

IT'S TAX TIME AGAIN FOLKS!
Time for spring cleaning & fresh new flooring! Times are tight now & we understand that, so as everything else is going up, our flooring prices are coming down. We have carpet specials starting at .69 cents a sq ft. Sheet vinyl .89 cents a sq ft & waterproof plank flooring starting at \$1.49 a sq ft! Also, high end flooring from Shaw & Coretec for drastically reduced prices while supplies last! Ask us about our match & beat any price policy! Also ask about our boat carpets & gorgeous grass yard turfs. We have the largest selection of in stock ready to go floorings at Dalton prices right here in beautiful Athens, TN! Everything we sell can be installed by the best of the best professional installers & most installs within 1 to 2 weeks of purchase! We are & easy to find & absolutely worth the drive! (Across from McMinn County High School)

OSMENT FLOORING
UNBEATABLE PRICES
2410 Congress Parkway
Athens, TN 37303
423.252.0316
www.osmentflooring.com



Morning Fax[®]

Today's News... This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute with attribution)
Phone: 423-745-1390 E-mail: wyradio@gmail.com

FOR A FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO
The Morning Fax[®]
CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW
SUBSCRIBE

Friday, March 01, 2024 Athens, Tennessee

AUB Announces Rate Increase

The Athens Utilities Board (AUB) at its February 27 board meeting executed the first reading of a resolution allowing electric power rates to be increased by 2.9 percent to meet AUB operational and fiscal needs. "We understand that no one welcomes a rate increase. AUB would prefer not to have rate increases, and our customers would rather not pay more for our services. We absolutely understand that," said AUB's spokesperson Amy McDonald. "But occasionally AUB increases are necessary to maintain a reliable power distribution system for the community and a healthy business." "TVA only allows us to distribute local rate increases across residential and small commercial classes," McDonald said. "For the average residential AUB power customer using 1,094 kilowatt hours of electricity per month the result will be an increase of \$3.64, or roughly 12 cents per day, on the power portion of their AUB bill." For residential and small commercial customers, the availability charge will be most affected by the proposed rate increase. The breakdown for the increase in the average bill will consist of the residential customer charge increasing by \$2.00, and the remaining \$1.64 will be collected in the energy charge. "The cost per kilowatt hour will change very little," McDonald said. AUB's last power rate increase came in 2022. "Our business, just like your household, has been impacted dramatically by inflationary pressures over the past five years. During that time, the cost of doing business, for things such as labor, insurance, and especially materials, has risen every year," according to McDonald. "We have raised rates only

Continued on Page 2

Church News and Events

- The Dumplin' Valley singers will be in concert at Rocky Mount Baptist Church on Sunday, March 3 at 10:45 a.m.
- Zion Hill Baptist Church will be hosting a free prayer breakfast on April 20. They will begin serving breakfast at 8:00 am. Speaker will be Steve Morgan of Cleveland First Baptist Church. An offering will be taken to benefit Miracle Lake Ministries. Please register at zhbc.com/breakfast by April 1.
- Jeff Tolbert and Primitive Road will be singing at Solid Rock Baptist Church, March 16 at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited.
- Planted In Christ Outreach Fellowship, 317 Maple Street, in Athens, invites you to attend Outreach Deliverance Classes every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
- Celebrate Recovery meets at the following churches: The Englewood Church of God every Sunday at 6 p.m. and Woodward Avenue Church of God every Tuesday at 6 p.m.
- Mars Hill Presbyterian Church (205 North Jackson Street) is sponsoring a free children's playgroup on Mondays, 9-11 a.m. for ages 0-5. For additional information, contact the Church Office (423-745-1403) or Mary Ann Reed (910-200-2905)

- TODAY IS:**
- National Sunkist Citrus Day
 - National Dress In Blue Day
 - National Horse Protection Day
 - National Fruit Compote Day

Denise Ferguson
Affiliate Broker

CRYE-LEIKE, REALTORS[®]

Looking to buy or sell a home and need a real go-getter agent? Give me a shout, and let's kickstart this exciting journey together!

