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Today's News...This Morning

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Wednesday, January 7, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

Local & State News

◆ TIPS FOR DEALING WITH BITTER COLD

With the mercury expected to drop to 5 to 10 degrees above zero Thursday morning, AUB has some tips to help you prepare for the impact. AUB suggests you have these things readily available: heavy blankets, sleeping bags, portable non-electric heaters, plenty of dry firewood, operational smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, a chemical fire extinguisher, flashlights and extra batteries, at least one battery-powered radio, a well-charged cell phone, and a first-aid kit. To keep your pipes from freezing, AUB says you should disconnect all garden hoses and install insulating covers on outside faucets, keep your house temperature at 68 degrees, open cabinet doors below sinks to allow heat from the house to circulate, and allow an interior faucet to run slightly with lukewarm water. You should also know the location of the main water valve for your house and the valve on your water heater. AUB's Wayne Scarbrough says vehicle accidents, animals, falling trees, and extreme demand on the power system might lead to power outages.

◆ KNOXVILLE TOPS THE NATION FOR FLU

Knoxville is now listed as the number one city in the nation for flu activity. The latest edition of the Walgreens Flu Index moves Knoxville up from number four last week to number one this week. Three other Tennessee cities are also in the top ten. Chattanooga is ranked third this week. The Tri-Cities area is number four. Nashville is number seven. In terms of states with the highest number of flu cases, Kentucky is number one and Tennessee is number two.

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ Stocks were lower again on Tuesday as oil prices continue to fall. Crude oil dropped \$2.22 and closed at \$47.82 per barrel. On Tuesday the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 130.34 points to 17,371.31. The Nasdaq went down 59.83 points to 4,592.74. The S&P 500 fell 17.97 points to 2,002.61.

◆ A San Diego surfer has died after contracting an aggressive staph infection, which some suspect he got in the water during his last jaunt in the waves.

◆ Eating a small bowl of oatmeal may be the secret to a longer life, a large new study suggests. Harvard University researchers reviewed two large studies that followed more than 100,000 people who were periodically quizzed about what they ate and how they lived for more than 14 years. It turns out the folks who ate at least 33 grams of whole grains daily -- equivalent to a bowl of oatmeal -- cut their risk of premature death by 9 percent compared to those who barely ate whole grains at all.

◆ More details have been released about President Obama's visit to the Knoxville area this Friday. The White House says Obama, along with Vice President and Mrs. Joe Biden, will visit Pellissippi State Community College in Knoxville and then travel to Techmer PM in Clinton. At Pellissippi State, the president will talk about new programs to help Americans go to college. In Clinton, Mr. Obama will discuss the administration's efforts to create new manufacturing jobs.

◆ Petco says it has pulled all Chinese jerky and rawhide treats from its stores over concerns that the dog and cat treats are toxic.

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TODAY we will be in ETOWAH across from Johnson's Dept Store-Tenn Ave. from 10:45 am-1:00pm Thursday @ Valley Farmers Co-op - Athens from 10:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Call 829-4126 "Our Butts R Smokin" 2dudesBBQ.com

REMINDER: Receive The Morning Fax by e-mail and enjoy the photos in living color. There's never a charge to switch from fax to e-mail delivery. For a free subscription to The MORNING FAX¹CLICK ON THE LINK: wyxi.net/morningfax.htm

WEATHER
Wednesday - Partly sunny. Scattered flurries. Highs upper 20's to lower 30's.
Wed. night - Mostly clear. Lows around 8. Wind chill readings 5 below to 5 above zero.
Thursday - Sunny. Highs in the mid to upper 20's.
More Weather & Zoom Radar at: www.wyxi.com

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Wednesday, January 7, 2015

Morning Fax™...Today's News This Morning

Athens, Tennessee

Restaurant Inspection Scores

The following restaurants in Athens were inspected between December 9th and 29th. There were no failures.

McDonalds - 99

Arby's - 98

Open Door Cafe - 97

NOTE: Some new regulations concerning food safety go into effect this July. Among the changes: new time and temperature controls for food; food handlers will not be allowed to touch ready-to-eat foods with their bare hands; advisories must be posted when animal foods are served raw or undercooked; new procedures for sanitizing surfaces and utensils; and a requirement for an employee health policy to ensure that food service employees do not work if they have such symptoms as a sore throat with fever, diarrhea, vomiting, Norovirus, or Hepatitis A.

◆ MORE OF 2014's TOP LOCAL NEWS STORIES

- Former Athens City Council member Jack Crittenden died on November 21st.
- Connie Allen died on September 7th. She had served as executive director of Keep McMinn Beautiful, chairman of the Athens Chamber of Commerce, and was involved in many other community activities.
- The annual October Pumpkintown Festival was dedicated to Scott Crisp, a Native American storyteller and dancer. He died from an accidental electrocution in May.

Decatur Gets New Fire Truck

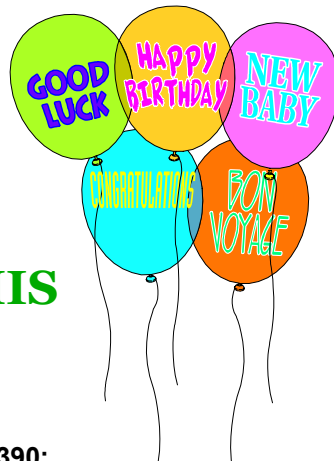
The Decatur Fire Department has a new piece of fire apparatus. It is a 2014 Emergency One Quint. It carries 500 gallons of water and has a 2000 gallon-per-minute pump. The term "quint" refers to fire trucks that are equipped with a pump, water tank, hose, ground ladders and an elevating device. It is designated as Ladder 1 and is housed at Station #2 on River Road. (Photo by Jay Thomson)



◆ MORE STATE AND AREA NEWS

✓ A partnership between an online company, Appriss, Inc., and the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, will allow citizens the ability to buy traffic crash reports from law enforcement agencies across the state. Tennessee is one of only five states that have the service. Here's the link to access the reports: www.tnbuycrash.com

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Someone Who Is
Celebrating A
Special Event ?**



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TODAY IN HISTORY – JANUARY 7

- 1789** - The first national elections were held in the United States. Voters unanimously elected George Washington as President and John Adams as Vice-President.
- 1800** - Millard Fillmore, our 13th President, was born in Locke, New York.
- 1924** - George Gershwin began work on the incomparable score of *Rhapsody in Blue*. He completed it some three weeks later. Gershwin was only 26 years old at the time, and didn't even have an interest in music until his family got him a piano when he was twelve. Nine years later he had his first hit, *Swanee*, with lyrics written by Irving Caesar.
- 1927** - Regular trans-Atlantic telephone service began between New York and London.
- 1927** - The famous Harlem Globetrotters basketball team was founded. (Remember their theme song, "Sweet Georgia Brown?")
- 1930** - Country singer Jack Greene was born. His hit records include "There Goes My Everything" and "Statue Of A Fool."
- 1988** - A snow storm dumped 8½ inches of snow on the Athens area, closing roads and schools for several days.