

MORNING FAX[®]

Today's News...This Morning

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Wednesday-July 14, 2010

Local & Area News

♦ EARLY VOTING STARTS FRIDAY

Tennessee Election Coordinator Mark Goins predicts as many as half of the voters in the August 5th election will cast their ballots during the early voting period which begins this Friday. Goins says a hot Republican gubernatorial race among three candidates and three open congressional seats are driving interest in the elections.

♦ TEA PARTY ENDORSES MIKE BELL

The McMinn County TEA Party has endorced Mike Bell for State Senate. The TEA Party took a straw poll at its meeting Monday night. Spokeswoman Annette Burger says the Tea Party feels Bell has served his district well in the House of Representives and looks forward to him serving in the Senate. Bell's opponent is Lou Patten.

♦ FRIENDS SAY GOODBYE TO GOOD SAMARITAN

Funeral services for Jennifer Butler Finnell were held Monday at Bowers Funeral Home in Decatur. The 25-year-old woman was killed last Friday morning when she came across an overturned car on Highway 30 just west of Athens and stopped to help. She was studying to be a nurse and had married Justin Finnell (see photo) about a month ago.



NATIONAL-WORLD NEWS

• George Steinbrenner, who rebuilt the New York Yankees into a sports empire, died Tuesday from a heart attack. He was 80. Steinbrenner had owned the Yankees since 1973 and led them through seven World Series championships.

• BP is preparing to test the new tight-fitting cap that has been placed on top of the leaking oil well in the Gulf of Mexico. The tests are designed to see if the cap will hold and stop the leak that has polluted the Gulf for nearly three months.

 Moderate Democratic Senator Ben Nelson of Nebraska says he will vote for the overhaul of banking regulations. His support gives the legislation the 60 votes it needs to prevent a filibuster.

♦ Nearly 60% of American voters say they lack faith in President Obama, according to a Washington Post/ABC News poll. The results are a reversal of what voters said at the beginning of Obama's presidency 18 months ago when about 60% expressed confidence in his decision making.

• Stocks rose sharply Tuesday after earnings reports from Alcoa and CSX reassured investors about the pace of the economic recovery. The Dow Jones Industrials Average closed up at 10,363.02; up 146.75 points. It's the 7th gain in a row for the Dow.





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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Sam Varnell, Jr., died last Friday at Asbury Place in Maryville. He was a former pastor of Keith Memorial United Methodist Church in Athens. The family will receive friends from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Thursday at Keith Methodist Church, with a memorial service to follow at the church. Smith Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Elizabeth C. Roy, age 86, of Athens died Tuesday at Athens Regional Medical Center. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home.

Betty White, age 68, of Etowah died Tuesday at her home. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Ziegler Funeral Home.

Community News You Can Use

✓ The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce announces the second of the summer's "Business Before Hours" will be Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Athens-McMinn Family YMCA, 205 Knoxville Ave. ✓ The Athens Community Theater will hold auditions for the fall production of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" this Sunday at 2 p.m. and Monday, July 19, at 6:30 p.m. at The Arts Center. Lots of men are needed, along with several women of all ethnicities. Call 745-8781 for more information.

New Pumpers Arrive

The Riceville and Niota Fire Departments will be putting their new 2010 Emergency One pumpers into service shortly. The photo by Jay Thomson shows volunteer firefighters receiving instructions on operation procedures from Scott McLeay of Heritage Fire.



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TODAY IN HISTORY - JULY 14

1789 - French peasants stormed the Bastille prison in Paris, beginning the French Revolution. The event is a national holiday in France known as "Bastille Day."

1912 - American folk singer and song writer Woody Guthrie was born. He wrote more than 1,000 songs including "This Land I s Your Land" and "So Long, I t's Been Good To Know You."

1913 - President Gerald Ford was born. He served as president from 1974 to 1976, following the resignation of President Richard Nixon.

1914 - The "father" of modern rocketry and space flights, Dr. Robert Goddard, received a patent for a liquid-fueled rocket design.

1966 - Eight student nurses were found murdered in Chicago. Richard Speck, a drifter, was convicted of the murders.

1976 - Jimmy Carter won the Democratic presidential nomination and defeated Gerald Ford on Nov. 2.

