

3rd Quarter 2020

07/01/2020 – 09/30/2020

WHNY 104.7 FM, AM1000 & 97.5 FM

WLZK 94.1 FM

WRQR 105.5FM

WTPR 710 AM & 101.7FM

WHDM 1440 AM & 98.9 FM

NEWS: 8-2:22 minutes of local news, covering events, government meetings, city and county aired daily.

CITY TALK: 15-30 minutes coverage of what's happening in the city and county. This program is hosted by the city and/or county mayor and the program runs each Saturday at 8 am.

VIEWPOINTS PROGRAM: Airs Every Sunday on WTPR at 6am.

PSA ANNOUNCEMENT/ COVERAGE:

- 2020 Water Fun Run Draws Record Crowd
- As COVID-19 Cases Increase In Area Henry County Records First Death
- BPU Paris Utility Authority Hold Last Joint Meeting
- Broadcast City Talk with June Iljana of the US Census Bureau about the 2020 US Census
- Commodities To Be Distributed in Paris
- Governor Lee Issues Shout-Out To Henry County Maskup Campaign
- Hard At Work On Paris Splash Pad

- HCMC Addresses COVID-19 Testing False Positive Claims
- HCMC Resumes More Relaxed Visitation Policy
- Henry Co Fair Association Continues To Prepare For 2020 Fair
- Henry Co Slate of Municipal Candidates Set For November Election
- Henry County Commissioners Set Property Tax Rate Approve County Budget Heard
Flooding Concerns
- Henry County Issues Mask Requirement
- Henry County Mayor Greer Announces Pending Retirement
- Henry County Moves Ahead With Broadband Partnership
- Henry County Roads Damaged By Heavy Rainfall
- Henry County School Board Votes To Delay School Opening Until August 31
- No Mask Mandate Set For Henry County
- Paris Utility Authority Holds Brief September Board Meeting
- PLUS Endowment Presents Checks To Henry Co Schools PSSD
- PSSD Board Sticks To August 3 School Start Date
- Surveillance Photo Released In Paris Business Theft

2020 WATER FUN RUN DRAWS RECORD CROWD

July 20, 2020 @ 12:01 pm Shannon McFarlin



Buchanan, Tenn. – A record-breaking 800 participants were on hand for this year's Water Fun Run on Kentucky Lake, sponsored by the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce. Chamber CEO Travis McLeese said the previous record was 720 in 2019. "We couldn't have pulled this event off without a long list of volunteers who worked to give everyone a great experience," McLeese said. "We are working to compile data, but we believe that around 70% of the participants were from out of town, and over 8 states were represented during the event. Not only is this a vital fundraiser for our organization,

AS COVID-19 CASES INCREASE IN AREA, HENRY COUNTY RECORDS FIRST DEATH

July 23, 2020 @ 5:38 am Shannon McFarlin



Benton County has 19 active cases with 33 total and one death.

Nashville, Tenn.—As the number of positive COVID-19 cases continues to rise statewide and in our area, Henry County has now recorded its first death from the coronavirus.

Total cases in Henry County area now 75, with 25 active cases. Two days ago, Henry County's total active cases were at 22.

Elsewhere in our area:

Obion County is reporting 95 active cases with a total 191 cases and three deaths.

BPU, PARIS UTILITY AUTHORITY HOLD LAST JOINT MEETING

July 28, 2020 @ 3:57 pm Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn. – In the final meeting of the Paris Board of Public Utilities Board of Directors, held on Tuesday, July 28, the Board approved a motion to transfer the Rural Economic Development loan and grant to Paris Utility Authority.

The final item of business for the City of Paris BPU Board of Directors was the approval of a resolution concluding the business of the City of Paris Board of Public Utilities. The resolution was read aloud by Board Secretary Bethany Edwards. Moving forward all business will

be addressed and voted on by the Paris Utility Authority Board of Directors.

Immediately following the final Paris BPU Board Meeting, the Paris Utility Authority Board of Directors met and began ~~the meeting with the approval of a resolution receiving the Rural Economic Development loan and grant from City of~~

COMMODITIES TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN PARIS

July 6, 2020 @ 8:14 am Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.–The Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council will be distributing US Department of Agriculture commodities to eligible area residents on July 21 & 22, at Central School located at 55 Jones Bend Road Ext in Paris.

