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Today's News... This Morning

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Thursday, May 27, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

Blue Light Update

We had a story on Tuesday's Morning Fax about the new "blue" street lights being installed throughout Athens by Athens Utilities Board. These are new LED lights that are cheaper and allow the light to be focused in a certain direction. AUB spokesman Wayne Scarbrough says a few of the new lights are very blue, almost purple. He says that is a manufacturing problem, and the maker has promised to provide new lights at no charge to replace any of the defective ones. Scarbrough says if there is a new blue light on your street that appears to be very blue or purple-ish compared to the others in your neighborhood, you should call the AUB dispatcher and they will send somebody to check it out.

MEMORIAL DAY ACTIVITIES

This coming Monday, May 31st, is Memorial Day. It's an annual day set aside for remembering members of the military who gave their lives in protection of our nation. Flags have been set up on the L&N Depot grounds. This Saturday morning at 9, volunteers will put up flags around the Courthouse Square in Downtown Athens. Here are some of the events scheduled for Monday:

- 11 a.m. - A ceremony at the VFW Post on Congress Parkway North. The McMinn Honor Guard will participate.
- 11 a.m. - A service at the AMVETS Post in Etowah.
- 11 a.m. - A ceremony at the Meigs County Courthouse.

Community News You Can Use

- ✓ At the monthly board meeting, members of the Athens Utilities Board approved a plan to open AUB's lobby beginning Monday, June 14th. The board made the provision that, if the pandemic begins to worsen, the management team can close the lobby again. AUB's Wayne Scarbrough says they will use the next two weeks to get everything ready for the public and ensure that work flow is redirected to normal. AUB continues to ask customers to wear masks if they are not vaccinated.
- ✓ The Etowah Carnegie Library will be closed on Monday in observance of Memorial Day.
- ✓ The McMinn County Cherokees were defeated by Clarksville 11 - 2 in the state double elimination baseball tournament Wednesday. This was the first time the Cherokees advanced to the state championship series. The game was played at Oakland High School in Murfreesboro.

◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Wednesday 5-26

Tennessee: 861,706 cases, up 393. 12,406 deaths up 6.

COUNTY	CASES	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	6,579 up 4	42	99
Meigs	1,400	8	25
Monroe	5,914 up 3	36	96
Polk	2,104 up 1	24	25
Bradley	15,187 up 5	83	152
Rhea	4,374	14	75



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WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday: Cloudy, sunny, and warm. High 85.
Thu Night: Cloudy & warm. Low 66.
Friday: Cloudy. Possible t'storms. High 83.
Fri Night: Cloudy. Possible t'storms. Low 53.
Saturday: Cloudy & cooler. High 68.
More Weather at: wysi.com

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Thursday, May 27, 2021

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Faye Depriest Smithson**, age 93, of Athens, died May 26th at a Knoxville health care facility. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Smith Funeral and Cremation Services of Athens.

♦ **Glenn Allen "Snake" Triplett**, age 58, of Etowah, died Tuesday. Funeral services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Bordwine Funeral Home with visitation from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Friday at the funeral home.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT:

U.S. equity markets were mostly higher.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 10.59 to 34,323.05. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 7.86 to 4,195.99, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 80.82 points to 13,738.00.

MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

The fear of falling is a big concern among many older people. The UT Extension-McMinn County is offering a class called "A Matter of Balance" that can help people improve their quality of life and remain independent. The class is designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults. The 8-session class will be held at the Etowah Senior Center from 1 to 3 p.m. starting June 14th. The program is free and limited to 12 participants. To register, call the Etowah Senior Center at 781-7632.

Sumner Elected Chairman

Athens City Manager C. Seth Sumner has been unanimously elected as the new Chairman of the board of advisors of the University of Tennessee's Master of Public Policy and Administration at its meeting earlier this month. Sumner succeeds Lola Alapo who had served as the inaugural Chair of the 20-member board since its creation in 2015. The photo shows her receiving a plaque from Sumner (right) and Dr. David Folz, who has served as Director of the MPPA program since its founding in 2012. Mike Jones will be the incoming Director.



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