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Athens, Tennessee

### Thursday, October 26, 2023

# **MVA Old Riceville Road**

A collision sometime Wednesday morning on the Old Riceville Road next to Ironcraft Manufacturing Company resulted in one vehicle coming to rest in a ditch next to the railroad tracks. No injuries were reported. Photo by Stephanie Devine.



See Community, State and Local News on Page 3 FOOTBALL SCHEDULES THURSDAY for Oct 26th p.m. McMinn Co. Cherokees host Walker Valley; Bradley Central hosts Bearden. [7:30 p.m. McMinn Central plays at Chattanooga Central; Sweetwater hosts Brainerd; Meigs County hosts Tyner Academy. **NEED NEW FLOORING?** 

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**Pickup Truck/Mowing Machine Collide** 

Another collision on Wednesday afternoon occurred when a pickup truck and mowing machine collided on SR 305. See photos below by Rick Lay.





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Athens, Tennessee



AT THE EUREKA TRAIL

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE AN EVENT T-SHIRT THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE REGISTRATION TABLE THROUGHOUT THE EVENT OR VIA ONLINE REGISTRATION\*



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# **Obituaries**

•James Ralph Colboch, age 87, passed away Tuesday October 24<sup>th</sup> at Dominion Senior Living. He was an avid gardener and belonged to the Daylily Society. He also loved collecting and making arrowheads, pipes, and flutes. Visitation will be Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 2 p.m. at Good Samaritan Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Chestua Baptist Cemetery, in Madisonville. Good Samaritan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

New Training Techniques: Officers with the City of Athens Police Department have recently implemented a new training technique to their annual requirements-Virtual Reality Training. Training is constantly evolving, and this platform assists the Athens Police Officers to further their training to keep Athens safe. The State of Tennessee POST Commission requires POST Certified Officers to complete an annual in-service training and this requirement is 40 hours of instruction and testing. The classes ranged from Mental Health Awareness, Taser Re-Certification, Emergency Vehicle Operations, to Firearms Re-Certifications. The Athens Police Department adds more class hours to its yearly in-service training beyond state requirements. In addition to the state requirements, added is a Crime Scene Management refresher where the course focuses on new techniques in collecting DNA and fingerprints along with hands on portions where the Officers locate and collect "trace evidence." Also added is a Legal Refresher where the topics range from 4th Amendment Search & Seizure Rights to Probable Cause Stops & Search Warrants, and Court Testimony instruction. "We were very fortunate to have Assistant District Attorney Dorothy Cherry from the 10<sup>th</sup> Office to lead the Legal Refresher course. With the laws ever changing, we are so appreciative of her time and knowledge to educate the department on new legal updates. (Story continued at right)

## **Community News You Can Use**

✓ Clearwater Baptist Church and Upward Sports basketball and cheerleading registration for boys and girls K4 thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade basketball will be November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6pm to 8pm or November 4<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 12 pm, or you can register online at clearwaterbc.org/upward Games will be played on Saturday's in January and February.

**R**ep. Fleischmann approves new Speaker: U. S. Representative Chuck Fleischmann released the following statement after voting to elect Representative Mike Johnson to the position of Speaker of the United States House of Representatives. "Mike Johnson is a man of strong faith and firm conservative convictions and will be an excellent Speaker for the American People. I'm proud that our House Republican majority united to elect Mike on the first ballot to be our Speaker. It's time for us to get back to work delivering com-monsense, conservative solutions to fix Democrats' disastrous policies that are hurting Americans and making our country less safe," said Con-gressman Fleischmann. "Mike believes in individual freedom, limited government, the rule of law, fiscal responsibility, and peace through strength - this is the agenda the American People demand, and that House Republicans are committed to delivering. I look forward to working closely with Speaker Johnson to get back to work to fix Democrats' disastrous record of high inflation, open borders, out-of-control crime, and weakness abroad."

New Training Techniques: (Cont'd from column 1) Officer Jason Garren manages our yearly in-service training and is always finding the best ways to make the department up to date and the training run smoothly. We are also lucky to have such a diverse force that we do not have to outsource all our instructors and we can constantly be learning from each other. Overall, our department really pulls together for training, and we have moved together as a department to be in the best position to be there for our citizens," stated Lieutenant Blake Witt. For more information, please contact Chief Fred Schultz of the City of Athens Police Department at 423-744-2730.

