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Cleveland State Nursing Graduates Earn 100% Pass Rate on National Exam

Cleveland State
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Cleveland State Community College's Nursing Program is celebrating an impressive milestone as its 2025 spring graduates achieved a 100% pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX). The achievement includes students from both the Day Sequence and LPN to

RN Bridge Sequence programs.

The NCLEX is a national exam required for nursing graduates to obtain licensure and ensure they are prepared to safely and effectively practice as registered nurses. The Tennessee State Board of Nursing requires accredited programs to maintain at least an 80% pass rate for first-time test takers, making Cleveland State's results especially noteworthy.

Cleveland State's Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing prepares students for employment as registered nurses in hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare settings. The two-year program offers both day and evening classes, with over 40 students currently enrolled in the day sequence and 25 in the evening sequence. The college also offers a spring bridge program for licensed practical nurses seeking to advance their careers.

Students gain hands-on experience through classroom instruction, skills training, and clinical rotations at local health-care facilities, supported by the college's state-of-the-art simulation lab.

For more information about Cleveland State's Nursing Program, visit clevelandstatecc.edu, email nursing@clevelandstatecc.edu, or call (423) 478-6228.

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TN WESLEYAN SUNDAY LUNCH IS BACK

Start your Sunday off right with our delicious and decadent Sunday Lunch on the TN Wesleyan Campus! Join us for a wide variety of lunch classics and new favorites to satisfy your cravings. Served all you care to eat style!

Date: Every Sunday
"When school is in session."
Time: 11am-1:30pm
Location: Sherman Dining Hall
204 E College Street, Athens TN 37303

Scan and select the upcoming Sunday from the lunch meal period.




f
TWUDINE



Combine Fire Burns Cornfield in Etowah Sunday Afternoon



A farm equipment fire in Etowah Sunday afternoon destroyed a combine and scorched about an acre of a cornfield before being brought under control by local fire crews.

The blaze occurred around 3:30 p.m. near the intersection of County Roads 789 and 785, when a 2008 International Harvester combine caught fire due to a defective ball bearing, according to officials.

Firefighters from the Etowah Rural Fire Department, Claxton Fire Department, and Englewood Rural Fire Department responded to the scene. Lt. Austin Hancock with Etowah Rural Fire was in command of operations.

No injuries were reported, and firefighters were able to prevent the flames from spreading further into the field.

Photos courtesy of Etowah Rural FD

Athens Community Theatre Announces Auditions for *Proof*

Athens Community Theatre (ACT) is excited to announce auditions for the Tony Award winning play, *Proof*, by David Auburn, directed by Autumn N. Lowry, Sunday and Monday, January 11 & 12 at 6:00 PM at The Arts Center. Show dates for *Proof* are March 26 - 29, 2026.

Director Autumn N. Lowry needs four experienced actors ages 18 and older for this play. One notable role is Catherine, a woman approaching her 25th birthday. Any actor auditioning for this role will need to be able to play a 25 year old woman and feel confident they can memorize a lot of lines. All actors auditioning should note that with a cast this small, everyone will get a lot of stage time and have a lot of lines! Auditionees should come prepared to read from the script and be able to take simple direction. Anyone who wants to help with the production in any capacity should attend auditions.

Everyone interested in being a part of the show will need to bring work, school, and family schedules for January 13 - March 30, 2026.



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Athens, Tennessee

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Athens, Tennessee

Volunteer Fire Departments Can Apply for State Wildland Firefighting Grants

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry is now accepting applications for the 2025 Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) program through October 31, 2025. The program provides wildland fire suppression kits to help strengthen volunteer fire departments' firefighting capabilities.

Last year, the Division awarded \$165,000 in federal funds to supply 85 volunteer fire departments across Tennessee with kits valued at about \$3,000 each, which include protective gear, tools, and equipment. The 2025 kits will be distributed in February 2026.

Eligible departments must serve communities with populations under 10,000 and have a current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Division of Forestry dated after June 30, 2019.

Applications and additional information are available at www.tn.gov/tnwildlandfire/suppression/vfa.

ACMS Girls Soccer Team Makes History

ACMS Girls Soccer team has made history! They are one of the four teams headed to the Class AA TMSAA state soccer tournament. ACMS won the Section 1-AA game 6-0 against Tennessee Middle Saturday in Johnson City. ACMS improved its record to 15-0 while only allowing three goals all season. The state tournament takes place at Brentwood High School, and the Lady Cougars begin play in the tournament 10 a.m. CDT (11 EDT) Thursday against North Middle from Winchester (Franklin County). Come to the ACMS turf field to cheer them on as they load the bus for Brentwood Wednesday [today]. Be there around 12:45pm for their departure at 1:00pm.

Photo Credit: Alicia Durham





PUMPKINTOWN

Athens, Tennessee

Scott Crisp Memorial PowWow

Live entertainment on 3 stages

Mayfield Farm Park

Corn Maze

Pumpkin Plinko

Hiking for Healing Live Auction

McMinn County Living Heritage Museum's 41st Annual Quilt Show

USS Ware Brick Ceremony

MRHS Mutt Strutt & Adopt-a-thon

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WWW.FRIENDLYCITYFESTIVALS.COM





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[at clearwaterbc.org/upward](http://clearwaterbc.org/upward)

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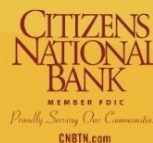
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Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

10-06-25

Adam Reeves, 52 of Athens, charged with public intoxication, Bond \$2,000

Christopher Carroll, 24 of Riceville, charged with domestic assault, Bond \$1,000 bond.

Joshua Lucas, 35 of Athens, charged with Schedule II fentanyl for resale that resulted in death, Schedule II resale in a drug free zone, drug paraphernalia, and false reports to an officer, Bond \$250,000

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

Obituaries

Nancy Lynn France, 69 of Athens, passed away on Thursday, October 2. She is preceded in death by her parents: W.C. and Helen May France; brothers: W.C. France III and John France. A Graveside Service will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, October 10 in the Meigs County Memorial Gardens. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the France family.

J.L. Porter, 73 of Spring City, passed away on Saturday, October 4. J.L. was an avid outdoorsman who had a passion for fishing and hunting and he especially enjoyed following Major League Fishing (MLF). He was a devoted member of New Hope Baptist Church in Spring City. A Visitation will be held on Monday October 13, 2025 from 1:00pm - 2:00pm at Companion Funeral Home in Athens. Following the Visitation, the Graveside Service will be at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Ten Mile. Companion Funeral Home of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the family with these arrangements.

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