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Today's News... This Morning

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November 1 thru December 14 2019

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 627 Co. Rd. 740 Riceville, TN 37370

Thursday, December 5, 2019 Athens, Tennessee

Guilty Plea Given by Bennett

John W. Bennett of Decatur, has admitted killing four people in a deadly crash that occurred on May 6, 2016, on Highway 58 south of Decatur in Meigs County. According to Tennessee State Trooper Pat Patterson's [report](#), Bennett was driving a dump truck southbound and was pulling an empty flat bed trailer that came loose from the truck and caused a chain reaction crash involving two vehicles. The victims in one vehicle were identified as Andrew Blackford, age 38, of Murfreesboro, and his passenger, Samantha Norris, age 37, of Maynardville. In the other vehicle was Christopher Denton, age 36, of Birchwood, along with his passenger, Paula Stevens, age 62, of Dunlap. After the crash, Bennett fled the scene. He turned himself in to authorities in Bradley County several days later. He was charged with four counts of vehicular homicide and four counts of leaving the scene of a fatal accident. He will be sentenced next May and could face up to 32 years in prison. (Photo of John W. Bennett courtesy of Newschannel9.com)



Two Vehicle Wreck on Highway 30

A 2012 Mercedes Benz and a 2003 Mitsubishi collided on Highway 30 at County Road 619 near Etowah at 6 p.m. Tuesday. Two patients were transported by AMR. One went to Starr Regional in Athens and the other was taken to Starr Regional in Etowah. The Etowah and Englewood Rural Fire Departments responded, along with the McMinn County Sheriff's Department and the THP. Trooper Dakota Bromley investigated the accident.
 (Photos by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Dept)



15th Annual Etowah Community Christmas Concert
Tuesday, Dec. 17th 7 pm
1st Baptist Church Etowah
 Featuring:
 Etowah Town Band; Central Harmony Chorus; Keyboards at Christmas
FREE ADMISSION
 Bring non-perishable food items for Etowah Cooperative Food Pantry.

RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT
December Specials >> Bacon-Egg-Cheese Biscuits 2 / \$4.00 • 8 Pc Box \$9.99 • 8 Pc Tailgate +2 fix-ins, 4 biscuits +HG Tea \$19.99 • 5 Meals for \$5 ea. • 3 Pc Tenders or Supreme Combo \$4.99 • 32 oz Tea \$1

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Thursday: Fried Chicken, Meat Loaf, Turkey, Peas & Carrots, Fried Potatoes, Dressing, Yams. DAILY: M. Potatoes, Green Beans, Tossed, Cucumber or Pasta Salads, Cole Slaw, Fruit, Beets, Cottage Cheese, Meat & 2, \$7.99; Meat & 3, \$8.99.

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WEATHER FORECAST
 Thursday - Mostly sunny. High 57.
 Thursday Night - Mostly cloudy. Low 37.
 Friday - Mostly cloudy. Possible rain. High 52.
 Friday Night - Mostly cloudy. Low 40.
 More Weather at: wysi.com

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Thursday, December 5, 2019 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Elizabeth "Toye" Ann Collier**, age 75, of Athens, died last Friday at her home. She was retired from Thomas and Betts after more than 40 years. Funeral services will be Saturday at 12 noon at M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home of Athens, with visitation from 11 a.m. until 12 noon at the funeral home.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. equities ended the day higher. The U.S. private sector added 67,000 jobs in November, well below the expectation. The Treasury yield rose as prices fell.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 147 points or 0.5% to 27,650. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 20 points or 0.6% to 3,113, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 46 points or 0.5% to 8,567.

In bond markets, the 30-year Treasury yield is trading higher at 2.22%, and the 10-year Treasury yield is trading higher at 1.77%. In commodity markets, the spot price of gold fell \$3.60 to \$1,480.80, and the price of crude oil rose \$2.23 to \$58.33.

◆ MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The guest on "Hope from the Well" this week will be Frank Clark, youth pastor at Hillcrest Church. "Hope From the Well" is heard at 8:15 a.m. each Thursday on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5 or [ONLINE](#)

Community News You Can Use

✓ A "Parent Academy" will be held tonight from 6 to 8 p.m. at McMinn County High School. The Academy is presented by Michael DeLeon and will provide an opportunity for parents to learn about drug awareness education and the dangers of vaping. Door prizes and light refreshments will be provided.

✓ Food City will host their annual Holiday Open House in all of their area locations, including Athens, this Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be live entertainment, crafts, door prizes, displays of holiday fruit baskets, and much more.

✓ Athens Small Animal Hospital at 318 Maple Street will offer Pet Photos with Santa this Saturday, Dec. 7th, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. A \$10 donation is requested. Proceeds benefit the McMinn Regional Humane Society.

✓ The Etowah Arts Commission will be presenting a special fundraiser, "Christmas Tour of Candlelit Homes," this Saturday from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. Five beautiful homes in Etowah will deck their halls and open their homes. The tour is self-guided. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$40 per couple. Proceeds go to the Arts Commission.

✓ The McMinn County 4H Club holds its Baking Contest next week. Staff members will visit all county schools next week to judge baked items, including cornbread, biscuits, cookies, cupcakes, and pound cake. For more information, call 745-2852.

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Merry Christmas!