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Today's News...This Morning

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Because It Matters

Thursday, December 18, 2014

Athens, Tennessee

State & Local News

◆ COUNCIL MEETS WITH NEW MAYOR

Mayor Ann Davis presided over her first City Council meeting Tuesday night. One of the mayor's responsibilities is to appoint Council members to various boards and committees. Mayor Davis named new council member Yvonne Raper to the Athens Parks Foundation, the McMinn Senior Center, and the Athens Regional Planning Commission. She re-appointed Bo Perkinson to the Athens Utilities Board and named him to the Historic Preservation Commission. Chuck Burris was named to the Board of Zoning Appeals and re-appointed to the McMinn County Department of Juvenile Services. Mayor Davis named herself to the McMinn County Economic Development Authority, replacing Dick Pelley. She re-appointed Pelley to the Athens Regional Planning Commission.

Police Chief Chuck Ziegler's report on crimes for November showed there were 41 thefts, 22 assaults, 12 burglaries, 3 robberies, and 1 motor vehicle theft. There were 57 traffic accidents with five injuries. Officers issued 377 citations for moving violations.

Fire Chief Jim Dyer reported that firefighters responded to 47 calls in November. There were two residential fires, two grass fires, six vehicle accidents, 12 false alarms, and 21 miscellaneous calls.

National & International News

◆ President Obama says the U.S. and Cuba will start talks on restoring full diplomatic relations for the first time in a half-century. The shift came immediately after Cuba released imprisoned U.S. aid contractor Alan Gross and the U.S. freed three convicted Cuban spies. Florida GOP Senator Marco Rubio opposes the move.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

✓ Santa Claus is coming to Riceville. Santa will leave the Riceville Volunteer Fire Department around 4 p.m. this Saturday and visit local neighborhoods. Santa will return to the station around 6:30 p.m. for pictures. Candy and toys will be available. There is no charge.

✓ The Governor's Highway Safety Office and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) recently recognized nearly 200 officers and law enforcement agencies for their traffic safety enforcement efforts. One of those honored is Kevin Hoppe, a State Trooper assigned to McMinn County.

✓ Members of the Athens Optimist Club will be selling a special edition of the Daily Post-Athenian this Saturday at various shopping locations in Athens. Proceeds will benefit the Friendly Fellow Club Food Basket Program.

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WEATHER

Thursday - Mostly cloudy. 20% rain or snow in A.M. Highs in the upper 40's to lower 50's.
Thursday night - Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30's.
Friday - Partly sunny. Highs in the mid to upper 40's.
More Weather & Zoom Radar at: www.wyxi.com

Thursday, December 18, 2014

Morning Fax™...Today's News This Morning

Athens, Tennessee

TWC'S ANGEL TREE HELPS NEEDY

Tennessee Wesleyan College students helped make the Christmas holiday merry and bright by organizing an Angel Tree to benefit community organizations. Kirby Deal with TWC's Center for Servant Leadership, says 148 gifts were collected to be distributed through The H.O.P.E. Center, Children's Advocacy, and TWC's own Love Thy Neighbor Project. The gifts were donated by TWC students, staff, and faculty. The photo below shows Kristen Camp, an intern at TWC's Center for Servant Leadership, arranging gifts around the Angel Tree.



Obituaries

- **James "Red" Buckner, Jr.**, age 65, of Athens died Tuesday at Starr Regional Medical Center, Athens. Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday in Hampton Cemetery, with visitation from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Ziegler Funeral Home.
- **Briley K. Parsons**, eight-week-old infant daughter of Steven and Michelle Cothren Parsons of Wheaton, MD, died last Friday. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday.
- **Cody Charlie Green**, age 19, of Etowah died Sunday. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Bordwine Funeral Home with visitation from 11 - 2 p.m. at Bordwine.

MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

- ✓ If you plan to pay your property taxes before the end of the calendar year for income tax purposes, take note that the Athens Municipal Building will be closed next Wednesday and Thursday, December 24th and 25th, in observance of the Christmas holiday. Only those property tax payments received prior to 5 p.m. on December 31st or postmarked prior to midnight on December 31st will be stamped paid for the 2014 calendar year.
- ✓ Auditions for the upcoming production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, will be held on Sunday, January 11, at 4 p.m. and Monday, Jan. 12, at 6 p.m. at The Arts Center. A cast of six singers and actors ranging in age from 12 to 18 is needed. There are parts for at least two young women and four young men. The show dates are April 9-19. Everyone who auditions will be asked to sing a brief solo from a Broadway show and read from the script. For more information, call 745-8781.

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