

## **Community News You Can Use**

✓ The Athens Public Works Department advises that the decision has been made to close the Recycle Center on Thursday, Friday, AND Saturday for Thanksgiving. The Recycle Center will reopen next Monday.

✓ The Southeast Tennessee Human Resources Agency will be distributing USDA commodities to eligible Meigs County residents on Wednesday, December 1st at the SETHRA office in Decatur beginning at 8 a.m. You must have a sheet in order to receive commodities on that day. All you have to provide is proof of income for all household members or proof of category eligibility to get your commodity sheet.

✓ The annual 5K Turkey Trot takes place Thanksgiving morning at Keith Methodist Church starting at 8 a.m. As a result, Thompson Street will be closed from Shoemaker Street to W. Madison Avenue from 6:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

✓ The McMinn County UT Extension Office will offer "Dining with Diabetes," a cooking school for people with diabetes and caretakers, on Dec. 14th from 10 a.m. to noon or 6 to 8 p.m. at the McMinn Higher Education Center. \$1 per person. Call 745-2852.

## "Operation Open Road"

Governor Bill Lee and 14 other governors have launched "Operation Open Road" to tackle supply chain woes during the holiday season. The governors are calling on the President to address the supply chain crisis by suspending burdensome regulations. They also are asking for suspension of outdated federal regulations that require commercial drivers license holders to be 21 years old, and lower the age to 18 so that drivers can work across state lines.

Meantime, more and more stores are reporting problems in getting items to sell. For example, the Publix Supermarket chain is limiting to two per customer for certain items, including canned cranberry sauce, jarred gravy, canned pie filling, canola and vegetable oil, cream cheese, bacon, paper napkins, disposable plates, cups, and cutlery, bath tissue, sports drinks, canned cat food and refrigerated pet food.

According to a recent survey, 53% of small business owners anticipate inventory shortages through the 2021 holiday shopping season. As a result, 58% of retailers say they plan to raise prices by 40% or more.





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#### **Obituaries**

• Frances Davis Wilson Wattenbarger, age 89, of Athens, died Monday at her residence. She had worked for Athens Manufacturing as a seamstress. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Ziegler Funeral Home, with interment to follow in Walnut Grove Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. at Ziegler Funeral Home.

• Sylvia Brown, age 58, of Etowah, died Saturday, Nov. 20th. She was employed at Starr Regional Hospital in Etowah in the dietary department and later in the business department. She had also worked at DENSO. Homegoing celebration services will be held Monday, Nov. 29th, at 1 p.m. at M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home in Athens, with a walkthrough visitation at noon. Interment will be at New Zion Cemetery.

• Grover Ben Colbaugh, age 77, of Columbia, formerly of Decatur, died Monday at Maury Regional Medical Center. He was retired from Groves Electrical where he was a lineman. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m., Saturday at Concord United Methodist Church with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday at Ziegler Funeral Home.

#### **COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Tuesday 11-23**

Tennessee:	1,308,237 cases up 1,441. 16,916 deaths up 55.		
<u>COUNTY</u>	CASES	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	10,702 up 8	77 down 2	137
Meigs	2,223 up 1	17 down 1	31 up 1
Monroe	9,911 up 11	86 up 4	128 up 1
Polk	3,238	25 down 2	33 up 1
Bradley	22,536 up 16	170 down 3	215 up 3
Rhea	7,080 up 10	48 up 8	98 up 1

# **Please Help Fill the Spa**

The TOY DRIVE at Dynasty Pools and Spas continues. You are invited to stop by and put a toy in the Spa. The McMinn County Rescue Squad will be picking up the toys on December 10th to distribute to deserving children in our area. There's still time to fill it up.



NOTE: The Morning Fax will not be published Thursday. Have a great Thanksgiving. We'll see you on Friday.

DENSC

Crafting the Core

