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Today's News...This Morning

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MEDIC

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213 E. Washington Ave.
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Monday-Friday
8:30 am - 5 pm

Thursday, August 20, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

Community News You Can Use

✓ Athens City Council members heard the reports on July activity by the police and fire departments at Tuesday night's City Council meeting.

Police Chief Cliff Couch reported there were 49 thefts, 20 assaults, 6 motor vehicle thefts, 4 burglaries, and 4 sex offenses in Athens in July. Police issued 75 citations for moving violations. There were 59 traffic accidents with 14 injuries and one fatality. There are currently seven vacancies on the police force.

Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth reported that firefighters responded to 79 calls during July. Three were two building fires and one was a passenger vehicle fire. There were also 27 calls for medical assists and calls to 8 motor vehicle accidents with injuries. Losses totaled \$32,600.00.

✓ It will be a busy day for the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, starting with Business Before Hours at 8 a.m. at Southern Homes, 205 East Madison Avenue. Then at 10 a.m. there will be dedication of the new mural marking the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote. That will be at 216 North White Street in Downtown Athens. Finally, from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., there will be a Lunch and Learn Seminar on Tax Reduction Strategies to be held at the Lite House, 1 West College Street.

✓ Members of the Central Charger Youth Cheer will host a car wash at Starr Mountain Outfitters this Saturday from 8:30 - 1.

Meet the Cherokees

Meet the Cherokees Media Night was held on August 14th. The annual event was scaled back from previous years due to the coronavirus. However, there were opportunities for fans to hear from coaches and players and for photographs. The first game of the season, the annual Black & Blue game against the Central Chargers, will be played this Friday night at McMinn High School. The photo below shows the Cherokee football and cheerleader teams.

(Photo by Tonya Hippias, MCHS Football Booster President)



◆ MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The guest on the Women at the Well radio show, "Hope From the Well," this week will be Stephanie Brown with Hillcrest Church and Full Circle. "Hope From the Well" is heard at 8:15 a.m. each Thursday on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5 or [ONLINE](#).

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Virtual Fundraising Event
 Host a Facebook Watch Party!

Streaming live at
www.facebook.com/friendsoffullcircle
 Thursday, August 27th at 7:00
 Online Silent Auction
 from 12-7pm

Thursday, August 20, 2020 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Ronald Smith**, age 77, of McMinn County, died August 12th at his home. A graveside service will be held this Sunday, August 23d, at 4 p.m. at Sullins Cemetery in Athens. Companion Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

♦ **Thomas "Wayne" Lyle**, age 80, of Kingsport, died Tuesday. A graveside service will be held at 12 noon Friday at Calhoun Baptist Church Cemetery. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.

◆ COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE AS OF WED PM

Tennessee: 137,800 cases, up 2,022. 1,452 deaths, up 26.
 Recovered 99,085. Hospitalized 6,069

COUNTY	CASES	ACTIVE	RECOVERED	DEATHS
McMinn	651 up 24	161	470	20
Meigs	124 up 3	28	95	1
Monroe	547 up 21	194	343	10
Polk	288 up 7	88	190	10 + 1
Bradley	2,232 up 40	543	1673	16
Rhea	596 up 7	107	487	2

Remembering a School Tragedy

On August 22, 1955, a Spring City school bus was struck by a train. Forty-seven children were on the bus. Eleven of them were killed. The railroad crossing had lights and bells, but no crossing guards. The bus had just left Spring City Elementary School which was three blocks east of the railroad tracks. Morning Fax editor Bob Ketchersid was a student at Spring City High School. His mother taught 3rd grade. They arrived at the crash scene just minutes after the accident. Bob says the memories remain vivid in his mind even to this day. He knew several of the children who were on the bus. A few days later, Governor Frank Clement led a memorial service at the Spring City railroad depot. Bob was a member of the band which participated in the memorial service.



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