Cell: 423-591-0655
Office: 423-746-0227
denisefsellshomes@gmail.com
denisef.crye-leike.com



TRADE!
BUY! SELL!
THE TRADING POST
WYXI FM 94.5 &
AM 1390
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Monday - Friday

WEATHER FORECAST
Friday Occasional rain. High 51.
Friday Night - Cloudy. Possible rain. Low 44.
Saturday - Mostly cloudy & milder. High 59..
Saturday Night - Partly cloudy. Low 41.
Weather at: wyxi.com

New! TAP & PAY DEBIT CARDS AVAILABLE NOW!

Call or stop by your local branch to order yours today.
www.PBET.bank



Peoples Bank Member FDIC LEADER OF EAST TENNESSEE



Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens

"59 Years of Dedicated Service"
Jerry E. Smith, LFD, 1010 S. White Street • Athens

A Complete Funeral Home, Chapel & Visitation Rooms

A caring staff of professional, licensed directors • Only the best quality funeral supplies •
Made in the U.S.A. • Any type of service you desire • We serve all faiths. •
We offer pre-planning service • Competitive pricing • Locally owned & operated.

Friday, March 01, 2024

Morning Fax® Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

Fleischmann Issues Statement

FEBRUARY 29, 2024: U.S. Representative Chuck Fleischmann (TN-03), released the following statement about President Joe Biden's photo-op at the southern border in Brownsville, Texas. From 2019-2023, Congressman Fleischmann served as the top Republican on the House Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee and regularly fought against President Biden's open border policies. "Today, President Biden is visiting our southern border for only the second time since he took office over three years ago for a performative photo-op since he knows Americans nationwide are fed up with his disastrous Far Left open border policies. Make no mistake, Biden and his Administration have directly and purposely caused the spiraling illegal immigration and border crisis that is overwhelming our nation. "When I was the top Republican on the Homeland Security Subcommittee of Appropriations, Biden and his cronies tried to stop me every step of the way to force Biden to use already approved funds to continue building the Border Wall, increase funding and resources for CBP and ICE, and stop incentivizes for illegal aliens to come to America and break our laws," said Congressman Fleischmann. "All of us are seeing the dire consequences of Biden's and Democrats' open border policies. Over 8.7 million illegal immigrants have crossed our border, deadly drugs are poisoning people, hundreds of suspected terrorists have attempted to break into our nation, and every single day, innocent Americans are being harmed by violent criminal illegal aliens. "It does not have to be this way. Less than four years ago, under President Donald Trump, our borders were secure, and illegal immigration was at its lowest rate in recent memory. We can easily re-secure our borders and end illegal migration if Biden, his Administration, and Democrats in Congress work with Republicans in the

Continued at bottom right

AUB Power Rates Continued

Continued from page 1

three times since 2008, those increases occurred as inflationary pressures began to hit our business hardest. The increases were for 1% in 2018, 2019, and 2022 respectively." AUB General Manager Eric Newberry said. "This 2.9% will represent our fourth increase in 16 years and when passed will represent an overall increase of 6.0 percent since 2008, while the consumer price index has increased by 45.7 percent. We hate to go up on rates to our customers, and that is reflected in our overall record on AUB rate actions as compared to inflation," according to Newberry. It is important to point out that this rate increase is on the AUB portion of your bill. "We have no control over the TVA portion that consists of your seasonal base rates and total fuel cost adjustments," Newberry said. "TVA has told us to expect higher fuel costs adjustments on our wholesale bills due to the cold temps and off-system purchased power in January to meet the record demand," according to Newberry. About 83 cents out of every dollar that AUB's power division collects go directly to TVA for wholesale power that is then distributed by AUB to the local utility's 14,000 power customers.

Fleischmann Statement Continued: House and Senate to uphold our existing immigration laws and implement HR 2, the *Secure the Border Act*, which is the strongest and most comprehensive border security and anti-illegal immigration bill in America's history. "The American People want action – not meaningless talk and photo-ops. It's time for President Biden and my Democrat colleagues in Congress to end their harmful open border policies and quit stonewalling the passage of HR. 2 in the Senate. We must secure our borders."



I will work hard to support President Trump's effort to stop illegal immigration and drugs flowing across the border. I will seek the maximum penalty possible for illegal drugs pouring into the 10th Judicial District!"

#SaveAmerica!

