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Wednesday, August 27, 2025

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Athens Firefighters Rescue 8 Pets from House Fire



At approximately 3:24 p.m. on August 25, 2025, the Athens Fire Department (AFD) was dispatched to a reported structure fire on Brentwood Drive. Upon arrival, Battalion 2 immediately established command of the scene. The first arriving engine reported that the rear of the home was fully engulfed, with flames breaching the roofline. A full page was sent, and Tri-State Mutual Aid was activated to provide support and backfill coverage at AFD's city stations. The Athens Utilities Board also responded to safely disconnect the power to the structure and surrounding areas, allowing firefighters to combat the blaze without risk. Firefighters conducted an aggressive fire attack to contain the blaze. While the home sustained significant fire and water damage, all occupants were able to escape safely and without injury. In addition, AFD personnel successfully rescued three dogs and five cats from

the residence. AFD Fire Chief, Brandon Ainsworth, commended the efforts of responding crews, stating: "Quick response and aggressive fire operations by our firefighters prevented the incident from becoming much worse." AFD's thoughts and prayers go out to the families affected by this fire. The Athens Fire Department would like to extend our appreciation to the following agencies for their invaluable assistance: Athens Police Department — for scene control and support. AMR - for providing firefighter rehab. Athens Rural Fire, Englewood Fire, Madisonville Fire, and Rice-

◆ Tomorrow on *Hope From the Well*, host **Julie Tillis** invites Sharon Pierce to the show. *Hope From the Well* is heard every Thursday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

ville Fire - for their mutual aid response. An investigation into the cause of the fire is underway.

Source: AFD Facebook / Chief Brandon Ainsworth



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"When school is in session."

Time: 11am-1:30pm

Location: Sherman Dining Hall

204 E College Street, Athens TN 37303

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Wednesday, August 27, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

Athens Street Closures Planned on White Street for Storefront Remodel



The City of Athens Public Works Department has announced temporary closures on White Street to allow for a storefront remodel.

Parking spaces **112, 113, and 114**, along with the sidewalk on White Street from **Madison Avenue to Bank Street**, will be closed beginning at **7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 27, 2025**. The closures are expected to remain in place until **6:30 p.m. on Friday, September 5, 2025**.

City officials urge motorists to use caution in the area, follow detour and traffic control signs, and watch for pedestrians and work crews. Drivers are also advised to allow extra travel time to account for possible delays.

For more information, contact Athens Public Works at **423-744-2745**.

Source: Debbie Goins, Athens Public Works Dept.

Community News You Can Use

- The City of Athens Public Works Department has announced holiday closures for **Monday, September 1**, in observance of **Labor Day**. The Athens Municipal Building, Public Works, Recycle Center, and Animal Shelter will all be closed and will reopen on **Tuesday, September 2** during regular business hours. **Residential garbage normally collected on Monday will instead be picked up Tuesday, September 2**. All other residential routes will remain on their regular schedule. Commercial and industrial routes will be collected on a limited basis. **Emergency services will continue to operate 24/7**. For more information, contact Athens Public Works at **423-744-2745**.
- McMinn County Veteran's Service Office will be having an Open House on Friday, August 29th from 10:00 AM to 2:00PM at their office. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.
- McMinn County will observe *International Overdose Awareness Day* on **Sunday, Aug. 31**, from **3-6 p.m.** at the **Market Park Pavilion in Downtown Athens**. The event includes music, vendors, a free meal, guest speakers, a proclamation by Sheriff Joe Guy, and a memorial butterfly release. More at overdoseday.com.

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Wednesday, August 27, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

Hospice of Chattanooga Celebrates New Athens Location with Ribbon Cutting



The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce recently hosted a ribbon cutting for **Hospice of Chattanooga**, celebrating the opening of its new office at **1852 Decatur Pike in Athens**.

Community members, staff, and friends joined the Chamber in welcoming the organization to its new location.

Free Meal & Pickin' Party at the Athens Arts Center on Sept. 2

Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA) is hosting a Pickin' Party on Tuesday, September 2, for anyone and everyone to enjoy a community meal and a Bluegrass Jam by Doug Purdy, Buddy McClary, Ralph Jones, Keith Hall, Don Goode, and Stacy Everett. Dinner catered by Biscuit NV begins at 5:30 PM and the music starts at 7:00 PM in the Sue E. Trotter Black Box Theater at The Arts Center.

Doug Purdy is one of the faithful musicians who have hosted the Thursday Night Jams at Mexi-Wing Downtown for more than twenty years, and a familiar performer in the Bluegrass circuit.

