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Today's News...This Morning

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Tuesday-March 11, 2014

Athens, Tennessee

Local and State News

◆ THE VA CLINIC IS REALLY COMING SOON!

The opening of the long-awaited VA Clinic in Athens is just around the corner. The front entrance was installed a little more than a week ago. Now, as the photo shows, the signs are up! The clinic is expected to open by the end of the month.



◆ SHOOTING VICTIM DIES

A McMinn County man who was shot by his uncle Sunday evening has died. Brandon Hayes, 22, died Monday at UT Medical Center. He was shot in the head by his uncle, 35-year-old Marvin Hayes. The TBI says Brandon Hayes went to his uncle's house on County Road 250. There was a verbal altercation, and Marvin Hayes shot his nephew. The older Hayes was still at the home when McMinn County deputies responded to a 911 call about the shooting. The DA's office asked the TBI to conduct the investigation. At this point, no charges have been filed.

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

◆ Mystery still shrouds the fate of the 239 people on board Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 after it disappeared while en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. No debris has been recovered despite an international search involving the navies and air forces of several Asian nations as well as the United States. No distress signal was sent by the plane's pilots which causes speculation about a sudden catastrophe caused either by a mechanical failure or an explosion. The lack of wreckage recovered to date also suggests a high-altitude disaster which causes debris to spread across an area too wide to be easily detected.

◆ The fourth minor earthquake in East Tennessee within a week was recorded Sunday afternoon. It measured 2.0 and was centered 13 miles northeast of Athens.

◆ Cursive handwriting may be a dying art in these days of keyboards and keypads. But, a bill before the Tennessee House of Representatives is attempting to save it. Representative Sheila Butt's bill would require all public school students in Tennessee to learn how to read and write in cursive, preferably around the 3rd grade.

◆ After a fire broke out in their New Bedford, Mass., home, the quick thinking of a 9-year old boy, helped save the lives of his mom and brother. The boy directed 911 responders over the phone.

JOE GUY FOR **SHERIFF**
 Paid for by Committee to Elect Joe Guy, Dana Jaquish, Treasurer



April 15th
Tax Time Cometh...
Are You Ready?
Providing Tax Service to
Business and Individuals
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MARCH Special
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RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT

Bojangles'
 Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits

MARCH Specials » 5 Meals for just \$5 each
 2 Ham Biscuits, \$3.00 ◆ 12 Piece Dinner Plus
 6 Biscuits \$13.99 ◆ 32 oz tea 99¢ ◆ **It's BO TIME!**
BOJANGLES South Congress Parkway 744-5292

WESTERN SIZZLIN'

Tuesday (11a-4p) 6 oz. Chicken Breast + Salad, Side Item, Bakery, & Dessert Bars, \$7.99. Mon.-Thurs. (All Day) 8 oz. Angus Thick Top Sirloin with Side Item, Rolls, Bakery, & Dessert Bars, \$8.39. 1804 Decatur Pike 745-2626

Portrait Shoppe
of Athens 

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WEATHER

Tuesday - Sunny. Highs in the lower to mid 70's.
Tuesday night - 90% rain in PM. Lows in the mid 50's.
Wednesday - 80% rain. Highs in the upper 50's.
More Weather & Zoom Radar at: www.wyxi.com

Tuesday-March 11, 2014

Athens, Tennessee

FDR's "New Deal" In McMinn Co.

The Great Depression which followed the stock market collapse in 1929 had its impact in McMinn County, with loss of jobs, foreclosures of homes and farms, and many folks unable to purchase even such basic necessities as food and clothing. President Franklin D. Roosevelt came to the rescue with his "New Deal" which set up several federal programs to put the unemployed back to work.

One of those was the Civil Works Administration (CWA) which hired two crews of 750 workers in McMinn County, paying them 30¢ to 60¢ an hour to work every other week. They paved streets in Athens, built an airport, and improved the county's Poor Farm. The men worked from Dec. 1933 through March 1934, when the money ran out.

Another program was the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The WPA hired men to improve the ball fields at McMinn and Etowah high schools, to make improvements at schools, to control malaria, and to map the county's cemeteries. WPA workers surveyed cemeteries, listing the graves in the order that they appeared in the cemetery. That made it easier in later years to locate graves that now have no stone to mark them.

A third program was the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) which hired youth for reforestation and erosion control projects. (Information from the book "Hard Times Remembered" by Bill Akins and Genevieve Wiggins)

Obituaries

Ollie Mae Hester Frisbie, age 82, of Niota died Sunday at her home. She was a retired seamstress at Crescent Hosiery Mill. Funeral services will be at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Victory Baptist Church, with visitation from 4 to 8 p.m. at the church. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Billie Clark Gilliam age 77, of Niota, died Monday at Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens.

Horton Marshall Plumlee age 79, of Etowah, died Monday at the home of his daughter, Robin Stewart. Funeral services will be Tuesday at 8 p.m. at Bordwine Funeral Home with visitation from 6-8 at Bordwine.

MONDAY'S MARKET REPORT: The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 34.04 at 16,418.68. The Nasdaq dropped 1.77 at 4,334.45 and the S&P 500 was down 0.87 at 1,877.17. Gold dropped \$1.20 at \$1,340.30 per ounce. Crude oil fell 17¢ to close at \$100.95 per barrel.

RAILS TO TRAILS DECISION: The Supreme Court issued a ruling on Monday in an obscure Wyoming land dispute that could result in the loss of thousands of miles of bicycle trails or cost the government millions of dollars in compensation. The 8 to 1 decision could jeopardize "rails to trails" programs, responsible for creating more than 1,400 bike and nature trails, many of them built along railroad rights-of-way. The case was decided based on an 1875 act of Congress and a 1942 Supreme Court decision involving Great Northern Railway.

9 DAYS UNTIL SPRING, BUT THE FLOWERS THINK SPRING IS ALREADY HERE!



TODAY IN HISTORY – MARCH 11th

1770 - British statesman William Huskisson was born. He's best known for being the world's first railroad fatality. At the opening of the Manchester & Liverpool Railway in 1830, he was run over by a locomotive.

1903 - Bandleader Lawrence Welk was born in Strasburg, North Dakota. He was a fixture on Saturday night TV for decades.

1930 - William Howard Taft became the first President to be buried in the National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

1950 - Singer Bobby McFerrin was born. His biggest hit was "Don't Worry, Be Happy."

1955 - Singer Jimmy Fortune was born in Virginia. He became a member of the Statler Brothers when Lew Dewitt became too ill to continue with the group.

1985 - Mikhail S. Gorbachev was chosen to succeed the late Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko who died after being in office a little over a year.

1993 - North Korea withdrew from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.