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Today's News... This Morning

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(SEE PAGE 5 FOR MORE NEWS)

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Wednesday, December 06, 2023

Athens, Tennessee

Whistlestop Shoppes Ribbon Cutting



Whistlestop Shoppes and the Etowah Chamber of Commerce on Small Business Saturday celebrated their open house and grand opening with a ribbon cutting. Pictured are Owners Tina Florey and Melvin Florey, Wyatt Brady, Brentley Brady, Doug Brady, Christine Brady, Kelly Turner, Chris Turner, and many Community leaders and Chamber Board Members. They are located across from the depot at 730 Tennessee Avenue, Etowah, TN. They have many local artisans, crafts, and unique shopping booths that reflect the culture and small businesses of our area. Visit them Tuesday through Sunday to find your next great find! Photo submitted by Chamber Director, Frank Clark.



HOLIDAY MARKET AT THE NOTCH · DECEMBER 9TH · 10AM-3PM
JOIN US THIS HOLIDAY SEASON FOR A FUN DAY AT THE NOTCH AND SHOP WITH LOCAL ARTISAN VENDORS!

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TENTATIVE RAIN DATE: DEC 10TH



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Standing (L-R) Audrey Staton, Apprentice Funeral Director,
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The Trading Post

Monday - Friday Morning
 Now 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 06, 2023 Morning Fax® Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Parade Winners & Presentation

Listed below are the winners from the annual Athens Jimmy Liner Memorial Christmas Parade. Austin Fesmire was the Grand Marshal. In the photo is Chris Liner presenting Fesmire with a Plaque.

Business / Industrial:

First: AUB
 Second: Dooley Tractor

Civic Clubs / Organizations / Schools

First: Valley Christian Academy
 Second: McMinn County Rescue Squad

Churches

First: Mt. Harmony Baptist Church Niota
 Second: Faith Baptist Tabernacle

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ Athens Utilities Board will be closed from 11:30-12:00 today, December 6th for a holiday luncheon.





Christmas Open House



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10



1PM—5PM

Historic Downtown Athens

Athens Arts Center: 320 N. White St

Studio 316 Community Art Space: 316 N. White St

White Street Market: 216 N. White St

Birds of A Feather: 210 N. White St

Grandma's Gingerbread Bakery: 116 N. White St

MexiWings Restaurant: 112 N. White St

Sweet & Sassy Too: 4 S. White St

Heritage Antiques: 115 E. Madison Ave

Greeks Bearing Gifts: 11 N. Jackson St

Rosebuds & Polka Dots: 201 E. Washington Ave

Creekside Wellness: 6. W Washington Ave

Fuller's Frame Shop: 300 W. Bank St

Thank you for shopping & dining local!

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**Thursday,
December 7th
from 5 - 7 pm at
Mayfield Visitor Center**

Obituaries

◆ **Helen Lusk Kyker**, age 91 of Athens passed away, Monday, December 4th at Dominion Assisted Living. She was a native of McMinn County, former resident of California and current resident of Athens. She was a member of North Athens Baptist Church and was a longtime substitute teacher at Niota Elementary School. She was a renowned artist whose work included many paintings. Graveside services will be at 3:00 PM Friday, December 8 at Foster Cemetery. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home in Athens is in charge of arrangements.

◆ **Arminda Jewell Arnwine**, age 79, passed away on December 4 at her home in Calhoun. Jewell was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and Nanny Jewell to multitudes of children. She babysat through the years. She was an active member of Calhoun First Baptist Church and taught Sunday school for many years. The service will be held on Thursday, December 7 at 7:00 pm at Calhoun First Baptist Church, 107 Church St., Calhoun, TN. Visitation will be from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. A Graveside service will be held on Friday at 1:00 pm at First Baptist Church Cemetery. Companion Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Winter Food Drive

The Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security's (TDOSHS) Driver Services division is partnering with Donate Life Tennessee, Tennessee Donor Services and Mid-South Transplant Foundation for the Keeping Tummies and Hearts Full of Love Winter Food Drive. Now through Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024, Tennesseans can bring non-perishable food items to any Driver Services Center in Tennessee. Food items will be donated to local food banks and organizations to help those in need. "I encourage Tennesseans to show their volunteer spirit and support our winter food drive," said TDOSHS Commissioner Jeff Long. "Many of our fellow Tennesseans struggle with food insecurity. This holiday season, we can give the gift of kindness and help feed our neighbors." To locate the Driver Services Centers across Tennessee, visit <https://www.tn.gov/safety/driver-services/locations.html>.

◆ The guest this week on "Hope From the Well" will be Dale Powers, a Women At The Well graduate. Hope From the Well is heard each Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

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Improvement Grant for Etowah

Assistant Majority Leader Mark Cochran, R-Englewood, and State Sen. Adam Lowe, R-Calhoun announced recently a \$300,000 Downtown Improvement Grant for Etowah from the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. The grant is part of more than \$4 million in overall funding that was recently awarded to support improvements to building façades and outdoor public spaces in 17 Tennessee Downtowns and Main Street communities. "Downtown Etowah is full of history and natural beauty," Cochran said. "This Improvement Grant will help make the area even more appealing for residents and visitors alike. I appreciate the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development's partnership in granting these funds." Lowe said, "This is great news for Etowah. This grant will not only enhance the physical landscape of the city but also breathe new life into the local economy. I look forward to seeing the improvements take shape." To be eligible for a Downtown Improvement Grant, applicants had to be a designated Tennessee Downtowns or Tennessee Main Street Community. Grants were awarded to qualifying organizations that illustrated the need for improvements and the ability to execute an effective design plan for building façades, way-finding signage, gateways, and streetscapes. Each new recipient is also required to match 25 percent of the funding received. Additional information about the Downtown Improvement Grant Program can be found online at www.tn.gov/ecd/rural-development.

Car Hydroplanes

Saturday evening on Hwy 30E and Co Rd 550, Athens close to 8:30 the driver of a 2003 Ford Focus was traveling on Co Rd 550 when the car hydroplaned clipping the guardrail and rolled several times down the embankment to Hwy 30E with no injuries reported. Etowah Rural Fire, Englewood Rural Fire, and McMinn County Sheriff's Department all responded. THP Officer Ethan Jones investigated the accident. Photos by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department



Arrest Reports

From the McMinn County Justice Center

Cody Hughes, 29 of Athens, charged by APD with simple possession / casual exchange schedule II fentanyl and schedule VI marijuana, drug paraphernalia. No bond.

Dillon Sherwood, 31 of Madisonville, charged by MCSO with falsification of drug test results. No bond.

Douglas Hutchison, 44 of Madisonville, charged by MCSO with unlawful carrying / possession of a weapon - armed dangerous felonies, meth x 7 - 300 grams or more. No bond.

Russell Carroll, 54 of Ten Mile, charged by MCSO with violation of order of protection, violation of probation - domestic violence assault, aggravated stalking. \$14,318 bond.

Andrew Edgemon, 22 of Philadelphia, charged by MCSO with criminal simulation, driving on suspended license, misdemeanor evading, unlawful possession / carrying a weapon. \$16,000 bond.

Emily Key, 37 of Athens, charged by APD with state violation of probation - possession of meth for resale. No bond.

The accused are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered from public sources.

TODAY IS:

- **National Gazpacho Day**
- **National Miner's Day**
- **National Pawn Brokers Day**
- **St. Nicholas Day**
- **Mitten Tree Day**
- **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women**