

Floridians Discover McMinn Co.

Around 100 people from Florida have been staying at the Red Roof Inn in Etowah to escape the ravages of Hurricane Irma. Steve Dunkle and Gene Choate from First Baptist Church of Etowah took this group on a bus tour of the area on Monday. Stops included a tour of Etowah, Bald River Falls, lunch at Tellico Beach Restaurant, the Charles Hall Museum in Tellico, the L&N Depot, and the Etowah Community Center. Steve Dunkle, the bus driver, is on the far left in the photo.

(Photo by Gene Choate)



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National & World News

◆ The death toll from Hurricane Irma has climbed to 17 in the United States following its path of destruction across the Caribbean and through the Southeast U.S. over the weekend. Power has now been restored to over 2 million customers in Florida.

♦ Hurricanes Harvey and Irma caused between \$150 billion and \$200 billion in damage to Texas and Florida according to a preliminary estimate from Moody's Analytics on Monday.
♦ The United Nations Security Council have unanimously approved a new round of sanctions on North Korea, one week after the country conducted its sixth and strongest nuclear test to date. The new sanctions ban 90 percent of North Korea's publicly-reported exports and cap the amount of oil the country is able to import.

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ Ribbon cuttings have been announced for two new Athens businesses. There will be a ribbon cutting and open house on Friday, Sept. 22nd, at Dominion Senior Living of Athens. The ribbon will be cut at 1 p.m. Open House will follow until 6 p.m. The grand opening for Bargain Hunt, a discount retail store located next to Hobby Lobby, will be held the same day, September 22nd.

✓ Heritage School at the McMinn Living Heritage Museum this Saturday will be an American Girl Doll Celebration at 1 p.m. Call the museum at 745-0329 to register for the event.



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AUB Crews Head to Florida

Obituaries

AUB is sending two crews along with the trucks and necessary equipment to work alongside crews in Wauchula, Florida, a city of 5,100 people about an hour southeast of Tampa. AUB is part of a formal Mutual Aid Network of utilities that are available to assist other utility companies. AUB was given the assignment to go to Wauchula. The AUB crews rolled out of Athens Tuesday morning for the daylong drive to Wauchula. They will work there for at least a week. The photo shows the AUB power crewmembers, left to right: Abe Aziz, Dickie Slack, David Rayl, Jamie Plaster, Matt Price, and Stan Roderick.



• **Retha Mae Shankle,** age 80, of Etowah, died Sunday. A celebration of life will be held Wednesday at 6 p.m. at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from 4 to 8 p.m.

• James Wayne Allen, age 61, of Knoxville, died last Friday at his residence. At his request, there will be no formal service at this time. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge of arrangements.

• Daniel Garcia Almaraz, age 55, of Athens, died Saturday in a traffic accident. He was employed with Morgan Olson in Loudon. A Rosary service will be at 7 p.m. Monday at St. Mary Catholic Church. A Memorial Mass will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the church, with a reception following. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

UT-FLORIDA TO PLAY AS SCHEDULED

Saturday's football game between Tennessee and Florida will be played in Florida as scheduled despite Hurricane Irma. The game will start at 3:30 p.m. at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium in Gainesville. The decision to play was made after the SEC assessed the impact of Hurricane Irma on the University of Florida campus as well as surrounding areas. Fans are advised to arrive earlier than normal and plan for heavier traffic as the cleanup from Irma continues.

