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# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

Today's News... This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute with attribution)  
(Phone: 746-1390 Fax: 744-1390 e-mail: [wysi@bellsouth.net](mailto:wysi@bellsouth.net))

**WEATHER FORECAST**  
**Friday** - Mild with periods of rain. High 59.  
**Friday Night** - Occasional rain. Low 48.  
**Saturday** - Cloudy with some rain. High 53.  
**Saturday Night** - Partly cloudy & colder. Low 30.  
 Weather at: [wysi.com](http://wysi.com)

Friday, January 3, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

## McMinn's 1st Traffic Death in 2020

McMinn County has recorded its first traffic death of the new year. It happened around 7:30 Wednesday night on Highway 411 north of Englewood. A motorcycle rider traveling the wrong direction slammed into an oncoming Chevy Suburban, and was dead on the scene. The Tennessee Highway Patrol identifies the victim as 69-year-old Mark Hart of Etowah. Trooper Eric Diaz says Hart was going southbound in the northbound lane near CR 410 when he hit the Suburban head on.



The motorcycle burst into flames. Hart was ejected onto the shoulder of the road. The driver of the Suburban was not injured. The Englewood Rural Fire Department responded.

(Photos by Lynn Ingram with the Englewood Rural Fire Dept)

## House Destroyed in Decatur

Investigators are working to find out what caused a home to burn down Tuesday night in Decatur. Firefighters were called to Hut-sell Drive on New Year's Eve to put out the fire. Nobody was inside at the time. Decatur Fire Chief Eddie Jewell says he believes the fire was not an accident and that somebody set the fire from inside the home. When crews arrived, the doors were locked and the homeowners' dogs were already outside.

(Photo courtesy of: [newschannel9.com/](http://newschannel9.com/))



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**RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT**

**WESTERN SIZZLIN** **FRIDAY AND SATURDAY (All Day)** Enjoy our "All You Can Eat" Salad & Buffet Bar This Weekend! Dine In Only! No Other Discounts Fresh Homemade Rolls Made Everyday!! 1804 Decatur Pike 745-2626

**Bojangles** **January Specials >>** 2 Sausage Biscuits \$2 • 2 Pc Dinner (1 leg, 1 thigh, 1 fixin + 1 Biscuit) \$3.99 • 20 Pc Box + 10 biscuits \$20.99 • 5 Meals for \$5 ea. • 3 Supreme or 3 Homestyle + Biscuit \$3.99 ea • 32 oz Tea \$1

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**Friday, January 3, 2020**

**Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2**

**Athens, Tennessee**

## Obituaries

♦ **Delores Gail Inzer Baker**, age 66, of Cleveland died Wednesday at her residence. She was a Special Ed Teacher for Athens City School System. Funeral services will be Saturday at 7 p.m. at Ziegler Funeral Home with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

**THURSDAY'S MARKET REPORT:** The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 330 points or 1.2% to 28,869. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 27 points or 0.8% to 3,258. The NASDAQ Composite Index was up 120 points or 1.3% to 9,092.

## Church News and Events

- Athens Lutheran Church will be sponsoring bingo on Wednesday, January 8th, at 10 a.m. at the McMinn County Senior Activity Center. Lunch will follow at 11 a.m. provided by the members of Athens Lutheran Church.

- Jones Chapel UMC will have their 15th annual ladies conference, "Seasons of Life," on January 11th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. The cost is \$10 per person. Lunch will be served, The guest speaker will be Stephanie Greene from Benton. For more information, call Tammy Barker at 920-1236.

- Celebrate Recovery meets each Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Englewood Church of God.

## More of 2019's Big Stories

- In 2019, Athens Federal Community Bank merged with CapStar Bank and changed its name to CapStar.
- The SplashPad opened at Athens Regional Park.
- Former President George W. Bush was in Athens in June to speak at the annual Athens Chamber of Commerce fundraising dinner.
- On August 1st, John McLain became the new CEO at Starr Regional Medical Centers of Athens and Etowah.
- In August, Athens voters said yes to raising the local sales tax by .75%. The vote was 871 for and 703 against. The major portion of the new revenue will go to the Athens City Schools for a proposed new "mega school" at City Park School.
- Governor Bill Lee and other dignitaries were in Athens in September to participate in the groundbreaking ceremony of the new McMinn Higher Education Center.
- Dean Foods, the parent company of Mayfield Dairy, reported it had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Dean Foods said it may sell its business to the Dairy Farmers of America.
- Dr. Melanie Miller, director of the Athens City Schools, announced plans to retire effective next June 30th.
- In November, Joseph Wielzen was found guilty of first degree murder and rape in the death of Kelsey Burnette of Etowah in 2017. He was sentenced to life without parole.

### TODAY IN HISTORY - JANUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>

**1521** - Martin Luther was excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church.

**1892** - J.R.R. Tolkien, author of the fantasy novel "Lord of the Rings," was born.

**1938** - The March of Dimes campaign to fight polio was started. It was founded by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. It financed the research that produced the Salk and Sabin vaccines, which helped to prevent polio.

**1959** - Alaska became the 49th state. The U.S. bought Alaska from Russia in 1867 for \$7.2 million which amounted to about 2-cents per acre.

**1961** - The United States severed diplomatic relations with Cuba.

**1967** - Jack Ruby, the man who fatally shot accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, died in a Dallas hospital.

**1990** - Ousted Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega surrendered to U.S. forces, 10 days after taking refuge in the Vatican's diplomatic mission in Panama City.

*Chatta Valley Boys will be singing*  
*Sunday Morning at 10:45 at*  
*First Baptist*  
*Church of Niota*

**6 Main St.,**  
**Downtown Niota**  
**Please come**  
**and be Blessed**



*Sunday School: 9:45 (classes for all ages)*

*Worship Service: 10:45*

*Life on Wednesdays @ 6:00*

*Please come and Worship the Lord with Us*

*Everyone is Welcome!*

*Pastor: Cullen Conner*