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## Today's News...This Morning

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Athens, Tennessee

Monday, August 10, 2015

## LOCAL & STATE NEWS

### ◆ WRECK CLAIMS RICEVILLE MAN

A motorcycle wreck around midnight Friday night has claimed the life of a Riceville man. According to Tennessee State Trooper Greg Walker's investigation, 48 year-old Jeffrey M. Blair was driving south bound on State Highway 39, the old Riceville Road, and approached a curve to the right near the Restoration Church and crossed the center line. Another vehicle that was approaching the motorcycle head on, stopped in the roadway. The motorcycle then struck an embankment and Blair was thrown from the bike, which struck a utility pole. Blair was reported dead at the scene. See page 2 for Obituary information.

### ◆ DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE TURNS VIOLENT

The McMinn County Sheriff's Office is looking for two men in connection with a shooting Saturday night at a residence on County Road 788. Sheriff Joe Guy says George E. Sanford, 54, was flown to Erlanger in serious condition. A lookout has been posted for Harold L. Hutsell, 58, and Daniel B. Farr, 28, both of Athens. They are wanted for attempted 1st degree murder and robbery. Sheriff Guy says the three men had a disagreement which escalated, turned violent, and resulted in the shooting.

## NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ A woman lost part of her arm when it was bitten off by an alligator while she was swimming in a river in central Florida. Rachael Lilienthal, age 37, was swimming in the Wekiva River on Saturday when an alligator attacked her, biting her twice and severing her right arm above the elbow. The gator was caught and euthanized.

◆ An experienced hiker was found dead in Yellowstone National Park after he was likely attacked by a grizzly bear. A park ranger found his partially consumed body on a back loop trail.

◆ Dallas, Texas Mayor Mike Rawlings saved a woman's life over the weekend. Rawlings used the Heimlich maneuver on a woman who was choking at the El Fenix restaurant in downtown Dallas Saturday afternoon. Rawlings said he learned the life-saving technique while in the boy scouts and when he was a lifeguard.

◆ The U.S. Air Force has delivered to Turkey six F-16 fighter jets which will be used in the war against terror groups in border areas of neighboring countries. Support equipment and 300 U.S. Air Force personnel were also sent to Turkey.

◆ An Alabama family drove to Colorado recently to be reunited with their dog "Boozer" after a 9-year separation. Boozer, now 10, disappeared when the family moved from Tennessee to Alabama.

# G

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## WEATHER

**Monday** - Partly sunny. 40% rain & t'storms. High 88 to 92.  
**Monday night** - Mostly cloudy. 50% rain. Low-lower 70s.  
**Tuesday** - Partly sunny. 30% rain. High in the upper 80s.  
More Weather & Zoom Radar at: [www.wyxi.com](http://www.wyxi.com)

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## Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

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Monday, August 10, 2015

Morning Fax<sup>®</sup> ... Today's News This Morning

Athens, Tennessee

## City of Athens Gets Good News

The City of Athens Fire Department has been notified by the Insurance Service Office (ISO) that the fire protection rating for the department will be improving to a Class 2. Insurance companies use the fire protection ratings to determine homeowners and business insurance premiums. ISO evaluates fire department equipment, station locations, training, fire prevention efforts, and many other factors to assign a protection rating. They also evaluate the Athens Utility Water system and The McMinn County E-911 Center.

The Athens Fire Department has held a Class 3 rating for nearly a year but will now be rated a Class 2 department effective November 1, 2015. Only 2 percent of the fire departments in the U.S. have a class 2 rating which totals only 1,014 departments. The AFD becomes the 17th department in the State of Tennessee to achieve a Class 2 rating.

The improvement in the ISO rating could have a small effect on homeowner's insurance rates but would likely result in a significant impact on commercial rates with a possible 10 to 12% decrease in premiums. Athens Fire Chief Jim Dyer stated that achieving a Class 2 rating is truly a testament to the continued hard work of the members of the Athens Fire Department.

## Obituaries

- **Matthew Alexander "Rudder" Moore**, age 37, passed away Sunday, August 2nd, at U.T. Medical Center. He was a native of McMinn County. A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home of Athens with visitation from 1 to 2 p.m. at the funeral home.
- **Delbert Cate**, age 77, of Riceville, passed away Thursday at his home. He was a lifelong farmer. A memorial service will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Ziegler Funeral Home with visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. at Ziegler.
- **Betty Jane Morgan**, age 59, of Athens, passed away last Thursday at Starr Regional Medical Center. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Ziegler Funeral Home.
- **Rebecca Danielle Harris Mazza**, age 29, of Athens, passed away last Friday at Erlanger Medical Center. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Ziegler Funeral Home.
- **Jeff Blair**, age 48, of Riceville, died last Friday in a motorcycle wreck. He had owned the AAAA Pawn Shop for 16 years. A celebration of Jeff's life will be Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Serenity Funeral Home with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. at Serenity.
- Football Hall of Famer **Frank Gifford** died unexpectedly of natural causes Sunday morning at his home in Connecticut. He was 84. Gifford was an All-American at the University of Southern California. He was the No. 1 draft pick by the New York Giants in 1952. While playing for the Giants in 1956, Gifford was named the NFL's Most Valuable Player. He later worked as a broadcaster for "Monday Night Football."

## BIG AD

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## TODAY IN HISTORY - AUGUST 10

- 1776** - A committee consisting of Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson suggested the United States adopt the Latin words "E Pluribus Unum" as the motto for its great seal. The motto means "Our of Many, One."
- 1821** - Missouri, the "show me" state, became the 24th state.
- 1833** - Chicago was incorporated as a village with a population of 200.
- 1846** - The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., was officially established. The Smithsonian includes centers that offer scientific, educational, and cultural exhibits and information. It was established thanks to a gift of one-thousand pounds from an Englishman, James Macie Smithson.
- 2006** - British authorities announced they had thwarted a terrorist plot to simultaneously blow up 10 aircraft heading to the United States.
- 2008** - American swimmer Michael Phelps won the first of a record eight gold medals at the Beijing Olympics by smashing his own world record in the 400-meter individual medley.

## WHEN RADIO WAS

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