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Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

Covid-19 Virus Update

Tennessee's coronavirus cases continue to rise. As of Tuesday afternoon, there have been 20,965 cases statewide, with 343 deaths. McMinn County's total was unchanged at 135. Ninety-four of the patients have recovered and there have been 14 deaths. Meigs County's totals are unchanged, with 25 cases and 20 recovered. Rhea County reports 197 cases and 12 have recovered.

VIRUS-RELATED NEWS

✓ Athens Parks Director Austin Fesmire says a decision will be made on June 1st on whether the Athens 4th of July Fireworks Show will take place at Athens Regional Park this year. Fesmire also says the City of Athens is now abiding by Governor Bill Lee's decision to allow people to gather in the parks and elsewhere in groups of up to 50 as long as they practice social distancing. He says the problem with reopening the Splash Pad and Ingleside Pool is how to deal with big crowds of people. He says a decision will be made soon about the Splash Pad and the pool.

✓ The dropbox at the E.G. Fisher Public Library is now open for returning checked-out items. The library also will begin offering contactless curbside service on June 2nd. The interior of the library will remain closed. Curbside pick-up will be available Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12 noon and 4 p.m. Requests must be made no later than 3 p.m. the day prior to pick-up.

Raising the Flag to Full Staff

The big American flag at I-75 near exit 49 was lowered to half staff for Monday's Memorial Day observance. The photo shows Gary Moore from American Legion Post 68 raising the flag back to full staff at 12 noon on Memorial Day.

(Photo by Dick Pelley, American Legion Post 68 commander)



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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 27, 2020

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

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

- ♦ **Ricky "Rick" Wayne Bryan**, age 62, of Etowah, died May 11th at UT Medical Center. He was a former restaurant manager. A memorial service will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 2nd, at Ziegler Funeral Home, with visitation from 1 to 3 p.m.
- ♦ **Ron Hyde**, age 75, of Etowah, died Monday. Graveside services will be at 12 p.m. on Thursday at Coghill Cemetery. There will be no formal visitation. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge.
- ♦ **Sharon Renee Anderson Grubb**, age 54, of Athens, died Monday. She was an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Army after faithfully serving her country during Desert Storm. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday at Union McMinn Baptist Church with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. prior to the service. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.
- ♦ **Jay M. Ricker**, age 76, of Decatur, died Tuesday. A graveside service will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Walnut Grove Cemetery. There will be no visitation. Bowers Funeral Home is in charge.

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

- ✓ The Athens City School Board will hold a called meeting today, May 27th, beginning at noon at the Administration Building. The purpose of the meeting will be to approve the FY20 Budget Amendment #2. The May Work Session will be held immediately following the called meeting.
- ✓ There will be a called meeting of the Athens City Council at 10 a.m. today 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.
- ✓ The guest on "Hope From the Well" this week will be Robin Nation, executive director of Women at the Well, sharing more truths 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](#)

Fire Destroys Vehicles on CR 875

Around 6 p.m. this past Sunday, the Etowah and Englewood rural fire departments responded to a 1996 Ford Explorer that caught fire in the driveway of a residence on County Road 875. The fire spread to a Honda Civic, with both vehicles being a total loss. Minor damage was done to two other vehicles.

(Photo by Lynn Ingram with the Englewood Rural Fire Dept)



TODAY IN HISTORY - MAY 27th

- 1199** - King John of England was crowned in Westminster Abbey nearly two months after the death of his brother, Richard I ("The Lion-Hearted").
- 1819** - American poet Julia Ward Howe, writer of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," was born.
- 1937** - The Golden Gate Bridge connecting San Francisco and Marin County, Calif., opened.
- 1941** - The German battleship "Bismarck" was sunk by the British navy after a chase by warships and airplanes.
- 1983** - An illegal fireworks factory disguised as a bait farm blew up on a hillside near Benton, Tennessee. Eleven people were killed. The owner of the illegal factory was sentenced to 10 years behind bars.
- 1994** - Nobel Prize-winning author Alexander Solzhenitsyn returned to Russia after spending two decades in exile.
- 1998** - Michael Fortier, the government's star witness in the Oklahoma City bombing case, was sentenced to 12 years in prison after apologizing for not warning anyone about the deadly plot.
- Birthdays:** Country singer Kenny Price in 1931...jazz musician Ramsey Lewis in 1935...country singer Don Williams in 1939...pop singer Cilla Black in 1943.

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