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Outreach Deliverance Classes are held every Thursday 7:00 pm at Planted in Christ Outreach Fellowship. Located at: 317 Maple Street in Athens. For more information: call 423-435-8986

Morning Fax[®]

Today's News... This Morning

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Wednesday, December 29, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

Community News You Can Use

✓ The Athens Public Works Department advises that the Municipal Building, Public Works, and Animal Shelter will be closed this Friday for New Year's. The Recycle Center will be closed both Friday and Saturday. All residential garbage routes will be on the regular schedule.

✓ The Athens Public Works Department advises that due to land-fill issues, the residential and commercial refuse collection route this week may be delayed. If your garbage tote is not picked up on the designated day, leave it out to be picked up the following day.

NOTE: The death toll from COVID took a big jump this week as a result of the Tennessee Department of Health adding deaths that for various reasons had not been reported in a timely manner.

◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Tuesday 12/28

Tennessee: 1,388,601 cases, up 6,480. 20,738 deaths, up 125

COUNTY	CASES	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	11,122 up 32	141 up 15	196
Meigs	2,343 up 10	42 up 6	46 up 1
Monroe	10,290 up 29	134 up 17	194 up 1
Polk	3,364 up 13	45 up 8	50
Bradley	23,492 up 89	400 up 53	318 up 2
Rhea	7,373 up 12	94 up 6	128 up 1

Murder Suspect Captured

One day after being spotted in McMinn County, a Georgia murder suspect has been captured in Scott County. Brian Wiseman was taken into custody at a vacant house Monday night. Wiseman was seen Sunday in Englewood, and later that day he was spotted in Madisonville.

CR 902 MAN DESCRIBES ESCAPE FROM FIRE

The occupant of the house that was destroyed by fire on County Road 902 near Etowah last Thursday morning says he is thankful to have escaped with his life. Corey Clark, 30, says he got home from his job at Denso early that morning and went to bed, with his three dogs in the bedroom with him. At some point, he heard his smoke detector beeping, like it does when the batteries need to be changed. Finally, he got up to remove the batteries. When he opened the bedroom door, he discovered the house was on fire. He barely managed to get out, along with his dogs, but the house was destroyed. Corey suffered minor smoke inhalation and received a minor burn on the top of his head. Everything he owned was destroyed, right down to things like photographs, keepsakes, and important papers like his drivers license and Social Security card. Fortunately, he had insurance on both the house and contents, so the insurance company is putting him up in a hotel temporarily. He says friends and members of his church have donated tons of clothing. He wants to say thank you to everyone who has helped him out, and he asks for your prayers.

RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



NEW: Hand Breaded Chicken Sandwich \$3.99
Pork Chop Biscuits 2 / \$6 • 32 oz Tea

Due to Staffing Shortages, the Athens Bojangles will be closed on SUNDAY ONLY DURING JANUARY

Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits BOJANGLES of Athens-South Congress Pkwy 744-5292

MEDIC

REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER

1 DONATION SAVES 3 LIVES

Athens Center
213 E. Washington Ave.
Athens, TN 37303
Monday-Friday
8:30 am - 5 pm

WEATHER FORECAST

Wednesday - 90% rain and T'storms. High 69.

Wednesday night - 80% severe T'storms. Low 61.

Thursday - Warm with 80% rain chance. High 70.

Friday - 90% rain and warm. High low 70s.

More Weather at: wvxi.com

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JOIN THE YMCA ON NEW YEAR'S DAY!

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205 Knoxville Ave., Athens, TN 423-745-4904
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Wednesday, December 29, 2021 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

- ♦ **Cathy Watson Boe**, age 55, of Athens, died on Saturday, December 18th. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday at Good Samaritan Funeral Home in Athens, with visitation from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Burial will follow the service at Little Toqua Creek Cemetery in Vonore.
- ♦ **Eric Ross Walker**, age 51, of Athens, died Sunday at his residence. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Ziegler Funeral Home.
- ♦ **Gavin Queen**, age 16, of Niota, died Tuesday, December 28th, at his residence. Arrangements will be announced by Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens.

TUESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks floated narrowly around the flat line. At the closing bell, The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 95.83 to 36,398.21. The S&P 500 was down 4.84 to 4,786.35, and the NASDAQ was down 89.54 to 15,781.72.

SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS TO INCREASE

Millions of Americans on Social Security will soon have a little more money in their pocket. Retirees will get a 5.9% increase in benefits for 2022. That's the highest cost-of-living adjustment in nearly 40 years. The increase in benefits is due to inflation and supply chain issues which have driven up the cost of goods, including food and gas. The average retired worker will receive an additional \$92 per month.

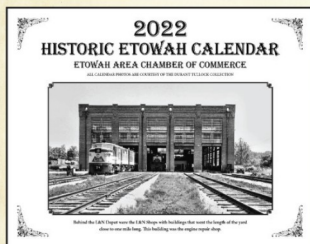
McMinn's Own Polar Express

Fun was had by everyone who rode the Hiwassee Holiday Train this season. Nancy Dalton, Tourism and Marketing Coordinator for the Tennessee Overhill Heritage Association, thanks the Athens Chamber of Commerce, Tennessee Overhill, and the Tennessee Valley Railroad for making it possible. And she sent us this photo



so you can meet the 2021 Christmas Train Crew.

2022 Etowah Historic Calendar FOR SALE



\$5.00
EACH

Available **FOR SALE NOW** at First Volunteer Bank, Capstar Bank, Piggly Wiggly, Etowah Utilities Johnson's, and at the Tennessee Overhill office at the Depot – after the first of the year you can get one at the Etowah Chamber office.

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