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Today's News...This Morning

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Friday, January 2, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

LOCAL & STATE NEWS

◆ TEENAGER WALKS INTO SIDE OF TRUCK

A 14-year-old boy is hospitalized at Erlanger Medical Center after being injured in a traffic accident on Ingleside Avenue in front of E.G. Fisher Public Library Tuesday afternoon. Athens police say four boys were at the crosswalk, and one of them kept walking and walked into the side of a passing tractor-trailer rig. Police say the boy had on headphones and apparently did not hear the truck. He was airlifted to Erlanger. Police say no charges will be filed against the truck driver.

◆ NEW STATE LAWS GO INTO EFFECT

With the start of the new year, several new laws have taken effect in Tennessee. One of them will allow trained school personnel to administer insulin. Others will change the process for selecting books for public schools, help ex-felons get employment, and increase safety at boat marinas.

◆ CITIZENSHIP TEST TO GET DIPLOMA?

Tennessee students wanting to graduate from high school may soon be required to pass the same civics test given to immigrants looking to become U.S. citizens. State House Majority Leader Gerald McCormick of Chattanooga has introduced a bill which requires students to pass a citizenship test in order to get their high school diploma. There would be 100 questions on the test. The test features such questions as "What is the supreme law of the land?" and "In what month do we vote for President?" Students would have to correctly answer at least 60 of the questions.

NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS

◆ The Peachtree City, Georgia, police chief, William McCollom, says he accidentally shot his wife in their home early New Year's Day. He has been placed on administrative leave and an internal review is underway. There were no witnesses inside the home and the shooting took place in the couple's bedroom. Margaret McCollom is in critical condition at Atlanta Medical Center and is expected to undergo surgery.

◆ With his eyes on a possible presidential bid, former Florida governor Jeb Bush has stepped down from all of the boards he serves on, both businesses and non-profits, including the chairmanship of his education foundation. It does not include the companies in which he is currently a partner, including Jeb Bush and Associates, his business consulting company.

◆ The year 2014 was one for the record books for computer hacking. Another major company, Chick-fil-A, is investigating unusual activity involving credit and debit cards used at some of its locations. The fast food chain is working with law enforcement and an unnamed cyber security firm to get to the bottom of it. If a breach has occurred, Chick-fil-A said customers will not be liable for any fraudulent charges. The chain first learned of suspicious activity December 19th, and will notify impacted customers when information becomes available.

◆ Frank Esposito set a Guinness World Record Wednesday by using a saber to open 48 bottles of champagne in one minute. According to the Guinness World Record's website, the previous record was 47.



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Morning Fax™

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WEATHER
Friday - Cloudy. 80% rain. Highs in the mid to upper 40's.
Friday night - Cloudy. 90% rain. Lows in the lower 40's
Saturday - Mostly cloudy. 70% rain. Highs in the upper 50's.
More Weather & Zoom Radar at: www.wxyi.com

Friday, January 2, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

Church News and Events

- Chris Smith, the "One-Man Quartet," will appear at Genesis Baptist Church on Elizabeth Street this Sunday at 6 p.m.
- The Decatur Seventh-Day Adventist Church will host a free gospel concert featuring Steve Darmody this Saturday at 11 a.m.
- Jones Chapel United Methodist Church will hold its 10th Annual Ladies Conference on Saturday, January 10th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The guest speaker will be Beth Green, wife of the District Superintendent for the Cleveland District. The cost is \$10 and registration is from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. The church is located at 590 County Road 778.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

- ✓ The Athens Parks Department's 30th Anniversary Daddy-Daughter Dance will be held on February 6 and 7. Tickets will be on sale in the Recreation office beginning January 7. Tickets are \$12 per person. There will be four dances: Friday, Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m. and on Saturday, Feb. 7, at 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Only 500 tickets will be available for each dance due to fire regulations. The dances will be held at the McMinn High School cafeteria.
- ✓ Public school students in Athens, Etowah, McMinn County, and Meigs County have just a few more days of Christmas break remaining. Schools resume next Tuesday, January 6. Classes at Christ's Legacy Academy and Fairview Christian Academy will resume on Monday, January 5.

Obituaries

- **Mary Ruth Frances McNelley Perry**, age 78, of Athens, died this past Tuesday at NHC Healthcare of Athens. She was a former employee of Athens Hosiery Mill. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday in Sullins Cemetery, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday at Ziegler Funeral Home.
- **Mildred Armstrong Smith**, age 104, of Athens, died Tuesday at NHC of Athens. She was the mother of Jerry Smith. Early in her business career, she served as a deputy clerk in the McMinn County Clerk and Masters Office, taught in the McMinn County and Athens City school systems, and worked at First National Bank and later at Athens Federal Savings and Loan, where she retired. Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. Saturday at Smith Funeral Home, with visitation from 1 to 2:30 p.m.
- **Nicholas S. "Neko" Knezevich, Sr.**, age 86, of Athens, (and formerly from Chicago) died this past Monday at a hospice in LaGrange, Georgia. He was retired from Wisconsin Steel Works. Memorial graveside services will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Knezevich Family Cemetery in Athens.
- **David Wayne Sutton**, age 57, of Athens died Monday at his home. He was a long haul truck driver. Services will be at 3 p.m. Saturday at Pond Hill Baptist Church, with visitation from 1 to 3 p.m. Companion Funeral & Cremation Service is in charge.
- **Charlie Faye Bennett**, age 77, of Englewood died Wednesday after a battle with cancer. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from noon to 2 p.m.



A ribbon cutting was held recently for new Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, Ellie's Creative Canvas located at 102 Park Street in Athens. Ellie offers group and individual art instruction with students being able to leave with a completed painting on canvas ready to frame. In the photo, back row: (L to R) Katrina Price, Tamara Stillwell, Regina Wold Thompson, Rosetta Keaton, Connie Woodcock (Chamber

Diplomat), Dick Pelley (Athens City Councilman), Linda Kornilieff, Rob Preston (Athens Chamber President/CEO) Front Row (L to R) Dana Ferguson (Chamber Diplomat), Jean Wold, Ellie and Chuck Wold (Owners), Brianna Hanson (Chamber Diplomat).