

**OSMENT FLOORING**  
discount outlet  
(423) 252-0316  
30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Over 120 Styles of Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring  
Cozy Carpeting and Beautiful Hardwood  
The Best Scratch Resistant Laminates  
12ft & 16ft-wide Sheet Vinyl

Ask about our "Match & Beat ANY Price" Policy  
2412 Congress Pkwy South, Athens

**The Morning Fax®**  
Today's News. This Morning.

Okay to distribute (with attribution) Click here to send your stories to [myxiradio@gmail.com](mailto:myxiradio@gmail.com)

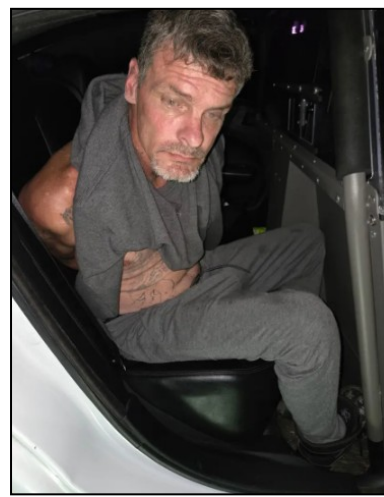
**MCMINN TANK & PIPE**

We offer same day & next day delivery!

- 1,000 gal Tank & Lowboys
- 1,000 & 1,500 gal Pump Tanks
- 2' & 3' Chamber Pipe
- 3" Schedule 40 Pipe
- Risers in Lids for Easy Pumping

423-507-9487 423-744-0121 If it's not listed, call us!

**‘Armed and Dangerous’ fugitive captured in Monroe County**



Dakota Narciso Rowe  
(Courtesy of Monroe Co. Sheriff's Office)

A man considered armed and dangerous by authorities has been captured, ten days after the Monroe County Sheriff's Office issued a public alert seeking information on his whereabouts.

**Morning Fax**  
Today's News. This Morning.

Monroe County Sheriff Tommy Jones announced Saturday that **Dakota Narciso Rowe** was taken into custody in the early morning hours by deputies with the department's Delta Shift. Rowe was located at a residence in Tellico Plains.

"Mr. Rowe went from a living room couch to a jail cell," Jones said in a statement released over the weekend.

Rowe was wanted on a string of serious charges, including **three counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon**, one of which involved a victim under the age of one. Additional charges include **theft of property, aggravated burglary, reckless endangerment, interference with a 911 call, and employment of a firearm during the commission of a felony.**

The search for Rowe gained public attention on May 7, when Sheriff Jones featured him in a "Wanted Wednesday" post on social media, asking residents for tips and warning that Rowe was likely armed and dangerous. Authorities also noted he may have been traveling on a black and red motorcycle at the time.

No injuries were reported during the arrest. Rowe is now being held at the Monroe County Jail. **Source: WATE**

**2 DUDES BBQ & CATERING** 423-829-4126

• Monday – Closed  
• Tuesday-Decatur beside Southeast Bank at the Boys and Girls Club -10:30 - 2:00  
• Wednesday-Etowah Across from Johnsons-10:30 - 2:00  
• Thursday-Athens Family Dollar 10:30 -1:30  
• Friday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30

**BEST OF BEST** award

**VINYL SIDING DOORS WINDOWS ROOFING**

**All Things Exterior**

**BUFFY 423-435-8714 MICAH 423-506-1249**

**723 Congress Parkway S. Next to B J's Snack Bar.**

**WE HAVE 19 COLORS TO CHOOSE FROM. MOST ORDERS READY WITHIN 24 HRS. WE OFFER PICK UP AND DELIVERY.**

**Your One Stop Shop For All Your Metal Roofing Needs!**

**Come See Us and Check Our Prices Before Buying!**

**We Want To Earn Your Business!**

like us on facebook

**Swim Spas**

**POOL OPENING SEASON**

• Pool and Spa Chemicals  
• We do **WATER TESTING**  
• Everything you need!

103 Dynasty Way • Athens  
Order Online • [www.dynastypoolsandspas.com](http://www.dynastypoolsandspas.com)  
**423-745-1425**

**MCMINN TANK & PIPE**

**NOW OFFERING**

- Air Conditioner Concrete Pads
- Water Trough Concrete Pads
- Concrete Feed & Water Troughs
- Distribution Boxes for Septic Pump Systems

423-507-9487 423-744-0121 If it's not listed, call us!

