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Today's News... This Morning

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Friday, April 24, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

Friday's Coronavirus Update

As of Thursday afternoon, the total number of coronavirus cases in McMinn County remained at 6, with 4 patients recovered. Monroe County has 12 cases. Seven of the patients have recovered and 1 has died. Meigs County has 5 cases with 2 recovered. Bradley County reports 38 cases, 35 recoveries, and 1 death. Statewide, there have been 8,266 cases and 170 deaths.

✓ FOUR VIRUS CASES AT LIFE CARE

Three employees and one patient at the Life Care facility in Athens have now tested positive for the coronavirus. The first positive test came back April 12th. Life Care confirmed this past Monday that one of their workers had tested positive. Since then, two other workers and one resident have tested positive. The resident is isolated and recovering in the facility. The workers are recovering at home and will only return to work when they meet CDC guidelines to do so. Director Jeff Ricks says the Life Care employees are being diligent in practicing proper hand hygiene and using personal protective equipment properly. Every associate is screened when they arrive for work and when they leave, including checking temperatures. Anyone with a fever is sent home and asked to contact their personal physician.



Strawberry Time in Tennessee

Sitting down to a bowl of strawberry shortcake with fresh strawberries from Tennessee will go a long way to taking our minds off the coronavirus, at least for a little while. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture says sweet and juicy strawberries are ready for harvest. One of the best ways to get fresh berries is to find a farm where you can pick your own. A close second is to visit the Mennonite Farmers Markets in Englewood or Delano. But you better get there early each day before they run out. The typical strawberry season lasts four to six weeks.



TODAY IS ARBOR DAY AT TWU

Today is Arbor Day. Due to the coronavirus, the annual celebration on the Tennessee Wesleyan campus has been cancelled. However, TWU encourages everyone to plant something--a tree, a plant, vegetables, or flowers--and post a picture on social media with #TWUArborDay.

Thanks to **ALL** those helping on the front lines!
We are praying for you.

Mars Hill Presbyterian Church
Athens, TN



RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT

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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**

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Friday, April 24, 2020

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

- ♦ **Frances Joan "Frankie" Wilson McCracken**, age 68, of Athens, died Thursday at her home. Graveside services will be Sunday at Hyde Cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge.
- ♦ **Clyde H. White**, age 75, of Athens, died Tuesday at his home. The family will be posting on Facebook the details for his celebration of life. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.
- ♦ **William Joseph Stephen Ark**, of Decatur, died Tuesday. There will be no public service at this time. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

MORE VIRUS-RELATED NEWS

- ✓ Both 4-H Junior and Junior High camps have been canceled. The safety of 4-H'ers is their top priority. Refund checks will be mailed next week. If you have questions, call 333-9120.
- ✓ The United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties created the COVID-19 Recovery Fund to rapidly deploy resources to community-based organizations at the frontlines of the coronavirus pandemic. Grants will fund organizations and programs that are working to provide support for immediate basic needs and economic stability. Applications are available to any non-profit organization that is providing immediate needs to residents of McMinn and Meigs counties. To receive an application, call the United Way office at 745-9606.

Church News & Events

- First Baptist Church of Athens will have "Drive-In Church" this Sunday at 10:30 a.m. at the Midway Drive-in Theatre on Highway 30 between Athens and Etowah. Everyone is invited to attend. You will remain in your vehicle and listen to the service on your car radio over a special low-powered FM radio transmitter.

- Virtually all churches have cancelled their worship services and other activities until further notice due to the coronavirus outbreak. Check with your church. Many churches are streaming their services on the Internet. The Home Service Class from Keith UMC will be broadcast live on WYXI Radio (FM 94.5 & AM 1390) at 10 a.m. Sunday. The Fairview Baptist Church service is from 11 a.m. to 12 noon and is also broadcast live on WYXI Radio. You can also listen to our stream [ONLINE](#).

- Applications and all required submissions for the St. Mary Church Scholarship will be accepted through April 30th. Application forms and rules can be obtained on the St. Mary Catholic Church website. The scholarship program is open to college students from Meigs, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk counties.

- If your church has news or events you would like us to publish on Friday mornings, just send an e-mail to: wysi@bellsouth.net

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