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Today's News...This Morning

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Thursday, July 30, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

State and Local News

Tax Holidays Coming Up

- ✓ Governor Bill Lee says he favors reopening schools "in person." He says that is the "medically sound, preferred option," but he says it is dependent on quickly isolating those who become sick and quarantining their close contacts. The governor rolled out his K-12 school reopening plan on Tuesday. He says the state is doing everything it can to work with local school districts and ensure that in-person learning is made available in a way that protects the health and safety of students and educators. The governor also issued Executive Order No. 55 to allow football and other contact sports to resume as long as they follow requirements from the TSSAA.
- ✓ White House health advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci says there are early signs that Tennessee and Kentucky could face a COVID-19 outbreak and leaders should be careful. Dr. Fauci says "we can't afford" another surge like some southern states, including Florida and Texas, have seen. He says those COVID-19 surges can be prevented with cautious reopening. Right now, 93% or 89 of Tennessee's 95 counties, have a transmission rate "above the threshold." That includes McMinn and surrounding counties.
- ✓ The Sounds of Summer concert series continues this Saturday at 7 p.m. at Market Park Pavilion. The opener is Kinsley Melhorn. The headliner will be The Dixie Kingpins. The concerts are free. Bring a lawn chair.

There are two sales tax holiday weekends coming up in Tennessee. The first weekend is for back-to-school shopping. It begins at 12:01 a.m. this Friday, July 31st, and runs through Sunday, August 2nd, at 11:59 p.m. In previous years, the limits were \$100 on clothing and school supplies and \$1,500 on computers. This year, eligible items include clothing and school supplies up to \$200 or less. Computers and televisions \$3,000 or less are exempt from sales tax. The normal price limits on eligible items was doubled this year to encourage shopping during the COVID-19 pandemic. The next weekend, August 7th-9th, the state will have a sales tax holiday to give restaurants a boost during the pandemic. During this time, the retail sale of food and drink by restaurants and limited service restaurants is exempt from sales taxes.

COVID-19 CASES PASS THE 100,000 MARK IN TN
The number of coronavirus case in Tennessee has topped 100,000, and now stands at 100,822. That's an increase of 1,778 in the past 24 hours. The number of deaths is now 1,020, up 21. That means that approximately 1% percent of the people who get the virus in Tennessee actually die from it.
McMinn Co: 442 cases to date, up 4. The death toll is 20. Approximately 4.5% of all patients in McMinn County have died.
Monroe Co: 297 cases with 9 deaths, or approximately 3%.

RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



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Thursday, July 30, 2020 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

- ♦ **Shirley L. Roderick**, age 73, of Athens, died Monday. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m., Thursday at Green Hill Cemetery. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge.
- ♦ **Emit "Jack" Trusley**, age 68, of Decatur, died Tuesday at his home. He worked at Shaw for 34 years and was Vice President of the Caring Car Club of Decatur. Funeral services will be Thursday at 7 p.m. at Bowers Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.
- ♦ **Jacqueline "Jackie" Delores Evans Storey**, age 57, of Athens, died July 26th. The family will have a private viewing with cremation to follow. Evans Mortuary of Rockwood is in charge of the arrangements.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks rose, led by the financials and energy sectors. The Federal Reserve left interest rates unchanged. The CEOs of "big tech" companies Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google testified to Congress about concerns surrounding antitrust laws and anticompetitive practices. U.S. Treasuries were mixed.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 160 points or 0.6% to 26,540. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 40 points or 1.2% to 3,258, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 141 points or 1.4% to 10,543.

Networking Today Joins Chamber

A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for new Athens Chamber of Commerce member, Networking Today International - Connie Summey, located in Madisonville. Joining in the ceremony, Front, L-R: State Rep. Mark Cochran, Ann Boyd (Chamber Board), Brook Rayburn, Connie Summey, & Rich DeForest (Networking Today), McMinn Co. Mayor John Gentry. Back, L-R: Brittini Wright & Luke Shepherd (Chamber Diplomats), Nina Akins (Stockton Mortgage), Tina South (Diplomat), Barbara Sanders (Tupperware), Joseph Ladner (Edward Jones), Michael McCormack (Movement Mortgage), Rob Preston (Chamber President/CEO), and Scott Cass (East TN Auto Outlet & Chamber Board) (Photo by Julie Simbeck)



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