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# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

Today's News... This Morning

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 234 County Road 613, Athens, TN

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

## Community News You Can Use

- ✓ The City of Decatur has announced that their Fourth of July celebration will be held this year. It will take place on Sunday, the 4th, and will be part of Downtown Summer Nights. The concert featuring Aunt Betty and Skeleton Key will be held Sunday evening instead of Saturday. A fireworks show will be held near Meigs County High School following the concert.
- ✓ The second in the Sounds of Summer concert series at Market Park Pavilion in Downtown Athens will be this coming Saturday at 7 p.m. The free concert will feature the local band, September Song. Bring your own chair.
- ✓ You are invited to a Girl Scout Party this Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Hillsview Volunteer Fire Department, 1388 County Road 50, Riceville. Come dressed to play, have fun, and maybe even get wet. Parents are invited, too. Snacks will be provided.

### ◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Tuesday 6-15

Tennessee: 865,511 cases. 12,504 deaths.

COUNTY	CASES	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	6,660	8	102
Meigs	1,425	4	24
Monroe	5,972	11	96
Polk	2,108	6	23
Bradley	15,286	37	152
Rhea	4,397	5	82

## Council Approves Tax Hike

The Athens City Council has given final approval to an 8-cent increase in the property tax to pay for a \$7.5 million loan to fund several capital projects including street improvements around the new schools now under construction, a new animal shelter, a fire training facility, and renovations of the Athens Municipal Building and the Public Works building. Related to the property tax, the Council passed a resolution to roll back the 8-cent tax hike once the debt service on the \$7.5 million loan has been satisfied. The Council passed a proclamation designating the week of June 20th-26th as Amateur Radio Week in Athens. Also, at Tuesday's monthly Council meeting, reports of activity for the month of May were given by the police and fire department chiefs.

- Police Chief Cliff Couch reported there were 45 thefts in May, 12 assaults, 10 burglaries, two motor vehicle thefts, one homicide, and one sex offense. Officers issued citations for 189 moving violations. There were 66 traffic accidents in the city in May, with 16 injuries. Chief Couch reported the police force is now fully staffed with no vacancies.

- Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth reported that firefighters responded to 184 incidents in May. Rescue and emergency medical service accounted for 129 of the calls. There were four fires and 17 false alarms. Losses from fires in May in the city totaled \$125,000.

### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



**JUNE Specials >> 2 Sausage Biscuits \$3**  
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## MEDIC

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 Athens, TN 37303  
 Monday-Friday  
 8:30 am - 5 pm



FRIDAY JUNE 25, 7:30PM

**Concert**  
**MOIN STREET**

SATURDAY JUNE 26, 7:30-11AM

**Pancake Breakfast**

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Wednesday, June 16, 2021

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Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

♦ **Mack Arthur Smith**, age 75, of Sweetwater, died Tuesday at Sweetwater Hospital. He worked as an over the road truck driver. Funeral services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Ziegler Funeral Home, with visitation from 10 to 11 a.m.

♦ **Frank "Neal" C. Smith**, age 88, of Athens, died Tuesday at his residence. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and retired from Mayfield Dairy after 26 years. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. at East Athens Baptist Church with visitation from 5 to 7 prior to the service. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge.

♦ **Vona Kathryn Waltrip**, age 68, of Athens, died on June 8th at Parkwest Hospital. She was a native of Celina, Texas, but had lived in Athens since 2006. The family will receive friends on Friday from 5 to 6 p.m. at Companion Funeral Home of Athens, with a memorial service to follow at 6.

♦ **Alfred William "Will" Donegan III**, age 57, of Athens, died Sunday. He was owner and operator of Timber Resource Management for over 25 years. A celebration of life will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. this Friday, June 18th, at Elliot Farm on County Road 225 in Niota with a Time of Remembrance at 8. Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

♦ **James Walter Neeley**, age 76, of Etowah, died Wednesday, June 9th, at his home. He was a retired laborer. Funeral services were held Monday at Bordwine Funeral Home. Bordwine Funeral Home was in charge.

## American Legion Installs Officers

American Legion Post 68 in Athens recently installed the new members of their Executive Committee. Pictured from left: David Riden (Public Relations), Stephen Powell (Membership & Historian), Bill Anderson (Sergeant At Arms), Mike Phillips (Finance), Susan Peglow (Veterans Services Officer), Delores Anderson (Adjutant), Alan Jones (2nd Vice-Commander), Gary Moore (1st Vice-Commander), Gordon Mikitka (Commander).




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