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Historical Marker Dedicated to Gov. DeWitt Senter

Community News You Can Use



The McMinn County Historical Society and Archives held a dedication ceremony for the new Tennessee Historical

- The City of Athens Board of Zoning Appeals meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday, June 24 has been cancelled as there were no applications submitted.
- The Meigs Decatur Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon cutting on Friday, June 26 at noon for the newly remodeled Bargain Book Sale Building at 207 Sharon Street, Decatur. The facility, renovated by the Meigs Decatur Friends of the Library, will offer gently used books and puzzles to support library programs. Regular hours: Tuesdays & Fridays, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Commission marker honoring Gov. DeWitt Senter, now installed at the corner of State Highway 305 and County Road 220.

Senter, born in 1830 in the Pond Hill community of McMinn County, later moved with his family to northeast Tennessee and went on to serve in the state legislature, including a term as Speaker of the Senate. He served as

Tennessee's governor from 1869 to 1871, leading the state through the tense post-Civil War period. The Tennessee Constitution of 1870, still in effect today, was adopted during his administration. Senter died in 1898 at his Hamblen County farm.

A photo from the ceremony shows the marker surrounded by local officials and Historical Society members. Photo identification, left to right: MCHSA Secretary Jason Wright; MCHSA Vice President Mark Brown; County Mayor John Gentry; MCHSA President Tyler L. Boyd; MCHSA board member Laura Lenoir; MCHSA Treasurer Esther Nunley; State Rep. Mark Cochran; and State Sen. Adam Lowe.



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Tuesday, June 23, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Suspect in June 17 Athens Shooting Turns Himself In

WANTED
ATTEMPTED MURDER

CORNELIUS RAESHAUN HURST
18 YEARS OLD
OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE

IN CUSTODY

Cornelius Raeshaun Hurst is wanted in connection with a shooting incident that occurred on June 17, 2026, at the McMinn Village Apartments in Athens, Tennessee.

According to the investigation, Hurst allegedly fired a rifle toward a group of individuals, striking one person. He is currently wanted on charges of:

ATTEMPTED FIRST-DEGREE MURDER
and
MULTIPLE COUNTS OF RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT

Anyone with information regarding the whereabouts of Cornelius Raeshaun Hurst is urged to contact:

Athens Police Department (423) 744-2730 | McMinn County Dispatch (423) 745-3222

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO APPROACH OR APPREHEND THIS INDIVIDUAL. IF YOU SEE HIM, CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY.

All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

An Athens teenager wanted in connection with a June 17 shooting at McMinn Village Apartments is now in custody after turning himself in at the McMinn County Justice Center, authorities confirmed.

According to the Athens Police Department, 18-year-old Cornelius Raeshaun Hurst had been sought on charges including attempted first-degree murder and multiple counts of reckless endangerment. Investigators say Hurst allegedly fired a rifle toward a group of individuals during the incident, injuring one person.

Police had issued a public notice asking for assistance in locating Hurst, but officials say he voluntarily surrendered and is now being held as the investigation continues. Anyone with additional information related to the case is encouraged to contact the Athens Police Department or McMinn County Dispatch.

Source: [City of Athens PD](#)

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST EVENTS AT YOUR ARTS CENTER

JUKEBOX LOUNGE

FRIDAY Aug 14

Hear local singers give a new spin to popular favorites with arrangements by Wendel Werner.

MEAN GIRLS

FRIDAY-SUNDAY Aug 21 - 30

Tony-Award winning musical based on the movie by Tina Fey. Rated PG-13

TICKETS GO ON SALE JULY 17

320 N. White Street
athensartscenter.org



Maggie's
250th
BIRTHDAY BASH

LEMONADE STAND!

GAMES AND FACE PAINTING!

FREE BIRTHDAY CAKE ICE CREAM!

AND MORE!

June 23rd
3:00-5:00 pm

AT THE VISITOR'S CENTER
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McMinn County Arrest Reports

Obituaries

June 13, 2026

Christopher Robinson, 40 of Athens, charged with possession of meth, schedule 6 marijuana, drug paraphernalia, and public intoxication, Bond \$52,500.

Robert McCowan, 48 of Rossville, Georgia, charged with violation of probation for theft, Bond \$959.45.

Laura Tudor, 39 of Englewood, charged with driving on a revoked license, and resisting stop, Bond \$25,000.

Jacqueline Harris, 57 of Etowah, charged with theft of property, simple possession casual exchange, drug paraphernalia, and violation of probation in Monroe County, Bond \$11,838.50.

Travis Orr, 38 of Athens, charged with violation of probation for paraphernalia, and failure to appear for driving on a revoked license, Bond \$4,484.70.

Gilbert Peeler, 48 of Riceville, charged with DUI, simple possession casual exchange of marijuana, and violation of implied consent law.

Freddie Vann, 27 of Athens, charged with shoplifting, theft of property, drug paraphernalia, and possession of legend drugs, Bond \$7,500.

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

Damion Burke, 50, passed away on Saturday June 20, 2026 in a local Cleveland Health care facility. Survivors and funeral arrangements to be announced. M.D. Dotson & Sons in charge of arrangements.

Geraldine "Geri" Touchet, 83, of Etowah passed away on Saturday, June 20. Viewing will be held at 12:00 p.m., on Friday, June 26 in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. Graveside services will be held at 3:00 p.m., Friday, June 26 at Green Hill Cemetery. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Hubert "Hubie" John Shaw, 79, of Englewood passed away on Friday, June 19. Hubert honorably served his country as a Sergeant in Germany during the Vietnam War. Following his military service, he dedicated over 30 years to DuPont as an electrician before continuing his career at Watts Bar, where he later retired. A visitation will be held on Thursday, June 25, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Companion Funeral Home of Athens. Companion Funeral Home of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist with these arrangements.

Nellie "Faye" Melton, 83, of Athens, passed away on Friday, June 19 at her residence. She was of the Baptist faith. In accordance with her wishes, there will be no formal services. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is honored to be entrusted with these arrangements.



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