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Today's News...This Morning

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Thursday, May 21, 2015

Athens, Tennessee

State & Local News

◆ COUNCIL APPROVES PROPERTY TAX HIKE

The Athens City Council has approved on the first of two readings the city's budget for the next fiscal year. The budget includes a 34-cent increase in the property tax. The vote was 3 to 2, with council members Dick Pelley and Chuck Burris voting no. A second and final reading and vote will be held at the June council meeting. The property tax increase will mean an approximate \$86 tax increase on a \$100,000 home. The proposal also calls for a referendum to raise the sales tax by .75% to be held in November. City Manager Mitch Moore says if the sales tax referendum passes, the property tax would return to its present level.

◆ ATHENS POLICE & FIRE REPORTS

The Athens City Council received the reports for April from Police Chief Chuck Ziegler and Fire Chief Jim Dyer. Chief Ziegler reported there were 74 thefts in April, 19 burglaries, 18 assaults, six motor vehicle thefts, three robberies and one sex offense. There were 93 traffic accidents in April, with 15 injuries. Police wrote 389 citations for moving violations. Fire Chief Dyer reported that Athens firefighters responded to 42 calls in April. Losses totaled just \$5,500.

◆ LOCALS APPOINTED TO STATE BOARDS

Governor Bill Haslam has named Chris Liner of Athens to the Advisory Council for Alternative Education. Mark Cochran of Englewood was named to the Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers, and Marvin Kelley of Athens was named to the Emergency Communications Board.

MORE STATE & LOCAL NEWS

◆ A new law has been introduced by Russia's government empowering it to ban foreign organizations as "undesirable." Any activity Russia deems damaging to its constitutional order, defense capabilities, or state security will be labeled "undesirable" by authorities.

◆ An estimated 21,000 gallons of crude oil leaked from a ruptured pipeline off the Santa Barbara coast Tuesday. An onshore pipeline broke, allowing crude to reach a storm drain that empties into the ocean. This caused a sheen of oil approximately four miles long and 50 to 100 yards wide to cover large portions of the Santa Barbara coast.

◆ Former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez, serving a life sentence on first degree murder charges, was in "a two-on-one fight" that sent him to a segregation unit at a Massachusetts prison.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Athens Municipal Building, Recycle Center, and Animal Shelter will be closed next Monday in observance of Memorial Day. Monday's residential garbage route will be picked up on Tuesday. All other routes next week will be on their regular schedule.

✓ Competitive Soccer Tryouts will be held on Thursday, May 28th, at the McMinn Soccer Complex on McMinn Ave. in Athens. From 5 to 6 p.m., tryouts will be held for U9 girls, U9 boys, U11 girls, U11 boys, and U13 boys. From 6 to 7 p.m., tryouts will be held for U10 girls, U10 boys, U15 boys, and U18 boys. For more information, call Naomi Clarke at 453-5689.

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Thursday Kids Eat FREE with adult purchase

WESTERN SIZZLIN'
Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike
THU (All Day): 8 oz. Sizzlin' Top Sirloin w/choice of Side and Salad Bar, \$10.99. **SENIORS** (55+) enjoy the Senior Buffet Mon-Fri, 2 to 4 p.m., for \$5.99.

Bojangles' Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits
MAY Specials »» 2 Ham Biscuits \$3.33
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Memorial Day Sale, May 22-30

Let us pay your sales tax on our already discounted prices: all wood rustic furniture, outdoor furniture, occasional tables, dining room tables & chairs

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Furniture Outlet
2112 Railroad Ave.
(423) 745-3491

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Morning Fax®..Today's News This Morning

Athens, Tennessee

New Shoe Store Cuts Ribbon

A ribbon-cutting was held recently for a new Athens business and a new Athens Chamber of Commerce member, Thomas Discount Shoes, located at 12 S. White Street in Athens. Shown in the photo below, left to right: Joe Holbrook (First Volunteer Bank), Anissa Ingram (Athens Chamber Diplomat), Skylar Dean (Chamber Board Member), Rob Preston (Chamber President/CEO), Cat Pate (Etowah Gentle Dental), Thomas Brown (Owner), Dick Pelley (Athens City Council), Billie Crabtree (Chamber Diplomat), Mark Cochran (McMinn County Mayor's Assistant), Dana Ferguson (Chamber Diplomat Chairman), Joanna England (First Volunteer Bank), & Cheryl Ingram (McMinn County Register of Deeds).



Wednesday's Market Report

U.S. stocks closed little changed, as investors processed economic and corporate news. Volume on the New York Stock Exchange was moderate, with 691.64 million shares traded. Advancers and decliners were evenly matched.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 26.99 at 18,285.40. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 1.98 at 2,125.85, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 1.71 at 5,071.74.

Commodity markets: The spot price of gold rose \$2.64 to \$1,210.40. The spot price of silver fell \$0.01 to \$17.12. and crude oil prices rose \$0.75 to \$58.74.

Restaurant Inspection Scores

The following restaurants in Etowah were inspected between April 21st and May 7th. A score of 70 and above is passing.

Etta's Diner - 98

Starr Mountain Bistro - 97

Finz - 96

Mexi-Wing - 96

Scotties - 94

Available May 22nd-25th

Michael's Memorial Day Special

Don't want to cook but want to have a GREAT meal??? Come get your Memorial Day FAMILY PACK!!!! Feeds 6 to 8 for only **\$29.99**

Includes 2 Lb. Pulled Pork - 1 Qt. Slaw
1 Qt. Baked Beans
12 Buns - 1 Pt. Bar-B-Que Sauce

Call ahead and reserve your Memorial Day Family Pack today!!!!

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TODAY IN HISTORY – MAY 21

1688 - English poet Alexander Pope was born. He wrote these oft-quoted lines: "To err is human, to forgive, divine."

1819 - The first bicycles in the United States were called swift walkers and were seen for the first time on the streets of New York City on this day.

1878 - Inventor Glenn Curtiss was born. After proving that airplanes could land and take off from ships, he built the first U.S. Navy planes.

1881 - The first American Red Cross chapter was organized in Washington, D.C., by Clara Barton.

1927 - Charles Lindbergh landed his plane, "The Spirit of St. Louis," in Paris after completing the first solo flight across the Atlantic.

1948 - Singer Leo Sayer was born. His biggest hit record was "When I Need You," which hit number one on the Billboard charts in 1977.

1956 - The United States exploded the first airborne hydrogen bomb, over Bikini Atoll in the Pacific.

1991- Former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by a suicide bomber.