

Thursday, April 16, 2020

Latest Update on Coronavirus

Governor Bill Lee has recommended that all schools be closed the rest of the school year. Meanwhile, the Tennessee Department of Health reports as of Wednesday evening there were 6,079 cases of coronavirus in the state. There have been 135 deaths. The number of cases in McMinn County is unchanged, 5 cases with 4 of them recovered. Monroe County reports 9 cases. Meigs County has 3, Polk Co. has 5, and Bradley County has 33, with one death. Ronnie Hall, the chief nursing officer of Starr Regional Medical Center, will appear on the 8 a.m. news Thursday on WYXI (FM 94.5 or AM 1390) to explain what happens when a person tests positive for the virus.

VIRUS-RELATED NEWS

✓ Athens Utilities Board is extending the hardship suspension on utility disconnects and late fees through May 1st, 2020. AUB says this means that customers whose finances are hard hit by the coronavirus threat have until May 1st to pay their utility bill in full without late fees.

✓ The Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability has a new COVID-19 program, "Care Through Conversation," for older adults (60+). For those who sign up for the program, they will receive a weekly call from a TCAD volunteer. The volunteer will check-in, assess your needs, and see if there is any way TCAD can better assist you. For details on how to access TCAD's website, call Sarah Kite at the UT-McMinn County Extension Office, 333-9120.

Clean-Up Week is Coming

Next week, April 20th-24th, is Clean-Up Week in Athens and McMinn County. During the week, you can haul your trash to the County Landfill on County Road 750 free of charge. If you live in the City of Athens, simply place your items to be picked next to the curbside and they will be picked up sometime during the week. There is no specific schedule, but all city streets will be covered at least once during the event. Items that will be picked up include brush, furniture, tires, appliances, yard sale junk, and limited building material.

There are some Do's and Don'ts.

DO remove compressor/coolant lines from appliances.

DO separate tires and wheel rims from each other.

DO separate scrap metal junk items from non-metal items.

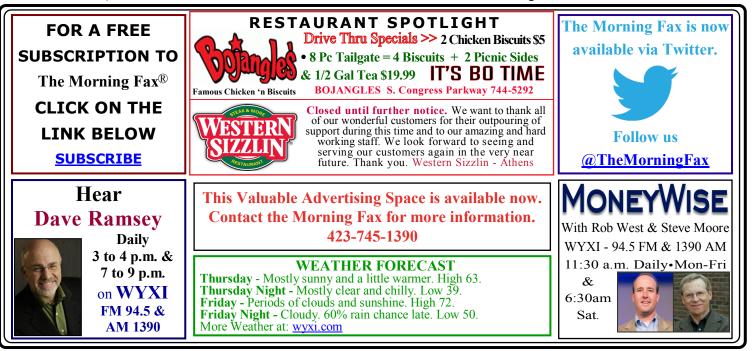
DO separate brush, junk, and tires into separate piles.

DO NOT place gas tanks from automobiles or cooking grills. They will not be accepted.

DO NOT place piles of building materials larger than one pick-up truck load at the curbside.

DO NOT place any shingle-type building materials at the road. The Public Works Department will not accept any roofing or siding shingles.

You are encouraged to recycle as much as possible. Donate good usable clothes, furniture, and appliances to Coordinated Charities or the Better Living Center.





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Obituaries

• Larry "Dean" Wallace, Jr., age 55, of Athens, died Tuesday at Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens. A graveside service will be at 2:30 p.m. on Friday at Pond Hill Cemetery. Those wishing to go in a procession will meet at the funeral home at 2 p.m. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

OVERTURNED CAR ON MECCA PIKE

The Etowah Rural Fire and Rescue Department and the Englewood Fire Department responded to a vehicle accident Tuesday night in the 800 block of Highway 310

(Mecca Pike). A small vehicle left the roadway and struck a power pole. The occupants were not injured. (Photo by Adam Hafley, Etowah Rural Fire Chief)



A Boat to the Rescue

The Englewood Rural Fire Department and AMR personnel were

paged Monday afternoon to a patient in distress on County Road 570, Englewood. Upon arrival. they found the driveway flooded and impassable. Chief Billy Roach brought a boat the to scene to get personnel to the residence. Life-Force landed at the scene to transport the patient to Erlanger.



(Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Dept)

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT

~U.S. stocks closed down. All sectors were lower, with energy and financials among the worst performers. Bank of America reported earnings of 0.40 per share versus 0.70per share a year ago, missing consensus estimates of 0.48per share. The Commerce Department reported that U.S. retail sales for the month of March fell 8.7%, with auto sales down almost 26% and restaurant sales falling 27%. U.S. Treasuries rose. Yields fell.

~The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 445 points or 1.9% to 23,504. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 63 points or 2.2% to 2,783, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was down 123 points or 1.4% to 8,393.

 \sim In Bond Markets, the 30-year Treasury yield was lower at 1.27%, and the 10-year Treasury yield traded lower at .63%.

~In Commodity Markets, the spot price of gold fell \$23.80 to 1,745.10, and the price of crude oil rose \$0.11 to \$20.22.

TODAY IN HISTORY - APRIL 16th

1789 - President-elect George Washington left Mount Vernon, Va., for his inauguration in New York.

1867 - Aviation pioneer Wilbur Wright was born. He and his brother, Orville, made the first powered airplane flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

1924 - Composer and orchestra leader Henry Mancini was born. His hits included "Moon River" and the "Pink Panther Theme."

1929 - Singers Roy Hamilton ("Unchained Melody") and Ed Townsend ("The End") were born.

1935 - Singer Bobby Vinton ("Roses Are Red") was born.

1939 - Singer Dusty Springfield ("Wishin' and Hopin") was born.

1947 - More than 500 people were killed when a ship carrying nitrates exploded in Texas City, Texas.

2007 - A student killed 32 people on the campus of Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, before taking his own life in one of the deadliest shooting rampages in modern U.S. history.