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Today's News... This Morning

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(Phone: 746-1390 Fax: 744-1390 e-mail: wysi@bellsouth.net)

**M.C.H.S. Class of 1970
REUNION**
Saturday, July 25 7-11p.m.
**The Barn at Faith Farms
Athens, TN**
If interested, contact Becki Schreck and an invitation will be sent to you. Call or Text: 423-462-5638 or email Bjreck2@comcast.net

Monday, May 4, 2020 Athens, Tennessee

COVID-19 News & Updates

- ◆ Life Care Center of Athens reports a total of 93 residents and employees have tested positive for Covid-19. Of that total, 2 residents have been hospitalized and 1 has died. New admissions have been halted.
- ◆ The TN Dept. of Health reports that as of Sunday, there were 100 cases in McMinn County that tested positive for the virus with 11 recovered and 1 death; in Meigs County 9 positive with 4 recovered; in Monroe County 21 positive with 11 recovered and 1 death; in Polk County 11 cases with 6 recovered.
- ◆ Barber shops, beauty salons, nail spas, massage therapy services, tanning beds and other close-contact services will be allowed to reopen on May 6th. There will be strict guidelines, including a limit on the number of customers, walk-ins are not allowed only appointments, workstations must be at least 6 feet apart, waiting areas will be eliminated, enhanced sanitization of commonly touched surfaces and equipment will be required, and both customers and employees will be required to wear face coverings.

LISTENING REMINDER: The Main Street Athens radio show, "Main Street Moments," this week will have Renee Fisher with the White Street Market as a guest. You can hear the program each Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio, FM 94.5 and AM 1390 or online at wysi.com

Athens Parks New Guidelines

- All city parks and trails will remain open from 7 AM until 9 PM. People must remain in groups of 10 or less. Organized groups and activities are prohibited. Registrations and reservations will not be taken until further notice. Restroom facilities are closed.
 - No little league baseball and youth softball this spring. Please call the recreation office about any refund if you have not been contacted by May 18th.
 - The Veterans Park Brick Ceremony will be combined with the fall ceremony. Bricks will be placed by May 17th for viewing.
 - The Athens Farmers Market will open on May 19th with social distancing enforced.
 - Ingleside Pool and the learn to swim program will open at a later date if the Center for Disease Control and the State of Tennessee deem it safe to do so. The facilities will remain closed at the present time.
 - A decision on the July 4th Fireworks Display will be announced later.
 - The Ingleside skatepark will reopen today, May 4th, with a limit of 10 or less in the park at the same time.
 - Playgrounds will remain closed indefinitely, and the Splashpad at Athens Regional Park will remain closed until further notice. Tennis courts will remain open with some nets being removed to comply with social distancing.
 - The Soap Box Derby will not be held as scheduled.
- Austin Fesmire, Parks and Recreation Director says "It is imperative that we follow the guidelines of the CDC and the State of Tennessee so that we may get back to normal sooner rather than later". Fesmire encourages everyone to enjoy the open spaces, magnificent trails and other facilities that that the City of Athens has to offer, and to keep your minds and bodies healthy.

G *Greeks Bearing Gifts* We will continue to provide curb service & home delivery. Our shop will re-open Monday, May 4th - Friday, May 8th, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Saturday, May 9, 10-2. By appointment for customers with special needs, 10-11 (1/2 hour appt) Closing at 5 to begin home delivery service. We have gifts for Mother's Day, Graduates, Birthdays & Weddings Downtown Athens on the Square 11 N. Jackson 423-745-2642

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WESTERN SIZZLIN RESTAURANT
Closed until further notice. We want to thank all of our wonderful customers for their outpouring of support during this time and to our amazing and hard working staff. We look forward to seeing and serving our customers again in the very near future. Thank you. **Western Sizzlin - Athens**

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WEATHER FORECAST
Monday - Mostly cloudy. 15% rain chance. High 77.
Mon. night - Cloudy. 65% chance of t'storms. Low 59.
Tuesday - 70% chance of rain & t'storms. High 74.
Wednesday - P. cloudy. High 70.
More Weather at: wysi.com

2 DUDES BBQ & CATERING 423-829-4126
• Monday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30
• Tuesday-Athens-PaPaw's Place -10:30 - 2:30
• Wednesday-Etowah-10:30 - 2:30 (across from Johnson's Dept Store)
• Thursday-Athens-PaPaw's Place -11:00 - 2:30
• Friday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30
• Saturday-Sweetwater- Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30
• Supper!!! Thu & Fri in Niota @388 Hwy 309-5-7 p.m.

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Monday, May 4, 2020

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page

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State and Area News

✓ The Great Smoky Mountains National Park plans to start opening on May 9th. Many of the roads and trails in the park will be the first to reopen. Campgrounds, picnic pavilions, visitor centers, and many secondary roads will remain closed during the first reopening phase, which is expected to last for at least two weeks.

✓ The number of Tennessee residents who filed new unemployment claims topped 43,700, bringing the total number of requests for benefits to more than 435,000 since businesses began closing in response to the new coronavirus outbreak. The Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development on Thursday reported new jobless claims for the week ending April 25th. The highest number of new claims was reported in the counties surrounding Metro Nashville / Davidson County. The amount of Tennessee residents seeking unemployment benefits has spiked since many businesses closed in March. Roughly 30.3 million people in the U.S. have now filed for jobless aid.

✓ Tennessee Governor Bill Lee was the only state elected official to join President Trump, administration officials, and advocates for senior citizens at the White House on Thursday to announce new measures to keep senior citizens safe during the coronavirus crisis. Governor Lee has committed to testing every resident and staff member in every one of the state's 700-plus senior living facilities and nursing homes. President Trump said his administration will also send more personal protective equipment to the nursing home facilities and ramp up inspections as states like Tennessee continue to reopen.

Obituaries

♦ **May McCamish Thornburg**, age 84, Riceville, died Saturday at Dominion of Athens. A graveside service will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Eastanallee Cemetery with visitation Monday 4 to 6 p.m. at Smith Funeral Home.

♦ **Gregory Adam Ward**, age 32 of Englewood, died Wednesday. A private graveside service will be Monday at Cambria Cemetery with Bordwine Funeral Home in charge.

♦ **Johnny Johnson**, of Riceville, died Thursday. He worked at Pengulf for 28 years before his retirement. A private graveside service will be held at Sunset Memorial Gardens. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.

♦ **Sandra Daugherty Blankenship**, age 71, of Athens, died Wednesday at Starr Regional Medical Center. A celebration of her life will be held at a later date. Serenity Funeral Home is in charge.

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