

State & Local News

♦ HIGHWAY 30 IN RHEA TO BE STRAIGHTENED

There's good news for motorists who travel Highway 30 to Dayton. The governor's list of road projects for fiscal year 2018 includes eight miles of Highway 30 from the Tennessee River to Dayton. Jennifer Flynn with the Tennessee Department of Transportation says due to numerous environmental issues along the route, the project will not be a four-lane roadway. Instead, it will be an improved twolane road with turn lanes where needed. Flynn says the project is funded for preliminary engineering in FY 2018, which is the first phase in developing a project. Other phases will follow, including environmental impact, right-of-way acquisition, and finally the construction phase.

♦ JAIL ESCAPEES CAUGHT IN DECATUR

Two inmates who escaped from the Sevier County Jail by jumping over the fence have been captured in Decatur. Police arrested the men behind a fast food restaurant. They were in a pickup truck they had stolen from a hardware store in downtown Sevierville. The inmates, Clyde Lee Martin and Robert A. Sosa, have been returned to Sevier County to face felony escape charges.

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National & World News

◆ The threat level in the Manchester region has been raised from severe to critical following Monday's attack. Soldiers will now be deployed at public events and police officers will be replaced by armed military officers. Military officers may also be deployed at key events.

◆ On Tuesday, the U.S. government filed suit against Fiat Chrysler, alleging the automaker equipped more than 100,000 vehicles with so-called defeat devices that circumvent federal emission standards. The software was installed on diesel fueled Jeep Grand Cherokee and Ram 1500 in model years 2013 to 2016. The automaker "intends to defend itself vigorously", particularly against any claims that the company engaged in any deliberate scheme to install defeat devices to cheat U.S. emissions tests, adding that its officials have been working with the EPA to "clarify issues related to the company's emissions control technology."

◆ The Senate Intelligence Committee has announced two new subpoenas against former national security adviser Michael Flynn to compel him to turn over documents related to his contact with the Russians. Flynn risks being held in contempt of Congress if he does not comply with the requests.

HELMS NAMED TO ETOWAH COMMISSION Robert "Roby" Helms has been chosen to fill the vacancy on the Etowah City Commission which was open due to the resignation of Jason Cardin. Helms was one of eight applicants for the post. The vote to name Helms to the commission was 3 to 1.





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

House Fire on County Road 504

A fire early Monday morning destroyed a house on County Road 504. Firefighters from the Englewood and Etowah Rural Fire Departments responded. No one was at home at the time.

(Photo by Lynn Ingram with the Englewood Rural Fire Dept.)



Obituaries

• Annie Jo Johnson, age 85, of Etowah, died Tuesday at Starr Regional Health & Rehabilitation Center of Etowah. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Bordwine Funeral Home.

• Harvey Durell Raper, age 67, of Decatur, died Monday at his home. He had worked at Pioneer Furniture and was a Vietnam veteran serving in the U.S. Marine Corp. A funeral service will be held Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Ziegler Funeral Home with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. at Ziegler.

• Clyde Borden, age 83, of Niota, died Tuesday at his home. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Ziegler Funeral Home.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Athens Arts Council will be holding art camps for students K-12 this summer. To sign up, call 745-8781.

✓ The McMinn Senior Center will host a Beginners Drawing Class tomorrow, May 25th, from 9 to 10 a.m. The class is free to seniors, but pre-registration is encouraged. Call 745-6830.

✓ The American Legion Post 68 will have its monthly Fish Fry this Friday from 5 to 7:15 p.m. at Mars Hill Presbyterian Church.

✓ The McMinn Regional Humane Society will host a "spayghetti" dinner Thursday, May 25th, at the McMinn Senior Center from 2 to 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$10.

✓ A benefit car wash will be held this Saturday and Sunday at Advance Auto Parts at 1410 Decatur Pike to help local artist Bill McDonald and his wife, Sharon, who has terminal cancer.

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