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Athens, Tennessee

Monday, April 29, 2019

State & Local News

♦ SEVEN MURDERED IN SUMNER COUNTY

The TBI has arrested a suspect in the murders of seven people in Sumner County near Westmoreland. Authorities say Michael Cummings has been taken into custody and awaits charges for the alleged shootings. The shootings took place in two separate homes. Cummings was apprehended in a creek bed one mile from the scene.

◆ EMPLOYMENT DROPS IN ATHENS AREA

The unemployment rate went up a bit in all counties in the Athens area in March. The unemployment rate in McMinn County was 3.7% in March, up from 3.4% in February. In Meigs County, the jobless rate was 4.3% in March, up from 4.1% in February. Monroe County posted a 3.5% unemployment rate in March, up from 3.3% in February. Polk County's jobless rate in March was 3.9%, up from 3.7% in February. Bradley County's unemployment rate was 3.4% in March, up from 3.2% in February. Sixty-nine of Tennessee's 95 counties saw a slight uptick in unemployment in March.

♦ ELETRICITY RATES TO DROP IN MAY

AUB says local electric power rates will fall just a bit in May as a result of slightly lower TVA fuel generation costs. April and May, along with October and November, are "transition" rate months in TVA's rate scheme and have the lowest base rate of the year.

Wreck Near Englewood

Two vehicles collided on Highway 39 East near County Road 435 last Thursday afternoon. The accident involved a 2016 Chevy CTL and a 1995 Volvo 960. Patients sustained minor injuries. It caused a major traffic backup. The Englewood Rural Fire Department, AMR, and the McMinn County Sheriff's Department all responded. THP Officer Travis Ryans investigated the accident.

(Photo by Lynn Ingram with the Englewood Rural Fire Department)



LISTENING REMINDER: The guests on the Main Street Athens radio show, "Main Street Moments," this week will be Sandy Moore with Keep McMinn Beautiful and Angie Melhorn with Mayfields. You can hear the program each Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio, FM 94.5 and AM 1390 or **ONLINE**





Monday, April 29, 2019 Morning Fax®...To

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

• **Ricky Wayne Allen**, age 63, of Athens, died last Thursday at his home. He was a former employee of McKeehan Chair Co. and Athens Furniture, and was a current employee of Tri County Center. Funeral services will be 7 p.m. Monday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

• Eric D. Espey, age 55, died April 21st. He served in the Army and then retired from the National Guard after 22 years as a Staff Sergeant. He enjoyed volunteering at Riceville Elementary School. Funeral services were held Sunday at Victory Church International. Interment will be Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. at the Chattanooga National Cemetery. M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home is in charge.

• Wilma J. Bridges, age 77, of Englewood, died last Thursday. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from noon to 2 p.m.

• Carolyn Mullinax Harris, age 75, of Etowah, died Saturday at her residence. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Conasauga Cemetery. No visitation will be held. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.

• Cody Ray King, age 22, of Decatur died Thursday. A celebration of his life will be at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Companion Funeral Home of Athens, with visitation from 6 to 8 p.m.

♦ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ SETHRA continues to accept applications for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. You can apply by calling 334-3305.



This past weekend was a busy time for speeches and for Gospel music. The Athens Area Council for the Arts presented "Homecoming" on Friday evening in which the new Athens Community Gospel Choir under the direction of Josh Bragg was introduced. (Photo by Kelsey Case)



On Saturday, the Georgia/Tennessee Optimist District held their finals in the ora-

torical contest from over 6,000 contestants. The finalists are pictured on the right, including Kayleigh Ridley of A th en s. (Fourth from the



left in the yellow dress) (Photo by Richard Newman)

