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# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

Today's News... This Morning

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Friday, February 24, 2017

Athens, Tennessee

## State & Local News

### ◆ ATHENS POLICE/FIRE REPORTS FOR JAN.

At their monthly Council meeting this past Tuesday, Athens City Council members got the reports on police and fire department activities for January.

Interim Police Chief Rob Davis reported there were 56 thefts in the city of Athens in January. There were 16 assaults, 13 burglaries, 9 motor vehicle thefts, and 2 sex offenses. Officers wrote 453 citations for moving violations. There were 76 traffic accidents in Athens in January, with six injuries. Thirty-five of the traffic accidents were on private property, such as business parking lots. Davis reported there are two vacancies on the police department.

Athens Fire Chief Jim Dyer reported that firefighters responded to 68 calls during January. Eight of the calls were to vehicle accidents, two were to vehicle fires, and two were to trash fires. There were 19 false alarms. Chief Dyer said losses for the month totaled \$8,550.

### ◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ The McMinn County Trustee's Office and the Athens Finance Department reminds you that February 28th is the last day you can pay property taxes before interest and penalty must be added.
- ✓ The McMinn County Commission will hold its monthly meeting next Monday, February 27th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Blue Room of the Courthouse.

## National & World News

◆ The protest site for the Dakota Access pipeline was cleared Thursday afternoon after some demonstrators refused to leave Wednesday, when a deadline for evacuation passed. About 50 demonstrators remained in the camp when law enforcement made announcements to disperse or be arrested. About two dozen people who did not comply were arrested.

◆ The Trump administration revoked a federal guidance established by the Obama administration that directed schools to allow transgender students to use restrooms aligning with their gender identity. The U.S. Justice and Education Departments said in a letter to schools on Wednesday that the issue of bathroom access for transgender students should be determined by states instead of the federal government. The letter added that the Obama administration's guidance caused legal confusion and sparked lawsuits.

### ◆ MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- The Camp Living Stones Pig Roast will be Saturday, Feb. 25th, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost is \$8 per plate and \$4 for kids. In addition to barbeque, there will be zip lines, music, games, and bonfires. Camp Living Stones is located at 534 County Road 876.
- **Let's Read 20** is collecting new and gently used books. Donations can be taken to the Athens City Schools Administration Office, the McMinn County Board of Education Office, Etowah City School, AUB, and the Tennessee Technology Center.

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### AMERICAN LEGION POST 68 FISH FRY TODAY

5-7 p.m. at The VFW Post on Congress Parkway North  
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### WEATHER FORECAST

**Friday** - Areas of patchy fog early. Sunshine and clouds mixed. High near 75.  
**Fri. Night** - 90% rain & t'storms. Low near 50.  
**Saturday** - Partly sunny. High 51.  
**Sunday** - Sunny. High 53.  
More Weather at: [wxyi.com](http://wxyi.com)

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Friday, February 24, 2017 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

## Church News and Events

- ✓ North Etowah Baptist Church will have a revival with Evangelist Joe McKeever Feb. 26th—March 1st. Sunday morning service begins at 10:50 a.m. The nightly services are at 6 p.m.
- ✓ St. Mark AME Zion Church will have a Black History program this Sunday at 3:30 p.m. The guest speakers will be Jim Thompson from Trinity United Methodist Church and Tony Murdic from Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, who is also the son of a Tuskegee Airman.
- ✓ Keith Memorial United Methodist Church will hold its winter Medic blood drive on Wednesday, March 1st from 12 noon to 7 p.m. The drive will be held inside the church, and all blood types are needed. For information, call 745-2616.
- ✓ Christ Community Church will present **Tony Evan's Kingdom Marriage Video Seminar** beginning March 4th from 7 to 8 p.m. It is a free 6-week study. For more information, call Kenney Hale at 368-2191. Tony Evans is a regular speaker on Focus on the Family's daily radio show.
- ✓ St. Mark AME Zion Church will have a Men's Day Breakfast on Saturday, March 11th, at 9 a.m. The speaker will be Rev. Larry Woods. Tickets are \$5. The speaker on Sunday, March 12th, at the 11 a.m. Men's Day Service will be Rev. Alvin Gwethney.
- ✓ A Black History Tea will be held Sunday afternoon, February 26th from 4 to 6 p.m. at Lane Chapel Church, Niota. For more information call Sharon Bradley at 423-920-0931.

## Obituaries

- ♦ **Betty Smith Bigham**, age 82, of Athens, died Monday. She was a librarian and teacher at Mountain View Elementary School and McMinn Central High School for more than 30 years. A celebration of life service will be held at 7 p.m. Friday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.
- ♦ **Kimberly Ann Holt**, age 60, of Etowah, died Wednesday at her residence. She worked in the medical field for 40 years at Starr Regional (Woods Memorial Hospital) and Tennova (Bradley Memorial). Graveside services will be held next Tuesday, Feb. 28th, at New Providence Baptist Church Cemetery in Tellico Plains. There will be no formal visitation. Serenity F.H. is in charge
- ♦ **Roy Franklin Anderson**, age 90, of Athens, died on Thursday at Parkwest Medical Center. He was owner of Anderson & Dunn Auto Repair. A funeral service will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home with visitation from 1 to 2 p.m.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT TAKES GUN TO SCHOOL**  
A student at Athens City Middle School has been suspended from school pending a disciplinary hearing after an unloaded handgun was found hidden above the ceiling tiles in a bathroom. Video surveillance shows the boy going into the bathroom to see if the weapon was still there. Police charged him with carrying a weapon on school property. Middle School Principal Mike Simmons says the student did not intend any harm, but was trying to trade or sell the gun.



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SPECIAL**

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### TODAY IN HISTORY- February 24th

- 1841** - John Phillip Holland, inventor of the submarine, was born.
- 1868** - The House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson following his attempt to fire Secretary of War Edwin Stanton. The Senate later acquitted Johnson.
- 1903** - The United States signed an agreement acquiring a naval station at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.
- 1920** - A group of Germans organized the National Socialist Party, the forerunner of the Nazi Party that later would be led by Adolf Hitler.
- 1942** - The Voice of America went on the air for the first time.
- Born On This Day:** Actor Steven Hill, composer Michel Legrand, former Georgia Governor and U.S. Senator Zell Miller, actor James Farentino, singer Rupert Holmes, broadcast journalist Paula Zahn, and country singer Sammy Kershaw.