

Morning Fax[®]

Today's News...This Morning

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Friday, December 10, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

Remembering the I-75 Tragedy

One of the worst tragedies to ever occur in McMinn County took place on December 11, 1990. That morning, 99 trucks and cars piled up in a massive crash on I-75 near the Hiwassee River in thick fog. One of the first vehicles to crash was driven by Julie

Simbeck, who was 18 at the time and on her way to college in Chattanooga. Julie, who now works for the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, says the fog got worse until she literally could not see anything in front of her or on either side. She kept going straight when suddenly in a supernatural way the fog lifted in front of her and she could see two



trucks completely blocking the interstate. She slammed on her brakes and crashed into them. She quickly got out of her car and barely made it to the grass before she started hearing massive car accidents happening, one after another. She says you could not see what was going on, but you could hear it. It was awful, she says. She remembers hearing people screaming. She watched one man burn to death. Others were walking around needing assistance. Julie says there is no doubt in her mind that God was looking out for her every step of the way that day.

Community News You Can Use

The Athens Police Department is hosting another Child Safety Seat Check at the police station this Saturday, December 11th, from noon to 2 p.m.

✓ The Athens Public Works Department announces that Keith Lane will be closed from Monday, Dec. 20th, at 6:30 a.m. until Friday, Dec. 24th, at 6:30 p.m. for construction work related to the new school structure.

The next Good Faith Clinic will be this coming Tuesday, December 14th, starting at 3 p.m. The Clinic provides basic medical care for uninsured residents of McMinn and Meigs counties under the age of 65. Also free flu shots will be given to anyone from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

LISTENING REMINDER: WYXI Radio (FM 94.5) will present Christmas Music "through the night" each night from 6 p.m. until 6 a.m. beginning this Sunday night, Dec. 12th.

As of publication time, the Covid-19 data had not been updated by the Tennessee Department of Health.

THURSDAY'S MARKET REPORT: Equities finished lower as concerns over the spreading omicron variant persist. The latest jobs data showed that weekly claims have fallen to their lowest levels in 52 years, however, job openings still outnumber job seekers. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down .06 to 35,754.69. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 33.76 to 4,667.45, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was down 269.62 to 15,517.37.

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WEATHER FORECAST

Friday - Cloudy & mild. 80% rain chance. High 63
Friday Night - Warm with a 55% rain chance. Low 60
Saturday - 90% rain with a 50% t'storm chance. High 67
Sunday - Sunny & cooler.
High 51

Weather at: wyxi.com

Athens, Tennessee

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Obituaries

- Lewis Hyacinth Bradley (Baretooth), age 87, died December 1st at Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens. He was a professional concrete finisher by trade and worked at TVA. The family will receive friends Sunday, December 12th, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Lane's Chapel AME Zion Church in Niota, with the funeral to follow at 2 p.m. Interment will follow at the Lanetown Cemetery. M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.
- David Keith Corlew, age 61, of Decatur, died Tuesday. Funeral services will be held on Monday, Dec. 13th, at 7 p.m. at Decatur Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. prior to the service.
- Ruby Elizabeth Moore Cansler, age 92, of Athens and formerly of the Tranquility Community, died Wednesday. She was retired from Niota Textile Mill. Funeral services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from noon to 2 p.m. The graveside service will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at McMinn Memory Gardens.
- David "Dave" Wilson, age 70, of Etowah, died Wednesday. He retired from Whirlpool. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday in Love Cemetery. No formal visitation will be held. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.

Church News & Events

- Niota First Baptist Church choir presents "A Carol to the King" at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, December 19th. The church is located at 6 Main Street in Niota..
- Union-McMinn Baptist Church will have a Live Nativity on Friday and Saturday, December 10th and 11th, from 6 to 8 p.m. The church is located off Niota Exit 56 on County Road 316.
- The East Athens Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir will present the musical: "When We Needed A King" this Sunday, Dec. 12th, at 10:45 a.m.
- The Brittsville Baptist Church in Georgetown will host a live Christmas Nativity drive-through from 5 to 8 p.m. this Sunday. There will be a petting zoo for folks to pet the animals, plus hot chocolate and cookies will be served. There will be treat bags for their guests.
- There will be a Christmas Concert featuring Felix McCullough, *3 Play* featuring Ron Clayton on Sax, Chalmer McDermott on Drums, and soloists Linda Humphrey and Samuel Wiseman. The concert will be at the Cooke Ministry Center, 714 Walter Street, on Saturday, Dec. 18th, at 6 p.m. A love offering will be taken.
- Boyd Memorial Church of God presents "Sheltered in the Arms of God," a Christmas play, December 18th at 6 p.m.
- If you or someone you know is battling addiction, struggling with anger, or other life issues, Planted In Christ Outreach Fellowship, 317 Maple Street, in Athens, invites you to attend Outreach Deliverance Classes every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.



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