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Today's News...This Morning

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Thursday-January 5, 2012

Athens, Tennessee

State & Local News

◆ CAN YOU HELP IDENTIFY THIS MAN?

Athens police need help identifying the man in the photo below. He has stolen over \$1,000 at a time from department stores in Athens and in Monroe County. A surveillance photo of his vehicle is also shown. If you have any information, please call the Athens Police Detective Division at 423-744-2737.



(Photos provided by the Athens Police Department)

◆ HEIL TRAILER HAS BEEN SOLD

Dover Corporation announces it has sold Heil Trailer International to American Industrial Partners for \$220 million. Heil Trailer is based in Cleveland and has a major plant in Athens. Heil manufactures specialty transportation trailers and equipment. The sale is not expected to have any significant impact on the operations of the Athens facility.

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ The Republican presidential hopefuls are headed to New Hampshire with one fewer among their number. Michele Bachmann dropped out of the race after finishing a poor 6th in the Iowa caucus. The winners, Mitt Romney and Rick Santorum, will be going head-to-head. Romney will try to portray Santorum as a Washington insider with no business experience. Santorum will try to sell himself as the more conservative candidate and the one most likely to win over working-class Reagan Democrats with his blue-collar background. Meantime, 4th-place finisher Newt Gingrich vows to take Romney to the mat in New Hampshire for running a punishing ad campaign against him in Iowa.

◆ An instructor at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, who was arrested for trying to take explosives aboard a commercial airliner in Texas has told authorities he had forgotten they were in his bag. SFC Trey Scott Atwater says his Special Forces Team's procedure was to carry at least two blocks of C-4 explosives on any operation and when he packed his bags to leave Afghanistan he forgot the explosives were still there. Atwater says he grabbed the bag out of his garage for his Christmas-time trip to Texas, put his children's items in it, but did not see the explosives inside.

◆ The Pepsi Co. is facing a lawsuit from a man who claims to have found a mouse in his can of Mountain Dew. Their defense is to claim that the mouse would have "dissolved" in the soda before the man could have found it.

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Restaurant Spotlight

Tosceno Pizza & Italian Grill, Ingles Shopping Center, Athens 746-9900. LUNCH SPECIAL: 11a-2:30p-M-F - Pick up or dine-in only! Any 8" Sub, plus fry & drink, only \$5.99.

BOjangles Famous Chicken & Biscuits-S. Congress Parkway (744-5292) January Specials »» STEAK BISCUITS 99¢ each. Lunch: 5 Meals for \$5 each. 12 Piece Box with 6 Biscuits for just \$11.99. Our 32 oz. Tea is still just 99¢.

Western Sizzlin Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike (745-2626) Thursday (All Day): 8 oz. Sizzlin' Top Sirloin with Potato, Bakery, and Dessert Bars, \$7.49. Enjoy the "WHOLE THING" Buffet for Lunch (11a-4p) for just \$6.99. Fresh rolls daily!!

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Thursday-January 5, 2012

Athens, Tennessee

Community News You Can Use

- ✓ The United Way of McMinn and Meigs Counties will conduct its annual Agency Workshop on January 25th at 9 a.m. in the United Way office at 111 Church Street, Athens. Any 501(c)3 non-profit human service agency interesting in applying for funds from the 2012 campaign must attend. To see if your organization meets the criteria, call Stephanie Linkous, Executive Director of United Way, at 423-745-9606.
- ✓ The new book "A Date Which Lives In Infamy," the story of McMinn County during World War II, is now available at the McMinn County Historical Society in the Courthouse. The book was written by Bill Akins and Kenneth Langley.
- ✓ The Etowah Area Chamber of Commerce is now accepting nominations for the following awards to be presented at the annual Chamber Banquet on February 16th: Joe Quirk Educator of the Year, R. Frank McKinney Distinguished Service, and Business Person of the Year. Nominations may be sent to the Chamber office at: P.O. Box 458; Etowah, TN 37331.
- ✓ The City of Athens Leaf Vacuum trucks have started the second and last round of leaf collections. This week, the trucks are working in the Congress Drive to Denso Drive area, the White Street area, and the Ridgeways area.
- ✓ The McMinn and Meigs County Health Departments continue to offer free flu vaccinations for adults 19 and older. Call 745-7431 in McMinn County or 334-5185 in Meigs County to make an appointment.

Obituaries

Paul Raymond Billings, age 87, of Niota died Monday at Life Care Center of Athens. He was a World War II veteran, serving as a B-24 waist gunner. He flew over 85 bombing missions, two of which were flown with actor Jimmy Stewart as the pilot. After his military service, he became a partner and co-owner of Joe Howard Electric Company in Cleveland. There will be no formal services or vistingation per his wishes. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is in charge of the arrangements.

James Roy Coleman, age 74, of Athens died Tuesday at his residence. He was an auto body repairman and worked most recently at Ray's Body Shop. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. Funeral services will be at 8 p.m. Friday at Ziegler Funeral Home with vistingation from 6 to 8 p.m.

◆ 2012's FIRST BABY ARRIVES

The first baby to be born in Athens in 2012 arrived at 11:37 a.m. on January 2nd at Athens Regional Medical Center. **Wyatt Henry Benton** weighed a whopping 12 pounds and 4 ounces and was 20 inches long. His parents are Mandy Coleman and Wesley Benton of Sweetwater.

◆ LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS TO CHANGE

The redistricting maps for the state senate and house have been released. Sen. Mike Bell will now have all of Monroe County, but will lose 40% of Bradley County. Rep. John Forgety's district will include slightly more of Monroe County.

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WHEN RADIO WAS

Old-time Radio Shows

6:05-7 pm Nightly

WYXI AM-1390

Tonight:

The Shadow (1939) & Front Page (1933)

THIS DAY IN HISTORY - January 5th

This is Twelfth Night, the evening before Epiphany. Twelfth Night marks the end of Twelfthtide, the 12-day season after Christmas and ending with Epiphany.

1779 - American naval hero Stephen Decatur was born. He is remembered for this toast: "Our country, may she always be right; but our country, right or wrong."

1855 - King Camp Gillette, inventor of the safety razor, was born.

1919 - The National Socialist (Nazi) Party was formed in Germany.

1949 - George "Funky" Brown was born. He was the drummer for the group Kool & the Gang. Their biggest hit record was "Cherish."

1972 - President Richard Nixon ordered the space agency to begin work on a manned space shuttle.

WEATHER

Thurs. - Sunny. Highs in the lower 50s.

Thurs. night - Partly cloudy. Lows 28 to 32.

Friday - Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s.

See our Zoom Radar at:

www.wxyi.com



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