



# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

Today's News... This Morning

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Friday, December 27, 2019

Athens, Tennessee

## Christmas Day Rescue

Athens Firefighters were dispatched to the small lake at Prof Powers Park Christmas afternoon to rescue a man who had gotten trapped in the pond. Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth says the man was trying to retrieve a battery-powered toy boat that was stuck in the rocks that span across the lake. He walked across the rocks and sustained a knee injury that prevented him from walking any further. The Athens Fire Department utilized a Stokes basket rigged on their aerial truck and made a successful rescue. The man was taken to Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens for treatment of minor injuries. (Photo courtesy of Athens Fire Dept)



## State and Area News

### ◆ UNEMPLOYMENT UP SLIGHTLY

The unemployment rate in November rose a tick in McMinn County. It was 3.5% in November, up from 3.4% in October. The Meigs County jobless rate was 3.9% in November, up from 3.7% in October. Monroe County's unemployment rate in November was 3.4%, up from 3.3% in October.

### ◆ TRAFFIC FATALITIES DOWN IN McMINN

McMinn County is on its way to finishing the year with fewer traffic fatalities than last year. As of this past Wednesday, December 24th, McMinn County had recorded 12 fatalities. That is five fewer than for the same period in 2018. Meigs County has had two traffic fatalities this year, compared to three for the same period last year. Traffic fatalities are also down for the year in Bradley, Monroe, and Rhea counties. Polk County, on the other hand, has recorded five fatalities so far in 2019, up from one for the same period in 2018.

### ◆ FREE FLU VACCINE STILL AVAILABLE

The flu vaccine is still being offered at no charge to patients at Tennessee's county health departments as long as supplies last. Supplies vary from county to county, so you should contact your local health department for information on getting a flu shot. Health officials say it's extremely important for young children, the elderly, and pregnant women to receive a flu vaccination.

### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



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 Worship 10:45 a.m.

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### WEATHER FORECAST

**Friday** - Mostly cloudy & mild. High 60.  
**Fri. Night** - Mostly cloudy. Low 46.  
**Saturday** - Warm with intervals of clouds & sun. High 66.  
**Sunday** - Warm with rain. High 68.  
 More Weather at: [wysi.com](http://wysi.com)

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## Obituaries

- ♦ **Betty O. Loveday**, age 86, of Etowah, died Christmas morning. Funeral services will be 7 p.m. Friday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.
- ♦ **Jimmie Lynn Carruth**, age 75, of Athens, died December 20th at his home. He was retired from Athens products. In honor of his wishes, there will be no formal visitation or services. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge of arrangements.
- ♦ **Lillie Pearl Vineyard Darnell McElhaney**, age 79, of Athens, died Tuesday, one day shy of her 80th birthday. She was retired from the Bakery Department at Ingles. Graveside services will be 2 p.m. Saturday in Mars Hill Cemetery in Englewood. There will be no visitation. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge.
- ♦ **Reba Louise Fisher Letner**, age 91, of Ten Mile died Christmas Day at her home. A graveside service will be conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday at Roberts Cemetery in Ten Mile, with visitation from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Bowers Funeral Home.
- ♦ **Shelby S. Massingale**, age 83, of Etowah, died on December 25th. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from 1 to 2 p.m.
- ♦ **Ronald Harvey McDonald**, age 84, of Englewood, died Tuesday at a nursing facility in Spring City. He served in the Air Force and was a conductor with L&N Railroad and CSX Railroad for 35 years until his retirement. Graveside services will be 2 p.m. Saturday at McMinn Memory Gardens. There will be no formal visitation. Smith Funeral Home is in charge.
- ♦ **Delia McNary Lee Watts**, age 91, of Englewood, died Thursday. She was a teacher at Central High School where she was one of the original faculty members. Funeral services will be at 4 p.m. on Saturday at Bordwine Funeral Home with visitation from 2 to 4 p.m. prior to the service.

## Englewood Helps Santa

Englewood held its annual Christmas Eve Santa Run with the Englewood Fire and Police departments assisting Santa with his planned route in the city. Any child along the route received a toy. Members of the two agencies are shown below.

(Photo by Lynn Ingram with the Englewood Fire Dept)



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