



(Okay to copy, post or distribute with attribution) (Phone: 746-1390 Fax: 744-1390 e-mail: <u>wyxi@bellsouth.net</u>) McMinn Central Class of 1971 50TH REUNION Sat., Sept. 11th 5pm \$30pp McMinn Central High School Reservation Deadline is Sept. 1st Contact Bobby Lambert, 423-507-3062 or Sherry Higdon Miller, 423-667-6024

Athens, Tennessee

### Thursday, August 12, 2021

### **Community News You Can Use**

✓ The McMinn County Election Commission will meet in regular session next Tuesday, August 17th, at 5 p.m. in the conference room of the Courthouse.

✓ Nashville singer Lera Lynn will be the featured performer this Saturday, August 14th, at the Sounds of Summer Concert at Market Park Pavilion. The concert is free and starts at 7 p.m. Miss Lynn's new album is titled "On My Own," and features songs she wrote, sang, produced, and recorded. She also played every single instrument on the record. She will be on stage from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

✓ United Way of McMinn and Meigs Counties will hold a "Twice New" sale on gently used purses and jewelry on August 26th from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at The Barn at Faith Farms. (Cash or check only) Pre-ordered box lunches available from Front Porch Catering.

✓ The high school football season is almost here. The McMinn County Cherokees and the McMinn Central Chargers will meet in their opening game on Friday, August 20th, at Central. Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m.

✓ The police committee of the McMinn County Board of Eduation will meet today (Aug. 12th) at 4:30 p.m., immediately prior to the regular board meeting.

✓ The guest on the Women at the Well radio show, "Hope From the Well," this week will be Dr. Mike Womack, drug and alcohol counselor. "Hope From the Well" is heard at 8:15 a.m. each Thursday on WYXI Radio: AM-1390, FM-94.5 & ONLINE

# **Updating COVID Shots**

Tennessee continues to rank among the states with the lowest percentage of people who have been vaccinated against COVID-19. The latest figures from the Tennessee Department of Health show that 46 percent of the state's population have had at least one shot. In Southeast Tennessee:

**McMinn County-** 33.07% have had at least one shot. 29.61% have had two shots. (McMinn has the lowest rate in SE Tennessee)

**Meigs County -** 57.1% have had at least one shot. 50.79% have had both shots.

**Monroe County** - 36.52 have had at least one shot. 33.01 have had both shots.

**Bradley County -** 34.38 have had at least one shot. 30.28 have had both shots.

#### **COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Wednesday 8-11**

Tennessee: <u>COUNTY</u>	931,107 cases, up 4,09 <u>CASES</u>	7. 12,892 d ACTIVE	eaths, up 7. DEATHS
McMinn	7,158 up 23	313	107
Meigs	1,517 up 6	60	24
Monroe	6,361 up 36	258	98
Polk	2,255 up 9	95	25
Bradley	16,215 up 46	587	157
Rhea	4,663 up 28	182	83





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Athens, Tennessee

### **Obituaries**



• Frank Edward Horning, age 72, of Athens, died Tuesday at Ft. Sanders Regional Medical Center. He taught police relations class at McMinn County High School from 1979-1981, where he also served under Coach Phelps as the assistant baseball coach. He was a former member of the Greystone Park, NJ Fire Department where he served as a firefighter/Lieutenant and

the Morris Minute Men, Morris Township and NJ rescue squads. He was also a 1986 Charter Member of the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Officers Association and served on the McMinn County Youth Services Board and the TWU Alumni Board. After 38 years of service with the Athens Police Department, he retired as the Administrative Captain. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m., Saturday at McMinn Memory Gardens with visitation on Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home.

#### MORE COVID NEWS

- The US Centers for Disease Control has updated its recommendation for pregnant women to get vaccinated against COVID-19. Previously, the CDC said pregnant women CAN receive the vaccine. Now, the agency says they SHOULD get the vaccine.
- The number of Tennessee's youth testing positive for COVID-19 continues to grow by the day, accounting for 27% of new daily cases.

## **Another Joe Guy History Minute**

The flowers still grow in some places--along some of our back country roads, flowers that grow in bunches, or sometimes in neat rows. It is odd to see them jump up this time of year, out in an open field where one would not expect to see flowers neatly planted. Most of us drive by, without a second thought of why those flowers are there, or what they mean.

Sometimes there are other clues. Near the flowers, there may be a line of cedar trees, running a straight line north and south, as if planted there intentionally. They were not. Rather, birds dropped seeds as they sat on a fence long ago, which turned into those trees.

Sometimes, if you can, you have to walk around the place. If you kick the dirt, you may turn up bits of porcelain that were once plates or bowls. Or maybe some blue or green shards of glass, tossed out and half buried for decades. There might be an old nail or two, and maybe even a pile of stones where once a family gathered around a fire to cook and talk and warm themselves. Where on a bare wooded floor a mother swept, and a baby cried, and children played, and a father worried, and a wake was held when someone died. Rain danced on a cedar roof as someone studied a Bible by lamplight. There was laughter that echoed over the flowers outside, and there were tears that fell between the floor boards to the rich soil, to mix with the broken porcelain and nails and glass, to disappear with the years when the people were gone, and the house and barn and the fences fell away, and there were only the lonely flowers left, to bloom every year like a memory of the home place and the people, and the lives that used to be there.

