Wrecks Keep Emergency Crews Hopping

There were two serious traffic accidents that occurred almost simultaneously in Athens Wednesday night. Around 6 p.m., there was a wreck at Green Street and East Madison Avenue in front of First Baptist Church of Athens. Moments later, there was a 3-vehicle wreck with injuries at North Congress Parkway and Highway 305. Stephen Pell sent us this photo of the Congress Parkway wreck.

AUB’s Coleman Earns Certification

Dylan Coleman is Athens Utilities Board’s newest state certified operator in the AUB Water Division. Coleman has been in a rigorous AUB apprentice program for the past two years, which culminates with sitting for the state certification exams. Coleman started in AUB’s wastewater division in May 2016, where he worked for two years before transferring to the water division. Apprentices must learn in detail the ins and outs of water distribution systems including system mathematics, public health regulations, and requirements for the construction and maintenance of water distribution systems.
The City of Etowah currently has several job openings, both full-time and part-time opportunities. If you are interested in any of the following positions, please visit our website, cityofetowahn.com in the “employment section” and apply online in the ease of your own home. We offer full benefit packages for all full-time positions. Part-time personnel automatically receive a free membership to our Community Center facility during their time of employment and we also offer 401K/457 retirement plans to all employees, full and part-time.

**Full-time Positions:**
- (2) On-Call Sanitation Worker
- (1) Sanitation Worker II/CDL Operator
- (2) Patrol Officer
- (1) Codes Enforcement Officer

**Part-Time Positions:**
- (2) Clerical Assistant
- (6) Seasonal Camp Counselor
- (4) Concession Stand Worker

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### Obituaries

- **Donald “Don” Preston Banks**, age 78, of Athens, died Wednesday at Life Care Center in Athens. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. on Sunday at McMinn Memory Gardens with visitation on Sunday from 1:30 to 2:30 at Ziegler Funeral Home.
- **Tommy Ray Torbett**, age 74, died Monday. A Celebration of Life will be 7 p.m. Friday at Boyd Memorial First Church of God, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.
- **Dorothy “Evelyn” Gee**, age 92, of McMinn County died Wednesday at her home. A celebration of life service will be at 3 p.m. at Eastanallee Baptist Church with visitation from 1 to 3 p.m. at the church prior to the service. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

### McMinn Warming Center May Open

The forecast is calling for a blast of arctic air to move into the Athens area Sunday night. When the low for the next day is at or below 25, the McMinn County Warming Center will be open for people to stay. The center is located at East Athens Baptist Church during January. The shelter will be open from 7 p.m. (7:30 p.m. on Sundays) until 5:30 A.M. The capacity is 14 people. Local churches will provide a meal and a to-go breakfast for guests of the shelter. If you would like to volunteer to help staff the shelter, call Grace & Mercy Ministries at 920-1367.

### Kibodeaux Found Not Guilty

A McMinn County jury has returned a unanimous not guilty verdict in the case of Joseph Kibodeaux, who was charged with attempted first-degree murder in a shooting that took place on Forrest Avenue in February 2019. The jury acquitted him of all charges.

### Church News & Events

- The Morrison Sisters will be singing this coming Sunday, January 19th, at 6 p.m. at the Solid Rock Baptist Church in Calhoun.
- A special Martin Luther King, Jr., program will be held on Monday, January 20th, at 12 noon at Greater Mount Pleasant Church. The speaker will be Pastor Dave Graybeal from Keith United Methodist Church.
- One in ten women of marital age is widowed. Ten percent of any church is made up of widows and widowers. What is being done to minister to these folks and to help them learn that life is not over when their spouses die? On January 25th, Dean Miller (a widower) will be conducting a Widowhood Workshop at Athens Church of Christ. The workshop starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 12:30 p.m. The public is invited. No collections will be taken. For more information about the workshop, call the church at 745-0554.
- Celebrate Recovery meets each Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Englewood Church of God. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Star Pickett at 506-4851.

**NOTE:** Monday is Martin Luther King Day. Some banks, government offices, schools, and the post office will be closed.

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**TODAY IN HISTORY - JANUARY 17th**

- **1706** - Benjamin Franklin, American statesman, inventor, and scientist, was born. He was the only man who signed all four of the key documents in American history: the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Alliance with France, the Treaty of Peace with Great Britain, and the U.S. Constitution. He also published "Poor Richard's Almanac" which contained many wise and witty sayings, such as "Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise."
- **1899** - Gangster Al Capone was born in Italy. During the 1920's, his gang of mobsters dominated bootlegging, gambling, and other illegal activities in Chicago.
- **1917** - The U.S. bought 50 of the Virgin Islands from Denmark for $25-million. Formal transfer of the islands occurred on March 31st. Britain bought the rest of them.
- **1927** - Singer Ertha Kitt was born. Her biggest hit record was "Santa Baby." She appeared as "Catwoman" on TV's "Batman" in the 1960's.