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Today's News...This Morning

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Tuesday, August 13, 2019

Athens, Tennessee

Tax Referendum Answers

Athens City Manager C. Seth Sumner and Athens Director of Schools Dr. Melanie Miller appeared on WYXI Radio Monday morning to answer questions about the Athens Sales Tax Referendum. Among the answers:

If the referendum passes, work would move ahead on a new building at City Park School at a cost of approximately \$39 million. The projected move-in date would be the fall of 2022. The schools would receive around 60% of the revenue from the sales tax increase. The Athens property tax would also be increased by a minimum of 15%, and that money would also go to the schools.



If the referendum fails, Dr. Miller says it would be very difficult for the school project to move forward. In that case, the school system would look at other options including renovations at the current buildings and reducing expenses. Sumner said there are no plans at this point to raise property taxes if the referendum fails.

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Community News You Can Use

- ✓ The Good Faith Clinic will be held this afternoon at Christ Community Church at 14 South Congress Parkway in Athens. The doors will open at 2:30 p.m. The clinic provides medical and spiritual needs of residents of McMinn and Meigs counties who do not have medical insurance. That includes Medicare and TennCare. The Chaplain will not be there today. He will return for the next clinic.
- ✓ The United Way of McMinn and Meigs Counties will have its annual Day of Caring and Campaign Kickoff Breakfast this Thursday, August 15th, at the McMinn County Senior Activity Center.
- ✓ The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce "Business Before Hours" will be held this Thursday, August 15th, at the Tennessee College of Applied Technology on Vo-Tech Drive. The event is sponsored by Cleveland State Community College and TCAT.
- ✓ The last school in the area to start classes for the new year is Fairview Christian Academy. TCA's first full day of classes will be Wednesday, August 14th.
- ✓ The citizens of Etowah and their Canine companions are invited to attend the awards ceremony for the Tennessee Dog Park Dash Grant awarded by The Boyd Foundation in the amount of \$25,000. The grant will be awarded to the City of Etowah on Friday, August 30th, at 1 p.m. at the Municipal Park area located on 6th Street. All canine attendees must be leashed to their owners.

**Dr. Dick Pelley
asks for your
vote in support
of the sales tax.**

Paid for by Dr. Dick Pelley

RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT

WESTERN SIZZLIN' STEAK & MORE RESTAURANT
Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike
11am-4pm: Grilled Chicken & Salad + Side-Bakery-Dessert-Rolls ~ \$9.99.
Mon - Thu: (All Day) 9 oz Thick Cut Sirloin + side item, bakery, dessert, & rolls ~ \$9.95.

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OPENING IN SEPTEMBER
Now hiring and accepting child applications. For more information, call 423-717-0501 or email eabckids1928@gmail.com

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September 5 - October 24
Athens Regional Park
Teams of 12 to 20; \$350
Free Agents \$25
To register or learn more, call 744-2704 or email recreation@cityofathensga.com

WEATHER FORECAST
Tuesday: Partly sunny & humid. High 95.
Tue Night: Partly cloudy. Possible t'storm. Low 72.
Wednesday: Clouds & sun. High 89.
Wed Night: Partly cloudy & humid. Low 67.
More Weather at: wysi.com

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We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to:
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Tuesday, August 13, 2019

