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Today's News...This Morning

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Friday, January 23, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

LOCAL & STATE NEWS

◆ MORE PROBLEMS FOR UNION GROVE FD

The Union Grove Fire Department has been in the headlines in recent days. First, a fire caused by arson destroyed the wrecker service owned by Fire Chief Alvin Shoemaker. Then, the former treasurer of the Union Grove Fire Department, Donna Hurst, was charged with writing nearly \$5,000 worth of checks on the fire department's bank account, signing Chief Shoemaker's name to the checks, and using the money for herself. Now, the county is taking away some of the Union Grove Fire Department's equipment. McMinn County Mayor John Gentry says the fire engine and brush truck will be removed from the fire hall and taken to another location. He also says the Union Grove Fire Department will not be getting a new fire engine until the fire department reorganizes and restructures itself.

◆ ATHENS POLICE & FIRE DEPT. REPORTS

At Tuesday night's Athens City Council meeting, Police Chief Chuck Ziegler reported on crimes for December and all of 2014. In December, there were 65 thefts, 14 burglaries, 14 assaults, 4 robberies, 4 motor vehicle thefts, and 3 sex offenses. For all of 2014, there were 679 thefts, 243 assaults, 176 burglaries, 50 motor vehicle thefts, 31 robberies, 16 sex offenses and 1 homicide. In 2014, there were 876 traffic accidents with 2 fatalities and 177 injuries.

Fire Chief Jim Dyer reported that Athens firefighters responded to 42 calls in December, with damages totaling only \$300. For the year 2014, there were 543 calls with total damages of \$975,450.

NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS

◆ President Obama says he will not meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu when he addresses a joint meeting of Congress on March 3rd. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi sharply criticized Speaker John Boehner for inviting Netanyahu.

◆ Forbes Magazine says Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam is now the nation's richest elected official. According to Forbes, Haslam's net worth has more than doubled since August, going up from \$980 million to \$2 billion. Forbes says the reason for the dramatic increase is the rush to the pumps at the family-owned Pilot Flying J Truck Stop chain due to tumbling fuel prices.

◆ Chattanooga is no longer the number one most Bible-minded city in the nation. A new study by the American Bible Society ranks Birmingham, Alabama, as the top Bible-minded city. Chattanooga drops to number two, and the Tri-Cities area is number three. Knoxville, which was ranked number one in 2013, has dropped to number 11. The cities are ranked based on the percentage of residents who have read the Bible in the past seven days and believe strongly in the accuracy of the Bible.

◆ A young mother has finally left intensive care after months battling a rare-but-serious reaction to a friend's prescription antibiotics that caused her to "burn" from the inside out on the day after Thanksgiving.

◆ New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady said he "didn't alter the ball in any way" after reports that 11 of the 12 footballs provided by the team for its playoff game against the Indianapolis Colts were more than two pounds per square inch below regulation. The controversy is being dubbed "Inflate-Gate."

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Morning Fax™

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WEATHER
Friday - Near 100% rain. Highs in the lower 40's
Friday night - 80% rain & snow early A.M. Low- mid 30's.
Saturday - Mostly cloudy. 30% rain in A.M. High lower-mid 40's.
More Weather & Zoom Radar at: www.wxyi.com

Friday, January 23, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

Church News and Events

- First Baptist Church in Cleveland invites everyone to the debut and live DVD recording of their newest project, "Splendor of Heaven," tomorrow and Sunday at 6 p.m. The project features 10 new, original songs under the direction of FBC Minister of Music Tyler Brinson and produced by Geron Davis.
- The Noblemen Quartet will appear at Lakeview Baptist Church on Saturday, January 31, at 6 p.m.
- Calhoun United Methodist Church will open the Time Capsule placed in the church in 1963 during the 11 a.m. worship service this Sunday. Former members and the public are invited to attend. A covered dish lunch will follow.
- Fairview Baptist Church in Athens will hold a Family Conference Sunday, Jan. 25, through Wednesday, Jan. 28. The evangelist will be Dave Young, founder of the Dave Young Evangelistic Association. He was born in East Tennessee and has preached in over 1,000 churches, schools, colleges, and camps in 44 states and six foreign countries. The services Sunday are 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. Nurseries will be provided.



Obituaries

- **Paul B. Hutsell**, age 66, of Niota died Wednesday at his home. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and was a retired plant operator with TVA at the Kingston Steam Plant. Funeral services were held Thursday night at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at McMinn Memory Gardens.

THURSDAY'S MARKET REPORT

The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 259.70 to a close of 17,813.98. The Nasdaq closed the session at 4,750.40, up 82.98 from open, while the S&P climbed 31.03 to 2,063.15.

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

- ✓ Monday, January 26th, will be McMinn Central Lady Chargers Softball Day at Bojangle's Chicken and Biscuits of Athens. A percentage of Bojangle's sales on Monday will be given to the team. Team members will be at the restaurant from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- ✓ The Saturday Heritage School at the McMinn Living Heritage Museum will feature Johnny McGrew and Lowell Axley demonstrating a variety of woodworking techniques and projects. It starts at 11 a.m. Heritage School is free to Museum members and is \$5 for non-members.
- ✓ AYSO spring soccer registration continues through February 15. The registration fee is \$30. Uniforms are \$30. If you have questions, call Paul Arsenault at 506-7832 or send an e-mail to: aysoregion612@gmail.com.



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