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Today's News...This Morning

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Tuesday, November 24, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

LOCAL & STATE NEWS

◆ ATHENS POLICE & FIRE REPORT

The Athens City Council received the monthly reports of activity from the Athens Police and Fire Departments at its monthly meeting last Tuesday night.

Police Chief Chuck Ziegler reported there were 76 thefts in Athens in October, 18 burglaries, 16 assaults, 6 robberies, 2 motor vehicle thefts, and 1 sex offense. Police officers issued 338 citations for moving violations. There were 86 vehicle accidents in the city in October, with 28 injuries.

Fire Chief Jim Dyer reported that firefighters responded to 48 calls in October. Twelve were to vehicle accidents, there were 11 false alarms, one residential fire, one vehicle fire, and one grass fire. Damages for the month totaled \$25,000.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The dedication ceremony for the newly renovated Prof Powers Park on Slack Road will be held today at 4 p.m. at the park. Today is Prof's 90th birthday. The park was renamed from Knox Park to Prof Powers Park to honor one of our community leaders and innovators. The park now includes a water fountain, new playground equipment, and new landscaping.

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NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ American citizens were issued a worldwide travel alert on Monday warning of "increased terrorist threats" in the wake of the Paris attacks. The United States has been on heightened alert since the attacks which killed 130 people.

◆ New York City is preparing for the Thanksgiving Day parade by bolstering a new counter-terrorism unit, Critical Response Command. The command includes more heavily armed officers. There will also be other units assisting patrol officers. City officials claim that there is no evidence of a "specific and credible threat" to New York, and Police Commissioner William Bratton, wants people to celebrate, be aware, but to not be afraid.

VISION TESTS FOR SENIORS?

If you are 76 or older, you'll be interested to know that State Representative Mark Pody, a Republican from Lebanon, plans to introduce a bill in the Legislature in January that would require Tennesseans over the age of 76 to get a vision test before they can renew their drivers license. Pody says he decided to introduce the bill in response to constituents who were concerned that an older relative was not capable of driving competently, but were reluctant to start an argument with them. Similar legislation has been proposed in past legislative sessions, but has always been defeated. Most of those bills required vision exams starting at age 65.

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Tuesday, November 24, 2015 Morning Fax®..Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Working On New EcoPark

DENSO employees recently rolled up their sleeves to help plant the new Japanese fruit garden at the DENSO EcoPark. The planting is part of the first phase of the development of the 11.5 acre park adjacent to the DENSO plant on George R. Price Boulevard. (Photo by Erin Holbrook)



HOLIDAY HOURS FOR ATHENS CITY

The Athens Municipal Building, Public Works, and Recycling Center will be closed Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving. The Thursday residential garbage route will be picked up next Monday, Nov. 30th, and Friday's route will be picked up on Tuesday, Dec. 1st.

Obituaries

- **Virginia Loyd Smith Brown O'Daniel**, age 78, of Athens, (and formerly of Bridgeport, Alabama) died Sunday at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. She was retired from Thomas & Betts after 27 years of service. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Allen Memorial United Methodist Church, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge.
- **Annie K. "Kay" Anderson Patton**, age 91, of Athens, died Sunday at her home. She was a long time member of Athens First Baptist Church, where she sang in both the Adult and Senior Adult Choirs. Funeral services will be at 12 noon Tuesday at Athens First Baptist Church, with visitation from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.
- **Brenda Joyce Peeler Lowery**, age 65, of Athens, died Monday at her residence. She had operated a hair salon in Etowah. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.
- **Mary Ingram**, age 79, of Etowah, died Saturday at UT Medical Center. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Serenity Funeral Home.
- **Norma Joyce Sharp Bridges**, age 78, of Riceville, died Sunday at Etowah Health Care Center. She retired from the McMinn County School System after 30 years of service as a teacher's assistant at Calhoun and Riceville elementary schools. A Celebration of Life Service will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from noon to 2 p.m.

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WEATHER

Tuesday - Sunny. Highs in the mid 50's.
Tuesday night - Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 30's.
Wednesday - Mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 60's.
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