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# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

Today's News... This Morning

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**TRADE!**  
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**THE TRADING POST**  
 WYXI FM 94.5 &  
 AM 1390  
 8:45 a.m. & 4:15 p.m.

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

## Police/Fire Report for December

The Athens City Council heard the reports from the city's police and fire chiefs on December activity at their Tuesday night meeting.

- Police Chief Cliff Couch reported there were 62 thefts in December, 9 assaults, 9 motor vehicle thefts, 7 burglaries, 1 robbery and 1 sex offense. Officers issued 146 citations for moving violations. There were 27 drug crimes reported. In December, there were 66 traffic accidents with 19 injuries. Chief Couch reported there are 5 vacancies on the police force.
- Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth reported that firefighters responded to 153 calls in December. Of those, there were 8 fires, 103 rescue and emergency medical service calls, and 23 false alarms. The calls involved one building fire, two vehicle fires, and 12 motor vehicle accidents with injuries.

The total number of crimes in Athens in 2020 went down a bit in several categories from 2019.

- Assaults: 155 in 2020, down from 164 in 2019
- Thefts: 571 in 2020, down from 656 in 2019
- Sex offenses: 18 in 2020, down from 20 in 2019
- Moving violations: 1195 citations in 2020, down from 2183 in 2019
- Homicides: 1 in 2020, up from 0 in 2019
- Robberies: 13 in 2020, up from 8 in 2019
- Motor vehicle thefts: 72 in 2020, up from 69 in 2019
- Traffic accidents: 696 in 2020, down from 929 in 2019
- Injuries from traffic accidents: 124 in 2020, down from 143 in 2019

## Community News You Can Use

- ✓ The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Tennessee Valley Healthcare System is now offering the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to veterans aged 65 and above, in addition to high-risk veterans. Enrolled veterans will be contacted directly by TVHS to arrange vaccine appointments.
- ✓ The McMinn County Health Department has two phone numbers for COVID-19 matters. The number to call for self-testing is 745-7431. The number to call to be put on the priority list for vaccinations is 1-866-442-5301.
- ✓ Walmart is sponsoring United Way of McMinn and Meigs Counties by giving shoppers the opportunity to round-up their purchases to the nearest \$ and donate the change which will go to United Way. Round-up is available on WalMart.com and the WalMart app through January 29th.

**NOTE: There are 58 days remaining until the start of Spring!**

### ◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Wednesday P.M.

Tennessee: 694,291 cases, up 4,483. 8,556 deaths, up 86.

COUNTY	CASES	RECOVERED	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	5,117 up 17	4,665	379	73
Meigs	1,164 up 15	1,038	110	16
Monroe	4,627 up 33	4,191	373	63 up 1
Polk	1,445 up 7	1,288	140	17
Bradley	10,934 up 96	9,914	926	94 up 3
Rhea	3,847 up 19	3,477	314	56

### 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:  
[wysi@bellsouth.net](mailto:wysi@bellsouth.net)

### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



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**Click the Listen Live Logo**



### WEATHER FORECAST

**Thursday** - Mainly cloudy. Possible rain. High 49.  
**Thursday Night** - Low clouds. Low 39.  
**Friday** - Mostly cloudy. High 52.  
**Friday Night** - Clear. Low 27.  
 More Weather at: [wysi.com](http://wysi.com)



**HEAR RUSH\***  
**Noon to 3 p.m.**  
**Monday through Friday & Saturday's**  
**Week in Review 4-7 pm**

\*Having more fun than a human being should be allowed to have  
**WYXI FM 94.5 & AM 1390**

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Thursday, January 21, 2021 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

♦ **David Leonard Bjork**, age 68, of Etowah (and formerly of Erie, PA) died Tuesday. He served in the Navy, and then was employed as a computer operator at the former First National Bank of Pennsylvania for 19 years. He drove for Anderson Trucking Service for 20 years until his retirement. Graveside services will be Friday at 12 noon in McMinn Memory Gardens. A private family viewing will be held at Bordwine Funeral Home.

### BOATING ACCIDENTS INCREASE IN 2020

After a record low year of eight boating fatalities in 2019, the most boating-related fatalities in 37 years occurred on Tennessee waters with 32 fatalities in 2020. Preliminary numbers indicate about 30% of the 2020 fatal incidents had alcohol or drugs as a contributing factor. In addition to the fatalities, there were 61 serious injury boating incidents that injured 82 individuals.



Martha Ann Boyd sent us this photo that was taken by Linda Parks of Decatur of a Snowy Owl. These owls normally live in the Arctic Region and are rarely seen this far south.

## Trees: Then and Now

Those beautiful shade trees that stood for years on the grounds of City Park School along Crestway Drive are being removed as part of the school building project. Many of you no doubt have enjoyed picnics under the trees. The photos below show the trees before and after. The "before" photo was taken by Finch Photography. The "after" photo was taken by The Morning Fax staff.



### TODAY IN HISTORY - JANUARY 21<sup>st</sup>

- 1824** - Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson was born. He got his nickname at the first Battle of Bull Run. Jackson's brigade faced overwhelming odds, but it formed a strong line and held its ground. One of his fellow generals exclaimed: "There is Jackson standing like a stone wall."
- 1908** - Smoking by women became illegal. The Sullivan Ordinance was enacted in New York City, but, from pictures we've seen, some women continued to smoke even though it was against the law.
- 1940** - Golfing great Jack Nicklaus was born.
- 1942** - Singer/songwriter Mac Davis was born. His hit records include "Stop and Smell the Roses" and "Baby Don't Get Hooked On Me." He wrote such songs as "In the Ghetto," "Watching Scotty Grow," "I Believe in Music," and "Memories."
- 1976** - Concorde super-sonic jet service between New York and London began via British Airways.

**Hear MoneyWise with Rob West and Steve Moore on WYXI Radio FM 94.5 & AM 1390. MoneyWise airs Monday thru Friday at 11:30 AM and Saturday at 6:30 AM!**



**WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT:** There were no major economic releases leaving the focus on the policy implications of the Biden presidency. The new administration's economic plan focuses on vaccine distribution and additional aid to households. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 257.86 to 31,188.38. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 52.94 to 3,851.85, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 260.07 points to 13,457.25.