Distribution will be between 9 am–2 pm. Eligibility is based on total household income not in excess of state established maximum guidelines. In addition, anyone receiving aid from Food Stamps, Families First, SSI, LIHEAP, or documented residence in public housing are eligible for USDA Commodities.

GOVERNOR LEE ISSUES SHOUT-OUT TO HENRY COUNTY MASKUP CAMPAIGN

August 21, 2020 @ 6:19 pm Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.—Governor Bill Lee gave a shout-out to Henry County and its MaskUp campaign on his social media platforms today. As reported previously, the giant catfish at the corner of Tyson and Mineral Wells Ave. now sports a giant mask in support of the MaskUp campaign and Governor Lee posted a photo of it on his Facebook, Instagram and Twitter platforms.

He also included the message, “The citizens of Henry County are doing their part to fight the spread of COVID-19. Thank you, Paris, TN. Henry

HARD AT WORK ON PARIS SPLASH PAD

July 16, 2020 @ 9:57 am Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.—Even with the oppressive heat, workers have been hard at it at the site of the new Splash Pad at Eiffel Tower Park in Paris. Paris Parks and Recreation Director Tony Lawrence said, “They’re aiming for mid-August at this point” for completion of the Splash Pad. Currently, several local contractors and work crews, including employees from the Paris Parks and Public Works Departments, have been at work on the project. The Splash Pad will include multiple water features – including one that looks like the Eiffel Tower– and pavilions. (Shannon McFarlin photo).

HCMC ADDRESSES COVID-19 TESTING, 'FALSE POSITIVE' CLAIMS

July 30, 2020 @ 9:57 am Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.—Henry County Medical Center officials have addressed the claims of 'false positive' readings of COVID-19 tests.

This is the statement from HCMC:

"We have received calls and messages regarding our testing at

Henry County Medical Center, and specifically tests that are suspect of being false positives.

"Our laboratory uses two different references labs to process COVID-19 tests. The tests we use are referred to as "PCR" tests. These are not rapid screening tests, but are a true diagnostic test. A PCR test detects the genetic information of the virus, and that is only possible if the virus is present.

"We understand there is so much misinformation. Please know our statistics are available daily, Monday through

