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Today's News...This Morning

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Monday, December 12, 2016

Athens, Tennessee

Local and Area News

◆ SCHOOLS PLAY ROLE IN STORM RELIEF

Here's another story about the tornado recovery. Two McMinn County school buses were pressed into duty on Highway 307 immediately after the tornado hit. One bus was used as an ambulance to transport injured people to the hospital. The other bus was used as a shelter for some of the victims. Then, last Thursday students from McMinn and Central High Schools and their teachers worked side by side to clean up debris at the Daugherty dairy farm.



NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ Governor Haslam has petitioned President Obama asking him to expedite declaring McMinn County a federal disaster area along with Sevier, Polk, Coffee, and Sequatchie Counties. A presidential disaster declaration could help all five counties with the expenses associated with the cleanup of five tornadoes and the wildfires that destroyed over 2200 structures in Sevier County. Fourteen people lost their lives in the Sevier County wildfires while two people died in Polk County from the violent weather.

◆ ABC News Radio reports that ExxonMobil CEO Rex Tillerson has emerged as the likely pick for Secretary of State in the incoming Trump administration, with former United Nations Ambassador John Bolton likely to become deputy Secretary of State. Former Texas Governor Rick Perry may likely be picked by Trump to be the head of the Department of Energy.

◆ The pilot of the deadliest hot air balloon crash in U.S. history had seven different drugs in his system at the time of the accident. He and his 15 passengers died last July 30th in Texas. Three of the drugs legally prevent a pilot from obtaining a medical certificate.

◆ The Department of Transportation recently announced a proposal to require airlines to disclose whether their flights allow passengers to make voice calls via Wi-Fi.

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Monday, December 12, 2016 Morning Fax® ...Today's News This Morning - Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Former Athenian Wins Award

Darrell Patterson, a native of Athens, a former employee of WYXI Radio, and the sports director at News Channel 9 for 39 years, has received one of journalism's greatest honors in Tennessee. Patterson has been inducted into the Tennessee Journalism Hall of Fame in Murfreesboro. The photo shows Patterson with his trophy.



Obituaries

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• **Loring Rogers**, age 52, of Athens, died Sunday at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home.

DENSO HELPS TORNADO VICTIMS

Seventeen DENSO volunteers (shown below) sorted items for tornado victims last Thursday at the relief center at the American Bedding warehouse on Dennis Street.



Today In History, December 12th

- 1745** – John Jay, statesman and the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, was born in New York City.
- 1787** - Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.
- 1870** - Joseph H. Rainey of South Carolina took his seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, becoming the first black congressman.
- 1899** - The golfing tee was patented. Before the tee was invented, golfers would balance their ball on a small mound of sand.
- 1901** - A radio message was transmitted across the Atlantic Ocean for the first time. It consisted of the letter "S" in Morse Code, and traveled from England to Newfoundland.
- 1914** - The New York Stock Exchange re-opened for the first time since July 30. The market had shut down when World War I began.
- 1938** - Singer Connie Francis was born. Her biggest Christmas hit was "Baby's First Christmas."
- 1947** - The United Mine Workers union withdrew from the American Federation of Labor.
- 1963** - Kenya gained its independence from Great Britain.
- 1975** - Sara Jane Moore pleaded guilty to trying to kill President Gerald R. Ford.
- 1985** - A chartered DC-8 jet crashed in Newfoundland, killing all 250 U.S. troops on their way home for Christmas after duty in the Middle East.