

# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

Today's News...This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute with attribution) (Phone: 746-1390 Fax: 744-1390 e-mail: wyxi@bellsouth.net)



Friday, December 17, 2021

Athens, Tennessee

## **Big Cutback at Resolute Forest Products**

Just days before Christmas, Resolute Forest Products (formerly Bowater) has announced the indefinite idling of pulp and paper operations at its Calhoun mill. The decision will directly affect 350 hourly and salaried positions. The facility employs a total of 545 people. Tissue manufacturing will continue, and the adjacent distribution center will remain in full operation. The company's president and CEO, Remi Lalonde, issued a statement saying they have taken the very difficult decision to indefinitely idle pulp and paper operations knowing how hard this is for the affected employees and their families. The pulp and paper operations in Calhoun produced an operating loss of \$62 million in the 12 month period ending September 30th. Lalonde says pulp and paper operations will continue for up to 60 days to ensure an orderly shutdown, to accommodate environment safeguards, and to transition customers. He says the company's focus now will be to support their employees through this difficult time. The plant has been a major producer of paper and a major employer in McMinn County since it opened in 1954.

# **Community News You Can Use**

The Christmas holiday begins for schools, both public and private, in the Athens area next Monday, Dec. 20th.

✓ The Tennessee Department of Health has celebrated the oneyear anniversary of the first COVID-19 vaccination in the state. The first dose of the vaccine was given at Vanderbilt Medical Center on Dec. 16th, 2020. The first vaccinations in McMinn County were given by the County Health Department on Saturday, January 2, 2021. Since the first vaccine was administered, 8,334,635 vaccine doses have been given to Tennesseans across the state.

### **♦**COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE Thursday 12-16

**Tennessee:** 1,346,150 cases up 2,256. 17,939 deaths up 39.

COUNTY	CASES	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	10,963 up 18	150 up 4	152 up 2
Meigs	2,299 up 11	45 up 6	33
Monroe	10,141 up 6	137 down 1	142
Polk	3,316 up 4	43 up 4	37 up 1
Bradley	23,073 up 42	299 up 1	248
Rhea	7,280 up 11	98 up 2	102 up 1



Niota First Baptist Church presents "A Carol To The King" at 10:45 am on Sunday, December 19th. Everyone is welcome! 6 Main Street, Downtown Niota, TN



#### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



NEW: Hand Breaded Chicken Sandwich \$3.99 Pork Chop Biscuits 2 / \$6 • 32 oz Tea Due to Staffing Shortages, the Athens Bojangles will be closed on SUNDAY ONLY DURING DECEMBER Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits BOJANGLES of Athens-South Congress Pkwy 744-5292

This Valuable Advertising Space is available now for your restaurant. Contact the Morning Fax for more information. 423-745-1390

**Drive-Thru Bake Sale** Saturday, December 18th 11am - 2 pm Allen Memorial United **Methodist Church 800 Decatur Pike** Under the back portico Rain or Shine

REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER 1 DONATION SAVES 3 LIVES Athens Center 213 E. Washington Ave. Athens, TN 37303 Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 5 pm

# HAPPY RETIREMENT

Patty Grisham THANK YOU FOR 19 YEARS OF SERVICE



We are hosting a reception for Patty and we invite everyone to join us on December 17th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at our Athens Branch.





FDIC www.PeoplesBank-TN.com



A Complete Funeral Home, Chapel & Visitation Rooms

A caring staff of professional, licensed directors.

Only the best quality funeral supplies • Made in the U.S.A.

Any type of service you desire • We serve all faiths.

We offer pre-planning service • Competitive pricing • Locally owned & operated.

SMITH FUNERAL & CREMATION

\*55 Years of Dedicated Service\*

Jerry E. Smith, LFD, 1010 S. White Street • Athens
423.745.3013

Friday, December 17, 2021

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

## **Obituaries**

- Edna Faye Harbin, age 84, of Powell, formerly from Niota, died December 8th. She was born in Niota. She and her late husband, Jim, moved to Powell and worked side by side to build a company known as Harbin Enterprises. The family will receive friends on Saturday, Dec. 18th, from noon to 2 p.m. at Mynatt Funeral Home in Fountain City. A graveside service will follow at Highland Memorial Cemetery at 3 p.m. Saturday.
- Donald Franklin Jenkins, age 87, of Chattanooga, formerly of the Claxton Community near Riceville, died Wednesday at Erlanger East Hospital in Chattanooga. He worked for TDOT and helped build Beaunit in Etowah. Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m., Saturday at Smith Funeral Home with visitation from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. prior to the service. Interment will follow in Double Springs Cemetery.
- Brooksie Goodgame McCay, age 95, of Athens, died Thursday at her residence. She retired from Athens City Schools after 20 years of service. A Celebration of Life Service will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday at First Baptist Church of Athens with visitation from 1 to 3 p.m. prior to the service. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge.
- James Lynn Swafford, age 65, of McMinn County, died Thursday in a Chattanooga hospital. A service celebrating his life will be at 6 p.m., Saturday at Companion Funeral Home with visitation from 4 to 6 p.m. prior to the service. Interment and committal service will be Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Cochran Cemetery in Englewood.

# **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.
- The North Etowah Baptist Church Choir will present the musical "Silent Night, Holy Night, on Sunday at 11 a.m.
- Allen Memorial United Methodist Church will have a Drive-Thru Bake Sale tomorrow, Dec. 18th, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.. It will be under the back portico, rain or shine.
- The East Athens Baptist Church Handbell Choir will ring Christmas songs of praise this Sunday morning at 10:45.
- Union Grove Baptist Church presents "Like a Thief in the Night" on Friday, Dec. 24th, at 7 p.m. The church is located at 11826 N. Nopone Valley Road in Decatur.
- There will be a Christmas Concert featuring Felix McCullough, 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, this Saturday.
- First Presbyterian Church, 601 Church St. in Sweetwater, presents "Lessons and Carols" this Sunday at 11 a.m.
- 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.



