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Today's News...This Morning

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Monday-July 1, 2013

Athens, Tennessee

Local and State News

◆ CITY OF NIOTA REOPENS FOR BUSINESS

Taxpayers in Niota may be in for a jolt, but at least their city is back in business. Niota commissioners on Friday afternoon approved the purchase of a new liability insurance policy, at a special called meeting. Niota Mayor Lois Preece tells the MORNING FAX that Athens Insurance was able to get coverage for the city through the Travelers Insurance Company, but at a steep price; over \$20,000 more in premiums. Mayor Preece said that the city will have to fit the extra expense "into their budget somehow, hopefully without increasing taxes, but I can't guarantee that at this point." Niota's previous carrier, the Tennessee Municipal League, refused to renew their coverage because of a pending lawsuit against the city involving 2 former Niota Police Officers and for on the job harassment claims lodged by several Niota City Employees against two of the current commissioners. The deductible on the new policy was also increased to \$25,000 and includes liability coverage for both the fire and police department. The new coverage went into effect at 12:01 a.m. Saturday and soon thereafter, the Niota Police Department and Niota Fire Department resumed operations. Niota's park and public buildings will now be open on a normal schedule.

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

- ◆ Hundreds of thousands of opponents of Egypt's Islamist president poured out onto the streets in Cairo and across much of the nation Sunday, launching an all-out push to force Mohammed Morsi from office on the first anniversary of his inauguration.
- ◆ The Obama administration is facing a breakdown in confidence from key foreign allies who threatened investigations and sanctions against the U.S. over secret surveillance programs that reportedly installed covert listening devices in EU offices.
- ◆ *Englewood Celebrates* was a big success this year. With perfect weather, one of the largest crowds was able to enjoy a pancake breakfast (pictured below), tractor show, live music, and a square dance. Photos submitted by Mark Cochran. See page 2.




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PERENNIALS A-Z
Gardening with Ruth Baumgardner of Mouse Creek Nursery
July 8, 6 PM



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Monday-July 1, 2013

Athens, Tennessee

More Local & Area News

- ◆ The unemployment rate in Tennessee went UP in 82 counties in May and counties in the Athens area were no exception. In McMinn County, the unemployment rate in May was 9.6%; up from 9.2% in April. In Meigs County, the jobless rate in May was 10.3%; up from 9.9% in April. And in Monroe County, unemployment in May was 11.0%; up from 10.8% in April.
- ◆ The Etowah City Council approved the purchase of a new Fire Pumper Truck and bids will be let in the near future. The city specified that the new truck should be able to pump 1250 gallons per minute and be able to carry 750 gallons onboard. The new fire truck will seat 3 and have space to carry first responder equipment. Delivery will be in about 9 months. Etowah's Fire Chief is Mike Moore.
- ◆ An earthquake measuring 2.5 in magnitude was recorded at 10:57 a.m. Sunday. It was located 4 miles ESE of Englewood and was centered 23 kilometers below the earth's surface.
- ◆ A new Tennessee law that allows valid gun carry permit holders to store their guns in their vehicles, no matter where they are parked, goes into effect today. Also taking effect is a measure that allows school districts to let people with police training go armed in schools.

Obituaries

- ◆ **Lloyd Clark Boone, Sr.**, age 72, of Grantsville, West Virginia and a resident of McMinn County for 25 years, died on Thursday at Life Care Center of Athens. He was a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars and served in the Tennessee National Guard and was retired from Thomas and Betts. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Ziegler Funeral Home with visitation from 4-7 p.m. at Ziegler.
- ◆ **Charles Henry Johnson**, age 84, of Athens, died Wednesday, June 26th, at Parkwest Medical Center. He was retired from First National Bank and was a member and officer of the McMinn County NAACP. Funeral services will be Monday at 2 p.m. at St. Mark's AME Zion Church with M.D. Dotson & Sons in charge.

In the photo below, the *Englewood Celebrates* crowd really enjoyed an evening square dance in the downtown area.



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TODAY IN HISTORY - JULY 1

- 1862** - President Abraham Lincoln signed the first Pacific Railroad Act "to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean."
- 1863** - The Civil War Battle of Gettysburg began on this date. The Northern forces won a victory and the battle marked a turning point in the war.
- 1898** - Teddy Roosevelt and his "Rough Riders" took San Juan Hill in Cuba during the Spanish-American War.
- 1916** - Actress Olivia de Havilland, one of the stars of the movie "Gone With the Wind," was born.
- 1942** - Gospel songwriter Andrae Crouch was born. He wrote "Through It All" and "My Tribute."
- 1961** - Great Britain's Princess Diana was born.
- 1986** - The movie industry introduced the PG-13 classification indicating that a movie might be too violent for children under the age of 13.

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