

# Morning Fax®

Today's News...This Morning

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Thursday, January 27, 2022

Athens, Tennessee

## Meigs Man Charged With Abuse

A 19-year-old man in Meigs County faces aggravated child abuse charges after police say the child's mother recorded him abusing their infant son. James B. Lance is being held in the Meigs County Jail on a \$1 million bond. Police were called to Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens, where the mother had admitted the child. She told police she had noticed bruising and other injuries on her son. She set up a video recording device in his room. The woman showed the video to officers, who said it showed Lance "shaking" and hitting the child. The baby was ultimately transferred to Children's Hospital in Knoxville. His condition has not been released.

#### **COOPER TO RETIRE FROM CONGRESS**

Democratic Congressman Jim Cooper of Nashville says he is retiring from Congress. Cooper says after 32 years in office, he will be leaving Congress next year. He blames it on Republican redistricting. He accused Republicans of "dismembering" Nashville by creating three new congressional districts that now divide the city. Cooper says there is no way he could win re-election to any of those new districts.

#### A MOVE TO LOWER THE STATE SALES TAX

State Sen. Heidi Campbell of Nashville is introducing a bill to lower the state sales tax from 7 percent to 6 percent and to eliminate the sales tax on such items as fruits and vegetables.

## **Questions About Crypto Mines**

Officials in Claiborne and Washington counties have questions about cryptocurrency mining operations in their counties. Crypto mining is the process of creating new digital currencies on huge specialized computers that verify "blockchain" transactions. The process is highly energy-consuming, and large noisy fans are used to cool the computers. The City of Athens recently agreed in principle to sell a tract of land in the Redfern Drive industrial park to a cryptocurrency mining company which would operate large computer servers. The company could become AUB's largest power user.

### ◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE

Weekly Summary: 01/16/22 - 01/22/22

There were 16,968 cases per day last week, and 65 deaths per day last week

**Tennessee:** 1,771,783 Total Cases - 21,151 Total Deaths

| <b>COUNTY</b> | CASES  | <b>ACTIVE</b> | <b>DEATHS</b> |
|---------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| McMinn        | 14,025 | 2,141         | 212           |
| Meigs         | 2,905  | 386           | 48            |
| Monroe        | 12,335 | 1,464         | 203           |
| Polk          | 4,085  | 506           | 52            |
| Bradley       | 29,481 | 3,837         | 345           |
| Rhea          | 8,762  | 1,032         | 137           |

Covid-19 update information from the Tennessee Department of Health is updated on Saturday and posted to their website each Wednesday.

#### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



NEW: Hand Breaded Chicken Sandwich \$3.99 Steak Biscuits 2 / \$5 • 32 oz Tea \$1 8 Piece Tailgate \$19.99

The Athens Bojangles will be closed on SUNDAY ONLY DURING JANUARY
Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits BOJANGLES of Athens-South Congress Pkwy 744-5292

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Athens, Tennessee

## Wednesday's Market Report

Equity markets started the day higher, boosted by solid earnings by Microsoft, but lowered gains after the Fed reaffirmed a hawkish stance. The Fed signaled it will start raising interest rates in March and shrink its bond holdings after liftoff has begun. After leading the indexes on the downside in recent weeks, the techheavy NASDAQ outperformed on Wednesday. Investor anxiety and volatility remain high as policy shifts to combat inflation. The 10-year Treasury yield rose following the Fed meeting, as did the U.S. dollar. Oil finished higher for the second day, supported by the ongoing Russia - Ukraine political tensions. The DJIA closed at 34,168.09 down 129.64; the S&P 500 ended the day at 4,349.93 down 6.52; the NASDAQ closed at 13,542.12 up 2.82.

#### **KNOXVILLE MAN DIES IN I-75 WRECK**

The Tennessee Highway Patrol says a Knoxville man, 43-year-old Daniel Woodward, was killed Monday evening in a three-vehicle crash on I-75 north near mile marker 78 in Loudon County. The THP says Woodward's Jeep ran off the left side of the roadway and then re-entered the roadway and struck another Jeep. A semi-truck then also struck both Jeeps. Woodward was pronounced dead at the scene. He had not been wearing his seat belt.

## **Athens to Get New Fire Trucks**

Two shiny new fire trucks are coming to Athens. One member from each shift of the Athens Fire Department went to Appleton, Wisconsin, earlier this month to take part in the final inspection of the two new Pierce Enforcer Engines. The trucks have now made the trip to Knoxville for a pre-delivery inspection and mounting of equipment before their final destination to Athens.





522 W Madison Ave. Athens, TN 37303 423-745-0329 www.livingheritagemuseum.org

#### **History for Lunch with Shape Note Singers**

Thursday, January 27 - 12 noon

Bring your lunch and come enjoy listening to Old College Shape Note Singers. Shape note singing is a choral tradition in which geometrical shapes and corresponding syllable are assigned to each note in a musical scale

Sponsored by C. Scott & Muriel S. Mayfield Family Foundation

## Month of February Art Exhibit featuring Lucile Smith

A native of McMinn County, Lucile Smith (1910-2002) was a prominent African American folk artist who began painting as a hobby in her early twenties. A friend suggested that she enter her work in an exhibit for Community Artist League of Athens. Her painting "Carry Me Home" won second place.

#### Hours

Tuesday - Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM Saturday: 10 AM - 4 PM Sunday - Monday: Closed 
 Admission

 Adults:
 \$5

 Seniors (60+):
 \$3

 Students:
 \$3

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