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Today's News...This Morning

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Athens, Tennessee

Friday, March 13, 2015

State and Local News

◆ REMEMBERING THE "BIG BLIZZARD!"

Spring may be just six days away, but we better not let our guard down. Most of us will remember that on March 13, 1993, Athens and East Tennessee were buried under 19 inches of snow. Roads were impassible, schools were closed for a week, and electricity was out for as long as a week for some residents. Members of the Tennessee National Guard, including now-state representative John Forgety, used armored personnel carriers and other vehicles to rescue people, deliver supplies, take dialysis patients to the hospital, and check on the well-being of people who were stranded in their homes.



This was before the days of Smartphone cameras, but many homeowners snapped pictures of the snow. This photograph above was taken by Charlsie Langley on County Road 750.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

✓ The 4th Annual Vietnam Veteran's Day will be held on Friday, March 27, at 11 a.m. in front of the big jet plane at the VFW Post, 706 N. Congress Parkway, Athens. You are invited to come and honor our Vietnam Veterans. Light refreshments will be served.

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ St. Louis County Police and Missouri State Highway Patrol have taken control of the policing of the city of Ferguson protesters after two officers from different jurisdictions were shot outside of the Ferguson police station on Wednesday night.

◆ An American health worker volunteering in an Ebola treatment unit in Sierra Leone has been diagnosed with the deadly virus and will be headed to the United States for treatment. The patient will be isolated and flown to the NIH Clinical Center Special Clinical Studies Unit in Maryland, which is one of four hospitals in the country with isolation units prepared for Ebola patients.

◆ The second earthquake in recent weeks has rattled the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. A quake measuring 2.2 was recorded around 2:18 a.m. Thursday. It was centered two miles SSE of Cherokee, NC. It was felt or heard as far away as Murphy, NC. There were no reports of damage.

JANUARY JOBLESS RATE JUMPS IN AREA

The unemployment rate in McMinn County was 8% in January, up from 7% in December. In Meigs County, the jobless rate rose from 8.4% in December to 9.6% in January. The jobless rate in Monroe County was 8.1% in January, up from 6.9% in December. Polk County's unemployment rate jumped from 7.4% in December to 8.6% in January. In Bradley County, the jobless rate rose from 5.6% in December to 6.6% in January.

CORRECTION: The Heritage School at the Living Heritage Museum this Saturday will feature Jim Brooks with folk music and storytelling. The program starts at 11 a.m.

Portrait Shoppe of Athens

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


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WEEKEND WEATHER FORECAST

Friday - 90% rain. Highs in the mid to upper 50's. Friday night - 90% rain. Lows in the lower 50's. Saturday - Cloudy. 40% rain & t'storms. Highs in the mid to upper 60's. Sunday - Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 60's. Zoom Radar at: www.wxyi.com

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Friday, March 13, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

Church News and Events

- The Athens Lutheran Church at 710 Forrest Avenue will be having a community movie night, **Soul Surfer**, Saturday at 7 p.m. The movie is based on a true story of professional surfer Bethany Hamilton and how her faith helped her to overcome all her challenges to become a champion surfer. There will be refreshments following the movie.
- The Athens Lutheran Church will be having community sewing classes from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday. Everyone is welcome to bring your own sewing machines, but there will be supplies and several sewing machines available on-site.
- The Prom Shop will be open on Saturday, March **28**, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Christ Community Church, 14 S. Congress Parkway, Athens. Formal wear is available at no cost for any girl or guy wishing to attend their prom or dance. The Prom Shop is open to high school, home school, and 8th grade students.
- The United Methodist Men from Trinity Methodist Church will be having another Free Food Giveaway Saturday starting at 10 a.m. at the loading dock to the rear of the former Badcock Furniture store in the **Madison Park Shopping Center**. The food will be given away first-come, first served.
- McMinn Car Care Ministry will offer free oil changes and a seminar on managing your money on Saturday, March 28, for single mothers, widows, the elderly, and those on a fixed income. Call 263-0160 by March 23 to apply.

Obituaries

- **Norma Sue Creasman Rogers**, age 88, of Etowah, died Wednesday at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. Graveside services will be held at 2:30 p.m. Friday at Goodsprings Cemetery. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.
- **Frances Shoffett Cass**, age 71, of Englewood, died Wednesday at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. She was retired from the U.S. Postal Service. Funeral services will be at 8 p.m. Friday at Bordwine Funeral Home with visitation from 5-8 p.m., prior to the service, at Bordwine.

WE'RE PROUD OF THE CHARGERETTES!

The McMinn Central Chargerettes recently brought home the 2nd Place trophy in the State Class AA basketball tournament. The members of the team are pictured below with their trophy.



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TODAY IN HISTORY - MARCH 13

- 1455** - The Gutenberg Bible, the first book printed from moveable type, was published in Germany.
- 1639** - New College was renamed Harvard College for clergyman John Harvard.
- 1733** - The man who discovered oxygen, British scientist Joseph Priestley, was born.
- 1781** - The distant planet "Uranus" was discovered by British astronomer William Herschel. Uranus is 64 times larger than earth.
- 1884** - Standard Time was adopted throughout the United States.
- 1938** - Defense attorney Clarence S. Darrow died at age 80.
- 1939** - Singer Neil Sedaka was born.
- 1993** - Athens and East Tennessee began digging out from "Superstorm '93." Snow which began falling the night before totaled 19 inches in Athens, stranding many people in their homes for several days and knocking out electricity for up to six days for some people.