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# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

## Today's News... This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute with attribution)  
 (Phone: 746-1390 Fax: 744-1390 e-mail: [wysi@bellsouth.net](mailto:wysi@bellsouth.net))

**MEDIC**  
 REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER  
**1 DONATION SAVES 3 LIVES**  
**Athens Center**  
 213 E. Washington Ave.  
 Athens, TN 37303  
 Tuesday-Friday  
 8:30 am - 5 pm  
[medicblood.org](http://medicblood.org)

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

### Community News You Can Use

- ✓ The McMinn County Board of Education will meet in regular session at 5:30 p.m. today (Thursday). The Board will continue to provide electronic meeting access to the public.
- ✓ MEDIC Regional Blood Center has a critical shortage of A Negative, A Positive, and O Positive blood types. They also need COVID Convalescent Plasma donors who have had a positive lab test from a healthcare facility and who are 28 days recovered. You can give blood at the Athens Donor Center, 213 E Washington Ave., Tuesday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### VIRUS-RELATED NEWS

- ✓ The McMinn County Health Department is changing the times for coronavirus testing beginning July 13th. The new hours will be Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- ✓ The Christian music festival, J-fest, has been cancelled for this year. J-fest was originally scheduled for this past spring, but was moved to August 1st. Now, organizers say they have decided to cancel this year's J-fest in the best interest of the community at large.
- ✓ The Gaither 2020 Family Fest in the Smokies has been cancelled. The annual weekend event is normally held over the Memorial Day weekend each year. This year it was postponed to Labor Day weekend. But due to the spike in cases of the coronavirus in Tennessee the decision was made to cancel this year's Family Fest.

### Officers Shoot Armed Suspect

McMinn County Sheriff Joe Guy says a wanted suspect is dead after a shooting involving two drug task force officers near Etoawah Tuesday evening. The TBI is now investigating the incident. According to a statement from Sheriff Guy, the two officers were serving a felony arrest warrant on Paul Armstrong, 62, at a residence on County Road 909. Preliminary information indicates that around 7 p.m. Tuesday, agents with the 10th Judicial Drug Task Force arrived at the residence to follow up on a narcotics investigation. When officers got to that location, Armstrong came out of the home, holding a gun and pointing it at the officers. At some point during the encounter, the two Task Force Agents, one from the Athens Police Department and one from the McMinn County Sheriff's Office, fired their weapons, striking Armstrong. Armstrong was pronounced dead at the scene. No officers were injured.

### UNEMPLOYMENT DROPS IN TENNESSEE

Record high unemployment rates in April experienced sizable decreases in May as the state slowly reopened. McMinn County's jobless rate was 11.7% in May, down from 17.2% in April. Meigs County's rate was 11.8% in May, down from 18.4% in April. Monroe County's unemployment rate in May was 12.8%, down from 21.8% in April. Polk County's jobless rate in May was 9.8%, down from 13.6% in April. In Bradley County, the unemployment rate in May was 9.5%, down from 13.6% in April.

### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT

**Bojangles'** **JULY Specials >>** Any Chicken Biscuit 2 for \$5 • 8 Pc Tail-gate w/2 picnic fixins, 4 Biscuits & 1/2 Gal Tea \$19.99 • 3 Tenders or Supreme Combo \$4.99 • 5 Meals for \$5 ea. • **Pimento Cheese Biscuits are back!**  
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We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to: [wysi@bellsouth.net](mailto:wysi@bellsouth.net)



522 W Madison Ave.  
 Athens, TN 37303  
 423-745-0329  
[www.livingheritagemuseum.com](http://www.livingheritagemuseum.com)

Come and enjoy our new, renovated, and updated exhibits throughout the Museum, including the Civil War Encampment, Military Area, Textiles Exhibit, and our new timeline!



Now Open:  
 "Let's Vote: Women's Suffrage"  
 Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's right to vote!

Mark Your Calendars!  
 Saturday, August 29, 2020  
 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
 Summer Luncheon  
 "A Women's Suffrage Celebration"

Contact Museum for Details

Hours	
Tuesday - Friday:	10 AM - 5 PM
Saturday:	10 AM - 4 PM
Sunday - Monday:	Closed

Admission	
Adults:	\$5
Seniors (60+):	\$3
Students:	\$3

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## Obituaries

♦ **John M. "Butch" Raper**, age 68, of Ooltewah (and formerly of Athens), died July 2nd at Life Care Center of Collegedale. Arrangements will be announced by Companion Funeral Home of Athens.

♦ **Robbie Dean Harper**, age 63, of Delano, died Monday at her residence. She was employed by Johns Manville for 33 years. No services will be held at this time. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of the arrangements.

## Tennessee's Virus Cases Jump 2,472

Tennessee has recorded its highest one-day increase in COVID-19 cases, a jump of 2,472 in the past 24 hours. The total number of cases now stands at 55,936. There have been 685 deaths, up 20 from Tuesday. McMinn County's total number of cases has gone up 12 and now stands at 255. There are currently 66 active cases in the county. The fatality total remains at 18. Bradley County's total jumped by 101 cases in the last 24 hours, and now stands at 874. There have been four deaths. Monroe County has 141 cases of the virus to date, with six deaths. Meigs County reports 34 cases and 27 recoveries. Polk County has 48 cases and 34 recoveries.

## Bakery Joins Etowah Chamber

The Etowah Area Chamber of Commerce recently welcomed Bakery on Main to the business community. Bakery on Main is located at 6232 Highway 411 in Benton, and serves baked goods, meals to go, and does catering. Pictured: (L-R) Brian Trammell, Nancy Dalton, Adrian Lambert, Robin Manis, Bakery assistant Megan Ledford, Harold Masengil, Chimbie Hackworth, owner Elois Ledford, Burke Garwood, Leann Hammonds, Matt Harper, Chamber President Helen Mullins, Chamber Director Durant Tullock and Sandy Lambert. (Photo courtesy of Durant Tullock)



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