Truck Wrecks, Rips Up Guard Rail

A box truck traveling northbound on I-75 ran off the road and overturned after the driver fell asleep, ripping up about 85 feet of guard rail in the process. The driver suffered only minor injuries. However, the left lane northbound at mile marker 41 was blocked for several hours. (Photo special to the Morning Fax)

Community News You Can Use

- The Athens Public Works Department announces the second round of the Leaf Vacuum Season. The second round of curbside loose leaf collection will begin today and continue throughout the month of January. If you would like to have your leaves collected, you should rake them three to five feet from the edge of the road. Do not place leaves in the road, in drainage ditches or on sidewalks. As an alternative, you can mulch your leaves by running your lawn mower over them. This will improve your lawn by adding organic material. Another option is composting your leaves for use in flowerbeds or gardens.
- A small earthquake was recorded Saturday morning 3.8 miles ENE of Decatur. It measured 2.7 in magnitude.
- Nominations are being accepted for the Athens “Young Man of the Year.” This award will be presented at the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting. Candidates must be 39 years of age or younger. The deadline for nominations is Tuesday, January 21st. Nomination forms are available by calling 746-5202. Tennessee Wesleyan University sponsors the annual award.

LISTENING REMINDER: The Main Street Athens radio show, “Main Street Moments,” this week will feature Main Street Director Lisa Dotson along with Elaine Newman as they give an update on Main Street Athens. You can hear the program each Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio, FM 94.5 and AM 1390 or online at wyxi.com
Jimmy Green, age 63, of Decatur, died Saturday at his residence. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Bowers Funeral Home.

DEATH TOOK NO HOLIDAY IN 2019
A number of well-known residents of the Athens area died in 2019. Among them:

- The man everyone knew as “Prof,” Harold Powers, died at the age of 93. He participated in the Battle of Athens in 1946. He became the first principal at City Park School and started a program of school camping at Camp Oo-Tah-Nee-Noh-Chee.
- Former Athens City Mayor Hal Buttram died at age 73.
- Retired State Trooper Eddie Pulley died. He was a trooper for 31 years.
- Jim Dodson, retired transportation supervisor for the Athens City Schools for 33 years, died. He was also a member of the TWU Athletic Hall of Fame.
- Dixie Liner died in June. She was a long-time public school nurse and was the Athens Mother of the Year in 1991.
- Former long-time McMinn County Highway Commissioner Randall Moss died in May. He was 84. He had served as Highway Commissioner for 30 years.

McMinn Co. Home Sales
There were 48 sales of single family homes in McMinn County in December. Below is a sampling.

- County Rd 279, Niota - $401,000
- E. Madison Ave., Athens - $308,000
- Shadows Lawn Dr., Athens - $301,000
- River Run Road, Calhoun - $275,000
- County Rd 570, Englewood - $240,000
- Highway 307, Niota - $224,000
- County Rd 332, Athens - $218,900
- Georgia Ave., Etowah - $213,000
- English Lane, Athens - $210,000
- Matlock Ave, Athens - $198,000
- County Rd 671, Athens - $190,000
- Hayleywood Dr., Athens - $187,500
- Georgia Ave., Calhoun - $185,000
- Clearmont Dr., Etowah - $178,500
- Ingleside Ave., Athens - $178,400
- County Rd 786, Etowah - $178,000
- Highway 11, Riceville - $172,900
- Keith Lane, Athens - $167,000
- Village Lane, Athens - $167,000
- County Rd 321, Niota - $167,000
- County Rd 750, Athens - $165,500

Data Provided By Tennessee Valley Appraisal Services
www.tvasinc.com

Today is Epiphany, a holy festival observed in many countries. Originally, it celebrated both the birth and baptism of Jesus. Since the 300s, the day has signified the visit of the three kings or wise men to the Christ Child, signifying the extension of salvation to the Gentiles.

1412 - According to tradition, Joan of Arc was born in Domremy, France. She was the French national heroine who was burned at the stake as a martyr. She led the French army to victory over the British at the siege of Orléans in 1429. She was later captured and condemned by an English court to be burned at the stake.

1838 - Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail gave the first successful public demonstration of their telegraph in Morristown, New Jersey.

1912 - New Mexico became the 47th state.

1919 - The 26th president of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, died in Oyster Bay, New York, at age 60.

1924 - Banjo player Earl Scruggs was born. He and Lester Flatt formed a bluegrass band in 1948 and had many hit records, including “The Ballad of Jed Clampett.”