

Wednesday-August 18, 2010

MORNING FAX

Today's News...This Morning

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Athens, Tennessee

FIRE DESTROYS POPULAR EATERY

 \sim A fire which broke out just as lunch was being served destroyed the popular Country Patch restaurant on South White Street in Athens on Tuesday. Every available firefighter responded to the scene to battle the fire, which covered the area with thick, black smoke.

 \sim Theresa Melton says she had just gotten her lunch and sat down when the TV went off. Immediately, the dining room started filling up with smoke and she started hearing a popping, cracking noise. She says someone ran in and said "it's on the roof." At that point, the patrons got up from their tables and left the restaurant.

As a result of the fire, the m o n t h l y M A D C AT C o a lition luncheon at the Country Patch for today has been cancelled. (Photos by Jay Thomson



Jay Thomson. See more fire photos on Page 2)

NATIONAL-WORLD NEWS

• A suicide bomber detonated nail-packed explosives strapped to his body in Baghdad Tuesday, killing 61 Iraqi army recruits.

• A South Carolina mother who claimed her children drowned when their car ran into a river has been charged with murder. Authorities say she confessed to suffocating the two toddlers and then faking the accident.

• New York Governor David Patterson plans to meet soon with developers of a proposed Islamic cultural center and mosque near ground zero. Patterson has raised the possibility that state land could be provided as an alternative site for the mosque, which has ignited nationwide debate over freedom of religion versus anger over the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

• Investors regained their enthusiasm for stocks Tuesday, sending prices sharply up after reports showed a slight improvement in the housing market and a big jump in industrial production. The Dow Jones Industrials Average closed up 103.84 points, at 10,405.85.

• Gay couples who had been gearing up to get married in California this week had to put their wedding plans on hold once again after a federal appeals court said it first wanted to consider the constitutionality of the state's same-sex marriage ban.

McMinn Regional flumane Society ANNUAL FUR BALL Dinner, Dance, & Auction Sweet Corn, Nature Soda Shop & Lunch Box, 8 E. Washington, Athens.







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Obituaries

Stephen Harold Walker, age 67, of Englewood died Monday at Erlanger Medical Center. A memorial service will be held at First Baptist Church in Englewood at 2 p.m. Saturday, with visitation from 1 to 2 p.m. at the church. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.

William "Harold" Harris, age 89, of the Goodsprings Community, died Tuesday at his home. He was active in the Masons and served in the Coast Guard during WWII. He retired from ALCOA after 41 years of service. Masonic services at 7pm Thursday followed by a funeral service at Bordwine Funeral Home. Visitation from 5 to 7pm Thursday at Bordwine.

Community News You Can Use

 \checkmark The Athens City Council has awarded its monthly VIVID (Very Important Volunteer Individual) Award to Yvonne Raper for her work with the McMinn County Cancer Society and other civic and charitable causes. She chaired the Cancer Society's annual fundraising luncheon and worked with Dancing With the Stars, and the Relay For Life.

 \checkmark The Athens Elks Lodge, VFW, and the American Legion are proposing an Annual Veterans Day Parade on the Saturday before Veterans Day (Nov. 6) to honor the more than 4,300 veterans who live in McMinn County. The parade would begin at the Courthouse Annex and end at the downtown "Market Park." Plans are for the Grand Marshal to be the oldest McMinn County veteran. The parade will feature marching bands, military vehicles, fire trucks, etc.

More Country Patch Fire Photos







DODGE RODEO TIME Friday, August 20th at 8:00 p.m. & Saturday, August 21st at 8:00 p.m. To Benefit the Idlewild Fire Dept. Bull Riding, Clowns, Mutton Bustin' at ATHENS REGIONAL PARK UNDER THE COVERED ARENA GREATEST SHOW ON DIRT TOUR 2010 Calf Giveaway, Stick Horse Races, Food, Fun! Sponsored by L & M Motors Dodge Sanctioned by Southern Rough Stock Association Stock Contractor H-BAR-M of Athens Info: 423-745-7587 Gates Open 5:30 p.m. www.dodgerodeo.com