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Athens, Tennessee

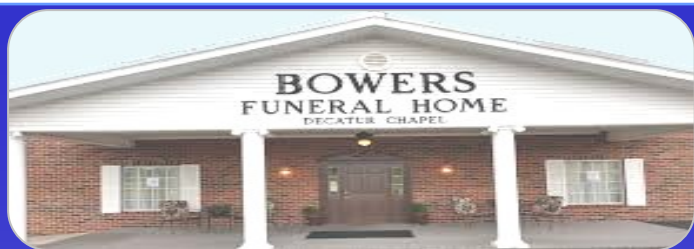
Obituaries

- ♦ **Jerry "Bruno" Gene Patterson, Sr.**, age 79, of Crossville, died Sunday at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. He was a native of McMinn County. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a Chaplain's Assistant and played for the football team. He sang in a military quartet and was a golden glove boxer. He was a salesman for many companies until his retirement. A memorial service will be at 6 p.m. Thursday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home with visitation from 4 to 6 p.m. prior to the service.
- ♦ **Marvin S. Taylor**, age 75, of Etowah, died last Friday after a 5-year battle with cancer. He served in the U.S. Navy, and retired from Bell-South Telephone Company in Atlanta. He then moved to Etowah, where he and his wife had two businesses. He also served as President of the Etowah Area Chamber of Commerce and president of the Etowah Rotary Club. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Saturday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from noon to 2 p.m.
- ♦ **Edna M. Thomas Johnson Sewell**, age 94, of Athens, died Saturday in an Etowah healthcare facility. She was retired from Thomas and Betts and was the former owner of Edna's Drive In located in Niota. A memorial service will be held Thursday at 7 p.m. at Companion Funeral Home of Athens, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.
- ♦ **Herbert Hoover Rockholt**, age 90, of Decatur, died Sunday at a hospital in Greeneville. He was associated with the Rockholt Furniture Company business in Decatur for 60 years. Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Wednesday at Decatur United Methodist Church, with visitation from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church. Smith Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.
- ♦ **Johnny Oscar "J.O." Charles**, age 85, of Niota, died Monday at his home. He was a former crane operator with Norfolk Southern Railroad. Funeral services will be 7 p.m. Wednesday at Ziegler Funeral Home, with visitation from 4 to 7 p.m.
- ♦ **John Eddie Kennedy**, age 63, of Decatur, died Saturday. He was a truck driver and heavy equipment operator. Funeral services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at Bowers Funeral Home with visitation on Wednesday from 5 to 8 p.m. at Bowers.
- ♦ **Wanda Elizabeth (Woods) Sherrod**, age 88, of Decatur, and formerly of Chattanooga, died Sunday. A graveside service will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Pisgah Cemetery. Bowers Funeral Home is in charge.

A Minute of History With Joe Guy

Joe Guy is not only the McMinn County Sheriff; he is also the McMinn County Historian. He has prepared a series of vignettes about McMinn County's history that are aired daily on WYXI Radio, AM-1390 and FM-94.5, during this Bicentennial Year. We will also publish them in The Morning Fax. Here is installment Number One:

McMinn County was formed in November of 1819 out of Cherokee lands obtained through the Calhoun Treaty. Long used as hunting lands by the Cherokee, the area had first been seen by whites who traded with the Indians and by men serving in the militia that fought against the Cherokee in 1776. Lying in a huge valley interspersed with low ridges and numerous free-flowing creeks, the area was inviting to those settlers who hoped to farm, cut timber, or operate water-powered mills. In March 1820, the county government, or county court at it was then known, was organized in Calhoun in the home of Cherokee landowner Major John Walker, with county officials chosen that included Spencer Beavers as Sheriff, Young Colville as Court Clerk, Archibald Turk as Trustee, and Benjamin Hambright as Register. Two hundred years later, McMinn County continues its legacy of providing a good place for its citizens to live. The only debt-free county in Tennessee, McMinn County continues to be an example of responsible commerce and good government.



Bowers Funeral Home is now offering a complete funeral service starting at \$2895.00.* Includes Metal Casket, visitation, and funeral service.

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TODAY IN HISTORY—AUGUST 13th

1860 - Sharpshooter Annie Oakley was born in Ohio. She was noted for her incredible marksmanship. She could split a playing card held on edge and she could hit dimes tossed into the air.

1899 - Motion picture director Alfred Hitchcock was born in London. He was the master of suspense movies. Among his best-known films are "To Catch A Thief," "The Birds," and "Dial M for Murder."

1912 - Golfing great Ben Hogan was born. He won four U.S. Open championships and won the Master's Tournament twice.

1926 - Cuban leader Fidel Castro was born. He led a revolution in 1959 which overthrew the government and established Cuba as a communist state.

1930 - Singer Don Ho ("Tiny Bubbles") was born. He died in April, 2007.

1942 - Walt Disney's animated feature "Bambi" premiered at Radio City Music Hall in New York.

1951 - Singer Dan Fogelberg was born. He died in December, 2007.

1961 - Berlin was divided as East Germany sealed off the border between the city's eastern and western sectors in order to halt the flight of refugees.