

Taco Tuesday

AT THE VFW HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED THRU THE END OF MARCH. NO TACOS WILL BE SERVED DURING THIS TIME. THANK YOU. VFW POST 5146-ATHENS

Morning Fax[®]

Today's News...This Morning

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Monday, March 23, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn Confirms Covid-19 Case

◆ McMinn County Mayor John Gentry has declared a state of emergency in response to the first confirmed case of Covid-19 infection in McMinn County. The patient in McMinn County is resting at home under quarantine. The Tennessee Department of Health is in contact with the patient and is tracing their recent movements to determine with whom they have been in close contact. State law grants county mayors the authority to declare a state of emergency for a period of seven days. At the end of each period, they may reassess and declare an emergency for successive seven day terms. Entrances to the Courthouse and Annex are now restricted to emergencies only which will be determined by the office holder only after being contacted by telephone or other electronic means. The Bicentennial Park and the Eureka Trail remain open for individual outdoor exercise, however no more than 10 individuals will be allowed on the playground at one time. All in-person courts have been suspended under order of the Tennessee Supreme Court. Everyone must call the Circuit Court Clerk to check the status of their case.

Area & State News

✓ An executive order by Governor Bill Lee has given the green light for residents to delay getting their vehicle registration and driver's license renewed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The governor's order delays vehicle registration renewals set to expire between March 12 and May 18, 2020 to June 15, 2020. The order also suspends the expiration dates on valid driver licenses and Class ID photo identification for 6 months from the expiration date. This extension applies to driver's license and ID's set to expire between March 12 and May 18, 2020.

✓ Tennessee lawmakers have shut down their 2020 session early in reaction to widespread disruptions caused by the coronavirus after passing a dramatically reduced spending plan for the upcoming year. The overhauled \$39.8 billion spending plan approved Thursday is nearly \$1 billion less than what Governor Bill Lee originally proposed earlier this year. Legislative sessions could begin again as early as June 1.

✓ The Tennessee House and Senate have passed an amended bill to waive student testing and attendance requirements because of uncertainty that students will be back in the classroom anytime soon. The new proposal will immediately waive TNReady tests, end of-course examinations (Districts may voluntarily administer assessments), 180-day instructional requirement, and civics testing requirements for graduating seniors.

✓ The Madison Avenue Pharmacy in Athens is now restricting all access to their store. They are offering free delivery to the greater Athens area 9a-7p M-F and 9a-2p on Saturday. Drive-thru and curbside service is available. Call 746-2626 when you get to the pharmacy and someone will come greet you.

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RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT

WESTERN SIZZLIN' STEAK & MORE RESTAURANT

Closed until further notice. We want to thank all of our wonderful customers for their outpouring of support during this time and to our amazing and hard working staff. We look forward to seeing and serving our customers again in the very near future. Thank you. **Western Sizzlin' - Athens**

Bojangles' **Drive Thru Specials >> 2 Chicken Biscuits \$5**

• 8 Pc Tailgate = 4 Biscuits + 2 Picnic Sides & 1/2 Gal Tea \$19.99 **IT'S BO TIME**

Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits **BOJANGLES S. Congress Parkway 744-5292**

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WEATHER FORECAST

Monday - Mostly cloudy with 80% rain early. High of 61.

Mon. night - Partly cloudy. 15% rain. Low 51.

Tuesday - 70% rain & P.M. t'storms. High 65.

More Weather at: wysi.com

the Y YMCA **MEET US AT MARKET PARK**

RACE STARTS AT 8AM

FOR MORE INFORMATION

[CLICK HERE](#)

RESURRECTION RUN

5K Run/Walk & 1 Mile Fun Run 4.18.20

Benefitting **LIVESTRONG** at the YMCA

TRADE!

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THE TRADING POST

WYXI FM 94.5 & AM 1390

8:45 a.m. & 4:15 p.m.



