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Today's News... This Morning

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Friday, June 19, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

COVID-19 Update

There's another big jump in the number of COVID-19 cases in Tennessee. The total up to this point stands at 32,829, up 686 from Wednesday. 21,949 patients have recovered. The statewide death toll now stands at 509, up 12 from Wednesday. McMinn County's total number of cases is up 1 from Wednesday, standing at 171. There have been 134 recoveries and 15 deaths. Meigs County has had 30 cases of the virus so far, with 25 patients recovered. Monroe County's total has reached 97 cases, with 74 recoveries and 4 deaths. Bradley County's total is 305 cases, 227 recoveries, and 2 deaths. Rhea County has 243 cases, with 224 recoveries. Polk County reports 32 cases with 26 recoveries.

FARMER MARKET DELAYS CELEBRATION

The Athens Farmers Market is delaying its 10th Anniversary Celebration. The event was originally set for this Saturday, but has been rescheduled for Saturday, July 11th. Market Manager Brianna Hanson says the reason for the delay is the late frost this year. As a result, farmers are experiencing a delay in their gardens coming in. Normally by this time, there are plenty of tomatoes. But they are ripening late this year. After meeting with the vendors, it was decided to push back the celebration so customers would have a larger, more diverse selection of produce. The Market is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 to 11 a.m. at Market Park Pavilion in Downtown Athens.

Community News You Can Use

✓ The Meigs County High School graduation ceremony will be held at 8 p.m. this Saturday, on the school's football field. Tickets are required to attend. (Each graduating senior was given 8 tickets)

✓ The Athens Public Works Department has updated its plans for milling and paving numerous city streets. Several streets have already been milled and are awaiting paving. Those streets have a rough surface and may have raised utilities such as sewer covers which should be avoided. The streets involved in the work include Million, Cherry, Elizabeth, Jackson, Ervin, Douglas Church, Westside, Shell, Tennal, Belmont Drive, Velma Road, Cleveland Avenue, and Sweetfield Valley Road. After milling of the old pavement is complete, the streets will be repaved with new asphalt and restriped with new paint markings.

✓ The McMinn County Board of Education will have a called meeting on Monday, June 22nd, at 5 p.m. There will also be a budget committee meeting at 4:30 p.m., prior to the called meeting. The meetings will be held at the McMinn County Center for Educational Excellence.

✓ A reminder--Ingleside Pool will be open for general swimming and for party rental effective this coming Monday, June 22nd. Monday through Saturday sessions will be 9 a.m. until 11 a.m., noon until 2 p.m., and 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Sundays will have one session from 2 until 5 p.m. Admission is \$1 per session.

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To our loyal customers: We had planned to open June 1st, however, with the current meat situation we are unable to get the meat shipments required until the meat processing issues are resolved. With that said, we will have to delay the opening. At the present time, we do not have an anticipated opening date. **Western Sizzlin'.**

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WEATHER FORECAST

Friday - Mostly sunny. High 83.
Fri Night - Mostly clear. Low 61
Saturday - Sun & clouds. 55% p.m. T'storms. High-87
Sat Night - Mostly clear and humid. Low 65
Sunday - Partly sunny. 40% T'storms. High 89.
Sun Night - 50% sun. High 91.
More Weather at: wxyi.com

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Friday, June 19, 2020 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Donald "Don" Earl Barnett**, age 68, of Athens, died Monday at his residence. He was the owner of West Madison Auto Repair. A Celebration of Life service will be announced later. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

THURSDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks were mixed as the S&P 500 and Nasdaq rose slightly and the Dow fell slightly. Sector performance was also mixed. The real estate and industrials sectors lagged the market while the energy and consumer staples sectors outperformed the market. The Department of Labor reported that adjusted initial claims for unemployment were 1.508 million for the week ending June 13. This is a decrease of 58,000 from the prior week. The adjusted insured unemployment rate for the week ending June 6 was 14.1 percent. Unemployment levels were 20.544 million. U.S. Treasuries rose. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 40 points or 0.2% to 26,080. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 2 points or 0.1% to 3,115, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 33 points or 0.3% to 9,943.

Church News & Events

- During the month of June, First Baptist Church of Athens is holding one Sunday service. The time is 9:30 a.m. Vacation Bible School at First Baptist has been rescheduled for the week of July 20th-23rd.
- Keith United Methodist Church will have outdoor services (weather permitting) this Sunday, June 21st, at 8:30 a.m. and 10:35 a.m. in the green space behind the main church. Keith UMC will return to indoor worship on June 28th.
- Union McMinn Baptist Church will hold VBS July 19-24 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. with supper served nightly. Call 568-2395.
- Athens Lutheran Church will resume the 8 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the sanctuary on June 21st. The 10:30 a.m. service will continue to be broadcast over a low-powered FM transmitter for those who wish to participate from the parking lot.
- The Everlasting Life Christian Center will hold "Fishers of Men," a Men's Conference, on June 27-28. Lunch will be served on Saturday, \$20 for adults & \$10 for ages 10-15. The location is Silver Springs Vineyards on Saturday & at the church on Sunday.
- Buttram Chapel Methodist Church and Cemetery, 700 CR 220, will have their annual Homecoming service on Sunday, June 21st, at 11 a.m. Due to the coronavirus, there will be no lunch.
- Voice of Deliverance Ministry Church of God in Christ will be hosting an event called "Altar'd" to be held on today, June 19, from 6-8 p.m. at the Athens Market Park Pavilion. There will be a peaceful protest of prayer and worship for justice and unity. All are invited. There will be food vendors present.

Local Backyard Birds of Interest



The photo to the left shows a cardinal feeding a baby. The male cardinal is a brilliant red all over with a reddish bill and black face around the bill. Female cardinals are pale brown overall with warm reddish tinges in the wings, tail and crest. Cardinals represent love, virtue, responsibility, and balance. Cardinals mate for life and both the male and female take turns caring for their offspring. They usually do not leave their babies in the nest alone.

Photo submitted by Pam Boyd



The photo above shows two Eastern Bluebirds in a Japanese Cherry Tree. These bluebirds prefer open areas with low grass and perches from which they can hunt insects. They also eat berries.

Photo submitted by Jennifer Hardison