

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

Community News You Can Use

✓ The United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties has surpassed \$500,000 in fundraising for this year's campaign thanks to the support of individuals and companies within the community. However, there's still a long way to go to reach this year's goal of \$725,000. United Way's board of directors, volunteers, and staff assess the needs of the community and then raise funs to support local programs and services that meet those needs. In 2021-22, there are 16 local nonprofit agencies that are receiving United Way funds. All of the money raised by United Way stays right here in the community. Donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 1681, Athens, TN, 37371-1681.

✓ The monthly Etowah Chamber of Commerce "Good Morning, Etowah" breakfast get-together will be this Friday, January 7th, from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at Easy Tax Plus, 812 Tennessee Avenue. There will be breakfast, fun, and networking.

✓ The McMinn County Historical Society will hold its January meeting this coming Sunday, January 9th, at 2 p.m. in the Blue Room of the Courthouse. The speaker will be Joy Montgomery and her subject will be The Hiwassee Garrison. The 2022 dues are \$15.

 \checkmark AAA says gasoline prices appear to be stuck in neutral as the new year begins. The average price for a gallon in Tennessee rose only by a penny in the past week. It is now \$2.99, which is 8 cents cheaper than one month ago. In Athens, prices are hovering around \$2.77 per gallon.

Cold Weather Repairs

Athens Utilities repair crews spent morning Tuesday working in temperatures of 32 or 33 degrees repairing a water main break on N. Jackson Street near Eaves Street. Customers in the area experienced low or no water pressure as the repairs were made. Plumbers may find themselves busy early Friday morning as the temperature is expected to drop



into the mid-teens. It's always a good idea to leave a faucet or two running slowly overnight to help prevent the water lines from freezing during sub-zero temperatures.

(Photo from AUB)





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

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

• Katherine "Kat" Emerson Walker, age 92, of Sweetwater, died last Friday, Dec. 31st. The family will receive friends Wednesday, Jan. 5th, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Kyker Funeral Home, Sweetwater, with the funeral service to follow at 7 p.m. Interment will be at 1 p.m. Thursday in the Fenders Cemetery.

• Elizabeth Ann Richesin Ingram of Sweetwater died Sunday, Jan. 2nd. She was retired from Sweetwater Hospital Association after many years of service as an LPN. The family will receive friends at Beulah Chapel Church of the Nazarene on Saturday, Jan. 8th, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 1p.m. A graveside service will follow in the cemetery. Kyker Funeral Home of Sweetwater, is in charge.

• Betty Bernhard, age 90, of Athens, died December 26th. She taught school at McMinn Central High School for 25 years, where she was named Teacher of the Year. She was a member of the Thursday Music Study Club in Etowah for 43 years. There will be a private service for the family.

• Glen C. Davis, age 85, of Decatur, died Monday, Jan. 3rd. A celebration of life is planned for Friday, Jan. 7th, at 3 p.m. at the Walnut Grove Baptist Church, with visitation from 1 to 3 p.m. Interment will follow the service in the Walnut Grove Baptist Church Cemetery. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge of the arrangements.

Ribbon Cut for New Chamber Member

A ribbon cutting and grand opening were celebrated recently for new Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, Starr Mountain Outfitters, located on Highway 30 midway between Athens and Etowah. Shown here are Scott and Amy Cass (owner) with representatives from Starr Mountain Outfitters as well as city officials, and diplomats from the Athens, Etowah, and Polk County Chambers of Commerce.

(Photograph courtesy of Julie Simbeck, Athens Chamber)



TODAY IN HISTORY - JANUARY 5th

1779 - American naval hero Stephen Decatur was born. He is remembered for saying: "Our country...may she always be right; but our country, right or wrong."
1779 - Zebulon Pike, soldier and explorer, was born in New Jersey. He discovered what is now known as Pike's Peak in Colorado.

1781 - A British naval expedition led by Benedict Arnold burned Richmond, Virginia.

1855 - King Camp Gillette was born. He invented the safety razor.

1895 - French Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, convicted of treason, was publicly stripped of his rank. (He was ultimately vindicated.)

1917 - Actress and singer Jane Wyman was born. She won the Academy Award in 1948 for "Johnny Belinda." She was married to Ronald Reagan from 1940-49.

1919 - The National Socialist (Nazi) Party was formed in Germany.

1925 - Democrat Nellie Taylor Ross of Wyoming took office as America's first female governor, succeeding her late husband, William, following a special election.

1933 - The 30th president of the United States, Calvin Coolidge, died in Northampton, Massachusetts, at age 60. Construction began on the Golden Gate Bridge. (Work was completed four years later.)

1949 - In his State of the Union address, President Harry S'Truman labeled his domestic program the "Fair Deal."

1981 - Police in England arrested Peter Sutcliffe, a truck driver later convicted of the "Yorkshire Ripper" murders of 13 women.

1983 - President Ronald Reagan announced he was nominating Elizabeth Dole to succeed Drew Lewis as Secretary of Transportation; Dole became the first woman to head a Cabinet department in Reagan's administration, and the first to head the DOT.