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# MORNING FAX™

Today's News...This Morning

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Wednesday-December 26, 2012

Athens, Tennessee

## New Traffic Light on Highway 30

In case you haven't noticed, there is now a much-needed new traffic light at Highway 30 and County Road 750. In addition, the new four-lane highway is now open from the Athens city limits to County Road 609. (Photo by Jay Thomson)



## NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

- ◆ Freezing rain and sleet made for a sloppy Christmas in parts of the nation's midsection. Residents along the Gulf Coast and here in the Southeast are bracing for thunderstorms, high winds and possible tornadoes.
- ◆ A gunman who killed two volunteer firefighters and wounded two others in a Christmas Eve ambush in upstate New York left a typewritten note declaring his plan to burn down his neighborhood and start "killing people."
- ◆ Ben Affleck announced late Monday he would not go after John Kerry's Senate seat. Kerry has been tapped by the president to be the next Secretary of State.
- ◆ The head of Egypt's election commission says the new constitution has passed with a 63.8 percent "yes" vote in a referendum. The new constitution gives new powers to the Muslim Brotherhood's new president of Egypt.
- ◆ A policewoman who killed an American contractor in Kabul is a native Iranian who came to Afghanistan and displayed "unstable behavior" but no known links to any militants.
- ◆ The Obama administration has formally proposed a controversial sale of advanced spy drones to help South Korea bear more of its defense from any attack by the heavily armed North. Seoul has requested a possible \$1.2 billion sale of four Northrop Grumman Corp RQ-4 "Global Hawk" remotely piloted aircraft with enhanced surveillance capabilities.
- ◆ Movie lovers were more than upset when they went to Netflix Christmas Eve and found the online streaming service had crashed.

**The Outdoor Store**  
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**Don't Miss Our AFTER-Christmas Sale !!!**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 26th**  
**& Thursday, Dec. 27th**  
**10am-6pm**  
[www.athensoutdoorstore.com](http://www.athensoutdoorstore.com)

**the Y** **2012 Youth Basketball League**  
**Sign Ups going on Now**  
 Practice begins Jan. 7th & Season every T. & Th. Jan. 22nd-Feb.28th  
 1 child: M\$25, NM \$50; 2 Children: M\$45, NM \$85; 3 Children: M\$65, NM \$110. **745-4904**

## RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT

**Western Sizzlin Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike (745-2626)**  
**Wednesday (11a-4p)** Petite Sirloin + Side Item, Salad, Bakery, & Dessert Bars, \$7.99. **Wed.-Thur., 2-4 p.m.-Senior Buffet, \$4.99.** Fresh Rolls!

**Toscana Pizza & Italian Grill, Ingles Shopping Center, Athens 746-9900. SPECIAL: 11a-2:30p M-F-Pick up or dine-in only !** Any small Calzone or Stromboli, plus a drink, only \$5.99.

**BOjangles Famous Chicken & Biscuits-S. Cong. Parkway (744-5292)**  
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Morning Fax™

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Wednesday, December 26, 2012

Athens, Tennessee

## STATE & LOCAL NEWS

### ◆ BE PREPARED WHEN BAD WEATHER HITS

Athens Utilities Board has prepared a list of items for a Home Emergency Kit and a Vehicle Kit in the event of weather emergencies. The Home Kit includes a battery powered radio and extra batteries; a cell phone or single line phone (cordless phones don't work without electricity); a supply of foods that do not require cooking or refrigeration, such as energy bars, pop tarts, dried fruit, granola bars, and boxed and canned foods (with a manual can opener); water in bottles or clean containers; extra medications and special items for babies; flashlights and extra batteries; first-aid kit; and pet supplies.

The Vehicle Kit includes blankets or sleeping bags; windshield scraper; flashlight and extra batteries; extra clothing; shovel, bag or sand or cat litter; tow chain and battery charger; water and snacks; emergency flares.

### ◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Etowah Carnegie Library will have a free Wildlife Educational Program with Ranger Brad Hamby from the Ocoee Ranger District on Thursday, Dec. 27th, at 1 p.m. featuring a Red-tailed hawk, furs and pelts, and snakes.

✓ At this month's Athens City Council meeting, the VIVID (Very Important Volunteer Individual) Award was presented to Sonny and Christine Farner for their volunteer work at NHC HealthCare of Athens and the McMinn County Senior Center.

## OBITUARIES

**Lucille Donnini**, age 88, of Athens and formerly of Rhode Island, Florida, and Texas died last Friday at NHC. She lived with her daughter and son-in-law, Claudia and Mike Womack of Cumberland Hills. A family celebration of her life will take place at a later date. Memorials may be sent to the Athens Area Council for the Arts, 320 N. Jackson Street, Athens, TN 37303.

## Business News

✓ With only a week left before a deadline for the United States to go over a "fiscal cliff," lawmakers are still playing a waiting game in the hope that someone will produce a plan to avoid harsh budget cuts and higher taxes for most Americans beginning New Year's Day.

✓ House Speaker John Boehner says if both sides of the aisle are unable to reach agreement on the impending tax increases and giant budget cuts, the White House will "own it". Boehner says that if his "Plan B" had passed the House it would have gone down into defeat anyway under the democrat majority in the Senate and by the president.

✓ A 65-year-old man thought to be sleeping while sitting upright on a Berlin underground train as it criss-crossed the German capital was actually dead. Police said he appeared to die of natural causes. It's believed he had been on the train for about two days.

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## Today In History, December 26

Today is Boxing Day in several countries around the world. Boxing Day began when the Romans started the custom of tipping servants and others at the time of the winter solstice. Christian churches hung up boxes for offerings which were opened on the day after Christmas and the contents were distributed to the poor and needy. Today, in many countries, gifts of money are given to such people as letter carriers, newspaper carriers, garbage collections, and many others.

1865 - James Mason patented the coffee percolater.  
1921 - Entertainer Steve Allen was born. He hosted the popular "Tonight Show" on television in the 1950's and later hosted the "Steve Allen Show." He died in 2000.  
1972 - President Harry S Truman, our 33rd President, died at the age of 88. He was the president who ordered the atomic bombs dropped on Japan, bringing a quick end to World War II in August, 1945. He also coined the phrase, "The buck stops here."

## WEATHER

**Wednesday** - 90% rain. High winds. High-52 falling to 38.

**Wed. night** - Cloudy & cold. 20% snow showers. Low-29.

**Thursday** - Mostly sunny. High-in the mid 40's.

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[www.wyxi.com](http://www.wyxi.com)

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