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Tuesday, May 20, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

McMinn Regional Humane Society Welcomes New Executive Director Brian Morgan



The McMinn Regional Humane Society (MRHS) has named Athens native **Brian Morgan** as its new Executive Director, effective the week of May 26. **Morning Fax** Today's News. This Morning.

Morgan, a business and accounting professional with a degree from Tennessee Wesleyan University, brings extensive leadership experience in the automotive and transportation industries. Known for his strong background in financial strategy and organizational operations, he is committed to making a positive impact through purpose-driven work.

A lifelong resident of Athens, Morgan is deeply invested in community service. His dedication to giving back, solving problems, and supporting grassroots efforts stood out to the MRHS Board as they searched for the right leader to guide the organization forward.

"Brian brings not only valuable experience and leadership, but also a heartfelt passion for animal welfare and a deep commitment to our community," said MRHS Board President Victoria Owen. "I'm excited for what lies ahead and confident that together we'll make an even greater impact." Owen, who has volunteered with MRHS for seven years, added, "This organization saved me. It gave me purpose, connection and the chance to be part of something truly meaningful."

Longtime volunteer and former Board President Sheila Chesanow echoed the enthusiasm: "So happy to have an Executive Director joining our team. This has been a long and thoughtful process... it's incredible to be in this place."

Outside of work, Morgan enjoys kayaking, camping, exploring local food spots, and cheering on baseball—often with family and friends by his side. MRHS invites the community to join in welcoming Brian Morgan as he begins this new chapter in leadership.

LISTENING REMINDER: TODAY on *Main Street Moments*: Host Maggie Blaine invites **Frank Clark** to discuss his role in opening Blue Front Coffee Co. The broadcast will be aired at 8:15 a.m. TODAY on WYXI RADIO: AM-1390 and FM-94.5.



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Etowah Splash Pad Closed After Soap Incident Damages System



The City of Etowah has temporarily closed its splash pad after an incident on Sunday, May 18, in which someone poured an entire bottle of dish soap into the water system.

City officials initially described the act as vandalism, though the intent behind it remains unclear.

While it may appear harmless on the surface, the addition of soap to the system can cause serious mechanical issues.

"This may seem minor, but it is not," the city stated. "It's very damaging to the pump system."

As a result, the splash pad will remain closed until further notice while the system is fully drained, flushed multiple times, and necessary repairs are completed.

City staff are urging residents to respect public spaces to ensure everyone can enjoy them safely.

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Athens Road Closures

The City of Athens Public Works Department announces the following street closures:

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Monday, May 19 - Friday, May 23 7pm - 6am: **Madison Avenue & Washington Avenue** from Cook Dr. to Green St. Construction crews will be milling the asphalt road surface. Due to the road surface being milled from curb to curb, there will be **NO PARKING ALLOWED** on Madison Ave and Washington Avenue during those hours. Vehicles parked in the path of the milling contractor may be towed.

Saturday, May 31 from 4 am until 4:30 pm: **Keith Lane** from Prof Powers Lane to Cedar Springs Road, **Crestway Drive** from McMinn Avenue to Matlock Avenue, and **Gideon Street** from Boaz Street to Keith Lane. The purpose of this closure is for the Soap Box Derby event.

For more information, please contact the Office of the Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.

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May 18-23

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

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Athens, Tennessee

Cleveland State: First in Family to Graduate, Rudy Coronado Launches Tech Career

Rudy Coronado made history this May as the first in his family to earn a college degree, graduating from Cleveland State Community College with a degree in mechatronics. While studying, he interned at Mueller Company through the school's Advanced Technologies Institute, where he gained hands-on experience in industrial maintenance.


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"I didn't really know what I wanted to do, but I knew that technology will always grow," said Coronado.

As part of a team capstone project, Coronado helped build a claw machine to demonstrate the fun side of mechatronics. He credited teamwork, mentorship, and his internship for shaping his success.

Now employed at ALPHA SafeNet in Chattanooga, Coronado designs road construction safety devices and continues to help manage his family's business, Chihuahua's Tortillas and Bakery. His long-term goal: grow the business and give his parents a well-earned retirement.

"I am thankful that Cleveland State gave me the opportunity to get a degree and gain experience," he said. "You can't beat that."



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Athens, Tennessee

Athens AYSO 10 U Girls Win Tournament



This past weekend the AYSO Region 612 U10 girls team the "Crazy Kickers" won the 2025 Area 5B Games Championship after going undefeated during their regular season. They came ready to win, and shut out every team they played in the tournament with the final game going 3-0. They ended the season having scored 64 goals and only giving up 10, with every member of the team scoring. Members of the team include: Gabby Thomas, Linden Coker, Prudence Vincil, Parker Vincil, Reagan Lawson, Kazryne Robinson, Allie Durham, Emily Millsaps. Not pictured Gracie Atkinson. Coached by Andrew Millsaps and Alicia Durham. *Source: Andrew Millsaps*

Obituaries

Loys Hubert (L.H.) Wright, 86 of Riceville, passed away on Saturday, May 17. He was a faithful member of Solid Rock Baptist Church and was a former employee of Pioneer Furniture. The family will receive friends Wednesday, May 21 at Ziegler Funeral Home from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM. A funeral service will follow at 7:00 PM. Graveside services will be 11:00 AM, Thursday, May 22 at Eastanallee Cemetery. Family and friends will assemble at Ziegler Funeral Home at 10:00 AM to proceed to the cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Loy Hubert (L.H.) Wright.

Michael Ray Cline, 53 of Niota, passed away on Sunday, May 18. He was a mechanic and enjoyed all types of cars, especially Corvettes. The family will have a memorial service at a later date. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Michael Ray "Mikey" Cline.

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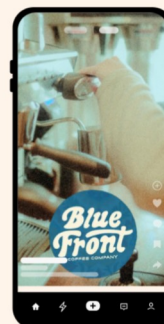
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