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Today's News...This Morning

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Tuesday, December 23, 2014

Athens, Tennessee

Local and State News

◆ RAILS TO TRAILS FUND-RAISER

The Athens Parks Foundation has announced a matching fund-raiser through December 31st for the Rails to Trails project. The Foundation will double the first \$7,500 contributed toward completing the gravel surfacing of the trail. Currently, the trail has 1.8 miles of smaller gravel in place making it easier to walk and ride a bike on it. In order to complete the final 2.8 miles to Highway 39, the Foundation has set a goal of an additional \$30,000. All donations up to \$7,500 before the end of the year will be doubled. You can donate by phone by calling the Athens Parks Department office at 744-2704 or by stopping by the office in the Municipal Building. All donations are tax deductible. Athens Parks Director Austin Fesmire says having the additional gravel in place will allow casual users to enjoy the entire trail and will allow bike races.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ If you plan to pay your county property taxes before the end of the year, the McMinn County Trustee's Office will be closed Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. The office will re-open next Monday. You can also use their convenient drop box at the top of the steps on the Washington Avenue side of the Courthouse.

MORE COMMUNITY NEWS

✓ The City of Athens and Keep McMinn Beautiful will hold the annual Cardboard Boxing Day this Friday, December 26th, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Recycle Center on Rocky Mount Road. You are invited to bring all of your cardboard boxes, wrapping paper, and old electronics to recycle. Cardboard boxes may also be placed "broken down" at the curb for Public Works crews to pick up on Friday.

✓ The Athens Area Council for the Arts will present a variety of classes and workshops for students of all ages. The five-week classes begin January 5th at the Arts Center. There will be classes in clay sculpture, chair caning, beginning water color, digital photography and many other topics. Call 745-8781 to register. The deadline is December 29th.

WYXI PRESENTS CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

Be sure to tune your radio to AM-1390 or point your browser to www.wyxi.com to hear the best in Christmas programming this year. On Christmas Eve we will have Christmas music until 12 noon. Then at noon, hear the Charles Dicken's "Christmas Story" from 1938 starring Orson Welles. At 1 p.m. hear "It's a Wonderful Life" with Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed. At 2 p.m. we will present "Miracle on 34th Street" with Natalie Wood. Christmas Music resumes at 3 p.m. ENJOY!!

Pam's 2 Step Shoes 'Day After Christmas' Bargains of the Year!!!!

Store Closing on December 31st at 6 pm. All remaining shoes etc. at 85% OFF Retail
(exception of Naot and Fly London shoes they are at \$45) We will be Open at 9am on Friday, December 26th
for your real bargains of the year. 106 N. White St., Downtown Athens 745-4141



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WEATHER
Tuesday - 80% rain. Areas of fog through the day. Highs in the upper 50's to lower 60's.
Tuesday night - Near 100% rain & t'storms. High in the mid 50's.
Wednesday - 90% rain & t'storms. Highs in the lower to mid 60's..
More Weather & Zoom Radar at:
www.wyxi.com

Tuesday, December 23, 2014

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

Athens, Tennessee

Etowah Presents Awards

The City of Etowah held its annual Christmas Dinner last week and presented several awards to members of the fire and police departments.

Shown in the photos, right: Fire Chief Mike Moore presents Firefighter of the Year award to Jonathan Parrott. Below: (L-R) Chris Deakin receives Part-time Firefighter of the Year Award; Blake Wood receives Fire Officer of the Year Award; and Etowah Police Chief Eric Armstrong presents Police Officer of the Year Award to Tyler Gentry.

(Photos by Jay Thomson)



Obituaries

- **Michael James "Mike" Harris**, age 54, of Athens, died last Friday at his residence. He was a member of the Over Hill Indians and Panther Clan of the Cherokee. His Indian name was "Earl Ella." Funeral services were held Monday night at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home.
- **Dorothy Ford Hunter**, age 88, of Decatur, died last Saturday. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Bowers Funeral Home, with visitation from noon to 1 p.m.
- **Richard Leroy Fritts**, age 56, of Athens, died Monday at his home. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Ziegler Funeral Home with visitation from 11a-1p at Ziegler.
- **Ona Darlene Simpson**, age 66, died Saturday. Funeral arrangements will be announced by M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home.
- **Maxine Harwood**, 85, of Etowah, died last Friday at McMinn Memorial Nursing Home. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Bordwine Funeral Home.
- **Freda Hopkins**, age 54, of Decatur, died last Saturday. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Cleveland.
- **Ron Wells**, age 65, of Reliance, died last Saturday at his residence. A private family service will be held at a later date. Serenity Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.
- **Ronald D. Fisher**, age 63, of Etowah, died Monday at Woods Nursing Home. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Ziegler Funeral Home.

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TODAY IN HISTORY-December 23

1783 - George Washington returned to Mount Vernon, after the disbanding of his army following the Revolutionary War.

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."

1913 - The Federal Reserve Act was signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson. It established 12 Federal Reserve Banks.

1928 - The National Broadcasting Company established its first permanent coast-to-coast radio network.

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