

Local & State News

ANOTHER QUAKES HITS THE AREA

A small earthquake measuring a magnitude of 1.7 was recorded at 11:23 p.m. Wednesday centered 13.9 miles NW of Athens.

◆ 2018 WAS A WET YEAR!

TVA says 2018 was the wettest year on record in the Tennessee Valley, with an average of 67.1 inches of rain across the valley. Athens Utilities Board recorded 86.56 inches of rain in 2018.

◆ BLACKBURN & BURCHETT TAKE SEATS

Tennessee's new U.S. senator, Marsha Blackburn, was sworn into office yesterday. Also former Knox County mayor Tim Burchett was sworn in as a new U.S. representative. Burchett is the first person not named "John Duncan" to represent the 2nd Congressional District of Tennessee in more than 50 years. John Duncan, Sr., represented the district from 1965 until his death in 1988. He was succeeded by his son, John "Jimmy" Duncan, Jr., who did not run for re-election in 2018.

TWRA SAYS PYGMY RATTLER IS ENDANGERED

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency says the Western Pygmy rattlesnake that lives in a narrow area along the Tennessee River in West Tennessee is threatened. TWRA says it is against the law to kill any snake in Tennessee. The Pygmy rattler is 15 to 20 inches long with tiny rattlers. They eat insects, lizards, and small mammals.



National & World News

• President Trump made a surprise appearance in the White House press briefing room Thursday where he congratulated Rep. Nancy Pelosi on her election as the next House speaker and again advocated for the construction of a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

◆ According to a study by moving company United Van Line, more people moved out of New Jersey than any other state in 2018 with 66.8 percent of the moves being outbound and 34.73 percent listed work as their reason for leaving, and another 34.51 percent listed their reason as retirement.

HAVE YOU SEEN THEM?

The McMinn County Sheriff's Office is trying to identify two people they believe may have been involved in a burglary last December 14th



on County Road 408. If you have any information about them, call Detective Tim Carver at 745-5620.





fun than a human being should be allowed to have WYXI FM 94.5 & AM 1390



Feel free to copy, post or otherwise distribute) (Phone: 745-1390 Fax: 744-1390 e-mail: wyxi@bellsouth.net) WEATHER FORECAST Friday - Near 100% chance of rain. High of 60 and a low overnight of 39. Saturday - Sunny. High 57 and a low of 34. Sunday - Mostly sunny. High 61. Low overnight 40. More Weather at: <u>wyxi.com</u>

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

• Herbert T. Kurz, age 98, of Athens, died December 29th, • 2018, at a Hospice residence in Nashville. He was born in Newark, New Jersey, and had lived in Athens since 1964. He was a B-24 heavy bomber pilot in the Pacific Theatre during World War 2. He flew over 1,000 combat mission hours and was awarded two Purple Hearts. After the war, he became an electrical engineer. He also repaired and restored clocks and reed pump organs. A memorial to celebrate his life will be held at Allen Memorial Methodist Church in Athens this Sunday at 4 p.m.

• Jean (Emma Jean) Ziegler Hagler, age 78, of Ten Mile, died Wednesday at Parkwest Hospital. She had been a school teacher and later a business partner in Hagler Farms in Ten Mile. The family will receive friends from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday at Bowers Funeral Home. An additional celebration of life will be hosted at a date to be announced later.

• Jimmy Ray O'Daniel, age 82, of Athens, died Thursday at his home. He was retired from Thomas & Betts. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Ziegler Funeral Home, with visitation from 1 to 2 p.m.

Church News & Events

- The monthly Community Harvest Share will be held this afternoon (Friday) from 2:30 to 3 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 425 8th Street, in Etowah. There will be free locally grown vegetables for all, including potatoes, winter squash, carrots, greens, and cabbage.
- Voice of Deliverance Ministry will have a revival on January 9th-11th. The services begin at 7:30 nightly. The guest speaker each night will be Superintendent James Summers. The church is located at 520 Old Riceville Road in Athens.
- The group "2 Way Favor" will be in concert on January 13th at the Athens Christian Church on South Matlock Road. The concert will go from 6 to 7 p.m. Afterwards a love offering will be taken.
- The Athens Nazarene Church on West Madison Avenue is hosting a budgeting and debt elimination workshop on January 26th. The four-hour seminar includes a working lunch at a cost of \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. The workshop will be led by Pastor David Spann, a licensed attorney and trained budgeting and debt counselor. To register for the workshop, call 453-2041 and leave your name and contact information.

TODAY IN HISTORY—JANUARY 4th

1785 - Jacob Grimm, the man who collected "Grimm's Fairy Tales," was born in Germany.

1809 - Louis Braille, the blind French teacher who developed the system of raised dots to allow the blind to read, was born. When he was three years old, an accident left him blind.

- 1896 Utah was admitted to the Union as the 45th state.
- **1948 -** Britain granted independence to Burma.
- 1951 North Korean and Communist Chinese forces captured the city of Seoul during the Korean War.
- **1955** Country singer Kathy Forester was born. She is one of the Forester Sisters.

1957 - Country and bluegrass singer Patty Loveless was born. One of her biggest hit records is "If My Heart Had Windows."

1961 - The world's longest strike ended on this date. The barbers' assistants of Copenhagen, Denmark, had refused to work for 33 years.

1965 - President Lyndon B. Johnson outlined the goals of his "Great Society" in his State of the Union address.

1974 - President Richard Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

1999 - Former professional wrestler Jesse Ventura was sworn in as governor of Minnesota.

2007 - Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., became the first female speaker of the House.

2010 - Dubai opened the world's tallest skyscraper, the 2,717-foot gleaming glass-and-metal tower Burj Khalifa.