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MORNING FAX™

Today's News...This Morning

(Feel free to copy, post or otherwise distribute)
(Phone: 746-1390 Fax: 744-1390 e-mail: wxyi@bellsouth.net)



Meet 2001
SURVIVOR
Tina Wesson

Leadership McMinn Alumni
Seminar. Feb. 11th, 8 a.m. at
McMinn Senior Citizens Ctr.
Alumni \$10; Gen. Adm. \$15
Tickets at Athens Chamber of
Commerce. 423-745-0334

Thursday-December 23, 2010

Athens, Tennessee

A CHRISTMAS "MIRACLE"

Christmas has a special meaning for an Etowah family this year. Sarah Patterson, daughter of Phil and Pam Patterson, survived a 28-vehicle crash on a snow-covered interstate highway in Illinois earlier this month. Sarah is a student at UTC. She and two friends had gone to Chicago. As they returned on I-57, they ran into a major snow storm that resulted in almost zero visibility. Their car slid into a bus carrying members of a junior college basketball team.



When cars and trucks began wrecking all around them, Sarah and her friends decided to take cover behind a tree. They decided that was not a good idea when a car ran off the interstate and nearly hit the tree.

In an interview with WYXI Radio, Sarah said, next they got onto the bus they had originally hit. But before they could even sit down, the bus was hit. Sarah and her friends, along with the basketball players, then made their way through deep snow to a barn and then to a nearby house where the residents invited them in and took care of them. Eventually, they were able to follow a snow plow.. (more on page 2)

NATIONAL-WORLD NEWS

- ◆ It was a big day Wednesday for President Obama's legislative agenda. The President signed a law repealing the ban on gay men and women serving openly in the military. The Senate also voted to ratify the START nuclear arms treaty with Russia.
- ◆ Stocks edged higher on Wednesday. The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 26.33 points at 11,559.49.
- ◆ Two Chicago firefighters were killed and 14 were injured while battling a fire at an abandoned commercial building on the city's South Side on Wednesday.
- ◆ Another monster storm is bringing torrential rain, thunderstorms, and flooding to Southern California. After days of relentless rains, roads are covered with water and mud and there is a danger of mudslides.
- ◆ Iraqi Christians have called off Christmas festivities across the country due to threats from al-Qaida insurgents.
- ◆ Another truck was hit by a mailbox thrown from an I-75 overpass in McMinn County. A truck driver reported that a man threw the mailbox from the bridge at mile marker 53. The mailbox hit the truck's roof. The driver was not injured. He said the man who threw the mailbox appeared to be in his early 20's with shaggy hair.

Silver Moments

2 E. Washington Ave. 746-GIFT
Downtown On the Square
"Gifts Worth Giving"



LAST MINUTE GIFT IDEAS! NEW Sterling Silver & Engravable Jewelry (we do IN HOUSE ENGRAVING & it will be ready before CHRISTMAS) Charms, Charm Bracelets, Jesus Fish, Peace Sign, & Spoon Rings. NEW SHIPMENT OF THE SILICONE GEL WATCHES IN EVERY COLOR. NEW HANDBAGS & BACKPACKS. NEW Bridgewater Candles & Camille Beckman Toiletries. Gourmet foods for entertaining. NEW Personalized Christmas Ornaments. NEW items with personalized initials already monogrammed & ready to purchase for gifts. 10% OFF ALL JEWELRY! Text silver to 62447 for specials
OPEN ON CHRISTMAS EVE 'TIL 4P Open 'til 7p TONIGHT ***Gift Certificates *Free Gift Wrap**

The Gallery

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Vera Bradley, 20% off;
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Athens -McMinn Family YMCA
2010 Annual Meeting and
Volunteer Luncheon Thursday,
Jan. 20th at 12pm. Please
RSVP by January 13th.
423-745-4904



CHRISTMAS DINNER SPECIAL:

7 til 11 40 pc. BROASTED CHICKEN, 7 pounds of
CORNBREAD DRESSING, 1 pound of GRAVY and 24
DINNER ROLLS, \$57.50. Must be paid and ordered in advance.