STEPHEN HATCHETT
for
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Please VOTE!!

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF STEPHEN HATCHETT



APOLLO KENNELS
Boarding-Daycare

Etowah	Madisonville
423-781-7538	423-545-9478
354 County Road 623	1155 Ballplay Rd
Etowah, TN 37331	Madisonville, TN 37354

Apollokennels@gmail.com
apollokennels.com



Arrest Reports

From The McMinn County Justice Center Arrest Reports 2/25 - 2/27

2/25/24

- Kenneth Allen, aged 49 of Riceville, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for resisting arrest and held without bond.
- Shaylon Doughty, aged 43 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office on charges of Theft over \$6,000, Failure to Appear, Shoplifting, Misdemeanor Violation of Probation, and a warrant from Monroe County. Bond was set at \$17,000 with an additional cash bond of \$3,426.90.
- Christopher Roderick, aged 50 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office on two charges of Failure to Appear and an additional charge of Shoplifting. Bond was set at \$5,000.

2/26/24

- Kevin Eric Hamilton, aged 28 of Union City, Georgia, was arrested by the Tennessee Highway Patrol on charges of Possession of Schedule 2 Methamphetamine, Criminal Impersonation, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, Driving on a Suspended License, and Simple Possession/Casual Exchange of Schedule 1 Heroin. Bond was set at \$70,500.
- Karina Saucedo, aged 32 of Etowah was arrested by Etowah PD for Driving on Revoked License with bond set at \$1,000.
- Christopher Taylor, aged 50 of Etowah, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office on charges of Possession of Schedule 2 Fentanyl for Resale. Bond was set at \$15,000.
- Douglas Owens, aged 54 of Ten Mile, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Failure to Appear with bond set at \$2,000.
- Tracy Lovingood, aged 54 of Etowah, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, Simple Possession of Schedule 2 Ritalin, and Driving on a Suspended License. Bond was set at \$8,000.

2/27/24

- David Malone, aged 56 of Etowah, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office, for Violation of Probation. Cash Bond set at \$1,126.95.
- Cable Thatch, aged 33 of Etowah, was arrested by Etowah PD on charges of Simple Possession/Casual Exchange of Schedule 2 Methamphetamine, and Drug Paraphernalia. Bond was set at \$7,000 for both charges.
- Melvin McDermott, aged 37 of Athens was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office on charges of Possession of Schedule 2 Fentanyl for Resale, Violation of Probation, Possession of a Schedule 6 substance, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, Bond was set at \$17,000 with an additional cash bond of \$2,064.45.
- Civanna Cooley, aged 29 of Riceville, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office on charges of Felony Contraband in a Penal Institution and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Bond set at \$6,000.
- Jessika Green, aged 37 of Riceville, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia with bond set at \$1,000.
- Natasha Benson, aged 34 of Oak Ridge, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office on charges of Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia and Possession of Schedule 2 Fentanyl for Resale. Bond for both charges set at \$32,000.
- Katelyn Perdue, aged 32 of Athens, was arrested by Athens PD for possession of Schedule 2 Fentanyl and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. No bond was set.
- Elizabeth Powell, aged 40 of Riceville, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office on charges of Simple Possession of Schedule 2 Fentanyl, Simple Possession of Schedule 2 Methamphetamine, Simple Possession of Schedule 6 Marijuana, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, and Maintaining a Dwelling for Drug Use. Bond set at \$18,000.
- Tasha Thompson, aged 36 of Riceville, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office, on 5 separate charges of Unpaid Child Support, Failure to Appear, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, and Maintaining a dwelling for Drug Use. Bond set at \$7,000 with an additional cash bond of \$11,224.83.
- Dustin White, aged 28 of Riceville, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Simple Possession of Schedule 2 Fentanyl, Simple Possession of Schedule 2 Methamphetamine, Simple Possession of Schedule 6 Marijuana, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, and Maintaining a Dwelling for Drug Use. Bond was set at \$18,000.
- Damien Lenard, aged 25 of Sweetwater, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Failure to Appear with bond set at \$4,000.
- Lillie Ihrke, aged 24 of Athens, was arrested by Athens PD on charges of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Promotion of Methamphetamine with No Bond Set.

The accused are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered from public sources.