

WEATHER FORECAST

Monday - Partly Sunny, high of 61

Mon. night - Mostly Cloudy, 30% chance of rain, low of 48

Tuesday - Partly Sunny, 20% chance of rain, high of 60

More Weather at: wyxi.com

Morning Fax[®]

Today's News... This Morning

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Monday, January 7, 2019

Athens, Tennessee

MEET 2019'S FIRST BABY

The first baby to be born in McMinn County in the new year has made his appearance. Karrigan was born to Rebekah on January 2nd at 8:33 a.m. at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. He weighed eight pounds and 12 ounces and was 20 ½ inches long. They are back home and doing well in Madisonville.

Rebekah said, "I'm so excited to meet my new baby boy!" She thanked Starr Regional for the wonderful care she received.

The photo shows, standing L-R: Lisa Kinard, Director of Women's and Children's Services at Starr holding a gift basket presented to Karrigan from Starr Regional, Tori Timm (RN), Michelle Miles who presented a hand-sewn quilt from the Heritage Quilt Guild, Ronnie Hall (Chief Nursing Officer at Starr), big sister Violet (age 3), and mom, Rebekah, holding Karrigan.

(Photo by Blake McCaslin)



More Local News

◆ FORMER OFFICE MANAGER INDICTED

Tina Gates, the former office manager for the McMinn Surgical Group, has been indicted by the McMinn County Grand Jury on charges of theft and credit card fraud totaling over \$60,000. Detectives say she allegedly used company money to order personal items from Amazon.com. She resigned from her job last January.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Athens City Council will hold its monthly Study Session tonight at 5:45. The agenda includes an ordinance to amend the order of business for regular city council meetings and an ordinance dealing with "turkey shoots" in the city.

✓ The Good Faith Clinic will have its first session of the new year Tuesday, January 8th, at 2:30 p.m. at Christ Community Church on at 14 S. Congress Parkway. The primary medical clinic is open to all uninsured residents of McMinn and Meigs Counties. Proof of residency is required.

✓ Work by Athens artist Jan Burselson will be on exhibit in the Willson Exhibit Room at The Arts Center from January 7th - February 8th. A reception will be held this Friday at 5:30 p.m.

✓ The guest on the next Athens Area Chamber of Commerce radio show, "Chamber Chat," (which will be on Tuesday, January 8th) will be Donna Coleman of Helping Hands Senior Care. You can hear Chamber Chat each Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio AM-1390 or FM-94.5 and [ONLINE](#).

Hear

Dave Ramsey

Daily

3 to 4 p.m. &
7 to 9 p.m.

on **WYXI**
FM 94.5 &
AM 1390



We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to:

wyxi@bellsouth.net

RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits



January Specials >> 2 Sausage Biscuits for \$2

• 1 Breast - 1 Fixin - 1 Biscuit - 22 oz Drink: \$5

• 8 piece Box + 4 Biscuits, \$9.99

• 32 oz Tea still just \$1.00

IT'S BO TIME BOJANGLES S. Congress Parkway 744-5292

Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike

Monday (All Day) 8 oz Chopped Sirloin + Side Item-Bakery-Dessert and Rolls-\$7.99.

Senior Buffet: (Ages 55+) Monday-Friday from 2-4 p.m. ~ \$6.79.

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WHEN RADIO WAS

Old-time Radio Shows
6:05-7 pm Nightly
WYXI 94.5 FM & 1390 AM
Tonight:

The Third Man & Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar

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The Trading Post

Daily Monday - Saturday Morning
8:45 am - 9:30am and
Monday - Friday Afternoon
4:15pm to 4:45 pm

Monday, January 7, 2019

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Jerry McConkey**, age 66, of Englewood, died Friday. He was retired from Crescent Hosiery Mill and was currently working at the Athens IGA. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Everlasting Life Baptist Church in Englewood, with visitation from noon to 2 p.m. at the church. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge.

♦ **Samuel "Sam" Neil**, age 72, of Athens, died last Wednesday at his residence. He was a graduate of J.L. Cook High School Class of 1964, where he scored 50 points in one basketball game. He was a Vietnam veteran and retired from the Air Force after 23 years of service as a master sergeant. Funeral services will be held Monday at 1 p.m. at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, with visitation from noon to 1 p.m. at the church. M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

♦ **Robert "Bob" H. Miller**, age 98, of Calhoun, died Sunday at Morning Pointe of Athens. He was retired from the U.S. Army as a Sergeant Major, having served during WW II, Korea, and Vietnam. He worked for Sears in Atlanta GA, after retiring from the U.S. Army until 1980, when he retired and moved to McMinn County. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Wednesday at Ziegler Funeral Home with visitation from noon to 2 p.m. prior to the services.

◆ MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ Public schools in the area return to class today following the Christmas break. Students also return today to Valley Christian Academy.
- ✓ The Etowah Carnegie Library will have Snowman Bingo & Cocoa at 4 p.m. today.
- ✓ The deadline for nominations for McMinn County's 2018 "Mother of the Year" is this Friday, Jan. 11th. Call the Athens Chamber of Commerce office at 745-0334 for details, nomination forms, and guidelines.

Davis Hangs Up His Badge

The City of Athens has officially said farewell and thank you to a longtime police officer. A reception was held Friday at the Athens Municipal Building for Captain Rob Davis. Davis has served for 43 years with the Athens Police Department. Davis tells The Morning Fax that he has many projects that he is looking forward to completing now that he will have the time to do so.



(Morning Fax Staff Photo)

VEHICLE FLIPS, TWO HURT

Two people were taken to Starr Regional in Etowah by private vehicle Saturday afternoon after this 2002 Nissan Altima overturned on County Road 500. The Englewood Rural Fire Dept. and Trooper Travis Ryans responded. (Photo by Stacy Casteel, Englewood Rural Fire Dept)



RECALLING SOME OF 2018'S BIG STORIES

The year began with the birth of McMinn County's first baby named Enzo, born to Stacey and Nicholas Kay on January 1st.

State Rep. John Forgety began the year by announcing he would retire at the end of his 4th term. Mark Cochran was elected to the post.

Cold weather caused Bald River Falls to freeze. Thousands of people flocked to see the frozen spectacle.

In January, Habitat for Humanity broke ground for a Tiny Home for a veteran. The 600 square foot house was dedicated in May.

Former Volunteer Energy accountant Jason Kittle was fired in January and an investigation resulted in his indictment on charges of stealing nearly 1-million-dollars of VEC money for his personal use.

Banker Chris Adams was named the J. Neal Ensminger Man of the Year.

Dick Pelley was ousted as the Athens vice mayor and removed from his committee appointments in response to allegations of sexually inappropriate comments he made to the Athens HR director and at a city council planning meeting. Pelley issued a public apology and agreed to attend sensitivity training.

Joseph Wielzen was arrested for 2nd degree murder and rape in the death of Kelsey Burnett, 18, in June...almost a year after her body was found in a yard on Charles Street in Etowah.

Athens Fire Chief Jim Dyer resigned. He was replaced by Brandon Ainsworth.

Melinda King was elected McMinn County Clerk, defeating veteran clerk Evonne Hayes.