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# MORNING FAX™

## Today's News...This Morning

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Friday, January 9, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

### LOCAL & STATE NEWS

#### ◆ AUDIT FINDS MORE ISSUES IN MEIGS CO.

A new audit by the State Comptroller's Office shows there are still major issues with Meigs County's management and bookkeeping practices. The annual audit revealed 19 areas of serious concerns spread across numerous Meigs County government offices. Eleven of the findings were also listed in last year's report, but had not been corrected. The list of problems includes issues with budgeting, purchasing, payroll, record-keeping, and failing to reconcile fuel purchases. Comptroller Justin Wilson says he is troubled by the history of uncorrected problems in Meigs County. He says he hopes the county's new Audit Committee and County Mayor will begin fixing the issues in a timely manner to reduce the risk of fraud.

#### ◆ ALEXANDER GETS CHAIRMANSHIP POST

U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander of Tennessee has been elected chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. Earlier in the week, Tennessee's other senator, Bob Corker, was named chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. That means both of the state's senators now chair major committees.

### NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS

◆ A winter chill has descended upon much of the U.S., freezing enough of the country to cause widespread school closings and misery for many. With freezing temperatures come a variety of health problems, notably frostbite and hypothermia. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, every year an average of 1,301 deaths are associated with exposure to excessive natural cold.

◆ According to a report released by former FBI Director Robert Mueller, the NFL's investigation into the domestic abuse case involving Ray Rice lacked thoroughness. Mueller stated that the NFL should have done more with the information it had, and should have taken additional steps to obtain all available information about the incident. The report says no one at the NFL saw the video of the former Ravens star punching his now-wife in the casino elevator before it was posted to TMZ.

### MORE AREA NEWS

A serious accident in the CSX Railroad Yard in Calhoun has resulted in a CSX employee losing a foot. Details are sketchy, but somehow a railroad car ran over Tony Garrett's foot. Garrett has worked for CSX for 34 years and was planning to retire soon.

All of us here at...**2-Step Shoes**... would like to give a big **"Thank You"** for all your support and friendship shown during our store closing after 5 years and going into semi-retirement. **Pam's Pizazz** will continue at the same location (beginning our 22nd year) for all your Custom Draperies, Plantation Shutters, Shades and Blinds along with the Custom Upholstery needs. Our shop hours at this time...will be by appointment. Our phone numbers will remain the same **(423) 745-4141 or (423) 506-3206**. **Pam's Pizazz is a Graber and Hunter Douglas Dealer.**

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## Morning Fax™

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**WEATHER**  
**Friday** - Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 30's.  
**Friday night** - Mostly clear. Lows around 13.  
**Saturday** - Sunny. Highs in the mid to upper 30's.  
More Weather & Zoom Radar at: [www.wyxi.com](http://www.wyxi.com)

Friday, January 9, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

### Church News and Events

- The Athens Lutheran Church at 710 Forrest Avenue will have Sewing Classes tomorrow from 1 to 3 p.m. Classes will also be held January 12 through the 14th from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to bring their sewing machine and supplies. All supplies will be furnished for those who don't have their own.
- A "Heal Our Land Prayer Vigil" will be held at Athens City Middle School on Monday, January 19 beginning at 6:45 p.m. The community is invited to attend.
- Jones Chapel United Methodist Church will present its 10th Annual Ladies Conference tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Beth Green will be the guest speaker. The cost is \$10 and includes conference materials and lunch. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. The church is located at 212 County Road 782, Etowah.

#### ◆ "NO REFUSAL" LAW NETS 68

The Tennessee Highway Patrol "no refusal" drunk driving enforcement campaign over the New Year's holiday period netted 68 arrests. Under the no refusal law, troopers can force suspected drunk drivers to give blood samples. The law was strictly enforced in eight counties, including McMinn. Blood samples were taken from six drivers after they refused to be tested at checkpoints. Troopers also issued 306 seat belt violations in those eight counties.

### Obituaries

- **Annette Millard Henry**, age 76, of Athens died Wednesday at her residence. She was formerly employed in retail sales at various stores in the area. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Smith Funeral Home, with visitation from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Smith.
- **Bobby L. Matheny**, age 59, of Athens died Wednesday at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home.
- **Lura Veneta "Lou" Turner**, age 89, of Athens died Wednesday at her residence. Private services will be held at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home.

**THURSDAY'S MARKET REPORT:** The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 323.35 at 17,907.87. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 36.24 at 2,062.14, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 85.72 at 4,736.19.

#### ◆ MERCURY FALLS TO FIVE ABOVE

Athens Utilities Board recorded a low temperature Thursday morning of 5 degrees above zero. AUB spokesman Wayne Scarbrough says despite the bitter cold, there have been no serious power outages. Scarbrough says a wire burned in the Woodward Avenue area, affecting 43 customers. He also says AUB did not get a lot of reports of freezing water meters or customers with frozen pipes in their homes.

## "The Hamptons" Upscale Resale

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### TODAY IN HISTORY-January 9

- 1788** - Connecticut became the 5th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.
- 1913** - Richard Nixon, the 37th President, was born. He was a Congressman and Senator from California, served as Vice-President under President Eisenhower, and was elected President in 1968 and re-elected in 1972. He resigned in 1974 while facing almost certain impeachment for his involvement in the Watergate scandal.
- 1951** - Singer Cystal Gayle was born. Her biggest hits include "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue" and "I'll Get Over You." She is Loretta Lynn's younger sister.
- 1968** - The Surveyor 7 space probe made a soft landing on the moon. It was the last of America's unmanned explorations of the lunar surface.
- 2001** - Apple Computer Inc. introduced its iTunes music management software.
- 2006** - "The Phantom of the Opera" became the longest-running Broadway show with 7,485 performances.