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# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

## Today's News...This Morning

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Thursday, December 31, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

## Vaccines Available for Those 75+

The Tennessee Department of Health has announced changes in its vaccination distribution plan, which pushes up teachers and older seniors on the priority list. The McMinn County Health Department is now vaccinating people 75 and older. You can go to the Health Department this Saturday, January 2nd. They will be having a drive-thru vaccine event from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., first come, first served. Expect very long lines and expect to be in your car for a while. Teachers are also moving up in priority, just after first responders and healthcare workers. State Health Department Commissioner Dr. Lisa Piercey says this is tied to the risk of exposure that teachers have, in order to be in the classroom every day.

### CELEBRATE 2021 WITH A HEALTHY START

A new year is an opportunity for a fresh start. Dr. Vickie Turnbough with Medical Associates of Athens says a couple of resolutions you should consider making for the new year are eating healthy and getting moving. She says simple changes in your diet can help boost your energy, sharpen your mind, and reduce your risk of illnesses. She suggests you drink more water in lieu of soft drinks and incorporate more vegetables, fruits, lean proteins, and health grains into your diet. Dr. Turnbough also says regular exercise can help you maintain a healthy weight, reduce your risk of heart disease, and strengthen your bones and muscles. She says an easy way to get started is to take a lunchtime walk or play in the backyard with your kids or pets.

## Community News You Can Use

✓ MEDIC Regional Blood Center currently has a critically low inventory of these blood types: O Positive, O Negative, A Positive, and A Negative. You can donate at any MEDIC Donor Center. In Athens, MEDIC is located at 213 E. Washington Ave.

✓ Today is the final day to pay your county and city property taxes and still have them count as having been paid in 2020.

✓ All Etowah City traffic court dates for January 2021 are cancelled and will be rescheduled. You will be notified by mail.

**CLARIFICATION:** In Wednesday's Morning Fax, we gave the percentages of cases of COVID-19 and deaths from COVID in McMinn and surrounding counties based on the county populations. The wording of the story gave the impression that the deaths were based on the percentage of cases of COVID rather than the total population. That was incorrect, and we apologize for causing any confusion.

### ◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE WEDNESDAY P.M.

**Tennessee:** 580,809 cases, up 8,220. 6,810 deaths, up 100

COUNTY	CASES	RECOVERED	ACTIVE	DEATHS
McMinn	4,301 up 25	3,727	509	65 up 2
Meigs	955 up 20	797	143	15
Monroe	3,820 up 62	3,189	577	54
Polk	1,156 up 24	966	174	16
Bradley	8,994 up 149	7,766	1,156	72 up 3
Rhea	3,141 up 42	2,618	475	48 up 2

### RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



**WE'RE OPEN: Now Serving our Famous Flamekist Steaks and All You Can Eat Salad Bar**  
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 on **WYXI**  
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All Etowah City traffic court dates for January 2021 are cancelled & will be rescheduled to a later date, per orders from the Supreme Court, due to increasing concerns about the still-rising number of COVID-19 cases across the state and the issuance of Governor Lee's Executive Order No. 70, the TSC is returning courts to limit in-person operations beginning December 28, 2020 through January 29, 2021. You will be receiving notifications in the mail in reference to your court date and when it will be.



# Merry Christmas! & Happy New Year

We will be closed December 21 - January 1, 2020! REOPEN January 4 REGULAR HOURS. We hope you and your family have a Merry Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. The year 2020 has brought about chaos and challenging times for many of us. May we take time to reflect on Jesus the real reason for the season! He is our true help and comforter in times like these. Thank you to ALL of our customers for your business in 2020. It is greatly appreciated! We look forward to serving you in 2021! We are here to serve and help you in any way that we can with your home or business exterior needs. Our prayer for each person is that God blesses and prospers you greatly in 2021!

**All Things Exterior**

**Located at 723 Congress Parkway S. Next to Brownies Restaurant.**

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Thursday, December 31, 2020 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

♦ **Dr. Roy A. Fowler**, age 86, of Athens, died Monday. He was former director of the McMinn-Meigs Baptist Association. He pastored churches in Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, and Illinois, and was a Southern Baptist Foreign missionary to Brazil. Due to COVID guidelines, there will be a private family service at Eastanallee Cemetery. The body will lie in state from 1 to 6 p.m. Friday, January 1st, at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home.

♦ **Jo Ann Tomecko**, age 77, and her husband, **Francis Gerald (Jerry) Tomecko**, age 82, of Sweetwater died last week. Jo Ann died on December 23rd and Jerry died on December 25th. A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date. Companion is in charge.

♦ **Robert Terry Moser (Bobby)**, age 69, of Athens, died Wednesday due to complications from COVID-19 at Tennova Turkey Creek in Knoxville. He worked at Volunteer Federal of Madisonville for 30 years and was the bass player in the band, "The Surfers." A private graveside service will be held at a later date. Companion is in charge.

## Restaurant Inspection Scores

These Athens restaurants were inspected between 10/22 & 12/17.

- Small's Drive In - 100**
- Taco Bell, 2535 Decatur Pike - 100**
- WeeZee's BBQ - 100**
- McDonald's - 99**
- Burger King - 99**
- Buddy's BBQ - 99**
- The Midlife Frysies - 99**
- Wendy's - 99**
- Big Daddy's BBQ Shack - 99**
- The Wizard of Dogz - 99**
- Pizza Hut - 99**
- Dominos - 99**
- The Beanery Uncorked - 99**
- Dairy Queen - 99**
- Michael's of Athens - 98**
- BJ's Snack Bar - 98**
- Ming Dynasty - 98**
- Big Belly Deli - 98**
- Brownies - 98**
- Pepo's Burrito Bar - 98**
- Hardees, White Street - 98**
- Sonic - 98**
- China Wok - 97**
- KFC - 97**
- Papa John's - 96**
- Tastee King Donuts - 96**
- Captain D's - 94**

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND TRUST IN OUR TEAM THROUGHOUT A TRYING 2020.**

**WISHING YOU LOVE, PEACE, AND GOOD HEALTH IN 2021.**



**Dr. Prince, Jason, Isaac, & Grace**