

State & Local News

◆ CLEANUP CONTINUES ON HIGHWAY 307

Volunteers, including men from the Mennonite Community, continue to work in the tornado-ravaged area along Highway 307. DENSO sent 28 volunteers earlier this week to help with tornado relief efforts. A DENSO spokesperson observed that there is still much work to be done. Two of the DENSO volunteers are pictured below. (Photo by Victoria White)



National - World News

◆ A powerful band of thunderstorms over California this week has swollen rivers, downed trees and prompted many to evacuate, with more days of heavy rain in the forecast.

◆ Rex Tillerson, President-elect Donald Trump's pick to be the next U.S. Secretary of State, suggested to lawmakers that the United States would enforce a stronger, more assertive role overseas than the Obama administration, if he is confirmed.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Etowah Public Works Department is opening a drop-off Recycling Center at its facility located off Scott Avenue in Etowah. The recycling center will be open Monday-Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will accept all types of plastics, paper, cardboard, used motor oil, and much more. Call 263-7031 if you have questions.

✓ The Athens Parks Department says as of Wednesday, 466 tickets remained for the Saturday 1 p.m. Daddy-Daughter Dance, 406 tickets for the Saturday 4 p.m. dance, 193 tickets for the Saturday night dance, and 255 tickets for the Friday night dance.

✓ The Athens-McMinn Ministerial Association will conduct a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Service on Monday, January 16th at 12:05 p.m. at Mars Hill Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Roxanne Sherles will be bringing the message. The congregation at Mars Hill will be offering a free fellowship luncheon following the service.





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Athens Federal Grant Recipients

Forty-four charitable and non-profit organizations recently received more than \$119,000 in grants from the Athens Federal Foundation-an institution formed in 2009 as part of Athens Federal Community Bank's stock conversion. Foundation President and CEO Jeff Cunningham says the foundation strives to endow the community in its most pressing time of need. The 44 organizations carry out work ranging from helping the uninsured receive proper medical care to providing warm meals for the hungry. Each group was recognized during the foundation's annual luncheon at the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum. The 2016 recipients included CASA Corridor of East Tennessee, The H.O.P.E. Center, McMinn County Senior Citizens Center, the Athens-McMinn Family YMCA, Women at the Well, E.G. Fisher Public Library, Tri-County Center, Morning Star Ministries, The Grace House of Athens, Coordinated Charities, Habitat for Humanity, Grace & Mercy Ministries, Miracle Lake, the Good Faith Clinic, Full Circle Medical Center for Women, and more. A photograph of the recipients is shown below.



Wednesday's Market Report

• U.S. stocks finished higher as investors digested remarks made during President-elect Donald Trump's press conference:

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 98.75 at 19,954.28. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 6.42 at 2,275.32, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 11.83 at 5,563.65. In Commodity markets, the spot price of gold rose \$3.61 to \$1,191.36. The spot price of silver fell \$0.04 to \$16.75, and crude oil prices rose \$1.53 to \$52.35.

◆ TENNESSEE'S MOST POPULAR BABY NAMES

Tennessee Health Department officials say William and Emma remained the top baby names in the state in 2016. William has been the most popular name for baby boys born in Tennessee for a decade. Emma has been the most popular baby girl name since 2011. After Emma, the most popular girl names were Olivia, Ava, Harper, Isabella, Amelia, Elizabeth, Ella, Charlotte, and Abigail. After William, Elijah and James tied for second-most popular boy names, followed by Mason, Noah, a tie between Jackson and Liam, a tie between John and Michael, Benjamin, Aiden, Jacob, and Carter.

TODAY IN HISTORY—JANUARY 12th

1628 - Charles Perrault, author of "Cinderella" and "Sleeping Beauty," was born in Paris. He also wrote "Little Red Riding Hood" and "Tom Thumb." His writings were published in a book titled "Tales of Mother Goose."

1905 - Tex Ritter, singer and cowboy movie star, was born. He sang the Academy Award winning song from the 1952 film, "High Noon."

1951 - The nation's most popular radio talk show host, Rush Limbaugh, was born. You can hear him each weekday afternoon at 12:06 p.m. on <u>WYXI FM 94.5 & AM 1390</u>.

1966 - The TV show "Batman" debuted on ABC.

1991 - A deeply divided Congress gave President George H.W. Bush the authority to use force to expel Iraq from Kuwait. (The Senate vote was 52-47; the House followed suit 250-183.)

