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Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Athens, Tennessee

Athens Fire Department Responds to Adler Pelzer Athens Fire

The Athens Fire Department responded to a fire alarm on Mon-day, June 10^{th} at approximately 9:58 p.m. at Adler Pelzer Athens located at 115 Industrial Way. Minutes after, a manager called 911 and confirmed they did have a fire that was spreading, and the em-ployees were evacuating the building. The Athens Fire Department arrived on the scene and Battalion 2 immediately established command. The first arriving units reported heavy smoke visible from the exterior of the building. Upon entering the building, firefighters confirmed a large fire inside, which activated the sprinkler system. Crews quickly deployed two handlines for fire attack and established water supplies. Off duty personnel arrived with additional apparatus and assisted in fire attack operations. Due to the large manufacturing equipment involved in the fire, fire personnel had Adler Pelzer maintenance cut power to the building. Once the fire was under control, fire personnel along with maintenance, worked to ventilate the structure. After the building was ventilated and power was restored, the incident was turned over to Adler Pelzer's maintenance department and all fire units returned to service. Chief Ainsworth stated, "Quick response by firefighters, Alder Pelzer's staff, and the sprinkler system, kept the fire somewhat contained and prevented the incident from becoming much worse. No injuries were reported. We would like to thank Athens Rural and Englewood Rural Fire Departments for being on standby, for the city, while our crews were occupied with the fire." For more information, contact Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth at 423-744-2789 or bainsworth@athenstn.gov

Community News You Can Use

✓ The City of Athens Public Works Department announces that Keith Lane from Powers Path to Crestway Drive will be closed from Wednesday, July 12th at 7:00 a.m. until Friday, July 14th at 5:00 p.m. The purpose of this closing is for construction activities related to the new school. For more information, please contact the Office of the Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.

✓ **REMEMBER:** Jackson Street from Green Street to Washington Avenue and Madison Avenue from White Street to Green Street. Will be closed Saturday, July 15th from 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. for the purpose of the Athens Travelers Car Club Cruise-In event. For more information, please contact the Office of the Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.

✓ From the McMinn County High Department: County Road 718 – The Nipper Road will be closed Wednesday, July 12th from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM for Sink Hole repair by TDOT.

SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE NEWS



+ Downtown Beauty Lounge +

ATHENS, TN

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Obituaries

• Nancy Charlene Moses Hanson, age 64 of Calhoun, passed away Saturday, July 8th at Erlanger Medical Center. She was a native of Athens, and a current resident of Calhoun. She was of the Baptist Faith a former employee of Whirlpool for more than 20 years and was loved by all. Visitation will be from 3:00-5:00 PM Monday, July 17th at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. The funeral will be at 5:00 PM Monday. Interment will follow in Hampton Cemetery. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home in Athens is in charge of the arrangements.

WEATHER FORECAST Wednesday - Plenty of Sunshine. High 91. Wednesday night - Mainly clear. Low 70. Thursday - Humid with possible t'storms. Cloudy in AM. Clouds mixed with sunshine in PM. High 88. Thursday night - Cloudy & humid. Possible rain & t'storms. Low 73. More Weather at: <u>wyxi.com</u>

◆ HOPE FROM THE WELL: This week on "Hope
From the Well", the guest will be Connie McIntosh discussing "Thoughts of A Father". Hope From the Well is
heard each Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI
RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

SOCM Hosts Event

This weekend, parents and educators across Tennessee will host local actions calling on the state legislature to end their obsession with high stakes testing and to invest in our students and schools. This Friday, July 14th at 5:30 p.m., a local event will be happening in Athens. McMinn County Neighbors SOCM will be hosting a community story-sharing event in response to the TN third grade retention law. "Our Kids Are #MoreThanATest: Statewide Day of Action", is coordinated by Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment [SOCM], a Tennessee based citizens activist group who has been advocating for changes to the 3rd grade retention law since last September. SOCM and local communities are asking their state representatives to:

1. repeal the 3rd grade retention law during the special session of the state legislature this summer.

2. return retention decisions to families, teachers, and local districts, not the general assembly or using standardized test.

3. increase public investment in pre-k to 2nd grade early interventions and stop prioritizing high stakes testing.

TODAY IS:

- Eat Your Jello Day
- Paper Bag Day
- National Pecan Pie Day
- National Different Colored Eyes Day
- National Simplicity Day

National Malala Day (Nobel Peace Prize recipient Malala Yousafzai who fights for the rights of women and children).





Veterans Service Organization Kicks Off Campaign with Food City

Paralyzed Veterans of America, the nation's only nonprofit Veteran Service Organization dedicated solely to supporting Veterans with spinal cord injuries and diseases, like MS and ALS, kicked off its annual in-store checkout campaign with long-time partner Food City and seven-time NASCAR champion Richard Petty. Designed to help PVA ensure disabled Veterans receive the benefits they earned, the specialized health care they need, and the jobs they want, the annual campaign has raised \$3.19 million dollars since 2011. Last year's Food City fundraising campaign raised over \$439,000 for PVA, the supermarket chain hopes to raise over that this year. "PVA is so honored to be embarking on our twelfth year of partnership with Food City," said U.S. Army Veteran and Paralyzed Veterans of America's national president and chairman of the board Robert Thomas. "Thanks to Food City, their generous customers, and long-time supporter Richard Petty, PVA can support even more Veterans around the nation and help them live full, independent lives well after injury or diagnosis." This year's in-store donation drive will run at Food City's supermarket chain stores from **Now through July 25th.** Customers can select \$1, \$3, or \$5 donations at Food City checkouts and their gift amount will be added to their grocery bill. Food City will also offer customers an opportunity to donate as part of a charity round-up feature on their registers at checkout. "I am always honored to support PVA and their partnership with Food City," said Petty. "Being a part of such an awesome campaign is a real privilege." "We are proud to team up with Richard Petty and PVA in support of our nation's veterans," said Steven C. Smith, Food City president and chief executive officer. "We would like to thank our loyal customers and dedicated associates for their past generosity and invite them to once again join us in support of this critical mission." Food City is headquartered in Abingdon, Virginia, K-VA-T Food Stores (Food City's parent company) operates 150 retail outlets throughout southeast Kentucky, southwest Virginia, east Tennessee, north Georgia, and Alabama.

About Paralyzed Veterans of America

Paralyzed Veterans of America is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and the only congressionally chartered veterans service organization dedicated solely for the benefit and representation of veterans with spinal cord injury or diseases. The organization ensures veterans receive the benefits earned through service to our nation; monitors their care in VA spinal cord injury units; and funds research and education in the search for a cure and improved care for individuals with paralysis. As a life-long partner and advocate for veterans and all people with disabilities, PVA also develops training and career services, works to ensure accessibility in public buildings and spaces, and provides health and rehabilitation opportunities through sports and recreation. With more than 70 offices and 33 chapters, Paralyzed Veterans of America serves veterans, their families, and their caregivers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Learn more at <u>PVA.org</u>

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