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Today's News... This Morning

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Thursday, December 29, 2016

Athens, Tennessee

State & Local News

◆ DAVIS TO BE INTERIM POLICE CHIEF

Captain Rob Davis will serve as interim police chief of Athens until a permanent replacement for retiring Chief Chuck Ziegler is named. Ziegler is one of three long-time Athens City employees who are retiring at the end of the year. Human Resources Director Rita Brown and City Manager Mitch Moore wrap up their work this week. In-person interviews with the finalists for the city manager position are under way.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ Medic Blood Services will have a blood drive today at Walmart in Athens from noon to 7 p.m.
- ✓ The McMinn County Highway Department will be closed through Monday, January 2nd, for the New Year's holiday.
- ✓ The McMinn County Health Department will be closed next Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 2nd and 3rd, for the New Year's holiday.
- ✓ The McMinn County Trustee's Office will be closed Monday, January 2nd, for the New Year's holiday. If you plan to pay your county property taxes before the end of the year, you must pay at the Trustee's Office before 4 p.m. this Friday. You can also mail your payment early enough to be postmarked by December 31st or use the drop box located at the top of the steps on the Washington Avenue side of the Courthouse. If you have any questions, call the Trustee's Office at 745-1291.

National & World News

◆ The Times Square New Year's Eve crystal ball is just about ready to help ring in 2017, and at exactly one minute before midnight on New Year's Eve, the ball will begin its descent down a specially designed pole. This year's version of the crystal ball weighs close to 12,000 pounds, is 12 feet in diameter, and is covered by 2,688 crystal triangles and illuminated by more than 32,000 LED lights in different colors.

◆ Christian Gutierrez, a 19-year-old college student, accused of killing several Laysan albatross at a Hawaii nature reserve, pleaded not guilty Tuesday to animal cruelty. The Laysan albatross is a federally protected species. Gutierrez turned himself in to the Hawaii Department of Public Safety last week. He made arrangements with prosecutors to surrender while he was home in Honolulu for winter break from school. Gutierrez attends New York University.

◆ German authorities have detained a 40-year-old Tunisian man who "could have been involved in the attack" on a Christmas market in Berlin.

◆ The Obama Administration is expected to announce sometime Thursday the retaliatory steps it plans to take against Russia for the alleged cyber-assault that may have impacted the U.S. presidential election.

◆ Amazon.com Inc. shipped more than one billion items through Amazon Prime as well as its fulfillment services according to Bloomberg.com. Bloomberg also reports the company also setting sales records for its own Alexa device.

Hear

Dave Ramsey

Daily
 3 to 4 p.m. &
 7 to 9 p.m.

on **WYXI**
AM-1390 &
FM 94.5



We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to:
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RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



DECEMBER Specials» 2 Steak Biscuits 3.50• Cinnamon Biscuits-BOGO • Family Variety Feast, 8 pcs Bone In, 12 Tenders or Supremes, 8 Biscuits \$25.99•
BOJANGLES South Congress Parkway 744-5292



Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike
 Thursday (All Day) 8 oz Sizzlin' Top Sirloin w/ Salad Bar \$12.49. **MONDAY-FRIDAY, 2 TO 4 P.M.- SENIOR BUFFET (55+), \$5.99 Fresh Rolls Everyday! 745-2626**



Hoop's Italian Grill Now Open !
107 New Englewood Road, Athens - 453-5378
LUNCH Special: Lasagna, or Eggplant Parmesan w/Italian Bread \$5.99

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WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday - Partly Cloudy. High 52. Increasing winds.
Thursday Night - Clear and Colder. Low 32.
Friday - Sunny, breezy, & chilly. High 44.
Saturday - Mostly cloudy. Light rain. High 47.
 More Weather at: www.wyxi.com

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Thursday, December 29, 2016

Athens, Tennessee

Some of 2016's Biggest News Stories

The year 2016 began in McMinn County on January 1st with the birth of the year's first baby, Henley Kate Presley, and ended with the tornado that tore a 10-mile-long path through Athens in the early morning hours of November 30th.

There was a lot of news in between.

- Death claimed businessman Nat Moore, pharmacist Jack Wallace, and author and speaker Nell Mohny. Longtime pastor and teacher Oran Creasman died several days after being injured in a car wreck near Riceville.
- Tennessee Wesleyan College became Tennessee Wesleyan University.
- Barry Willis was named "Man of the Year" at the Athens Area Chamber of Commerces Annual Awards Banquet in January.
- The Etowah Area Chamber of Commerce presented the R. Frank McKinney Distinguished Service Award to Marilyn Joiner, president of The Friends of the Library.
- Athens voters defeated a 3/4% increase in the local sales tax in a referendum in March.
- Keith Harris Taylor, 51, was shot to death by two males who came into an apartment on Forrest Avenue and started shooting on January 6th. So far, Athens police have not made any arrests

Obituaries

- **Ernie Simpson**, age 72, of Etowah, died Tuesday. Funeral arrangements will be announced by M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home.
- **Frank "Yankee" Fairweather**, age 79, died December 21st at Starr Regional Health and Rehabilitation in Etowah. Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. this coming Saturday at Coghill Baptist Church, 104 County Road 810, Etowah.
- **Ethel Frances Hubbard DuBose**, age 92, of Manning, S. C. died Tuesday in Etowah at the home of her daughter, Bonnie Stephens. There will be no formal visitation or funeral srvices. Burial will be later in Virginia. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.
- **Albert Alvin Coleman**, age 94, of Athens, died Wednesday at his home. He was a veteran of the US Army, having served in Germany during WWII. He had also owned and operated Coleman's Paint and Body Shop. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Woodward Avenue Church of God with visitation from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Wednesday's Market Report: U.S. stocks finished lower as the Dow eluded the 20,000 mark once again. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 111.36 at 19,833.68. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 18.96 at 2,249.92, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was down 48.89 at 5,438.56.

An Evening of Healing, Hope, and Helping

December 29, 7-9 pm
Athens City Middle School
200 Keith Lane, Athens
Event is Free



Kinslee Melhorn

Sounds of Summer is hosting an evening of healing, hope and helping, to raise money for the victims of the recent tornado in McMinn County. The evening will feature the music of Kinslee Melhorn and September Song. Guests will include McMinn County Mayor John Gentry and the City of Athens Mayor Chuck Burris. The United Way will be collecting money which will be used specifically for the victims and their needs.



September Song

BIG AD

SMALL PRICE

**For Information,
call 746-1390 or**

email:

wyxi@bellsouth.net