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We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to:

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Monday, March 23, 2020 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

- ♦ **Rosetta Howard Keaton**, age 86, of Athens, died Friday at NHC of Athens. Rosetta was retired from Thomas and Betts. A graveside service will be at 2 p.m. on Tuesday at McMinn Memory Gardens. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge.
- ♦ **DeFaye "Faye" Hooper Hester**, age 73, of Athens, died Friday at her home. She had worked for Service Master. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the family will have a private funeral service on Tuesday at Victory Baptist Church in Niota. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.
- ♦ **Neal R. Womac**, age 86, of Calhoun, died Thursday at Morning Pointe of Athens. He was a business owner for Surge Dairy Equipment and Purina Feeds and was an active farmer. There will be no formal visitation. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. on Tuesday at the Womac Family Cemetery. Smith Funeral and Cremation Services of Athens is in charge.
- ♦ **Eugene Martin**, age 88, of Athens, died Tuesday at his home. A memorial service will be at 6 p.m. on Tuesday at Companion Funeral Home of Athens with visitation from 4:30 to 6 p.m. prior to the service.
- ♦ **Glyn Allen Pratt**, age 78, of Sweetwater, and formerly of Knoxville, died Saturday. He served in the U.S. Army. A graveside service will be held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Conasauga Cemetery. No formal visitation will be held. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

LISTENING REMINDER: The Main Street Athens radio show, "Main Street Moments," this week will have co-hosts Lisa Dotson and Elaine Newman. Lisa will share updates such as who's open, their hours, and resources for small businesses. Elaine will discuss "Daffodil Days." You can hear the program each Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio, FM 94.5 and AM 1390 or online at wysi.com

Closings & Cancellations

- ♦ Due to the nature of the COVIC-19 pandemic, Athens Utilities Board will close their lobby effective Monday, March 23rd until further notice. If you need to speak with customer service or need assistance with anything, call (423) 745-4501. Bills may be paid by phone with credit card, or paid through the drive through during business hours, Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by using the night drop after hours. Bills may also be paid online at www.aub.org. IT support will be available if needed. There are no additional charges by paying on line or by phone, and additional staff will be available to take payments over the phone. AUB will make a decision on reopening the lobby when they feel it is safe for their customers and employees.
- ♦ The Etowah City Hall will close until further notice. Payments may be made by using the drop box located in the front of the building, by phone or online. Staff will be available to accept payments by phone. Other facilities that are closed are: The Carnegie Library, The Etowah Community Center, The L&N Depot, all Dixie Youth Little League practices & games, and all City Board and Commission Meetings. All locations are scheduled to reopen on March 30th.
- ♦ The E.G. Fisher Library has decided to lock their drop box due to the confirmed case of Covid-19 here in McMinn County. Patrons should hold on to items they have checked out as no fines will be charged for those that are due during the closure.

TODAY IN HISTORY - MARCH 23rd

- 1775** - Patrick Henry delivered an address to the Virginia Provincial Convention in which he is said to have declared, "Give me liberty, or give me death!"
- 1806** - Explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, having reached the Pacific coast, began their journey back east.
- 1914** - The first installment of "The Perils of Pauline," the silent film serial starring Pearl White, premiered in the greater New York City area.
- 1933** - The German Reichstag adopted the Enabling Act, which effectively granted Adolf Hitler dictatorial powers.
- 1942** - The first Japanese-Americans evacuated by the U.S. Army during World War II arrived at an internment camp in Manzanar, California.
- 1956** - Pakistan became an Islamic republic.
- 1965** - America's first two-person space mission took place as Gemini 3 blasted off with astronauts Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom and John W. Young aboard for a nearly 5-hour flight.
- 1983** - President Ronald Reagan first proposed developing technology to intercept incoming enemy missiles; an idea that came to be known as the Strategic Defense Initiative. Dr. Barney Clark, recipient of a Jarvik permanent artificial heart, died at the University of Utah Medical Center after 112 days with the device.
- 1994** - Aeroflot Flight 593, an Airbus A310, crashed in Siberia with the loss of all 75 people on board; it turned out the teenage son of a pilot who was allowed to sit at the controls accidentally disengaged the autopilot, causing the jetliner to plunge to the ground.
- 1998** - "Titanic" tied an Academy Awards record by winning 11 Oscars, including best picture, director (James Cameron) and song ("My Heart Will Go On").
- 2003** - During the Iraq War, a U.S. Army maintenance convoy was ambushed in Nasiriyah; 11 soldiers were killed, including Pfc. Lori Ann Piestewan ; six were captured, including Pfc. Jessica Lynch, who was rescued on April 1, 2003.