Within twenty-four hours, Purdy assembled a band for the Pickin' Party at The Arts Center. Brown and Purdy joked that they would call the group Doug Purdy & The Four County Bluegrass Band, though it should be noted these musicians play for the love of music and to preserve traditional Bluegrass – they don't have an official band name. The fictional band name comes from the fact that four counties are represented in this six-piece band.

Doug Purdy, who plays stand-up bass, is a retired EK Baker Principal from McMinn County. The rhythm guitar player, Ralph Jones, is also a retired educator from McMinn County who was a long-time PE teacher at Etowah City School. Buddy McClary, on mandolin, is a retired principal from Benton. Representing Meigs County is Don Goode, a private string instrument instructor who will play fiddle for this show. Stacy Everett is the only member of the group who is not retired. Everett is from Charleston, works for Olin, and leads music for his church.

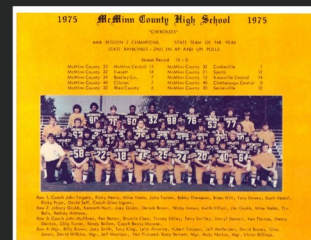
This group will play two forty-five-minute sets with music selected by each member that will primarily consist of traditional Bluegrass and Gospel selections. The Arts Center doesn't ever throw a party without food, so the evening begins with a free meal catered by Biscuit NV at 5:30 PM.

LABOR DAY CLEARANCE SALE



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Wednesday, August 27, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

8-25-25

Angela Buckner, 56 of Niota, charged with DUI. Bond \$1000

Taylor Lips, 30 of Etowah charged with domestic assault. Bond \$1,000

Kimberly Randolph, 45 of Athens, charged with violation of state probation for possession of meth for resale.

Regina Duff, 54 of Englewood, charged with violation of probation for possession of drug paraphernalia and driving on a suspended license. Bond \$1,200

Amanda Johnson, 45, of Athens, charged with failure to appear for schedule VI drugs. Bond \$2,000

Lisa Wilcox, 27 of Athens, charged with resisting stop, violation of probation for DUI, evading arrest, reckless driving, driving on a revoked license, driving without due care, traffic violations, assault - nondomestic, aggravated criminal trespassing, and vandalism. Bond \$27,259

Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered using Public Sources.

Obituaries

Linda Sue Breashears Goodman, 79 of Athens, passed away on Sunday, August 24 at Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens. She worked for 35 years as Administrative Secretary for the State of TN. The Goodman family will receive friends at Companion Funeral Home - Athens, on Wednesday, August 27 from 5-7 p.m. followed by a funeral service at 7 p.m. Burial will be the following day, Thursday, August 28 at 11 a.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church Cemetery located in Loudon, TN. Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the Goodman family with these arrangements.

William "Buster" David Henry Jr., 58 of Meigs Co., passed away on Friday, August 22. A Celebration of Life will be held on a later date at Riverside IGA in Ten Mile, Tennessee, where family and friends are invited to share memories, stories, and fellowship in his honor. Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the Goodman family with these arrangements.

Saundra Sue Efaw, 80 of Athens, passed away on Sunday, June 22. Saundra began her career with the United States Postal Service in Florida and, after many dedicated years of service, retired in Tennessee. Fulfilling Saundra's wishes, she wanted to be cremated, and her family will gather privately at a later date to celebrate her life. Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Athens, TN, and the Cody family are honored to serve the Efaw family during this time.

Anna Woods, 86 of Tellico Plains, passed away Monday, August 25. Funeral service will be held at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, August 28 in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Thursday prior to the service. Family and friends will assemble at Sunrise Cemetery Friday, August 29th for the 11:00 a.m. committal service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

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ANNUAL TITLE 1 PARENT MEETING

Thursday, August 28th
6:00 p.m.

Please join us for the Annual Title 1 Parent Meeting where we will discuss:

- What are the district and school goals?
- What is Title 1?
- What is Family Engagement?
- Resources available
- How can I get involved?



Family Night
Book Fair
5:00-6:00



Meet
the Teacher
Family Night
6:30 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

WEEK
OF
AUG. 25



McMinn Central vs. Eagleton

THURSDAY, AUG. 28 @ 7 PM
@ EAGLETON (MARYVILLE)



McMinn vs. Cleveland

FRIDAY, AUG. 29 @ 7 PM
@ McMinn (Athens)



Walker Valley vs. Bradley Central

FRIDAY, AUG. 29 @ 7 PM
@ Walker Valley (Cleveland)



Meigs Co. vs. E. Hamilton

FRIDAY, AUG. 29 @ 7 PM
@ E. Hamilton (Ooltewah)



Sequoyah vs. Tellico Plains

FRIDAY, AUG. 29 @ 7:30 PM
@ Sequoyah (Madisonville)



Polk Co. vs. Marion Co.

FRIDAY, AUG. 29 @ 8 PM
@ Marion Co. (Jasper)