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MORNING FAX[®]

Today's News...This Morning

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**Starr Regional
MEDICAL CENTER**
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Center for our Communities
Athens • Etowah

Monday, May 23, 2016

Athens, Tennessee

Local and Area News

◆ SEVERAL NEW BILLS BECOME LAW

Governor Bill Haslam has signed the bill that will phase out the state's Hall Income Tax on earnings from stocks and bonds. The law reduces the tax by one percent the first year and there will be future reductions each year until the tax is eliminated by 2022.

A bill to eliminate state funding for the Diversity Office at the University of Tennessee has become law without the governor's signature. Lawmakers voted to cut funding because of actions by the Diversity Office, including urging the use of gender-neutral pronouns, dropping any mention of Jesus Christ or even Santa from Christmas parties, and sponsoring the annual sex week at UT. As a result of the funding cut, UT has disbanded its Office of Diversity.

The governor has decided not to veto a resolution demanding that Tennessee's attorney general file a lawsuit over the federal refugee resettlement program in the state. Haslam says he will let the resolution pass without his signature.

The governor signed the bill allowing mental health counselors to refuse to treat patients based on the therapist's religious or personal beliefs. As a result, the mayor of Washington, D.C., is banning all official travel by city employees to Tennessee.

◆ ANNUAL DYW PROGRAM COMING UP

The 55th Annual McMinn County Distinguished Young Women program will take place next Saturday, May 28th, at McMinn High School. Fifteen young women from McMinn High School and Central High School, plus one from Walker Valley High, will participate. The event is sponsored by the Optimist Club of Athens.

NATIONAL & LOCAL NEWS

◆ A new ABC News/Washington Post poll shows Donald Trump has erased Hillary Clinton's lead in the presidential race. The poll gives Trump 46% of the vote to 44% for Clinton.

◆ The Washington Post reports that Senator Bob Corker of Tennessee is a top contender to be Trump's running mate. The newspaper says Trump and Corker will meet Monday at Trump Tower in New York.

◆ Afghan officials have confirmed that the leader of the Taliban, Mullah Mohammed Akhtar Mansour, has been killed by a U.S. drone strike on his car.

◆ An Egyptian submarine is being brought in to assist in the search for the cockpit voice and flight data recorders on the EgyptAir jet that crashed into the Mediterranean last Thursday. Signals from the plane indicate smoke and a possible fire aboard the plane.

HOMESCHOOLER RECEIVES AWARD

E.B. "Isaac" Bohannon IV has been recognized by the Tennessee Home Education Association as the 2016 Outstanding Homeschool Student for McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, and Polk counties. Isaac is the son of Eddie and Kim Bohannon of Athens. He is a 4.0 GPA Honor Student, an Eagle Scout, and a member of the National Society of High School Scholars.



GOLF TOURNAMENT

benefiting St. Jude Hospital
June 4 & 5
Lakehaven Golf Course
2-man select shot
9-hole tournament
Teams will qualify
May 23 through May 29
Reverse Drawing will be held
Proceeds benefit St. Jude
For details, call 334-3654

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Monday, May 23, 2016

Athens, Tennessee

Restaurant Inspection Scores

The following Athens restaurants were inspected between April 14th and May 18th. There were no failures.

- Bojangles - 99**
- Small's Drive In - 99**
- Hardee's, S. White Street - 99**
- Cracker Barrel - 99**
- Kelly D's - 99**
- Hardee's, Congress Parkway - 98**
- McDonald's - 98**
- Arby's - 98**
- Dominos - 98**
- Subway, 1440 Decatur Pike - 98**
- Zaxby's - 98**
- Wendy's - 98**
- Applebee's - 97**
- Sonic - 97**
- Brownie's - 97**
- Shoney's - 96**
- Waffle House - 96**
- Lotus Thai Cuisine - 96**
- Firehouse Subs - 96**
- Burger King - 95**
- Subway, John J. Duncan Parkway - 94**

Obituaries

- **Rose Ann Lee Witt**, age 80, of Athens, died last Thursday at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Ziegler Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday.
- **Darryl Raymond Bazewicz**, age 59, of Decatur, died last Thursday at his residence. He served in the U.S. Army as an Airborne Ranger in the 101st Airborne Division. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. Serenity Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.
- **Mildred Elizabeth Sample Ware**, age 95, of Decatur, died Saturday at her daughter's residence. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at First Baptist Church of Decatur, with visitation from 12 noon until 2 p.m. at the church. Bowers Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

TENNESSEE TO GET EARLY FOOTBALL START

UT fans won't have to wait quite as long to cheer on the Vols this fall. The University of Tennessee says the Vols' season opener against Appalachian State has been moved up two days, and will be played on Thursday, September 1st, at 7:30 p.m. at Neyland Stadium. The game was moved to Thursday at the request of ESPN. It will be televised on the SEC Network. The last time UT played a game on Thursday was Thanksgiving Day in 1936.

BIG AD

SMALL PRICE

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WILDLIFE AT THE WETLANDS

The Wetlands next to E.G. Fisher Public Library is turning out to be a photographer's delight. Jennifer Hardison sent us this photo of a family of Canada Geese that stopped by the park recently.