**InTouch**  
with DR. CHARLES STANLEY

**Weekdays 10:00 am - 10:30 am**  
**Sundays Noon - 12:30 pm**

**WYXI RADIO**  
FM 94.5 AM 1390

With an estimated 10,000+ Daily Audience,  
Advertise with the Morning Fax and  
We'll Show You to our Readers!

Contact: Stephanie Devine  
Account Sales Representative  
Email: radiostephaniedevine@gmail.com



Phone#: 423-462-5309

Monday, May 19, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

## Shark Chamber Pitch Contest Offers \$20,000 Prize for Local Entrepreneurs



Local entrepreneurs have a golden opportunity to take their business dreams to the next level through the **Shark Chamber Pitch Contest**, now accepting applications. Hosted by the **Athens Area Chamber of Commerce**, the contest offers funding up to **\$20,000** to help fund the next big idea in the region.

Applications are open now, and the deadline to apply is **Tuesday, July 15th at 5:00 PM**. Business owners interested in pitching their ideas can pick up an application at the Chamber office or access it online using the provided QR code or by clicking [HERE](#).

The Shark Chamber contest is designed to encourage innovation and support small business growth across the Athens area. Finalists will pitch their ideas to a panel of judges for a shot at the top prize.

For more information or help with the application process, contact the Chamber at **423-745-0334** or email [rob@athenschamber.org](mailto:rob@athenschamber.org).

## Community News You Can Use

- The Meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals originally scheduled for Wednesday, May 28 has been **CANCELLED** due to a lack of applications.
- The Athens Branch of Citizens National Bank is currently taking donations for **Nourish One Child**, a program/ministry of Keith Memorial UMC, which provides weekly food bags to the children of Athens City Schools who would otherwise go an entire weekend without a meal.

### Items requested include:

- NutriGrain Bars (any flavor and store brand is fine)
- Easy Mac individual packs or cups
- Vienna Sausage
- Individual packs of oatmeal/grits
- Fruit cups

With your help, we can make sure a child does not go hungry over a weekend. Donations will be collected through July 31. Donations may be dropped off in the bank lobby at 1305 Decatur Pike, Athens.

**BANKING  
MADE  
PERSONAL**

**The Credit  
Union Touch**

**Bowater  
Credit Union**  
Own Your Financial Future



**VISIT US TODAY FOR GREAT FINANCING RATES!**



109 Congress Pkwy N  
Athens, TN 37303  
(423) 745-1302  
[dooleytractorcompany.com](http://dooleytractorcompany.com)

KCDA-24-152107-4





Monday, May 19, 2025

Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

## Southern Homes holds town hall connecting realtors with area leaders



**Southern Homes**, a premier real estate and property management company serving the greater Athens area, is pleased to announce a successful Town Hall meeting designed exclusively for McMinn County realtors.

This crucial event provided a unique platform for real estate professionals to directly engage with key city, county, and state officials on matter impacting the housing market and broader community.

This 2.5-hour event offered McMinn realtors an invaluable opportunity to voice their concerns, ask pertinent questions, and gain firsthand insights into upcoming policies, development projects, and legislative updates.

### Leadership Attendees included:

**McMinn County Mayor**, John Gentry  
**State Representative**, Mark Cochran  
**State Senator**, Adam Lowe  
**McMinn County Assessor of Property**, Keith Price  
**Athens Community Dev. Director**, Anthony Casteel  
**Dir. of the Athens Chamber of Commerce**, Rob Preston  
**MCED Tourism Director**, Brianna Baker  
**MCED Office and Event Coordinator**, Aryn Stewart  
**River Countiess Assn. of Realtors (RCAR) CEO**, Michael Parent

The agenda featured an opening address from each official, followed by a moderated question-and-answer session. This format allowed realtors to submit questions in advance, that Moderator, Radley K. Lockmiller then presented to the officials. The questions addressed specific issues related to zoning regulations, tax maps, soil scientist and septic permits, and other factors influencing the local real estate landscape.

