

# Morning Fax®

Today's News...This Morning

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REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER
1 DONATION
SAVES 3 LIVES
Athens Center
213 E. Washington Ave.
Athens, TN 37303
Monday-Friday
8:30 am- 5 pm

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Athens, Tennessee

# **Big Multi-Agency Drug Bust**

◆ According to Sheriff Joe Guy, over the past 6 months, officers with the McMinn County Sheriff's Office, 10th Judicial Drug Task Force, the District Attorney General's Office, and TBI conducted a covert investigation in McMinn, surrounding counties, and reaching as far as North Georgia, that targeted a major methamphetamine distribution ring in the region. Through the course of the investigation, which was labeled "Propane Cowboys", law enforcement seized approximately 8 kilograms of methamphetamine, and various quantities of cocaine, Xanax and Hydrocodone. A total of 16 suspects were indicted by the McMinn County Grand Jury on April 19, 2022. The following individuals were indicted and arrested over the past few days: RAYMOND SCOTT KNOX, MELISSA SKINNER, JONA-THAN KNOX, KENNETH HUCKABY (in Federal Custody), DOUGLAS HUTCHISON, GEORGE BUCHANAN, LAWERNCE SCHMIDT, RUSSELL ROUSE (in Bradley Co Jail), ZACHERY LINER, FELIX MACUGA III, STACY DEWAYNE MOSES, & WANDA SIMPSON. Four suspects remained at large at FAX time.



# **Community News You Can Use**

- ✓ Early voting for the McMinn County May 3rd State and County Primary continues through today, which is the last day to vote early. Election day is Tuesday, May 3rd.
- ✓ Woodward Avenue Church of God is having an indoor yard sale today, April 28th and Friday, April 29th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The church is located at 507 Woodward Avenue in Athens.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: Stocks finished flat. Value out performed growth with the Dow and S&P 500 both up. Oil was little changed at \$102 a barrel and the U.S. 10-year yield rose slightly to around 2.83%. At the closing bell, The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 61.75 to 33,301.93. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 8.76 to 4,183.96, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was down 1.81 to 12,488.93.

#### **♦**COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE

Weekly Summary: 04/17/22 - 04/23/22

There were 405 cases (per day) and 5 deaths (per day) last week. Updates by county were not on the Tennessee Department of Health website as of publishing time.

**Tennessee:** 2,027,967 Total Cases - 26,147 Total Deaths





Sausage & Egg Biscuits 2 / \$5

• 32 oz Tea \$1

**BOJANGLES of Athens** South Congress Pkwy 744-5292







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

#### **HISTORY** for LUNCH with LOIS PREECE

Thursday, April 28, 11:00 AM

Bring your lunch and listen to Lois Preece the Mayor of Niota.

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

#### NATURAL DYES with PAT ARMSTRONG

Learn the basics of natural dyeing as we stir a couple of dye pots with samples you can take home!

Saturday, April 30, 11:00 AM

Admission is \$5 or free with Museum membership.

Program sponsored by C. Scott & Muriel S. Mayfield Family Foundation & Tennessee Arts Commission

#### Hou

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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Thursday, April 28, 2022

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Athens, Tennessee

# **Fire Destroys Whitewater Center**

♦ A fire early Tuesday destroyed Polk County's Ocoee Whitewater Center, located in the gorge of the Cherokee National Forest. The center was built to host events such as kayaking and canoeing in the 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics.



(Forestry Service photo)

### **State News**

- ◆ The Great Smoky Mountains National Park will host the annual synchronous firefly viewing opportunity at Elkmont Campground beginning Friday, June 3 through Friday, June 10. A limited number of park visitors will be able to view the naturally occurring phenomenon of a firefly species that flashes synchronously. The public may apply for the limited viewing opportunity by entering a lottery for a vehicle pass through <a href="www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a> The lottery for vehicle pass applications opens Friday, April 29 at 10 a.m. and continues through Tuesday, May 3rd
- ◆ Governor Bill Lee's spokesman says he will release more details surrounding why the governor abruptly cancelled the execution of Oscar Smith. A press officer said in an email Tuesday that the governor's office will "be releasing more information and action steps." The governor's office said that the pending adjournment of the General Assembly was one of the reasons to push back divulging execution details. Last week, Lee issued a statement saying there had been an "oversight in preparation for lethal injection" as he granted temporary reprieve to the 72-year old Smith. A day later, he said the reprieve was needed because of a "technical oversight," without giving any details.