HCMC RESUMES MORE RELAXED VISITATION POLICY

September 21, 2020 @ 8:43 am Shannon McFarlin



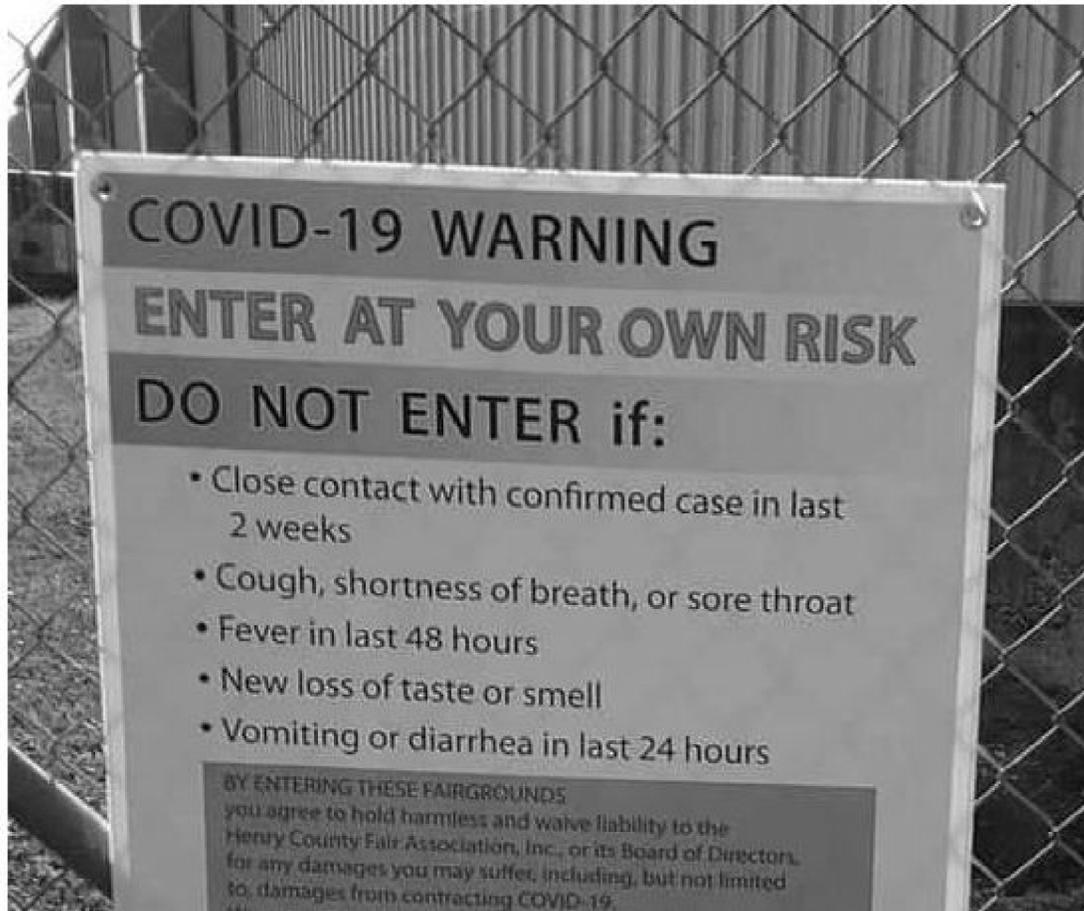
Paris, Tenn.—Beginning today, Monday, Sept. 21, Henry County Medical Center is implementing a more relaxed visitation policy for the hospital and clinics.

“As the region and our county begin to see reductions in cases in the community even with schools returning and activities beginning to occur, we have decided to revise our visitation policy to

accommodate more access to our patients, families, and visitors,” said CEO Lisa Casteel. “We continue to follow all Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Tennessee Department of Health safety guidelines.”

HENRY CO. FAIR ASSOCIATION CONTINUES TO PREPARE FOR 2020 FAIR

July 8, 2020 @ 9:31 am Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.—The Henry County Fair Association continues to prepare for the 2020 Henry County Fair which is set for August 22–29, 2020.

Restrictions will be in place, however, and the Baby Barnyard Revues will be cancelled. A carnival will be on the grounds this year, with increased cleaning procedures.

In a press release issued this morning, fair officials said, “We are aware of the ongoing health crisis. Many rural fairs are planning to continue with their fairs, and we intend to do so as safely as possible. We have already taken steps to address this, and have more plans that will be implemented for Fair Week.”

The following changes are in effect, with more to come and subject to change at any time:

✍ COVID-19 Warning signage is currently posted

HENRY CO. SLATE OF MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES SET FOR NOVEMBER ELECTION

August 20, 2020 @ 4:05 pm Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.—With today's noon deadline for returning petitions, the slate of municipal candidates for the November 3 general election has been set.

Among other races, there will be a Henry Mayor's race, with two candidates announcing their candidacy. There also will be a race for Paris City Commission, with four candidates vying for two seats.

Long-time Paris City Commissioner Terry Fuller will not be seeking reelection, leaving one Incumbent, Jackie Jones, on the list of candidates for the two open commission seats. In addition to Jones, those running for commission are former BPU General Manager John Ethridge, Herbert "Red" ...

HENRY CO. COMMISSIONERS SET PROPERTY TAX RATE, APPROVE COUNTY BUDGET, HEAR FLOODING CONCERNS

July 2, 2020 @ 6:23 pm Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.—At a short meeting of the Henry County Commission Thursday night, commissioners approved the property tax rate for Henry County, approved the county budget for the Fiscal Year starting July 1 2020, and heard from a family who was rescued from their home Wednesday night by county agencies due to flash flooding.

Thursday night's meeting was recessed from Monday evening.

