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Today's News...This Morning

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Monday, May 7, 2018

Athens, Tennessee

Local & Area News

◆ TWU CONDUCTS COMMENCEMENT

Tennessee Wesleyan University concluded its 161st Spring Commencement on Saturday here in Athens. The events began last Thursday with a pinning ceremony for nursing graduates in Knoxville and the TWU Baccalaureate service was held last Friday night at Townsend Auditorium. During Saturday's Commencement an Honorary Doctorate Degree was awarded to Mintie Willson of Niota. Dr. Willson and her family have been major supporters of the University for many years. In the photo by Paul Willson: (L-R) Dr. Grant Willhite, TWU V.P. of Academic Affairs and Professor of Biology, Dr. Willson, and Dr. Harley Knowles, President of TWU.



National & World News

◆ Almost 2000 residents living near the Kilauea volcano on the big island of Hawaii were evacuated over the weekend. Eight vents have opened spewing lava and sulfur dioxide.

◆ Don Gorske, 64, of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin is the first person to eat 30,000 Big Macs. He's eaten two of the burgers everyday since May 17, 1972. He says his health and cholesterol are normal.

◆ Saturday's Kentucky Derby was the wettest ever with 2.5 inches of rain. "Justify" won the race; the first colt in 136 years.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ Cathy Salvatori, the owner of Athens Party Rentals, will be the guest on the Athens Chamber of Commerce weekly radio show, "Chamber Chat". You can hear the program Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio AM-1390 & FM-94.5 or [ONLINE](#).

✓ The "Sassy Steppers Walking Club" will be stepping out for the first time on Tuesday, May 8th at 10 a.m. Meet in the lobby of the McMinn Senior Activity Center. The Walking Club is for men and women 50 & up. Call 745-6830 for more information.

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WEATHER FORECAST

Monday - 20% rain & t'storms in p.m. High 77.

Mon. night - Mostly clear with patchy fog. Low 50.

Tuesday - Fog early, otherwise sunny. High upper 70s.

More Weather at: wyxi.com

Monday, May 7, 2018

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Janice Clift Williams**, age 54, died Friday at her home in Chattanooga, surrounded by her family. She was born in Cleveland, and was a long time resident of Athens. She was an elementary school teacher for 31 years and had taught at Etowah City, Mountain View, and Rogers Creek. Funeral services were held Sunday at Smith Funeral Home with interment in Cedar Grove Cemetery.

♦ **Fred C. Hicks**, age 77, of Englewood, died unexpectedly on Saturday. He taught school in McMinn County for 31 years, first at Mt. Harmony, where he met his future wife, and then at Niota Elementary. After retiring from education, he served as Assistant Highway commissioner under Randall Moss. He also served as a member of the McMinn County Commission from 1986-1994. The family will receive friends Tuesday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Smith Funeral Home, followed by a Masonic service at 6:30 p.m. The funeral service will follow at 7 p.m. at Smith Funeral Home.

♦ **Brandon James Cassada**, age 33, of Etowah, died Wednesday May 2nd. Funeral services were held Saturday at Bordwine Funeral Home with a committal service held in the McMinn Memory Gardens on Sunday afternoon.

♦ **Helen Kettenbeil**, age 91, of Athens, died Sunday at her residence. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Smith Funeral and Cremation Services of Athens.

Ribbon Cut at Long Chevrolet-Buick-GMC

A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for Long Chevrolet Buick GMC located at 1900 Congress Parkway S in Athens. Chamber President/CEO Rob Preston, McMinn County Mayor John Gentry, Athens City Manager C. Seth Sumner, were among many community and chamber members who attended, as well as GM leaders from around the region. GM officials and Long family members are pictured here on the front row behind the ribbon. Pictured left to right are Torey King (GM), Rick Meisemann (CFO Long Automotive), Nelson Long, Jr. (Owner's Son), Allan Long (Owner's Son), Jason Mirkovich (F&I Manager Long of Athens), Randy Francisco (Sales Manager at Long of Athens), Nelson Long (Owner of Long Automotive of Chattanooga), Saphura Long (Owner of Long Chevrolet Buick GMC of Athens), Jeff Harbach (General Dealer Network Manager SE), Ted Bortner (Chevrolet District Sales Manager), Rick Adams (GM), Tommy Nicholas (Gen. Mgr./ Long of Chatt), Mike Mudd (GM). Photo by Kay Simmons



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