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Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Two Juveniles Seriously Injured in Mini-Bike Collision in Etowah



Two juveniles were seriously injured late Saturday night after colliding on mini bikes at the intersection of County Roads 609 and 790 in Etowah around 10 p.m.

First responders and AMR treated both at the scene. Claxton Fire Department established a landing zone at New Bethel Church,

where one patient was transported by AMR to LifeForce and flown to Erlanger. The second juvenile was also taken to Erlanger by AMR.

Responding agencies included Etowah Rural Fire, the McMinn County Sheriff's Department, and THP Trooper Scott Freeman, who is investigating the crash.

Photo by Etowah Rural FD

Pickup Truck Crashes on Hwy 307; Driver and Toddler Uninjured



A red Dodge Ram traveling south on Highway 307 around 3 p.m. Saturday left the roadway in the 1200 block after the driver dropped off the

edge, over-corrected, crossed through a fence, and collided with a tree.

The driver and a 15-month-old passenger were not injured and refused EMS. With assistance from the property owner's tractor and Friendly City Wrecker Service, the truck was pulled back out of a field.

Trevor Howell with Niota Fire Department was in charge of the scene, and THP Trooper Chandler Lamar worked the incident. *Photo by: David Prater, Niota Rural Fire*



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Tuesday, August 11, 2026 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Sounds of Summer Presents Confederate Railroad in Concert Saturday, August 15



Friendly City Festivals announces the final concert of 2026 will feature regional favorite **Confederate Railroad**.

The concert will be held at the Lake Pavilion in the Athens Regional Park and concert goers are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets to enjoy this special evening. Gates will open at 6:30 p.m. and the performance will begin at 8:00 p.m. Admission will be \$10.00 per car and featured food trucks will be: Batter Axe Waffles, Southern Street Eats, Tennessee Pop Shop, Wild Dawgs, Sweet Stuff, Mock and Mule, Kona Ice, Nomas Snacks, Kenney's Smokehouse and Taste of China.

Confederate Railroad is an American country rock band founded in 1987 in Marietta, Georgia. After serving as a backing band for outlaw country acts David Allen Coe and Johnny Paycheck, the band signed a recording contract with Atlantic Records releasing their self-titled debut album that year. The band's debut album is certified as double platinum and their second album Notorious has also had platinum level sales. They have also had 18 singles on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts,

Sound is provided by Integrity Sound Solutions and media support by The Morning Fax, The Daily Post Athenian and the Monroe County Advocate Democrat.

This free to the public series is produced by Friendly City Festivals, a 501(c)3 subsidiary of Willsonthropic, Inc. and is made possible by the financial support of: The City of Athens Tourism Fund, McMinn County Tourism Board, Madison Avenue Pharmacy, Tennessee Overhill Association, Tennessee Arts Commission, DENSO, VEC Customer Shares, Citizens National Bank of Sevier County, Simmons National Bank, Simmons Private Wealth, Mayfield Dairy Farm, Valley Oil, Starr Regional Medical Center, Kona Ice, Warren Jackson CPAs, Athens Kiwanis Club, Athens Insurance, Pendleton's Playground, Let's Bounce Rentals, Smile More Orthodontics, The Financial Mart, REMAX Freedom Realty, KARM Stores and River Valley Health.

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Tuesday, August 11, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

August 09, 2026

James Martin, 45, in Niota, charged with attempted theft of property. Bond \$6,000.

William Luke, 51, of Athens, charged with state violation of probation for evading arrest, simple possession casual exchange of fentanyl. Bond \$25,000.

Robert Griffin, 32, Kingsley, Iowa, charged with criminal impersonation. Bond \$500.

Hannah Russell, 30, of Knoxville, charged with child abuse, neglect, nonviolent. Bond \$10,000.

vated burglary, criminal trespassing, and domestic assault. Bond \$20,000.

Byron Anderson, 45, of Cleveland, charged with simple possession, casual exchange, driving on a revoked license and drug paraphernalia.

Anthony Johnson, 40, of Riceville, charged with shoplifting, and theft of property.

Daniel Hiltz, 37, of Knoxville, charged with burglary.

Albert Compton, 44, of Englewood, charged with domestic assault and resisting arrest.

Tandy King, 49, of Calhoun, charged with aggra-

Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Information gathered using public sources.

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Obituaries

Richard Brian Cockman, 63, of Athens, passed away on Thursday, July 30. He was deeply proud of his service in the United States Navy, where he served honorably aboard the USS Independence. Following his military service, Richard channeled his profound passion for metallurgy and welding into a career as an accomplished teacher for the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT). A celebration of Richard's life will be held on Friday, August 28 at 6:00 p.m. at Keith Memorial Methodist Church in Athens. The family invites attendees to wear casual attire to honor his vibrant, down-to-earth spirit. [Companion Funeral Home & Cremation Service](#) is in charge of arrangements.

Lloyd Ross Monroe, age 86, of Athens TN., passed away Saturday, August 8, 2026 at the Chattanooga Hospice Facility. He was born in Meigs county, but a McMinn County resident most of his life. Funeral Services will be 1:00 PM, Wednesday, August 12, 2026 in the chapel of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with a graveside service to follow in Short Creek Cemetery with Rev. Jimmy Lewis officiating. The visitation will be from 12-1 PM prior to the service. [Laycock Hobbs Funeral Home](#) of Athens will be in charge of arrangements.