

Food City to Give Away N95 Masks

Food City is offering free N95 face masks to their customers and associates. The program is made available through a partnership with Topco Associates, LLC cooperative and the US Department of Health and Human Services. Food City will be receiving several shipments of these high-quality face coverings, which will be available at the front of the store, while supplies last. In mid-January, the federal government announced plans to distribute 400 million N95 face coverings through retailers around the country. The initiative is intended to slow the spread of COVID-19. Food City's partnership with Topco enabled them to meet the government requirements necessary to acquire the free masks. Food City has also worked with HHS and local health departments to provide other vital services during the pandemic, including COVID testing and vaccinations.

TWU to Offer Honors Program

Beginning in the fall of this year, Tennessee Wesleyan University will offer an Honors Program for traditional, undergraduate students on the Athens campus. Based on the principles of Citizenship and the Common Good, the TWU Honors Program will prepare students to transform their educational experience to live out a positive role in the global community. Admission to the Honors Program will be based on GPA, a brief essay, and for current students, a recommendation by a TWU faculty member. Incoming freshman must have a minimum 3.25 GPA; current students can apply using their high school GPA or a 3.0 TWU GPA.

Group Concerned About "Maus" Removal

A group of 15 McMinn County parents, educators, students and other community members have formed an organization called "McMinn County Neighbors" that have concerns regarding the removal of the graphic Holocaust novel "Maus" from the McMinn County Schools 8th Grade Reading Curriculum. The group says they are from varied political backgrounds but share a deep care for kids, teachers, and the community. "McMinn County Neighbors" will gather at 4:30 p.m. this Thursday, February 10, before the McMinn County School Board holds its regular monthly meeting. The members will make remarks outside the McMinn County Center for Education Excellence prior to attending the school board meeting together. The group claims that the school board acted in haste, because they held a special called meeting, and did not follow proper procedures when they voted 10-0 to remove the novel. (The school board cited profanity and nudity contained in the book were the reasons why they voted to remove it). The group says in its release that the "School Board violated their own procedures, and (we) request that they rescind the vote and commit to address curriculum changes in a way that is transparent, equitable, and does not promote the message of going behind the back of the community it serves."





Obituaries

• Fern Beth Trew Perry, age 85, of Kodak, and formerly of Athens, died Saturday at her residence. She was associated with Bradley Memorial Hospital as a Registered Nurse until her retirement. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Trew Family Cemetery on County Road 754. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at Smith Funeral Home.

• James Dennis (J.D.) Cate, age 75, of Athens, died at his home on Sunday, Feb. 6th. He was a farmer and raised vegetables and beef cattle. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and received an Army Commendation Medal, a Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, and two Purple Hearts while serving in Vietnam. A graveside service will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at McMinn Memory Gardens with Military Honors provided by the U.S. Army. There will be no formal visitation. Smith Funeral and Cremation services of Athens is in charge of the arrangements.

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Meigs-Decatur Public Library, will host author Charles C. Finney, Jr., who was raised in this area, this Saturday, February 12^{th} at 1 p.m. Finney will give an overview of his book "Grandpa - Good News from the Good Feel Cornfield". His writing is a reflection on memories and experiences and a remembrance of his love for family, farm life, and his upbringing in church. The Library is located at 120 E. Memorial Drive in Decatur. Admission is free. The event is sponsored by the Meigs-Decatur Friends of the Library.

McMinn County Property Transfers

Listed below is a sampling of verifiable property sales from December 1 to January 1 in McMinn County

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Highway 30 E.	Athens	900,000.00
County Road 372	Niota	554,900.00
County Road 116	Athens	550,000.00
County Road 105	Athens	499,000.00
County Road 561	Athens	365,000.00
Highway 30 E	Athens	350,000.00
Pinecrest Dr	Athens	349,000.00
Hill Top Drive	Niota	302,000.00
County Road 148	Riceville	290,000.00
County Road 560 SE	Athens	285,000.00
Northside Drive	Athens	275,000.00
Alabama Avenue	Etowah	270,000.00
Lockmiller Boulevard	Athens	265,000.00
Sharp Road	Athens	256,000.00
COÚNTY ROAD 151	Riceville	250,000.00
County Road 675	Athens	243,000.00
Conner Drive	Englewood	239,900.00
County Road 443	Athens	220,000.00
County Road 200	Athens	220,000.00
N. Washington Avenue	Etowah	215,000.00
County Road 480	Englewood	195,000.00
North Avenue	Athens	191,900.00
County Road 181	Decatur	190,000.00
County Road 383	Athens	190,000.00
Data Provided by Tennessee Valley Appraisal Services		
www.tvasinc.com		