Stonehaus Deli & Bakery, 601 Madison Ave. (745-9116)
Taco Salad, \$5.99; Fish & Chips, \$4.99; Lasagna with Meat
Sauce, \$4.99; Soup: White Chicken Chili.

BOjangles Famous Chicken & Biscuits-S. Congress Parkway
(744-5292) December Specials: Breakfast--2 Pork Chop Biscuits for \$4.
Check-out 5 Meals for Just \$5 each for Lunch. Dinner: 12 piece Super Tailgate
+ 6 Biscuits & ½ Gallon Tea or Lemonade, just \$19.99.

Western Sizzlin Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike (745-2626)
Thursday (All Day): 8 oz. Sizzlin' Top Sirloin with Potato, Bakery, &
Dessert Bars, \$6.99. **Just in Time for Christmas: Purchase one \$25**
Western Sizzlin' Gift Card and you'll receive one \$5 Gift Card Free!!



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**Athens Regional
Medical Center**

HEAR: "Twas The Night Before Christmas"

A special Holiday Presentation for your enjoyment on Christmas Eve at: **12 noon, 1 p.m., and at 3 p.m. on: WYXI, AM-1390**
Brought to you by Log Homes of East Tennessee

PAGE TWO

Morning Fax™

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ONEHEART DOJO

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Thursday-December 23, 2010

Athens, Tennessee

Christmas Miracle continued...

(Continued from Page One)

to the hospital. Sarah was not injured, but one of her friends suffered a broken arm. The next day they returned to the wreck scene and discovered their car had been flattened and was upside down.



They would almost certainly have been killed if they had remained in the car. Sarah says her faith in God got her through the terrifying situation.

She believes God was leading them in every move they made, from the car to the tree, to the bus, to the barn and to the house.

The photo above shows the girls looking inside the wreckage of their car the day after the pileup.

The photo to the right shows another view of the girls' demolished car.



(Photos by Sarah Patterson)

Athens To Observe "Boxing Day"

The City of Athens in cooperation with Keep McMinn Beautiful will hold "Cardboard Boxing Day" this Sunday, Dec. 26, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Recycle Center on Rocky Mount Road. You are urged to bring your cardboard boxes, wrapping paper, plastic, styro-foam from your Christmas packages - along with old electronics - and have them recycled.

THP Braces for Holidays

The Tennessee Highway Patrol will be out in force over the Christmas holiday weekend, looking for impaired drivers. Troopers will conduct more than 100 sobriety and driver license checkpoints including one on Christmas Eve at Highway 68 and County Road 297 in northern McMinn County. There will also be a sobriety check at State Route 411 and State Route 72 in Monroe County on Christmas Eve.

Last year, there were six fatal traffic crashes in Tennessee during the Christmas holiday period. Three of the fatal crashes were single vehicle wrecks and three involved multiple vehicles. In addition, one pedestrian was killed. Two of the six fatalities occurred in alcohol-related crashes. One of the five vehicle occupants killed last year was not wearing safety restraints.

One fatal accident occurred in Southeast Tennessee last Christmas holiday. That was in Bradley County.

WHEN RADIO WAS

Old-time Radio Shows
6:05-7 pm Nightly
WYXI AM-1390

Tonight:

Mayor of the Town (1942) & Ma Perkins (1949)

THIS DAY IN HISTORY-December 23

1787 - Captain William Bligh and his crew sailed from Plymouth, England, on their ship the "Bounty." Their plan was to gather information about the South Pacific islands. However, a group led by Fletcher Christian took over the ship and set Captain Bligh and his crew adrift in a small boat.

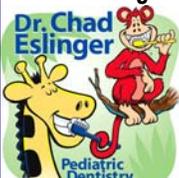
1823 - The poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas" by Clement C. Moore was published in the Troy, New York, "Sentinel." The poem later came to be known better by the title: "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

1862 - Baseball player and manager Connie Mack was born. He managed the Philadelphia Athletics from 1901 to 1951. His bust in the Baseball Hall of Fame is inscribed with the title "Mr. Baseball."

1928 - The National Broadcasting Company established a coast-to-coast radio network.

1948 - Former Japanese premier Tojo was hanged in Tokyo by the Allied War Crimes Commission.

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