He worked in automotive service until his retirement in 2006. Bob was a member of Eastanallee Baptist Church. He truly enjoyed raising cattle and growing a variety of garden foods along with his good friends in the area. He especially enjoyed spending time with his family and will be missed by all who knew and loved him. A graveside funeral will be held 10:00 AM, Saturday, December 16, at Eastanallee Baptist Church. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

MONDAY'S MARKET REPORT: Equities closed modestly higher. The consumer staples, industrials, health care and financial service sectors were outperformers. Asian markets were mostly higher. European equities were mixed. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 157.06 to 36,404.93. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 18.07 to 4,622.44, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 28.51 to 14,432.49.

TODAY IS:

- National Ambrosia Day
- National Poinsettia Day
- Gingerbread House Day
- International Day of Neutrality
- International Universal Health Coverage Day
- National Ding-A-Ling Day

Arrest Reports

From the McMinn County Justice Center
Michael Brock, 58 of Greeneville, charged by MCSO with possession schedule II meth for resale. No bond.
Debra Priest, 60 of Etowah, charged by Etowah PD with vandalism and domestic assault. \$2000 bond.
Justin Devries, 35 of Decatur, charged by APD with possession schedule II meth, drug paraphernalia, driving on suspended license. \$14,000 bond.
Cinnamon Fetner, 38 of Athens, charged by APD with DUI, driving on revoked license. \$3000 bond.
Shantelle Redmond, 41 of Rome, GA, charged by MCSO with being a fugitive from justice. \$225,000 bond.
Antonio Williams, 32 of Athens, charged by APD with domestic assault. \$1000 bond.
Frederick Harris, 32 of Etowah, charged by MCSO with domestic assault, interference with 911 calls. \$1500 bond.
Logan Johnson, 20 of Athens, charged by APD with sexual exploitation of a minor. No bond.
Destiny Benton, 23 of Athens, charged by APD with failure to appear - drug paraphernalia, violation of probation - leaving the scene of an accident, theft of property less than \$1000. Cash bond of \$5937.95.
Jeremiah Gray, 41 of Blue Ridge, GA, charged by MCSO with resisting stop, casual exchange - possession of meth, driving on revoked license, drug paraphernalia. \$17,000 bond.
The accused are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered from public sources.



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