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Today's News... This Morning

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Wednesday, January 27, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

Local & State News

◆ Hikers are being told to postpone plans to hike the entire length of the Appalachian Trail this year due to COVID-19. The Appalachian Trail Conservancy made the suggestion because it feels the pandemic makes long-distance hikes unsafe. The Appalachian Trail runs from Georgia to Maine and covers 2,193 miles.

◆ The Tennessee Department of Transportation and the Department of Homeland Security are teaming up to raise public awareness of the increase in traffic fatalities on Tennessee's highways in 2020, a year in which traffic was at an all-time low. Fatalities increased nearly 7% last year, while traffic was down 13% in Tennessee. There were 1,211 fatalities on state highways in 2020. Of those, 396 were unrestrained. TDOT and the THP are asking motorists to obey the speed limit, stay off your phone, don't drive distracted or impaired, and please wear your seat belt.

◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Tuesday P.M.

Tennessee: 712,406 cases, up 1,979. 9,162 deaths, up 192.

COUNTY	CASES	RECOVERED	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	5,268 up 22	4,886	308	74
Meigs	1,198 up 6	1,092	89	17 up 1
Monroe	4,728 up 9	4,366	297	65 up 1
Polk	1,514 up 9	1,362	135	17
Bradley	11,329 up 66	10,477	748	104 up 3
Rhea	3,928 up 10	3,663	207	58

Wreck Causes Power Outage

An unfortunate incident for one driver turned into a long night's work for several AUB linemen. A vehicle hit a utility pole Monday night at 188 Highway 11 North, breaking the pole into three pieces. The lines and pole were suspended in the air. Crews worked through the night setting a new pole and had all customers back in service by 5:15 a.m. Tuesday.

(Photo by AUB)



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Wednesday, January 27, 2021 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

- ♦ **Thelma Almarae Cook Roderick**, age 92, of Athens, died January 23rd. She was a native of Monroe County and a longtime resident of Athens. Funeral services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at Ziegler Funeral Home, with visitation on Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m. at Ziegler.
- ♦ **Teresa Schilling Leonard**, age 51, of Etowah, died unexpectedly this past Friday, January 22nd. She was a native of Louisiana. She had been a teacher, principal, guidance counselor, and was currently operating her own business, The Chalk Chick. The family will receive friends Thursday, January 28th, from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Athens First Baptist Church, with the funeral to follow at 12 noon. There will be a potluck meal after the service. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.
- ♦ **Ernest "Ernie" Boyd**, age 92, of Athens, died Monday at his home. He retired from Cherokee Photo and served in Japan and Korea in the U.S. Air Force. Services will be 2 p.m. Thursday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home with visitation at 12 noon.
- ♦ **Suzanne Caroline Pitt Whitehead**, age 59, of Ten Mile, died of a massive stroke on January 4th. She served as a Czech language specialist during the 1980's while stationed in West Germany. There will be a memorial service at the farm later this year when it warms up and if the virus subsides. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.
- ♦ **Kenneth Lee Lingerfelt**, age 68, of Athens, died Tuesday at his home. He worked at TVA for 10 years and at Starr Regional for 26 years. Funeral services will be 7 p.m. Thursday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home with visitation starting at 5 p.m.

Brush Pile Fire Spreads

The Englewood and Etowah Rural Fire Departments were called this past Sunday afternoon to an unattended brush pile burn that got out of control at Highway 411N and County Road 532. Firefighters quickly extinguished the blaze.

(Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department)



TODAY IN HISTORY - JANUARY 27th

- 1756** - Composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Austria.
- 1825** - Congress approved Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma), clearing the way for forced relocation of the Eastern Indians on the "Trail of Tears."
- 1832** - British author Lewis Carroll was born. He wrote "Alice's Adventures In Wonderland."
- 1880** - Inventor Thomas Edison was granted a patent for the electric incandescent lamp on this date, and then proceeded to "light up our lives."
- 1885** - Composer Jerome Kern was born. He wrote such songs as "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," "I've Told Every Little Star," and "Ol' Man River."
- 1919** - David Seville, creator of "The Chipmunks," was born.
- 1924** - Lenin's body was laid in a marble tomb on Red Square near the Kremlin.
- 1927** - United Independent Broadcasters Inc. started a radio network with contracts that included 16 stations. The company later became the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS).
- 1939** - President Franklin D. Roosevelt approved the sale of U.S. war planes to France.
- 1959** - NASA selected 110 candidates for the first U.S. space flight.
- 1967** - Three astronauts were killed when fire swept through their Apollo spacecraft during a test at Cape Kennedy. They were Virgil Grissom, Ed White, and Roger Chaffee.
- 1973** - The U.S. and North Vietnam signed a cease-fire agreement.
- 1977** - The Vatican reaffirmed the ban on female priests in the Roman Catholic Church.