



**McMinn County
Republican Party**

Biennial Reorganization Meeting
Tuesday, March 26th
at 5:30 p.m. in the blue room
at the court house.

Paid for by McMinn Co Republican Party

Morning Fax[®]

Today's News... This Morning

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Thursday, March 21, 2019

Athens, Tennessee

Local & Area News

◆ PAY RAISE FOR CITY MANAGER

The Athens City Council has voted to give City Manager C. Seth Sumner a 3.5% pay raise. The vote was 4 to 1, with Councilman Dick Pelley casting the lone no vote.

◆ POLICE & FIRE ACTIVITY REPORTS

The Athens police and fire chiefs gave their reports on activity during February to the City Council at Tuesday night's meeting.

- Police Chief Cliff Couch reported there were 61 thefts in February, 16 assaults, 13 burglaries, and four motor vehicle thefts. Police issued 226 citations for moving violations. There were 89 traffic accidents in February, with nine injuries. There is one vacancy on the police department.
- Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth reported that firefighters responded to 61 calls in February. There were nine calls to motor vehicle accidents. There were 10 calls for medical assistance. There was one building fire. Other calls included an overheated motor, smoke scares, a bomb scare, unauthorized burning, false alarms, and brush or vegetation fires. Losses from fires in February totaled \$7,000.00.

Niota Man Charged in Shooting

A Niota man has been charged with aggravated assault after a shooting this past Sunday. Sheriff Joe Guy says a man from the Philadelphia community, Samuel Murray, was visiting the Scott Anderson residence on County Road 315 near Niota this past Sunday. While he was there, Scott and Tina Anderson got into an argument that involved a fire-arm. Sheriff Guy says Murray took the gun to a nearby residence to "let things cool down." Later, Scott Anderson went to that residence and demanded that Murray return his gun. At that point, Anderson allegedly shot Murray in the leg. Anderson was arrested Tuesday while deputies were investigating a motorcycle crash on County Road 316. A business owner found Anderson hiding on his property and alerted deputies.

Anderson was booked into the McMinn County Jail on charges of aggravated assault, criminal impersonation, and introduction of Schedule Two drugs into a correctional facility.




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RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT




March Specials >>> 2 Country Ham Biscuits \$3
• 2-Fish Sandwiches \$5 • Fish Sandwich Combo \$5.29
• 8 Pc Chicken Box w/ 4 Biscuits \$10.99
• 5 Meals for \$5 Ea • 32 oz Tea \$1.00

IT'S BO TIME BOJANGLES S. Congress Parkway 744-5292



Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike
All Day: 8 oz. Sizzlin' Sirloin + Salad - Side -
Bakery - Dessert - Rolls ~ \$12.99
Senior Buffet: (Ages 55+) Monday-Friday
from 2-4 p.m. ~ \$6.79.

Community Prayer Meeting

 Focus and Aim Prayer
Sat., March 23rd 6pm
CHRISTIAN COVENANT CHURCH
120 C.R. 616 Athens, TN
District Atty. Steve Crump will be
speaking on the Opioid Crisis
Other speakers will address Human
Trafficking & Ending Abortion Now

AMERICAN LEGION POST 68 FISH FRY

FRIDAY 5-7:15 p.m. at
VFW Dining Room
Congress Parkway North
All You Can Eat For \$9 each.
Fish, Slaw, Fries, Hush Puppies,
Cobbler & Drink. Bring the Whole
Family. Help us Keep The
Flags Flying at Exit 49!



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Thursday, March 21, 2019

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Velvie Shepherd**, age 96, of Etowah, died Wednesday. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Bordwine Funeral Home.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks were mixed as the Federal Reserve kept interest rates unchanged as expected and announced no rate hikes for 2019. In corporate news, FedEx missed earnings expectations due to slowing international conditions and weaker global trade. U.S. treasuries rose. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 142 points or 0.5% to 25,746. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 5 points or 0.2% to 2,827, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 5 points or 0.1% to 7,729.

SEAT BELT USAGE RATE IS UP

The Tennessee Highway Safety Office has announced a significant increase in the state's overall seat belt usage rate, compared to previous years. The usage rate rose from 88.5% in 2017 to 90.9% in 2018. This marks the first year Tennessee's usage rate has surpassed 90 percent. Tennessee's 2018 usage rate also exceeded the national usage rate of 90.1%. To determine the rate of seat belt use, researchers observed more than 27,000 front-seat vehicle occupants, including cars, pickup trucks, vans, and SUVs. The observations shows that females displayed a higher usage rate (94.8%) than males (88.3%). Pickup trucks displayed the lowest usage rate (84.24%).

Community News You Can Use

✓ The Athens Parks Department announces that the Athens Farmers Market information meeting will be held on Monday, April 22nd, at 6 p.m. in the courtroom at the Athens Municipal Building. During the meeting, there will be discussions on opening date, special events, registration, and scale certifications. Jason Beckwith with Weights and Measures will be at the meeting to certify scales. All produce vendors must have a farm inspection before they are allowed to sell at the Athens Farmers Market. This ensures that the market is a producers-only market. No reselling is permitted. Registration is now open for the 2019 Athens Farmers Market season. You can register at the Parks Department office at the Municipal Building.

✓ Let's Read 20 has a new book donation bin at Food City. You are invited to donate books by placing them in the book bin. Let's Read 20 is an arm of the McMinn County Education Foundation.

✓ The LITE House and the Small Business Development Center will co-host a "Facebook for Business" information session next Tuesday, March 26th, from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the LITE House located at #3 West College Street in Athens. Erik McNair, co-owner of McNair Media of Cleveland, will be the presenter of the session that will focus on how best to utilize Facebook for business. Seating will be limited. Those interested in attending this free event should reserve your space at:

<https://www.yourlitehouse.com/events/>

What is **SETHRA's LIHEAP Program**? **LIHEAP** is a points based program that assists **ANYONE** meeting income guidelines and other qualifications with their **propane, wood, natural gas, kerosene or electricity**. Call your local office today to see if you qualify! We look forward to hearing from you!

Bledsoe County - 423-447-2444

McMinn County - 423-745-8095

Polk County - 423-338-2335 or 423-496-2644

Grundy County - 931-592-8260

Meigs County - 423-334-3305

Marion County - 423-942-5946

Rhea County - 423-775-4010

Sequatchie County - 423-949-2191

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