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Today's News... This Morning

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Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

Local and State News

ATHENS JULY 4TH CLOSINGS

The Athens Municipal Building will be closed this Friday, July 3rd, for the Independence Day observance. The Public Works, Recycle Center, and the Athens Animal Shelter will also be closed on Friday and Saturday. They will re-open Monday during regular business hours. All residential garbage routes will be on the regular schedule.

Federal and State offices will be closed on Friday. The post office will be open Friday, but will be closed on Saturday. It's up to banks to make their own decision whether to be open or closed on Friday. Check with your bank.

GOVERNOR EXTENDS STATE OF EMERGENCY

Governor Lee has extended the State of Emergency to August 29th. Among other things, his order urges Tennesseans to stay home when possible, maintain social distancing, wear face masks in public, and stay at home if they have COVID-19. The order urges businesses to offer delivery or special shopping hours to protect vulnerable populations, extends driver licenses and photo ID renewal deadlines until November 15th, allows prescriptions with 90-day supplies, suspends issuance of REAL ID licenses, suspends administration of driving tests, allows governing bodies to meet electronically regarding essential business through August 29th as long as they provide electronic access to the public and meet the safeguards to ensure openness and transparency.

Remembering 3 Years Ago

A major fire erupted in Downtown Athens in the pre-dawn hours of July 1st, 2017. The fire destroyed the Logan-Thompson building at the corner of Jackson and Washington, and also caused heavy fire, smoke, and/or water damage to nearby buildings--Johnsons Home Furnishings, The Athens Chamber of Commerce, The Prissy Closet and Greeks Bearing Gifts. The Logan-Thompson building was demolished. The other buildings were closed for months for repairs. Firefighters from 15 departments responded.



WEATHER FORECAST

Wednesday - Cloudy & humid. Possible rain & t'storms. High 79.

Wednesday night - Humid & cloudy. Possible t'storms. Low 68.

Thursday - Humid with clouds & sun. Rain or t'storm possible in p.m. High 88.

Friday - Sunny & humid. High 90.
More Weather at: wysi.com

RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



Western Sizzlin will re-open Monday July 6th



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Obituaries

♦ **James Leroy Rogge**, age 78, of Spring City, died June 25th. A memorial service is being planned for a later date. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge of arrangements.

♦ **Eva Lou Hyde Rogers**, age 79, of Calhoun, Ga, formerly of McMinn County, died Tuesday at Hospice of Chattanooga. There will be no formal visitation. Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday at Idlewild Cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

COVID-19 Virus Update

The number of COVID-19 cases in Tennessee continues to climb. The latest total is 43,509. That's up 1,212 from Monday. 27,599 patients have recovered and there have now been 604 deaths. McMinn County's total to date is 210 cases (a decrease of 2 from Monday's report) with 157 recovered and there have been 17 deaths. Rhea County's totals are 269 cases and 239 recoveries. Meigs County has had 32 cases and 27 patients have recovered. Monroe County reports 132 cases, 91 recoveries, and 4 deaths. Polk County's total to date is 41 cases of the virus, with 31 patients now recovered. Bradley County's total now stands at 550 cases, with 333 recovered and 3 deaths.

Photo Correction

In Tuesday's Morning Fax we inadvertently published the wrong photo showing a tree on County Road 422 that was struck by lightning during the Sunday night storm and caught on fire. We apologize for this error. Below is the correct photo showing the Englewood Fire Department extinguishing the fire. Photo provided by Lynn Ingram of the Englewood Rural Fire Department.



TODAY IN HISTORY - JULY 1st

1862 - President Abraham Lincoln signed the first Pacific Railroad Act "to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean."

1863 - The Civil War Battle of Gettysburg began on this date. The Northern forces won a victory and the battle marked a turning point in the war.

1898 - Teddy Roosevelt and his "Rough Riders" took San Juan Hill in Cuba during the Spanish-American War.

1916 - Actress Olivia de Havilland, one of the stars of the movie "Gone With the Wind," was born.

1942 - Gospel songwriter Andrae Crouch was born. He wrote "Through It All" and "My Tribute."

1961 - Great Britain's Princess Diana was born.

1986 - The movie industry introduced the PG-13 classification indicating that a movie might be too violent for children under the age of 13.

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