

Tuesday, December 6, 2016



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**Today's News...This Morning** 

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Athens, Tennessee

# Local & State News

### ♦ GOOD NEIGHBORS HAND OUT SUPPLIES

The Niota Fire Department handed out supplies, water, clothing, and other necessities to tornado victims, volunteers, and workers in Deerfield Estates this past weekend. If any family needs assistance or supplies, you can call 462-4302.

(Photo by Tammy Carver with the Niota Fire Department)



◆ TORNADO DAMAGES SEVERAL CHURCHES At least five churches were damaged by last week's tornado. The first church hit was Cedar Springs United Methodist Church on the hill above Cedar Springs Road. The tornado also damaged Genesis Baptist Church, the Athens Free Saints Holiness Church on Slack Road, Fairview Baptist Church, and Mount Harmony Baptist, one of the oldest churches in McMinn County.

# NATIONAL-WORLD NEWS

◆ Dolly Parton is planning a telethon to support the many who have lost their homes in the numerous wildfires that have torched the area. The telethon will help the victims of wildfires in the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee where she grew up. Parton is also going to donate \$1,000 per month to each family that lost their home to the wildfires that have scorched thousands of acres and burned hundreds of homes and other buildings.

• A mistrial was declared Monday in the state murder trial of former North Charleston, South Carolina, police officer Michael Slager. Slager was accused in the shooting death of an unarmed black man. The jury was unable to come to a unanimous decision.

◆ Survivors of the deadly fire at an Oakland, California, warehouse recall waking up to a "wall of fire" and billowing smoke so powerful that it opened a window, letting in oxygen that apparently added fuel to the blaze. At least 36 people died in the fire.

◆ Justin Ross Harris was sentenced to life without parole Monday afternoon for the murder of his 22-month-old son, who died after he was left in Harris' hot car in Georgia. He was also sentenced to an additional 32 years on other charges.

• The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced that it will not approve an easement needed to permit the Dakota Access Pipeline to cross under Lake Oahe in North Dakota.

• Former Vice President and climate advocate Al Gore met with Donald Trump at Trump Tower in New York City on Monday. Gore said he had a "lengthy and very productive session" with the president-elect.





**Tornado Baby Doing Fine** 

Ava Newman will forever be known as the "tornado baby." Ava's mom, Amber, lives on Highway 307. She was 39 weeks pregnant when the tornado hit her house. The family hid in a bathroom when their home was thrown in the air and flipped several times before landing more than 200 feet away. It took first responders nearly four hours to get the Newman family to the hospital. Amber Newman suffered a bad gash on her leg. She gave birth by caesarean section to a healthy baby girl. Mother and daughter are now doing fine. (Photo by Des Ferguson, a friend of the family)



#### **♦ JOIN KMB AND HELP CLEAN UP DEBRIS**

In the aftermath of the tornado, Keep McMinn Beautiful volunteers will work this Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon to clean up debris. If you would like to help, meet at the Athens Municipal Building at 9 a.m.to receive assignments and supplies.

## Obituaries

• Wanda Faye Plemons, age 65, of Etowah, died last Thursday at her home. Memorial services will be held at 7 p.m.Tuesday at Ziegler Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.

• **David Simpson,** age 78, of Etowah, died last Thursday at his home. Funeral arrangements will be announced by M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home.

• Jerry L. Cottrell, 82, of Englewood, died Nov. 22 at his home. A memorial service will be held this Saturday at 12 noon in "The Family Orchard" at 2246 County Road 561, Englewood. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.

• Ernest Hickman, age 55, of Decatur, died Sunday at his residence. He was a member of the Laborers Local 818 Union in Knoxville. Funeral services will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at Bowers Funeral Home, with visitation from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday.

• Jack Dennis Elrod, age 73, of Decatur, died Monday at Starr Regional Medical Center. He was an airline pilot for many years. He started his pilot career at Mayfield Dairy and retired after 40 years with Continental Airlines. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. Smith Funeral Home is in charge of arrangement.

**MONDAY'S MARKET REPORT:** The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 45.82 at 19,216.24. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 12.76 at 2,204.71, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 53.24 at 5,308.89.

### **TODAY IN HISTORY, DECEMBER 6th**

1790 - Congress moved from New York City to Philadelphia.

**1907** - The worst mining disaster in U.S. history occurred as 362 men and boys died in a coal mine explosion in Monongah, W.Va.

**1923** - A presidential address was broadcast on radio for the first time as President Calvin Coolidge spoke to a joint session of Congress.

**1947** - Everglades National Park in Florida was dedicated.

**1957** - The AFL-CIO expelled the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

**1957** - America's first attempt at putting a satellite into orbit exploded on the launch pad at Cape Canaveral, Fla.

**1973** - House minority leader Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as vice president, succeeding Spiro T. Agnew, who had resigned after pleading no contest to income tax evasion.

**1992** - Thousands of Hindu extremists destroyed a mosque in India, setting off two months of Hindu-Muslim rioting that claimed at least 2,000 lives.

**1994** - Orange County, Calif., filed for bankruptcy protection due to investment losses of about \$2 billion.

**1998** - Hugo Chavez, who had staged a bloody coup attempt against the Venezuelan government six years earlier, was elected president.

2003 - Army became the first team to finish 0-13 in major college football history after a 34-6 loss to Navy.
2004 - Al-Qaida struck the U.S. Consulate in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, with explosives and machine guns, killing nine people.