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MEDIC Partners with Dollywood for Summer Donation Incentive

MEDIC SPECIAL EVENT
REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER
APPOINTMENT ONLY
While Supplies Last
Schedule your appointment at Medicblood.org.
July 20 - 24

MEDIC Regional Blood Center is launching a special summer promotion July 20–24, offering Dollywood tickets to donors who complete a successful blood donation during the event week. The partnership aims to boost the regional blood supply during one of the most challenging times of the year.

Kristy Altman, MEDIC’s Vice President of Communications and PR, said the Dollywood collaboration helps stabilize inventory when summer demand is high. “This promotion stabilizes the blood supply during the heat of summer and allows us to have products on the shelf for our hospitals, including Dolly Parton’s Children’s Hospital, through the end of the summer season,” Altman said.

Dollywood leaders echoed that support. Carol Agee, Senior Manager of Community Affairs and Philanthropy, noted that MEDIC’s work directly impacts families across East Tennessee. “They play a critical role in saving lives and supporting our local hospitals. Through this promotion, Dollywood can also be a part of the great work that they do across our region,” she said.

The Dollywood ticket incentive applies only to donors with a successful donation; deferred donors will receive an alternate gift. Due to high demand, appointments are required, and walk-ins cannot be accommodated.

Donors may schedule through the Athens Donor Center at 423-453-5846, visit medicblood.org/donate, use the MEDIC donor app, or book directly through the appointment portal: [MEDIC Appointment Link](#).

MEDIC serves 24 hospitals across 23 counties, providing blood products for emergency care, surgeries, cancer treatments, and trauma response. More information is available at medicblood.org.

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GoComics

McMinn County Living Heritage Museum
Upcoming Summer Events
HERITAGE SCHOOL:
THE HISTORY OF SQUIRRELS AS PETS & SQUIRREL REHAB WITH KATIE KINNEAR OF MARSHALL CREEK WILDLIFE REHAB SATURDAY, JULY 11TH @ 11:00 AM
SCOTCH DARNING WITH APRIL GREER SATURDAY, JULY 18TH @ 11:00
HERITAGE SCHOOL IS \$5 EACH OR FREE WITH MEMBERSHIP
HISTORY FOR LUNCH:
THE HISTORY OF DRAGGING CANOE WITH JOE GUY THURSDAY, JULY 23RD @ NOON
FREE ADMISSION
Programs sponsored by C. Scott & Muriel S. Mayfield Family Foundation, Tennessee Arts Commission, Hugh M. Willson Family Foundation, and City of Athens
Museum Hours:
Tuesday - Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM
Saturday: 10 AM - 1 PM
Sunday - Monday: Closed
Admission:
Adults: \$5.00
Senior 60+: \$3.00
Students: \$3.00
More Information
522 W Madison Ave.
Athens, TN 37303
423-745-0329
www.livingheritagemuseum.org
SEE WEBSITE FOR FULL PROGRAM INFORMATION

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Thursday, July 09, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Carlex Glass to Close Vonore Plant in September 2026

Carlex Glass America will close its Vonore manufacturing plant by September 2026, part of a restructuring that includes a major expansion in Nashville. The facility employs 325 workers, and the company says it will offer reassignment opportunities, career-transition help, résumé support, and continued benefits during the process.

Company leadership said the move reflects a shift in its manufacturing footprint and emphasized that Tennessee remains central to its long-term plans. Operations will continue through the closure, and Carlex expects no disruption in service.

Carlex invested more than \$37 million in the Vonore plant during a 2015 expansion. The automotive glass manufacturer also operates facilities in Nashville; Auburn and Ligonier, Indiana; Lebanon, Tennessee; and Troy, Michigan. *Source: WATE.com*

Good Faith Clinic Open TODAY



The Good Faith Clinic will be open **TODAY**, Thursday, July 9 at 3 p.m. for refills and doctor visits. Test Results will be provided beginning at 3:45 p.m.

