

Friday, July 22, 2022

It's Not Just A Job.....

This story began over two years ago when the Athens Fire Department was dispatched to a call for an unresponsive diabetic male. The patient was a single father who was raising an autistic son. Over the next couple of years, the calls for assistance became frequent; two to three calls a week. The firefighters knew, as soon as they heard dispatch begin the page, where they were going and probably what needed to be done. It didn't take them long to realize this was not an average situation.

The firefighters began to notice the needs of the father and son. They knew that the father and son did not have any family near them that could help. The responsibility could have ended there, but it didn't. They could have done their jobs and walked away but that is not how the Athens Fire Department operates. That is not the caliber of men and women we employ. That is where this story really begins.

Members of the fire department began to mow the yard, clean the house, take groceries, and cook food for the father and son. Many days, when a crew came on shift, they would cook breakfast and then take them breakfast; anything that they could do to make the father's and the child's life a little easier. They did this on their own and without recognition. They did it because they have good hearts, and they love their community.

This week, they received the last call they will ever get from this address. A neighbor was asked to check on the father and son. The neighbor called 911 and when the fire department arrived it was determined that the father had passed approximately two days prior to their arrival on scene.

After consulting with APD, members of our fire department immediately stepped in again and took the child back with them to the fire station. They cleaned him up, fed him, and kept him company for about four hours until DCS could get there to take charge of the child. Two members, who were off duty, even came in on their own time, to stay with the child, so service to the city would not be interrupted.

Community News You Can Use

✓ Local author, George Hudson, will talk about his book, "Purple Haze", at the Meigs-Decatur Public Library on Saturday, July 23 at 1 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Meigs Decatur Friends of the Library, and is free and open to all.

✓ *Recognized* will be singing at Cooke Ministry Center tonight, July 22nd at 7 p.m. This is the Special 12th Anniversary Celebration for Gospel Singing at the center. Everyone is welcome

THURSDAY'S MARKET REPORT:

At the closing bell, The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 162.06 to 32,036.90. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 39.05 to 3,998.95, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 161.96 to 12,059.61.

It's Not Just A Job cont'd...

Our hearts go out to this child as he faces an unknown future. Our hearts are also filled with love and pride for the members of our Athens Fire Department. This was not accomplished by just a few. It was the majority of the department.

The "Friendly City" is well served by the men and women in our fire department. They show their willingness to improve not just our city, but our community, by going above and beyond every day. Well done Athens Fire Department. We are so proud of you.

Story Posted From The City of Athens



From the McMinn Election Commission:
Early Voting: July 15th-30th @ McMinn County Courthouse-Election Office M-F 9am-5pm~Saturday 9am-12 noon. Bring your TN state issued Photo ID or Federal issued ID.
Satellite Voting at Regional park: July 25th 12 Noon-5 pm & 26th-29th 9am-5pm.
Last Day to request an Absentee Ballot: July 28th.
Election Day: August 4th.
Polling Hours: 9am-8pm.
The City Park precinct will be voting at Keith Memorial United Methodist Church in the Ensminger Room (temporary location for 2022 due to school construction).
For more information go to: mcminnelections.com or GoVoteTN.gov

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

• **Dorothy Jean Alexander Kaylor**, age 88, of Acworth, GA, formerly of Athens, passed away Wednesday, July 20th. She was a native of Columbia County, Ohio and longtime resident of Athens. She was retired from Athens Products after 23 years of service. A funeral service will be at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, July 24th at Smith Funeral Home with visitation from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday prior to the service. Interment will follow in New Zion Cemetery. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services is in charge.

• Frances Lewis Roberts, age 95, of Meigs County, passed away Wednesday, July 20th. She was employed by the United States Department of Agriculture for 44 years. A funeral service will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 27th at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church in Decatur with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, prior to the service. Burial will be at 11 a.m. on July 28th at the Goodfield Cemetery in Decatur. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is in charge.



The City of Athens, Tennessee is being well represented at the All American Soap Box Derby. Parks Director Austin Fesmire sent us this photo of the Tennessee Flag flying high over Derby Downs in Akron, Ohio. Be sure to join us for the championship races which will be broadcast this Saturday beginning at 9 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, ATHENS. FM 94.5 and AM 1390.

Church News & Events

- McMahan Calvary Baptist Church will be having friend and family day/homecoming on July 31st at 10:45 a.m. Meal and fellowship afterward. Everyone is invited.

- If you or someone you know is battling addiction, struggling with anger, or other life issues, Planted In Christ Outreach Fellowship, 317 Maple Street, in Athens, invites you to attend Outreach Deliverance Classes every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

- North Etowah Baptist Church welcomes their new Pastor, Rev. Randy Ellis and his family. He begins his ministry on Sunday, July 24th at 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

- Gateway Church of Christ at 405 County Road 801 in Etowah is having a gospel meeting, Sunday, July 24^{th} through Wednesday, July 27^{th} and a gospel singing on July 24^{th} at 3 p.m. Jeff Archey is the Minister.

- Triumphant Baptist Church at 251 County Road 128 in Athens will have Vacation Bible School on Saturday, July 30th starting at 11 a.m. and ending with fireworks at dark. Lunch will be provided with a cookout in the evening. There will be a water slide, crafts, games and much more. For ages up to 18.

- If you have suffered the loss of a loved one, Mars Hill Presbyterian Church of Athens now offers a Griefshare program each Sunday at 2:00 p.m. For more information call 423-829-5052.

- Celebrate Recovery meets at the following churches: The Englewood Church of God every Sunday at 6 p.m. and Woodward Avenue Church of God every Tuesday at 6 p.m.

