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Today's News... This Morning

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Wednesday, May 6, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

Covid-19 Virus Update

Life Care Center of Athens has confirmed that four of its residents have died from the coronavirus. Life Care says 70 residents have tested positive and two are hospitalized. Forty-two workers at Life Care have also tested positive. They are not allowed to return to work until guidelines from the CDC are met. The Tennessee Department of Health reports there have been 106 cases of the coronavirus in McMinn County. Twelve patients have recovered. The state shows two deaths for McMinn Co. Bradley Co. has 59 cases, 47 recovered, and 1 death. Monroe County reports 32 cases with 13 recoveries and 1 death. Statewide, there are 13,690 confirmed cases, with 226 deaths.

✓ A large car show held this past Sunday in Athens violated the Governor's Executive Order prohibiting large gatherings and events. The car show, advertised as "Destination Athens," was hosted by Austin Tyler Lang. The City had communicated with Lang earlier in the week to make clear that his proposed event directly violated the governor's order, making it illegal, putting people's health at risk, and informing him it could not be held at Athens Regional Park. He held it at the park anyway. City Manager C. Seth Sumner says Lang wantonly put the health of the citizens of Athens at an increased risk, violated the law, trespassed on private property, and intentionally misled the followers of his *Tennessee Driven* group. Sumner says the City is exploring options with the District Attorney against Lang.

Woman Killed at Clem Jones

There was a fatal shooting early Tuesday morning at the Clem Jones Housing Complex on Walker Street. Athens police were called to Clem Jones around 12:15 a.m. in reference to a shooting. When officers arrived, they discovered that a man and a woman had been shot inside an apartment. The man, Tremon Hall, was transported to Starr Regional Medical Center for medical treatment. The female was pronounced dead at the scene. Her identity is being withheld to ensure adequate time for her family and friends to be informed of her death. Police are seeking two males in a dark colored, newer model Dodge Truck as persons of interest. Anyone with any information (or camera systems that may have recorded any footage) are asked to contact the Athens Police Department at 745-3222.

MORE VIRUS NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ Coordinated Charities reports it was able to distribute 10,113 pounds of groceries to needy people over the past six weeks. Executive Director Kevin Lane says they are working on getting their Thrift Store open again.
- ✓ The Polk County Alumni Association announces the cancellation of the annual alumni banquet scheduled for June 6th. President Ron Cavett says after much deliberation and discussion they sadly came to the conclusion to cancel this year's Polk County High School Alumni Banquet due to the health risk to their alumni and guests.

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WESTERN SIZZLIN' 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**

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WEATHER FORECAST
Wednesday - Mostly cloudy. Possible showers. High 60.
Wednesday night - Mainly clear & chilly. Low 37.
Thursday - Partly sunny. High 67.
Thursday night - Mostly cloudy & cool. Low 47.
Friday - Cloudy & cooler. Possible showers & t'storm. High 57.
More Weather at: wysi.com



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Wednesday, May 6, 2020

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Calvin William Keaton**, age 94, of Athens, died Sunday at Life Care of Athens. He was retired from Athens Bed Company. Graveside services will be Wednesday in McMinn Memory gardens. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge.

♦ **Brenda Diane Plaster Casteel**, age 63, of Riceville, died Tuesday at Erlanger Medical Center. Graveside services will be Thursday in McMinn Memory Gardens. There will be no formal visitation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge.

♦ **James Lamar Rogers**, age 94, of Knoxville and formerly of Chattanooga died Sunday. He retired from the Hamilton County School system after 44 years of teaching physics and chemistry. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII on the Island of Leyte in the Philippines. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at Cedar Grove Cemetery. Smith Funeral Home is in charge.

♦ **Toy Freeman Elliott**, age 78, of Etowah, died Sunday at his home. He retired from the Johns Manville Company and was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. In honor of his wishes, there will be no formal visitation at this time. A celebration of life service will be held at a later date. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

♦ **Jackie S. Goins**, age 57, of Athens, died Saturday in a Knoxville hospital. The family would like to say a special thank you to the staff of Life Care of Athens for the excellent care provided to Jackie and his family. There will be no public services at this time. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

Hardaway Named North City Principal

Ms. Angel Hardaway has been appointed as principal at North City Elementary School. Ms. Hardaway received her bachelor's degree as a teacher from Tennessee Wesleyan University.

She received her Master's and Education Specialist degree in Instructional Leadership from Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville. Ms. Hardaway is a veteran educator with 14 years experience which includes serving as a classroom teacher, a mentor teacher, master teacher, and Instructional Coach for Athens City Schools. She is currently serving as the Instructional Coach at North City. She will begin her new position as Principal on July 1st.



✓ The guest on "Hope From the Well" this week is Christa Peyman, a graduate of Women at the Well. "Hope from the Well" is heard at 8:15 a.m. each Thursday on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5 or [ONLINE](#)

OBSERVING NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK

This is National Music Week, with the theme "Music...A Magic Carpet." Locally, the Thursday Music Study Club of Etowah is joining the celebration. Ray Luck's photo shows: (L-R) Study Club President Judy Luck, McMinn County Mayor John Gentry, Kitty Waller, Susan Anderson (Music Study Club members), and State Rep. Mark Cochran.



Athens

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