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Today's News... This Morning

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Wednesday, May 13, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

Covid-19 Virus Update

There has been another death at the Life Care Center of Athens. Life Care officials say nine patients have now died. Those deaths are now reflected in the official total from the Tennessee Department of Health. As of Tuesday afternoon, McMinn County has had 122 cases of the coronavirus, with 32 patients recovered and nine deaths. For the state of Tennessee as a whole, there was a big jump from Monday in total cases to 16,111 and 265 deaths.

VIRUS-RELATED NEWS

✓ The McMinn County Board of Education will have its monthly meeting on Thursday, May 14th, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held electronically. Instructions for the general public to access the meeting are available on the McMinn County Schools website and the school system's social media accounts.

✓ Meigs County High School will hold its Class of 2020 Senior Parade this Saturday, May 16th, at 10 a.m. The parade will start in the school parking lot. Anyone wanting to participate in the parade should have their car decorated and line up in the parking lot by 9:30 a.m. Each senior should have a driver so they can concentrate on waving to folks along the parade route. The parade will travel on West Memorial Drive onto Main Street in front of the Meigs County Courthouse and continue on Main Street to Meigs Middle School. The parade will end at Meigs County Park.

Starr Regional Resumes Elective Surgery

Starr Regional Medical Center says it is taking the appropriate steps to safely resume some elective and non-urgent surgeries and procedures that were previously rescheduled out of an abundance of caution amid the coronavirus pandemic. The decision to reschedule procedures when clinically appropriate was made in accordance with federal and state guidance, and aimed to help preserve critical resources in the event of a surge of COVID-19 patients in the community. Hospital CEO John McLain says resuming these important services is an essential component of meeting the community's health needs. He says as the work gradually gets underway in the hospital again, they remain committed to conserving critical supplies, being vigilant in the fight against COVID-19, and ensuring that the hospital is a safe place for all patients, providers, and employees. McLain says the hospital will initially focus on scheduling patients with more time-sensitive health needs. Patients who are scheduled and approved for procedures must meet specific requirements, including passing standard COVID-19 screenings. Surgical patients also will be asked to practice "safer at home" behaviors for seven days prior to their procedure, check their temperatures twice a day and report temperatures over 100 to their doctor, and undergo testing for COVID-19. Starr Regional Medical Center will continue to screen and mask everyone who enters the facility and maintain a zero-visitor protocol for the foreseeable future.

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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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Wednesday, May 13, 2020

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Rickey "Rick" Wayne Bryan**, age 62, of Etowah, died Monday at UT Medical Center. He was a former restaurant manager. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

TUESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. equities ended the day lower. The U.S. core Consumer Price Index posted the largest drop since 2008. Uber has announced a takeover bid for the delivery company GrubHub. Treasury prices rose. Yields decreased.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 457 points or 1.9% to 23,765. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 60 points or 2.1% to 2,870, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was down 190 points or 2.1% to 9,003.

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

- ✓ The Athens City Council will conduct a workshop Thursday, May 14th, at 4 p.m. in the Municipal Building Conference Room.
- ✓ The guest on "Hope From the Well" this week will be Robin Nation, executive director of Women at the Well. Robin will be discussing lessons to be learned from the Book of Ruth. "Hope from the Well" is heard at 8:15 a.m. each Thursday on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5 or [ONLINE](#)

KC-135 Flies Over Health Dept.

A KC-135 refueling plane flew over the McMinn County Health Department at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday in a salute to health care workers and first responders. The Tennessee Air National Guard plane also flew over health care facilities in several other counties in Southeast Tennessee, including Bradley and Hamilton. Edna Wilburn was at the McMinn County Health Department and was able to capture this photo of the plane.



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