“Collaboration between realtors and local government is paramount in allowing us to support and aid our clients in this local market,” said Amy Elkins, owner of Southern Homes and Southern

Events. “Realtors recognize the vital role we play in our community’s growth and development. We designed this Town Hall to foster a stronger understanding of our local officials and what they do, while benefiting both professionals in our business and the residents we serve.”

This event, held at Southern Events, was free and exclusively for licensed real estate agents operating in the Athens and McMinn County area. Southern Homes is committed to facilitating meaningful connections within the real estate industry and strives to provide a space for valuable resources to be obtained within the community and plans to host future events and additional educational opportunities for McMinn County real estate professionals. This Town Hall meeting underscores that commitment by creating a direct line of communication between realtors and the decision-makers shaping the future of Athens and the surrounding area. Amy Elkins said, “We were thrilled to see the excitement and participation from so many of our local real estate peers.”

Radley K. Lockmiller, Southern Homes agent and RCAR President-Elect added, “It was great to see the majority of our local real estate firms represented at the meeting. As we all work together to grow, learn, and gain knowledge of our local market, our community and industry each benefit greatly!”

*Source: Amy Elkins, Broker/Owner - Southern Homes*

# COMMUNITY REVIVAL

## May 18-23

May 18	6:00 pm
May 19-23	7:00 pm

### Preachers

Pastor Donnie Dalton - Mt. Verd  
Pastor Chad Oody - Freedom  
Pastor Michael McLemore - 411 Chapel  
Pastor Alex Cain - Calvary  
Pastor Jeremy Sneed - Rockview  
Pastor Jeff Waldrop - Grace

### Community Choir Singing

## MOUNT VERD BAPTIST CHURCH

252 County Road 249, Athens  
For More Info: (423) 506-4052



## Compassionate Service in Your Time of Need

In times of grief, making difficult decisions about how best to honor the memory of someone so important can be overwhelming. We are here to help with complete, professional and compassionate funeral planning services to meet your needs and respectfully celebrate the life and legacy of your loved one.

# Ziegler Funeral Home

521 W. Madison Avenue • Athens, TN

423-745-3123

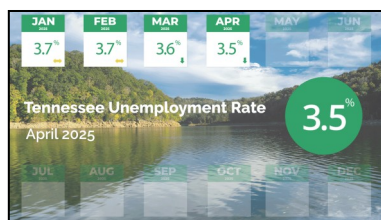
[www.zieglerfuneralhome.com](http://www.zieglerfuneralhome.com)

Monday, May 19, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

## Tennessee Jobless Rate Drops Again; Youth Employment Program Gears Up for Summer



3.5%, down from 3.6% in March. Although slightly higher than last year's 3.2%, it remains well below the national average of 4.2%.

State officials report that employers have added **24,000 jobs** over the past year, with the most growth in **government, leisure and hospitality, and trade, transportation, and utilities**. Between March and April alone, Tennessee saw an increase of **8,600 non-farm jobs**.

## Morning Fax

Today's News. This Morning.

As summer approaches, thousands of Tennessee youths are also preparing to enter the workforce. The state's **Youth Employment Program (YEP)** is now accepting participants aged **14 to 24**, offering paid opportunities of up to **\$3,500** to gain job experience and explore potential careers. Last year, nearly **5,000 young people** took part in the program, and demand is expected to be even higher this summer. For more information or to apply for YEP, visit [yepn.com](http://yepn.com).

## Obituaries

**Katherine "Memaw" Ann Nelson**, 87 of Athens, passed away on Friday, May 16. Memaw found joy in the simple pleasures of life. The family would like to extend their special thanks to Amedisys Hospice for all their love and support. A Visitation will be held at Companion Funeral Home of Athens on Thursday, May 22 from 3:00-4:00pm, with the Funeral Service beginning at 4:00pm. Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the Nelson family with these arrangements.

**We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, sports results or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to: [wyxiradio@gmail.com](mailto:wyxiradio@gmail.com)**

**@THEMORNINGFAX ON X (TWITTER)**

*Never Miss an Update!*  
*Don't forget to*

**SUBSCRIBE**



**You're Invited to a Community Services Program!**



The City of Niota in Partnership with SETHRA invites you to attend an informative program for what is available to you as a citizen of our community.

**Benefits include help with: Food, Utilities, Rent, Transportation, Home Repair and more!**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 21**  
**THE NIOTA DEPOT**  
**1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**