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Today's News... This Morning

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Thursday, January 19, 2017

Athens, Tennessee

State & Local News

◆ A PEEK AT DOWNTOWN ATHENS HISTORY

Work is progressing at the old Antique Mall building across from the McMinn County Courthouse in Downtown Athens. Workmen are in the process of removing the front exterior of the building. They uncovered the windows with the Hiwassee Builders Supply sign still on them. Charlie Clark, the owner of Hiwassee Builders, says his father opened the store in Downtown Athens around 1960, and it was located there until 1972. He recalls that Cherokee Hardware was on the corner. The next office was Ott Shell's Ivan Allen Office Supply store. Hiwassee Builders was next to that, and the A&P grocery store was to the right of Hiwassee Builders. Charlotte Hyde sent us this photo of some history being uncovered in Downtown Athens.



National - World News

◆ During his final news conference, President Obama defended commuting the prison sentence of Chelsea Manning. Obama stated that he felt very comfortable that justice had been served and a message had been sent when it comes to our national security.

◆ Governor Haslam is calling for a 7-cent increase in the state gasoline tax and a 12-cent increase on diesel fuel. The revenue will be used for transportation projects in all 95 of Tennessee's counties. At the same time, the governor is proposing a 0.5% cut in the sales tax on food and a 1.5% cut in the Hall Income Tax on interest and dividends this year with another 1.5% cut next year.

◆ State Rep. Sheila Butt has withdrawn her bill seeking to restrict which items Tennessee's food stamp recipients would be able to buy at the grocery store. She says the Trump administration is considering similar changes.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Etowah Area Chamber of Commerce announces that their 55th annual Banquet will be Tuesday, March 7th, at 7 p.m. at McMinn Central High School. The evening will begin with a "Silent Auction" at 6 p.m. The night will also include award presentations for the Business Person of the Year, R. Frank McKinney Distinguished Service, and the Joe Quirk Educator of the Year. For tickets, call the Chamber office at 263-2228.

✓ The McMinn Senior Activity Center will present Wellness Wednesday on January 25th at 9 a.m. Jonathan Moore, RN, with the Starr Regional Emergency Department will be the speaker. The event is free to the public and light refreshments will be served.



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WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday - Partly cloudy. 50% rain. High 64.

Thurs Night - Rain likely with possible t'storms. Low 54.

Friday - Partly cloudy. 50% rain. High 67.

Friday Night - Mostly cloudy. Low 54.

More Weather at: wxyi.com

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Thursday, January 19, 2017

Athens, Tennessee

That's A Pretty Big Fish

A new state record yellow perch has been caught in Lake Dartmore just north of Crossville. The fish measured 15½ inches long and weighed 2 pounds, 3 ounces. It was caught by Trent McCoy, a lifelong resident of Cumberland County. The previous record was a 2 pound, 2 ounce yellow perch caught by Jackie Kersey at Parksville Lake in Polk County. McCoy is pictured below with his record-breaking fish.



Obituaries

♦ **Ravelle W. (McKenzie) Hudson**, age 101, died Sunday at her residence at Pineview Assisted living at North Pointe Woods in Michigan. She retired from the Kellogg Cereal Company in Battle Creek after 27 years. Her first husband, Frederick McKenzie, was from Decatur. Graveside services will be held this Saturday at 10 a.m. at Decatur Cemetery. Bowers Funeral Home is in charge of local arrangements.

♦ **Joe David Smith**, age 89, died last Sunday. He was retired from Bowater and had also worked at the Oak Ridge Nuclear Plant. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home of Athens, with visitation from noon to 1 p.m.

♦ **Marcia Studdard**, age 70, of Athens, died Tuesday at Starr Regional Medical Center of Athens. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Bordwine Funeral Home.

♦ **Catherine Elizabeth Todd Neill**, age 91, of Athens, died Wednesday at her residence. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home with visitation from 5-7 p.m. at Laycock-Hobbs.

♦ **Sheila Kay Campbell Wilcox**, age 57, of Riceville, died Wednesday at her residence. Arrangements will be announced by Ziegler Funeral Home.

TODAY IN HISTORY—JANUARY 19th

1736 - Scottish inventor James Watt was born. He designed the engine that made steam power practical.

1807 - Robert E. Lee was born in 1807 in Virginia. He was the commander of the Confederate Army in the Civil War. Reportedly, he never smoked, drank alcohol, or used obscene language. He spent his final years after the war as president of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia. It was named Washington and Lee University after his death.

1809 - Edgar Allen Poe, poet and author, was born. His poem "The Raven" is one of the best-known poems in American literature.

1939 - Singer Phil Everly of the Everly Brothers was born. The brothers' hit records included "Bird Dog," "Wake Up Little Susie," and "Crying In The Rain."

1946 - Singer and businesswoman Dolly Parton was born in Sevierville. She has had scores of hit records and starred in several movies. In 1986, she opened the Dollywood theme park in nearby Pigeon Forge.

McMinn County



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Time: 6:30pm -10:00pm
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