

**APPLY NOW!**



**Athens Trailer Operations**

Available positions in Athens, TN, across multiple roles throughout the company. Scan the QR Code above or visit: <https://hellcareers.com> to apply!



hellcareers.com | polartrailer.com  
1125 Congress Parkway North  
Athens, TN 37303

# 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))

Cleveland State Community College

**Choose Your Options!**

**Register Today**

[mycs.cc/Registration](http://mycs.cc/Registration)

Thursday, December 30, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

## Santa Run In Englewood

The Englewood Rural Fire Department held its annual Santa Run on Christmas Eve to hand out toys to the kids.

(Photos by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Dept)



## Community News You Can Use

- ✓ The Tennessee Highway Patrol will be conducting a sobriety check point New Year's Eve on Highway 11 at the McMinn-Bradley County line.
- ✓ The McMinn County Sheriff's Department will offer free Sober Rides on New Year's Eve. Call 745-3222 and an officer will give you a ride to your home or to a hotel room. They will not take you to another party.
- ✓ The CDC says the flu season has arrived on schedule after taking a year off. Last year's flu was the lowest on record. Dr. Jensen Hyde says most people didn't even get a cold last year because of masks, social distancing, etc. But she says we've let our guard down this year, and cases for both COVID and flu are rising. Both have similar symptoms-fever, chills, body aches and coughing. She says the goal is to get COVID-19 to a level like the flu where it occurs during a specific season and is predictable.

### ◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Wednesday 12/29

Tennessee: 1,398,794 cases, up 10,193. 20,776 deaths, up 38.

COUNTY	CASES	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	11,138 up 16	140 down 1	196
Meigs	2,344 up 1	40 down 2	46
Monroe	10,324 up 34	158 up 24	195 up 1
Polk	3,365 up 1	41 down 4	50
Bradley	23,552 up 60	437 up 37	319 up 1
Rhea	7,377 up 4	91 down 3	128


**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

**RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT**

**Bojangles**  
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

**WYXI**  
FM 94.5 & AM 1390

**HEAR US ON THE WEB!!**  
Click the Listen Live Logo



**LISTEN LIVE** 

**FOR A FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO The Morning Fax<sup>®</sup> CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW SUBSCRIBE**

**Merry Christmas! & Happy New Year**

We will be closed December 20 - January 2, 2022! REOPEN January 3 REGULAR HOURS. We hope you and your family have a Merry Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. The year 2021 has brought about chaos and challenging times for many of us. May we take time to reflect on Jesus the real reason for the season! He is our true help and comforter in times like these. Thank you to ALL of our customers for your business in 2021. It is greatly appreciated! We look forward to serving you in 2022! We are here to serve and help you in any way that we can with your home or business exterior needs. Our prayer for each person is that God blesses and prospers you greatly in 2022!

**All Things Exterior** Located at 723 Congress Parkway S. Next to BJ's Snack Bar

**BUFFY** 423-435-8714  like us on facebook  **MICAH** 423-506-1249



# A Complete Funeral Home, Chapel & Visitation Rooms

A caring staff of professional, licensed directors.  
Only the best quality funeral supplies • Made in the U.S.A.

Any type of service you desire • We serve all faiths.  
We offer pre-planning service • Competitive pricing • Locally owned & operated.

## SMITH FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES OF ATHENS

"55 Years of Dedicated Service"

Jerry E. Smith, LFD, 1010 S. White Street • Athens  
423.745.3013

Thursday, December 30, 2021

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

Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

- ♦ **Gavin Allen Queen**, age 16, of Niota, died Tuesday. He was an honorary Athens Police Officer and a Goodwill Ambassador for MDA in 2011. A funeral service will be 2 p.m. Friday at Smith Funeral Home with visitation from 4-8 p.m. Thursday at Smith Funeral Home.
- ♦ **James "J.R." Hamm**, 66, of Tellico Plains, died Tuesday. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday (1-4) in McMinn Memory Gardens. No formal visitation will be held. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.
- ♦ **Patricia Louise "Pat" Robertson**, 68, of Athens, died Tuesday. The family will receive friends on Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at Companion Funeral Home, with the service at 3 p.m.
- ♦ **Bobbie Jean Smith**, 86, of Riceville, died Dec. 23rd. The family will receive friends on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Companion Funeral Home of Athens, with a memorial service at 12 noon.
- ♦ **Margaret Guinn**, 91, of Etowah, died Tuesday. Arrangements will be announced later by Bordwine Funeral Home.
- ♦ **Dortha Lawrence**, 73, of Sweetwater, died Dec. 27th. In honor of her wishes, there will be no formal services at this time. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

**FOOTBALL:** The University of Tennessee Volunteers (7-5) will play the Purdue University Boilermakers (8-4) in the Music City Bowl today at 3 p.m. ET. TV coverage is on ESPN. A pre-game flyover with a C-130 Military Cargo Plane will be flown by Air Force Major Andrew Thornbury, who has a local connection with Athens. He is the Grandson-In-Law of Jack and the late Sue Ferrell of Athens. Thornbury's son, Jackson, loves airplanes too. (Submitted Photo)



## Church News & Events

- There will be a New Year's Eve singing at Cooke Ministry Center starting at 7 p.m. The Meadowfork Singers will be the featured group.
  - Many churches in the area will have special New Year's Eve "Watch night" services. Check with your church.
  - Celebrate Recovery meets every Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Englewood Church of God. Everyone is welcome.
  - If you or someone you know is battling addiction, struggling with anger, or other life issues, Planted In Christ Outreach Fellowship, 317 Maple Street, in Athens, invites you to attend Outreach Deliverance Classes every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
- NOTE:** If you have church news and events you would like for us to publish, please email them to us at: [wysi@bellsouth.net](mailto:wysi@bellsouth.net)  
We will be glad to list your items at no charge as space permits.

**CLARIFICATION ON SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS**  
In Wednesday's Morning Fax, we reported that Social Security checks will go up by 5.9% in 2022. However, we must point out that the premiums for Medicare Part A will go up by approximately \$15 per month and Medicare Part B premiums go up by nearly \$22 per month. That means the anticipated increase of Social Security payments of approximately \$92 per month will actually be only about \$55 per month. That should be able to pay for at least one tank of gasoline at current prices.



"Your Home Loan Specialist"

913 Congress Parkway  
N. Suite 100  
Athens, TN 37303  
Phone: 423-745-9789

Website: [firstfinancialoftn.com](http://firstfinancialoftn.com)

Financing available:  
Conventional FHA  
VA USDA

Serving locally and  
throughout Tennessee for  
the past 29 years.

License #108776 NMLS #161834



Holiday Hours

December 31st – Closing at 3:00  
January 1st – Closed



[www.PeoplesBank-TN.com](http://www.PeoplesBank-TN.com)