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Today's News... This Morning

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Friday, May 22, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

Friday's Coronavirus Update

The number of coronavirus cases in Rhea County has jumped to 188. Dr. Craig Swafford, a surgeon at Rhea County Medical Center, says the spike in cases is due to a large number of migrant workers who tested positive for the virus at a farm. McMinn County's cases stand at 124, down 1 from Wednesday. 90 patients in McMinn have recovered. There have been 12 deaths. Tennessee now has 18,961 cases and there have been 313 deaths.

MORE VIRUS-RELATED NEWS

- ✓ American Legion Commander Dick Pelley says the American flags WILL be placed around the Courthouse Square in Downtown Athens in time for the Memorial Day observance after all.
- ✓ The American Legion's monthly fish fry will NOT be held tonight due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- ✓ The Athens-McMinn Family YMCA announces that 13 summer meal sites will be available to kids, ages 18 and under. The meals are free for children and will be handed out every Monday and Thursday beginning May 28th. The locations are the YMCA, Lee Manor Apartments, Ridgetop Apartments, the Mobile Home Community on CR 213, the Cherokee Point Community, the Holiday Mobile Home Community, the Englewood Pool, Niota Elementary School, Etowah City School, Rogers Creek School, Calhoun School, E.G. Fisher Library, and the Etowah Library. For the times at the location most convenient to you, call the Y at 745-4904.

Advice on Applying for a PPP Loan

CapStar Bank is offering assistance for businesses in applying for the government's PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) Loan Forgiveness program. A Forgiveness Application Guidance pre-recorded **webinar** and forgiveness estimation **calculator** are available on CapStar's dedicated COVID-19 SBA website at: www.capstarbank.com/covid19sba The webinar provides answers to borrower's most pressing questions:

- A review of the PPP Loan Forgiveness Application and critical points borrowers need to know.
- Introduction to the CapStar loan forgiveness calculator and how it works to estimate forgiveness (a requirement of the application)
- Step-by-step review of a case study for reference.

Athens to Try Again on Budget

There will be a called meeting of the Athens City Council on Wednesday, May 27th, at 10 a.m. at the Athens Municipal Building. The purpose of the meeting is to consider on first reading any ordinances to adopt a budget for the City of Athens and to set the tax rate for fiscal year 2021.

THURSDAY'S MARKET REPORT:
U.S. equities ended the day mostly lower. Initial jobless claims were just below consensus estimates at 2.4 million. Total jobless claims are nearly 39 million. Macy's released preliminary earnings, estimating losses of as much as \$1.1 billion between February and May. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 102 points or 0.4% to 24,474. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 23 points or 0.8% to 2,949, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was down 91 points or 1.0% to 9,285.

RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT
Drive Thru Specials >> 2 Chicken Biscuits \$5
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Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits **BOJANGLES S. Congress Parkway 744-5292**

WESTERN SIZZLIN RESTAURANT
To our loyal customers: We had planned to open June 1st, however, with the current meat situation we are unable to get the meat shipments required until the meat processing issues are resolved. With that said, we will have to delay the opening. At the present time, we do not have an anticipated opening date. **Western Sizzlin.**

WEATHER FORECAST
Friday - Some sun, then cloudy. Possible rain & t'storm. High 73.
Fri Night - Mostly cloudy. Possible t'storm. Low 63.
Saturday - Times of clouds & sun mixed with rain. Possible t'storm. High 84.
Sat Night - Partly cloudy. Low 66.
Sunday - Clouds & sun. High 88.
More Weather at: wxyi.com

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Friday, May 22, 2020

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

- ♦ **Glenn Edward Pierce**, age 68, of Niota, died Tuesday at Sweetwater Hospital. There will be no formal visitation. The family will have a private graveside service. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge.
- ♦ **William George "W.G." Clark**, age 72, of Athens, died last Friday. He was the owner of Liberty Pawn Shop & Trading Post. A private service was held this past Wednesday. M.D. Doston & Sons Funeral Home of Athens was in charge.
- ♦ **Michael Lee Knox**, age 71, of Cleveland, died Wednesday at his home. He was a native of McMinn County. He retired as a Senior Technical Coordinator from ECO Lab. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War. When he was younger, he was a volunteer fireman for the Athens Fire Department. Due to COVID-19 guidelines private services will be held. Friends may come by Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home on Saturday from 2 to 6 p.m.

Church News & Events

- First Baptist Church of Athens has resumed services at the church. There will be two services, one at 9:30 a.m. and one at 10:45 a.m.
 - The Home Service Class from Keith UMC will be broadcast live on WYXI Radio (FM 94.5/AM 1390 and [ONLINE](#) at 10 a.m. Sunday. Pastor David Graybeal says he is awaiting word from the bishop on when Keith UMC can gather together again.
 - The Fairview Baptist Church service is from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, also broadcast live on WYXI Radio. You can also listen to our stream [ONLINE](#) Fairview has resumed Sunday services in its sanctuary at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
 - The Redemption to the Nations Church will have online services this Sunday at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Reserve your spot at www.IWantToGoToChurch.com
 - The Athens Christian Church at 802 Matlock Avenue will be having parking lot services during the month of May on Sunday mornings. They will start at 11 a.m. and last 30 to 40 minutes. They will be streaming them as well as broadcasting them on a low-powered FM transmitter. For more information, call Richard White at 865-279-4371.
- NOTE:** If your church has news or events you would like us to publish on Friday mornings, e-mail the info to: wvxi@bellsouth.net

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TODAY IN HISTORY - MAY 22nd

- 1813** - German composer Richard Wagner was born. He wrote the Processional Wedding March (better known as "Here Comes the Bride").
- 1859** - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, was born.
- 1861** - In what is generally regarded as the first Union combat fatality of the Civil War, Pvt. Thornsby Bailey Brown was shot and killed by a Confederate soldier at Fetterman Bridge in present-day West Virginia.
- 1907** - Actor Sir Laurence Olivier was born.
- 1939** - The foreign ministers of Germany and Italy signed a "Pact of Steel" committing the two countries to a military alliance.
- 1960** - An earthquake of magnitude 9.5, the strongest ever measured, struck southern Chile, claiming some 1,655 lives.
- 1972** - President Richard Nixon was the first American President to visit Moscow on this date.
- 1981** - "Yorkshire Ripper" Peter Sutcliffe was convicted in London of murdering 13 women and was sentenced to life in prison.
- 1992** - Johnny Carson hosted NBC's "Tonight Show" for the last time after nearly 30 years on the job.
- 1998** - A federal judge ruled that Secret Service agents could be compelled to testify before the grand jury in the Monica Lewinsky investigation. Voters in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland turned out to cast ballots giving resounding approval to a Northern Ireland peace accord.