The commission approved the property tax rate of at \$1.8933 on each \$100 of taxable property and is broken down this way: county general fund,

HENRY COUNTY ISSUES MASK REQUIREMENT

August 3, 2020 @ 5:38 pm Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.—At the recommendation of the local healthcare community, Henry County Mayor, Brent Greer, with the support of the Henry County COVID Response Team, has put an order in place requiring masking in Henry County to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The order is effective Tuesday at midnight.

The order will go into effect at 12:01 AM. Wednesday, August 5, 2020, and will remain in effect until 12:01 A.M. Wednesday, August 12, 2020, unless rescinded, continued, or renewed.

“People are sick, it’s that simple,” Henry County Mayor Brent Greer said.

HENRY COUNTY MAYOR GREER ANNOUNCES PENDING RETIREMENT

July 20, 2020 @ 6:47 pm Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.—Henry County Mayor Brent Greer announced Monday night that he intends to retire effective on or before November 3. Greer has served as County Mayor for 22 years and said his decision followed ‘thoughtful consideration and meaningful prayers.’

Greer made the surprise announcement at Monday’s regular board of commissioners meeting. He informed staff earlier in the day.

Greer said the timing of his announcement will allow the office of the mayor to be placed on the November ballot to ensure the voters have the opportunity to elect a

HENRY COUNTY MOVES AHEAD WITH BROADBAND PARTNERSHIP

September 21, 2020 @ 7:18 pm Shannon McFarlin



By Shannon McFarlin News Director

Paris, Tenn.—By unanimous vote, the Henry County Commission entered into a partnership with the West Kentucky & Tennessee Telecommunications Cooperative with a goal to provide the opportunity for broadband services for every household in Henry County.

Since last Tuesday night's special meeting, at which the commissioners gave the green light for the partnership, County Mayor Brent Greer said he, County Attorney Rob Whitfield III, and WK&T officials 'worked diligently, even through the weekend and up until 3 p.m. today' on the terms of the agreement.

UPDATED: HENRY COUNTY ROADS DAMAGED BY HEAVY RAINFALL

July 2, 2020 @ 8:46 am Shannon McFarlin



Update: The number of roads that are closed due to culvert washouts now number six: Paschall Cemetery Rd.; Robert Barnhill Rd.; Reuben Rd.; Rowe School Rd.; Hart Farm Rd.; and Parkhill Rd.

County Road Superintendent Richie Chilcutt said road closed barricades have been placed on all of the roads, with loads of gravel blocking travel.

By Shannon McFarlin News Director

Paris, Tenn.—Wednesday evening's severe storm and heavy rainfall caused damage to several Henry County roadways, with at least five roads cut in half with culverts being

HENRY COUNTY SCHOOLS BOARD VOTES TO DELAY SCHOOL OPENING UNTIL AUGUST 31

July 28, 2020 @ 12:00 pm Shannon McFarlin



By Shannon McFarlin News Director

Paris, Tenn.—At a lengthy emergency meeting Tuesday morning, the Henry County Schools board of education voted unanimously to delay the opening of the 2020-2021 school year until August 31.

The vote followed much discussion among Director of Schools Dr. Leah Watkins, board members and community members in the audience, which included two county commissioners, Kreg Kyle and Marty Visser.

The county district (and Paris Special Schools) had been slated to begin August 3, but a significant increase in COVID-19 cases in Henry County over the past week prompted the board to call today's emergency meeting. The Paris Special Schools board will meet in special session on Wednesday to discuss the opening for the PSSD district.

Dr. Watkins said the increase in cases has transitioned the county school district into the orange, or moderate spread, phase, which puts more precautions in place for students, including remote learning for students. Before the increases over the past week, the district had been ready to open in the yellow, or low spread, phase.

"This is unprecedented for all of us and we need to make decisions in the best interests of everyone," Dr. Watkins

NO MASK MANDATE SET FOR HENRY COUNTY

July 8, 2020 @ 10:02 am Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.—With the announcement that Gov. Bill Lee granted local authority to each county to declare mask mandates, Henry Countians are wondering what requirements will be made for them as cases of COVID-19 continue to spike across the state and West Tennessee. Local officials have decided that a mask mandate will not be required in Henry County.

On a conference call Monday, members of Paris and Henry County government and the medical community discussed Gov. Lee's executive orders from July 3 and what circumstances would create the need for Paris and Henry County for required masking to be ordered.

