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Today's News...This Morning

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Monday, December 19, 2016

Athens, Tennessee

## Local and Area News

### ◆ VACANT HOUSE BURNS ON CR 279

The Niotra Rural Fire and North McMinn Fire and Rescue departments were called out early Saturday morning to a fire at a vacant house at 375 County Road 279 just down from Rock View Church. The structure was a total loss.

(Photo by the Niotra Rural Fire Department)



### ◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

✓ The Athens Parks Department announces that the Eureka Trail is now open again. However, Prof Powers Park remains closed while repairs are being made. Both the park and the trail were damaged by the recent tornado.

## MORE STATE & LOCAL NEWS

◆ A Hamilton County judge has dropped all of the charges against the former Ooltewah High School head basketball coach, Andre Montgomery of Athens. The judge dropped the charges of failing to report sexual abuse of a child, saying that state law does not require reporting if the victim is between the ages of 13 and 17 unless the perpetrator is a member of the household. The sexual abuses took place in a cabin in Gatlinburg one year ago.

### ◆ ARRESTS MADE IN TWO AUTO THEFTS

Athens police have made arrests in two of the four recent vehicle thefts in the city. Officer Alan Estep spotted a Honda Civic that had been stolen from a residence. The car was pulled over and the driver and passenger were arrested. They're identified as Nicholas McDonald Smith, 28, of Englewood, and Cari Ann Henderson, 42, of Athens. Officers found drugs in the vehicle and several items that belonged to the owner of a Toyota Tundra that had been reported stolen recently. Both suspects were charged with theft and drug charges.

### ◆ DOWNTOWN PARKING LIMIT MAY BE EASED

McMinn County Mayor John Gentry is asking the City to extend or abolish the two-hour parking limit in Downtown Athens. Gentry wants the change because of all the county offices that are going to be moved into the antique mall directly across the street from the Courthouse. The Courthouse Annex in the Madison Park Shopping Center is being closed to make room for the new Food City, and those offices will be moved to the antique mall.



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Monday, December 19, 2016 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning - Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

## WYXI Raises from the Tornado

WYXI Radio was one of several Athens businesses to be badly damaged by the recent tornado. Major progress has been made toward getting the broadcasts back to normal. This past Saturday, a new 12-foot satellite dish was installed to replace the dish that was destroyed by the tornado. The station was able to return to the air on its FM frequency, 94.5, two days after the tornado. However, it was not able to air programs received by satellite, such as ABC news, the Rush Limbaugh show, and several others. Also, the AM transmitters were destroyed. A new transmitter has been ordered and should arrive next week. In addition, the studio now has a new roof.



## Obituaries

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- **Betty Davis Nash**, age 84, of Riceville, died last Friday at her home. She was retired from Duracell Battery in Cleveland. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Ziegler Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday.
- **Mary Ann Gillespie**, age 92, of Athens, died December 10th at her home. She had been a volunteer with Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, and Decatur Ministries. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. this Thursday at Ten Mile United Methodist Church. Smith Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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Orders accepted through Wednesday, December 21, 2016  
 Picked up December 24th by 6pm  
**Christmas Eve Hours 11-7**  
**Athens 649-0000 Etowah 263-2603**



**Merry Christmas!**

From Carter Insurance and our employees:

Grant, Missy, Becky,  
Diane, Chris,  
Amanda and Jan



206 N. White Street., Athens  
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