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Today's News...This Morning

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MEDIC

Monday, December 21, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

Community News You Can Use

✓ The Athens City Council and the Athens City School Board meet at 5 p.m. today to award the bid for construction of Phase 1 of the Athens School Building Project. Phase 1 involves construction of a building for Pre-K through 2nd Grade at the current site of City Park Elementary School. The low bid was \$32.15 million by Merit Construction.

✓ A groundbreaking for the new Athens City Schools building project at City Park is scheduled for December 28th at 2 p.m.

✓ Santa Claus is coming to town! Santa will be riding in the back of a white pickup truck and will be escorted by the Athens Fire Department through the neighborhoods around Ingleside Ave, S. Jackson St., Highway 11 and Highway 30 on Tuesday, Dec. 22nd, from 5 to 9 p.m. He will visit the North City and City Park areas on Wednesday, Dec. 23rd, from 5 to 9 p.m.

Governor Bill Lee has announced that First Lady Maria Lee has tested positive for COVID-19. The governor says his wife has mild symptoms of COVID. Governor Lee says he is feeling well with no symptoms and has tested negative. He has decided to quarantine himself at the Governor's residence.

LISTENING REMINDER: The guest on Main Street Moments on Tuesday will be Kelli Jamerson with Standing Ovation 19. The interview will be heard at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio: AM-1390 FM-94.5 & ONLINE

James & Dolly Reunited

"James," the crane, has been reunited with "Dolly," in front of the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum. The two crane sculptures were created by "Topiary" Joe Kyte of Tellico. James disappeared a couple of weeks ago. Museum Director Ann Davis says a woman found him last Thursday in the island on W. Madison Avenue in front of Toomey and Baggett Eyecare. The lady who found the sculpture realized what it was because she had seen a picture in The Morning Fax. Ms. Davis says they may have to secure James and Dolly with chains and concrete!





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Monday, December 21, 2020 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page





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Obituaries

- Gerald Perry, age 64, of Lenoir City, died Thursday at Ft. Loudoun Medical Center. He was the pastor of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church in Niota. Funeral services were held on Sunday.
- Linda Yvonne Torbett, age 68, of Englewood, died Thursday at home. She was a graduate of Tennessee Tech University majoring in biology which led to a 33-year career with TVA in Knoxville. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 21st, at Englewood First Church of God, with visitation from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at the church. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.
- Don Ray Watkins, age 71, of Maryville (but a resident of Niota), died December 14th. He worked for Alcoa Aluminum for 35 years and drove a Blount County school bus for 35 years. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date at Wesleyanna Methodist Church on County Road 609. Companion is in charge of arrangements.

Obituaries - continued

◆ Jean Daniels Ford, age 78, of Midlothian, Virginia (and formerly of Athens), died on December 13th. A family memorial will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to First Baptist Church of Athens where she was a member for many years.

♦ MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ The annual Etowah Community Christmas Concert presented by the Thursday Music Study Club will be Virtual tomorrow at 7 p.m. The concert features the Etowah Town Band & will be live on the Etowah First Baptist Church Facebook page.
- ✓ MEDIC Regional Blood Center is hosting their Annual Pint Before Christmas Promotion. There is a critical need for O Positive, O Negative, A Positive, and Plasma donations.

NOTE: Winter begins at 5:02 a.m. today.

◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE SUNDAY P.M.

Tennessee: 519,687 cases, up 9,689. 6,071 deaths, up 54. COUNTY CASES RECOVERED ACTIVE DEATHS **McMinn** 3,899 up 68 3.174 665 60 Meigs 840 up 23 196 630 14 up 1 Monroe 3,328 up 87 2,661 616 51 up 1 Polk 1,022 up 20 812 195 15 **Bradley** 8,060 up 169 1,427 60 up 3 6,573 Rhea 2,763 up 75 2,135 584 44 up 1

TODAY IN HISTORY - December 21st

- 1620 Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower went ashore for the first time at present-day Plymouth, Massachusetts. 1861 - President Abraham Lincoln signed a congressional act authorizing the Navy Medal of Honor.
- 1864 During the Civil War, Union forces led by Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman concluded their "March to the Sea" as they captured Savannah, Georgia.
- 1891 The first basketball game, devised by James Naismith, is believed to have been played at the International YMCA Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts. (The final score of this experimental game: 1-0.)
- 1913 The first newspaper crossword puzzle, billed as a "Word-Cross Puzzle," was published in the New York World.
- 1914 The U.S. government began requiring passport applicants to provide photographs of themselves. 1945 - U.S. Army Gen. George S. Patton, 60, died in Heidelberg, Germany, 12 days after being seriously injured in a car
- 1967 Louis Washkansky, the first human heart transplant recipient, died at a hospital in Cape Town, South Africa, 18 days after receiving the donor organ.
- 1968 Apollo 8 was launched on a mission to orbit the moon.
- 1969 Vince Lombardi coached his last football game as his team, the Washington Redskins, lost to the Dallas Cowboys, 20-10.
- 1988 270 people were killed when a terrorist bomb exploded aboard a Pam Am Boeing 747 over Lockerbie, Scotland, sending wreckage crashing to the ground.
- 1991 Eleven of the 12 former Soviet republics proclaimed the birth of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the death of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
- 1995 The city of Bethlehem passed from Israeli to Palestinian control.