All agreed at this time, if the community continues to follow social distancing, good hand washing hygiene, gatherings only in small groups, and wearing masks where appropriate, a mask mandate will not be a necessity for our community.

"It is so important that our community continue to adhere to masking if possible, washing hands frequently, and social distancing at least six feet as much as possible," said Henry County Medical Center CEO Lisa Casteel. "We have done well in our county, doing our part to make sure that our healthcare system has not been overwhelmed. But, the threat is not over and we need to not give up these practices to ensure that we continue to stay healthy and avoid having to require masking like Jackson, Nashville, Memphis, Gatlinburg, and other locations across the state. It truly is about

PARIS UTILITY AUTHORITY HOLDS BRIEF SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

September 22, 2020 @ 4:01 pm Tyrone Tony Reed Jr.



Paris, TN – In a brief and regular meeting of the Paris Utility Authority Board of Directors, the Board reviewed and approved monthly financials for the utility.

In his President's report, Paris BPU President and CEO, Terry Wimberley, reported on the utility's progress towards fulfilling the requirements of a Wastewater Consent Order from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). Wimberley explained in June of 2016 the utility signed a Consent Order with TDEC for Wastewater System improvements. The three-year time clock for improvement of Wastewater Treatment Plant priority elements started in 2017. As of this June, Paris BPU notified TDEC that they had completed the work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant on-time and in accordance with the compliance schedule.

Wimberley also reported that results from our recent TDEC required, Lead and Copper Testing have been returned. Every three years, Paris BPU tests 30 locations on the utility's system for lead and copper levels. Wimberley, noted that, "Paris BPU received optimal results on our most recent testing." He added, "Monitoring these levels are important to public health, and a part of our mission to provide safe and reliable utility services to our customers."

The October meeting of the Board will take place on Tuesday, October 27, 2020.

About Paris BPU – Established in 1938, Paris BPU is a municipal utility that provides electric, water and wastewater services to residents of Paris and Henry County as a means of promoting economic development and enhancing quality of life in the community.

PLUS ENDOWMENT PRESENTS CHECKS TO HENRY CO. SCHOOLS, PSSD

July 29, 2020 @ 3:53 pm Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn. – Checks were presented Wednesday by the PLUS Endowment board to the Directors of the Henry County Schools and Paris Special Schools District (PSSD) to augment monies that would ordinarily have been raised with fundraising events.

For the past few years, the month of August has been designated as PLUS Endowment Month. In a normal year there would be benefit breakfasts, various fund raisers and an emphasis on collecting donations from numerous local businesses and individuals.

PLUS Endowment Board Member Steve Blount said, “However, because

PSSD BOARD STICKS TO AUGUST 3 SCHOOL START DATE

July 29, 2020 @ 3:17 pm Shannon McFarlin



By Shannon McFarlin News Director

Paris, Tenn.—Meeting in lengthy special session this afternoon, the Paris Special Schools District board decided after much discussion to stick to the August 3 start date for the 2020-2021 school year.

On Tuesday, the Henry County Schools board met in emergency session and decided to delay the start of the school year for the county

district to August 31.

PSSD district teachers received training just Wednesday morning in safety guidelines and protocols. Director of Schools Dr. Norma Gerrell said teachers in all three schools in the district received the training on-site in the buildings.

Dr. Gerrell said student temperatures will be taken as they get off the buses and as they get out of cars in the mornings before they enter the building. Any student whose temperature is higher than 100.4 will be directed to the

SURVEILLANCE PHOTO RELEASED IN PARIS BUSINESS THEFT

August 21, 2020 @ 4:45 pm Shannon McFarlin



Paris, Tenn.—Paris Police have released a surveillance photo of the theft of a tractor from a local business over the weekend.

Investigator Jeramy Whitaker said the photo shows the suspect vehicle from the theft at Joe and Jerry's tire dealer between noon August 15 and 11 a.m. August 17. A \$1,000 reward is offered for information leading to the suspect.

Whitaker said, "It's thought to be a black Chevy Colorado, 4-Door, step rails, with a white male driving."

Please direct any tips to Whitaker at 641-1437