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# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

Today's News...This Morning

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Thursday, December 19, 2019

Athens, Tennessee

## Council Approves School Project

The Athens City Council has given unanimous approval to a resolution affirming council support of the building program for the Athens City Schools. The resolution states that the project should be done in phases starting with the City Park site. Phase 1 would be the commons areas and Pre-K through 2nd grade portion of the school, which would be built first with an estimated cost of \$30 million. Phase 2 would be the 3rd through 5th grade wing of the building in 2026 with a cost of \$20 million. The third phase would be in 2030 and would involve renovations to the present Athens City Middle School.

The council also heard reports from the police and fire chiefs about activity in November.

Police Chief Cliff Couch reported 39 thefts in November, 9 assaults, five motor vehicle thefts, four burglaries, and two sex offenses. There were 90 traffic crashes, with 8 injuries.

Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth said firefighters responded to 66 calls in November, with losses totaling \$95,565.00.

### ◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Christmas holiday in the public schools in the Athens area begins this Friday, Dec. 20th. Some schools will dismiss early today.

✓ If you plan to pay your county property taxes before the end of the year, the McMinn County Trustee's Office will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24th, through Thursday, Dec. 26th. It will reopen on Friday, Dec. 27th.

## Fire Destroys Garage On Hwy 39

A fire Tuesday night destroyed a garage and its contents on Highway 39 East, Englewood. Traffic on Highway 39 was blocked while firefighters battled the blaze. The Englewood, Etowah, and Athens Rural Fire Departments responded.

(Photo by Lynn Ingram with the Englewood Rural Fire Dept)



### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



**Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike**  
**All Day:** 8 oz. Sizzlin' Sirloin + Salad - Side - Bakery - Dessert - Rolls ~ \$12.99  
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**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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### The Gem Players Presents a Merry Tuba Christmas

**FREE Concert @ the Gem Theater, Etowah - Sat., Dec. 21st @ 7pm**  
 If you wish to perform contact [EtowahTubaChristmas@gmail.com](mailto:EtowahTubaChristmas@gmail.com) or call 423-920-4700. Featuring local musicians - Tubas, Euphoniums, Baritones, & Sousaphones.

### WEATHER FORECAST

**Thursday** - Plenty of sunshine. High 46.  
**Thursday Night** - Clear to partly cloudy. Low 22.  
**Friday** - Sun shining through high clouds. High 50.  
**More Weather at:** [wysi.com](http://wysi.com)



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**Merry Christmas!**





# Merry Christmas! & Happy New Year!

We will be closed December 23 - January 1, 2020! REOPEN January 2 REGULAR HOURS. We hope you and your family have a Merry Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, and that you and your family take a few minutes this Christmas to reflect on Jesus...the real reason for the season. Thank you for your business in 2019. We look forward to serving you in 2020, and are here to serve and help you in any way that we possibly can. We pray that God blesses and prospers you greatly in 2020.

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Thursday, December 19, 2019 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

♦ **Willis Robert Hall**, age 69, of Decatur, died Tuesday at his home. He was a mechanic and served in the USMC. Funeral services will be Saturday at 12 noon at M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home of Athens, with visitation from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

♦ **John B. Scroggins**, age 94, of Etowah, died Tuesday. A graveside service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Green Hill Cemetery. No formal visitation will be held. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.

**WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT:** The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 28 points or 0.1% to 28,239. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 1 point to 3,191, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 4 points to 8,828.

## HARDIN RECEIVES VIVID AWARD

Craig Hardin is the recipient of the VIVID (Very Important Volunteer Individual) Award from the Athens City Council. Hardin is a Gulf War veteran. He retired from the Air Force Reserve as a Lieutenant Colonel. He was also employed by Coca-Cola in Atlanta for 31 years as a purchasing agent. He moved to Athens in December 2009. In 2017, he was asked to join the E.G. Fisher Friends of the Library and immediately began dedicating time to their annual book sale. In 2018, he became leader of the event. He spent over 20 hours per week overseeing the sale, which is an important fund-raiser for the library. He currently serves as President of the E.G. Fisher Library's Friends of the Library Board.

## Concert and Sock Drive

On December 12th, the McMinn County High School Band held their annual holiday concert and a sock drive to benefit the Care Closet for ACS Family Resource and Kids Connection. The photo shows the band leadership with over 300 pair of socks they collected. These socks will be given to Athens City School students in need.

(Photo by Heather Hacker)



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