The Good Faith Clinic is free primary health care for residents of McMinn and Meigs counties, ages of 18-64, who do not have any form of medical insurance, including TennCare. The clinic meets on the campus of Christ Community Church at 18 S Congress Parkway in Athens.

REMINDER: The Good Faith Clinic is open the 2nd, 4th, and 5th, Thursdays of each month.

Source: Norma Barham, Good Faith Clinic



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Thursday, July 09, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

July 7, 2026

Rex Tallent, 22 of Athens, charged with reckless driving, reckless endangerment, DUI, and implied consent law, Bond \$10,000.

Freddie Vann, 65, charged with public intoxication, schedule 2 meth, and theft of property under \$500, Bond \$24,000.

Emerson Hickson, 36 of Riceville, charged with schedule 2 fentanyl, drug paraphernalia, and violation of interlock device, Bond \$22,000.

Angela Buckner, 57 of Niota, charged with public intoxication.

Michael Wilson, 40 of Englewood, charged with

evading arrest, drug paraphernalia, and possession of meth, Bond \$18,000.

Brittany Hammonds, 27 of Etowah, charged with failure to appear for driving on a suspended license, Bond \$2,000.

David King, 25 of Athens, charged with violation of the sex offender registry, Bond \$10,000.

Roger Robert, 64, of Ocoee, charged with state violation of probation for 3 counts of home impersonation fraud, Bond \$2,091.

**Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.
Information gathered using public sources.**

OBITUARY

Carroll Dean Bates, age 83, best known as "Red", a loving husband, father, papaw, and friend, passed away peacefully at home on July 7, 2026. He lived his life in service to the Lord, embracing the promise that **whosoever believes** shall have everlasting life. Red was born on February 18, 1943, in Englewood, TN to the late J.C. Bates and Mellie Patterson Bates. One of Red's greatest joys was spending time in his shop woodworking and welding to create gifts and keepsakes for those he loved. He enjoyed spending time outdoors admiring God's creation whether it was hunting in the woods, camping with his wife, or mowing the grass. Red loved singing gospel music and sharing the love of Jesus through music and song. His family was the joy of his life. He proudly served his country in the United States Army as a Field Medic from 1966 - 1968. He later retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 2002. The family will receive friends at Dixon Avenue Baptist Church in Englewood **Thursday, July 9, 2026 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm** with a service to follow. Internment with military honors will be held at Cochran Cemetery at 10 a.m. Saturday. Good Samaritan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

KIDS SEW CAMP

THE THEME IS:
YOU ARE SEW LOVED

JOHN 3:16
FOR GOD SO LOVED
THE WORLD THAT
HE GAVE HIS ONE
AND ONLY SON...

JULY 22-24

9a-12p

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Thursday, July 09, 2026

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Athens, Tennessee

Starr Regional Earns National Recognition for Rural Stroke Care



Starr Regional Medical Center's Athens and Etowah campuses have earned national recognition from the American Heart Association for improving stroke care in rural communities. Athens received the Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Rural Recognition Gold Award, while Etowah earned the Silver Award.

Rural residents face significantly higher health risks, including shorter life expectancy, a 40% greater chance of developing heart disease, and a 30% higher risk of dying from stroke, according to the Association's advisory on rural health. Stroke remains the fourth-leading cause of death in the U.S., making rapid diagnosis and treatment essential.

The awards highlight Starr Regional's performance on key early-stroke measures such as timely imaging, rapid treatment, EMS coordination, and thorough symptom documentation. Hospital leadership said the recognition reflects a long-standing effort to ensure rural patients receive the same level of care available in larger medical centers, despite challenges like longer transport times and limited staffing.

American Heart Association officials noted that improving rural stroke outcomes is critical to reducing statewide health disparities and praised Starr Regional for advancing evidence-based care in southeast Tennessee.

Source: Brandi Armstrong, Marketing & Communications, Starr Regional

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Weekdays

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Sundays

Noon - 12:30 pm

