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Today's News... This Morning

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Tuesday, January 2, 2018

Athens, Tennessee

STATE & LOCAL NEWS

◆ REP. FORGETY TO RETIRE AT END OF TERM

State Rep. John Forgety has announced that he plans to retire from the House of Representatives at the end of his term. At that point, he will have finished his fourth term in the General Assembly. His district includes McMinn County and a part of Monroe County. Rep. Forgety says his decision not to seek re-election is due to concerns over the health of his wife, Faye. Forgety says serving the people of the 23rd District has been an honor and privilege. He says he will be forever grateful that voters have allowed him to serve four terms in the office.



◆ UNEMPLOYMENT UP A BIT IN THE AREA

The unemployment rate in the Athens area rose slightly in November compared to October. The jobless rate in McMinn County was 4.0% in November, up from 3.6% in October. The unemployment rate in Meigs County was 4.1% in November, unchanged from October. Monroe County's jobless rate in November was 3.5%, up from 3.2% in October. Bradley County reported an unemployment rate in November of 3.1%, up from 2.8% in October. In Polk County, the jobless rate was 3.9% in November, up from 3.6% in October. Rhea County's unemployment fell from no. 1 in the state to no. 2, with a 5.4% rate in November.

National & World News

◆ 2018 has arrived and is off to a bone-chilling start with at least five deaths, as records fell from the Midwest to the Northeast. The New Year's Day deep freeze encompassed almost the entire eastern two-thirds of the United States. In Lincoln, Nebraska, firefighters battled a house fire in minus 10 degrees as their hoses sprayed water that quickly turned to ice.

◆ Two girls who have been missing from their Texas home since Saturday were possible abducted by a 44-year-old man. The girls, identified as Luluviolletta Bandera-Margret, 7, and Lilianais Griffith, 14, were last seen in Round Rock, about 20 miles north of Austin, where they both live. The suspect in the girl's disappearance has been identified as 44-year-old Terry Miles. They may be traveling in a gray 2017 Hyundai Accent with Texas license plate number JGH9845.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ The Athens Public Works Department advises that six parking spaces on East Washington Avenue from Jackson Street to White Street will be blocked off until March 3rd for renovations.
- ✓ Athens Police Chief Cliff Couch will be the guest on the weekly Athens Area Chamber of Commerce radio show, "Chamber Chat," which will be heard today (Tuesday) at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio, AM-1390, FM-94.5 and [ONLINE](#).
- ✓ McMinn County 911 dispatchers reported a fairly quiet New Year's Eve. They took several calls from people that reported gunshots, which all turned out to be fireworks.

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MONEYWISE
 With

Rob West & Steve Moore
 WYXI - 94.5 FM & 1390 AM
 11:26 a.m. Daily•Mon-Fri
 & 6:30am Sat.

WEATHER FORECAST
Tuesday - Sunny. High near 29. Wind chill between -5 and +5. North winds 5 to 10 mph.
Wednesday - Partly sunny. High near 36. Calm winds around 5 mph in the afternoon.
 More Weather at: wysi.com

Happy new year
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Tuesday, January 2, 2018 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee



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Fatal Wreck on Hwy 39 East

An Athens man, 91-year-old Jerry L. Freeman, was killed Monday afternoon around 2:30 when the 2000 Chrysler LHS he was driving collided head-on with a 1998 Toyota Tacoma driven by 65-year-old Edward K. Mitchell of Madisonville, who was injured and flown by medical helicopter. The crash happened on Highway 39 East at County Road 452, the entrance to the Fox Ridge Subdivision. Englewood and Athens Rural Fire Departments, AMR, McMinn County Sheriff's Department and THP officer Nathan Hall investigating the accident. Photo by Lynn Ingram with Englewood Rural Fire Department.



Obituaries

- ♦ **Pamela Elaine "Pam" Meadows Tucker**, age 47, of Madisonville, died Friday at Blount Memorial Hospital. A funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Ziegler Funeral Home with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at Ziegler Funeral Home.
- ♦ **Susan Newman Cole**, age 68, of Etowah, died at her home last Wednesday. She taught school at Etowah City School for over 30 years. A service to honor her life was held Saturday at Bordwine Funeral Home.
- ♦ **G.D. Smith**, age 89, of Decatur, died Sunday at his home. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Cottonport Baptist Church, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Bowers Funeral Home.
- ♦ **Laverne Davis**, age 87, of Athens, died Sunday at Etowah Health Care Center in Etowah. Arrangements will be announced by Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home of Athens.

Today In History, January 2nd

- 1788** - The state of Georgia ratified the Constitution; the fourth state to do so.
- 1936** - Singer Roger Miller was born. His biggest hit record was "King of the Road."
- 1959** - Moscow Radio announced that a Russian rocket had been launched to the moon. Luna One never actually landed on the moon. It ended its mission by going into orbit around the sun.
- 1960** - Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.
- 1968** - Dr. Christian Barnard performed his second successful heart transplant at Groote Schuur Hospital a month after his first transplant. Dr. Barnard died in 2001.
- 1974** - President Richard Nixon signed a bill requiring states to lower highway speed limits to 55-miles an hour or lose federal highway funds.
- 2008** - Crude oil prices soared to \$100 a barrel for the first time.

Athens
Small Animal Hospital

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Happy New Year!

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