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Today's News...This Morning

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

Friday-January 21, 2011

Athens, Tennessee

State & Local News

◆ ONLY ONE NEW HOUSE BUILT IN 2010

The Athens Community Development Office reports only one permit was issued last year for construction of a new home. A total of 392 permits were issued in Athens last year for construction projects of all types, including electric and plumbing work, remodeling, swimming pools, signs, etc. The total value of those construction projects was \$5,539,179. That's the lowest amount of construction in Athens since 1990. The highest amount of construction was nearly \$28 million in 1998. Construction projects in 2009 totaled just over \$7 million.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The McMinn Senior Activity Center will host the annual Prof Powers Chili Supper and Silent Auction from 4 to 6 p.m. today. Proceeds will be used for Senior Center activities. The Senior Center is located at 205 McMinn Avenue in Athens.

✓ The Federal program "Hardest Hit Fund" is now available to McMinn County residents facing foreclosure as a result of a loss or reduction of income. The concept of the program is that helping a household maintain their mortgage payments would cost less than a foreclosure and preserve the household's credit rating. The initiative in Tennessee is called the "Keep My Tennessee Home Program". You can get more information by calling Anthony Casteel, the Athens Community Development Director, at 744-2750. You can check your eligibility & begin your application at: www.keepmyTNhome.org

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ More than 120 members of organized crime families in New England states have been arrested in one of the largest Mafia crackdowns in FBI history. The defendants face multiple charges of murder, extortion, and narcotics trafficking.

◆ Doctors say Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords is beginning to stand up and is scrolling through an iPad as she makes what they call "fantastic" advances. The 40-year-old congresswoman will be moved today from the Tucson hospital to a rehabilitation center in Houston, Texas, where her husband, Mark Kelly, lives and works as an astronaut. Kelly says he is extremely hopeful that his wife is going to make a full recovery. He predicts she'll walk back into the hospital in Tucson in two months and thank everyone who took care of her.

◆ U.S. claims for initial jobless benefits last week posted their biggest decline in nearly a year. Analysts say it shows a trend toward a healthier labor market. On Wall Street, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 11,822.80; down 2.49 points.

◆ An elementary school bus filled with children collided with a snow plow in upstate New York Thursday, injuring several of the children.

◆ The number of people who bought previously owned homes last year fell to the lowest level in 13 years, and economists say it will be years before the housing market fully recovers.

◆ Police in Miami say burglars snorted the cremated remains of a man and two dogs by mistake, thinking it was cocaine.



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Restaurant Spotlight

Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike (745-2626)
 Fri. & Sat. (All Day) 14 ounce RIBEYE STEAK with Potato, Bakery, & Dessert Bars, \$13.49. Dine-in only, no other discounts.

Stonehaus Deli & Bakery, 601 Madison Ave. (745-9116)
 BBQ Pork Sandwich with French Fries, \$4.99; BBQ Potato, \$4.99; Chicken Quesadilla with Soup or Salad, \$5.99. *Healthier Option:* Chicken Tortilla Salad, \$5.99. Soup: Chicken Tortilla. **Open For Sunday Brunch.**

BOjangles Famous Chicken & Biscuits-S. Congress Parkway (744-5292) January Specials: Breakfast--2 Chicken Biscuits for \$4. Anytime: 12 piece Box + 6 Biscuits, just \$12.99. Get \$5 off a 50 piece Supreme Platter. Our 32 oz. Tea is still just 99¢.

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Morning Fax™

(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

Friday-January 21, 2011

Athens, Tennessee

Who's New In Pink & Blue?

Cali Leann Powell was born January 18th at Athens Regional Medical Center. She weighed 8 pounds and 15 ounces and was 21¼ inches long. Her parents are LeAnna and Craig Powell of Riceville.

Isabella Madison Farr was born January 17th at ARMC. She weighed 5 pounds and 8 ounces and was 19 inches long. Her parents are Brittany Frye and Daniel Farr of Niota.

Kevin Edward Crowder, Jr., was born January 15th at ARMC. He weighed 7 pounds and 10 ounces and was 20¾ inches long. His parents are Robin Ring and Kevin Crowder, Sr., of Etowah.

Eli Cole Stanford was born January 13th at ARMC. He weighed 5 pounds and 10 ounces and was 19 inches long. His parents are Hannah and Nathan Stanford of Athens.

Caleb Dean Chadwick was born January 13th at ARMC. He weighed 8 pounds and 15 ounces and was 21 inches long. His parents are Ashley O'Daniel and Chris Chadwick of Athens.

Chloe Nahala Fritts was born January 12th at ARMC. She weighed 8 pounds and 6 ounces and was 20 inches long. Her parents are Tina and Johnny Fritts of Athens.

Obituaries

Zach Gaines, age 19, of Riceville, died Wednesday at his home. He was a MCHS graduate and had attended Cleveland State. A funeral service will be Sunday at 3 p.m. at Smith Funeral Home with visitation from 11:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at the funeral home.

Emery Robert "Bob" Overley, Jr., age 92, of Etowah died Monday at his home. He was a retired Methodist minister and had been a teacher with the McMinn County School System. A memorial service will be held Saturday at 7 p.m. at Ralph Buckner Funeral Home of Etowah, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.

Did you see the beautiful pink sunrise in the eastern sky Thursday morning? Jeff Weaver captured it with his camera and sent it to us. Does that mean bad weather is coming?



WEATHER

Friday - Freezing drizzle then mostly sunny. High-34.

Friday night - Partly cloudy & cold. Low-18.

Saturday - Mostly cloudy. High-low 40's.

More wx at: www.wxyi.com

THIS DAY IN HISTORY - JAN. 21

1824 - Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson was born. He got his nickname at the first Battle of Bull Run. Jackson's brigade faced overwhelming odds, but it formed a strong line and held its ground. One of his fellow generals exclaimed: "There is Jackson standing like a stone wall."

1940 - Golfing great Jack Nicklaus was born.

1941 - Opera singer Placido Domingo was born. He and John Denver teamed up for a hit record titled "Perhaps Love."

1942 - Singer/songwriter Mac Davis was born. His hit records include "Stop and Smell the Roses" and "Baby Don't Get Hooked On Me." He wrote such songs as "I in the Ghetto," "Watching Scotty Grow," "I Believe in Music," and "Memories."

1976 - Concorde super-sonic jet service between New York and London began via British Airways.

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