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STATE & LOCAL NEWS

♦ ATHENS NATIVE SHOOTS FOR THE STARS

Dr. Colleen Wilson-Hodge has spent the past 10 years recording explosions in space. She is the chief investigator for the Gamma -ray Burst Monitor (GBM) team, which keeps count of space explosions and graphs them. Last August, the team made history after detecting the first pulse of gamma rays from a collision of two dying stars 130 million light-years away. The team will be awarded the Bruno Rossi Prize, the top award in high energy astrophysics, for its work. Dr. Wilson-Hodge is a graduate of McMinn County High School. She later studied physics and math at UT-Chattanooga, the University of Arkansas, and did graduate work at Alabama-Huntsville.



National & World News

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◆ In the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, Kim Jong Un, North Korea's reclusive leader, held his first-ever meeting with South Korean envoys at a welcome dinner Monday night.

◆ A North Carolina school bus driver was arrested on felony charges after allegedly making online threats to "shoot up" a middle school.

◆ The Northeast is bracing for its second winter storm in a week. The storm that hit Friday caused the deaths of at least nine people and left hundreds of thousands without power. Twenty states from Montana to Maine are under winter storm alerts.

MONDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks rallied, shrugging off concerns of a possible trade war. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 337 points or 1.4% to 24,875. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 30 points or 1.1% to 2,721, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 73 points or 1% to 7,331.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce will hold an International Women's Day Luncheon this Thursday at 11:45 a.m. at the McMinn Senior Activity Center. The speaker will be author and counselor Jennifer Hand. The cost is \$15 per person. You are invited to come celebrate WISE (Women Inspiring Success & Excellence). For tickets, call 745-0334.

✓ The Etowah Area Chamber of Commerce has a few tickets left for the annual banquet tonight. If you need tickets, call Durant Tullock at 263-2228.





Obituaries

• SaraSue Lucille Carter Hyde, age 90, of Athens, died last Friday. She and her husband, Doug, operated Lakeside Market and Watts Bar Cabin Patrol in Ten Mile for many years. She also owned Lakeside Ceramics. She was involved in a group that gathered by the lake to worship, and from that, Lakeside Baptist Church was founded. Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. Thursday at Smith Funeral Home, with visitation from 4:30-7 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday from noon to 1 p.m.

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Jesus Puente Rodriguez, age 49, of Athens, died last Thursday at UT Medical Center. He was a native of Zacatecas, Mexico. Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Ziegler Funeral Home, with visitation from 1 to 3 p.m.

• Ema Rodriguez Nisbett, age 71, of Athens, died Friday at Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge. She had worked at Mills Products. Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Serenity Funeral Home, with visitation from noon to 2 p.m.

• Beth Hambright, age 56, of Cleveland, died Monday at Life Care of Athens. Funeral services will be Friday at 8 p.m. at Companion Funeral Home of Cleveland with visitation from 6 to 8.

◆ MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE: ✓ An election to fill expiring terms for three positions on the McMinn Soil Conservation Board of Supervisors will be held March 12, 13, and 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the McMinn County Soil Conservation Office (in the USDA Office Building) at 320 N. Congress Parkway in Athens. Only persons holding legal title to land in McMinn County are eligible to vote. The candidates are Luke Womac, Kevia Elliott Davis, Ronnie Fain, Annette Robertson, Wade Shultz, and Leonard Berry.

GFC Remembers a Volunteer

A plaque is being displayed in the lobby of the Good Faith Clinic in memory of the late Bill Ramey for his devoted contributions as a volunteer. GFC board member Norma Barham presented the plaque at a recent celebration for clinic volunteers, stating that "Mr. Bill, as patients called him, came in early, opened up and set up the clinic, signed up patients, then came back to clean up and lock up at the end of the clinic. He was so dedicated that he worked his life around his volunteer schedule." The photo shows, left to right: GFC board members Connie Dalton, Frank Davis, Steve McCaslin, Norma Barham, and Michelle Crafton (Chair), Cady Pannell (Ramey's grand-daughter), Lisa Harrison (Board Member), and Teresa Pannell (Ramey's daughter).

(Photo by Chris Hari)



