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2 DUDES BBQ
WEEK OF 9/27/26

MONDAY	= CLOSED =
TUESDAY	= PRIVATE EVENT =
WEDNESDAY	= CLOSED =
THURSDAY	ATHENS! EXTENDED HOURS! FAMILY DOLLAR 11AM - 7PM
FRIDAY	SWEETWATER - MAIN ST MARKETPLACE - 10:30AM - 2:30PM

Monday, September 28, 2026

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn Senior Center Receives Maximum State Grant

The McMinn County Senior Activity Center has received a \$50,000 grant from the Tennessee Department of Disability and Aging, the maximum amount available through a statewide \$5 million funding program supporting senior centers across Tennessee.

Executive Director Crystal Miller said the funding will help cover critical operating expenses, including utilities, insurance, food, phone and internet service, lawn care and senior programming.

"We got the full \$50,000 and we are very excited about that," Miller said. "It's a huge blessing to the center."

The center serves more than 600 active seniors each month through programs such as fitness classes, arts and crafts, day trips and social activities. It also provides meals to more than 200 seniors each week and offers assistance through a senior advocate program that helps older adults navigate resources such as Medicare and Medicaid.

Miller said the grant is essential to maintaining services and keeping the center operating.

Board Treasurer Shelley Calhoun said the funding will help the nonprofit avoid cutting programs despite rising costs and may allow it to expand some offerings, including evening activities and exercise opportunities.

While the grant will support day-to-day operations, Miller said the center still faces additional needs, including a roughly \$20,000 project to replace its aging lighting system. As a result, fundraising efforts will continue to help fund building improvements and other expenses not covered by the grant.

State officials said the grant program is designed to help senior centers provide programming, wellness resources and opportunities for social connections for older Tennesseans.

Source: [WATE](#)

*Member
Appreciation Day*

Thursday, October 15th, 2026



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- Honesty
- Integrity
- Civility

Monday, September 28, 2026 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Community News You Can Use

- The City of Athens Animal Shelter's intake office, adoption center and spay/neuter clinic will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 28-29, while staff attend the Tennessee Animal Care and Control Conference. Regular business hours will resume Wednesday, Sept. 30. For more information, call the City of Athens Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.
- The McMinn County Library Board will meet Monday (today) at 6 p.m. in the Community Room of the E.G. Fisher Public Library. The meeting is open to the public.
- The City of Athens Parks and Recreation Department will host a public meeting on Thursday, Oct. 8, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Southeast Tennessee Trade & Conference Center in Athens Regional Park. Residents are invited to share ideas and feedback on the city's parks master plan, which will guide park development over the next 10 to 15 years. Those unable to attend may submit comments via email by Oct. 8 to:

recreation@athenstn.gov.

Rear-End Collision Reported in Niota



A two-vehicle crash was reported Thursday afternoon at the intersection of West Willson and Staley streets in Niota.

According to authorities, a Chevrolet Z71 pickup driven by a 19-year-old female was stopped in traffic while waiting to turn onto Staley Street when it was rear-ended by a Volkswagen Passat driven by a 19-year-old male who had recently obtained his driver's license.

McMinn County EMS responded to the scene, but all occupants declined medical treatment.

The Niota Fire Department and McMinn County Sheriff's Department responded to the crash. Sgt. Zach Hawkins of the Sheriff's Department is leading the investigation. *Source: David Prater, Niota Rural FD*

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Monday, September 28, 2026 Morning Fax[®]...Today's News This Morning Page 3 Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

September 24, 2026

Travis Hicks, 39, of Athens, charged with state violation of probation.

Julio Guevara, 18, of Knoxville, charged with leaving the scene of an accident, driving without a license, and failure to have insurance. Bond \$2,000.

David Ayala, 34, of Riceville, charged with failure to appear for driving without a license. Bond \$2,000.

Aaron Hurley, 36, of Athens, charged with domestic assault. Bond \$2,000.

Nathaniel Freeman, 60, of Chattanooga, charged with shoplifting, and theft of property. Bond \$5,000.

September 25, 2026

Shannon Huff, 55, of Englewood, charged with criminal trespassing, and resisting stop. Bond \$2,000.

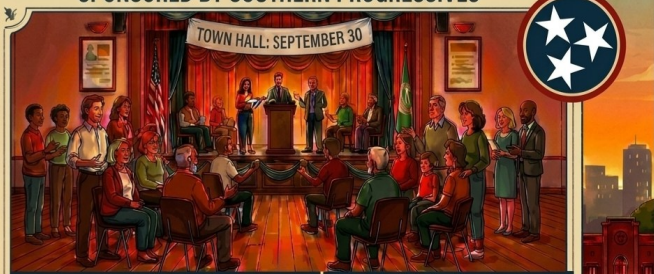
Dustin Stinnett, 37, of Sweetwater, charged with violation of parole for burglary.

Royce Holloway, 38, of Athens, charged with simple possession of schedule 2 fentanyl, drug paraphernalia, violation of registration laws, and failure to have insurance. Bond \$7,000.

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

Town Hall at the Gem Theater in Etowah TN

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Jeremy Bromwell

Jason Hitt

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Local Development

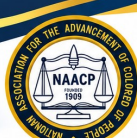
Public Safety

Parks & Recreation

Budget & Taxes

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• Connect with Local Leaders

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Thursday
October 8, 2026
6:30 PM



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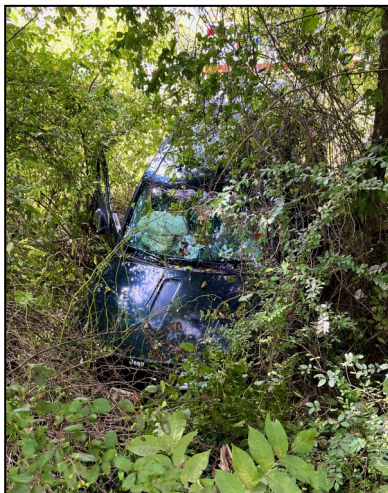
www.zieglerfuneralhome.com

Monday, September 28, 2026

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

Driver Flees After Jeep Crashes Into Embankment in Englewood



A passenger was injured Thursday afternoon after a 2006 Jeep Grand Cherokee left the roadway on County Road 561 in Englewood and crashed down an embankment into trees near a creek.

According to reports, the driver fled the scene following the crash, leaving the injured passenger inside the vehicle. AMR

personnel treated the passenger at the scene before transporting them to Turkey Creek Medical Center in Farragut.

The McMinn County Sheriff's Department and Englewood Rural Fire Department also responded to the accident. Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper Jaylon Skipper investigated the crash. *Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural FD*

Obituaries

William Mark Hayes, 61, of Decatur, passed away on Friday, September 25. Mark dedicated his life to his career as a lineman, contributing significantly to the electric industry and showcasing a strong work ethic that inspired those around him. The family will receive friends on Monday, September 28 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. A short memorial service will follow at 6 p.m. [Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services](#) is honored to serve the Hayes family.

We encourage you to e-mail us community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax.

Any items you would like us to consider, e-mail: wyradio@gmail.com

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

	VS		BRADLEY CENTRAL @ OAK RIDGE 27-47
	VS		CLEVELAND @ TYNER ACADEMY 31-27
	VS		MCMINN CENTRAL @ CUMBERLAND CO. 42-0
	VS		OOLTEWAH @ MCMINN CO. 21-55
	VS		SWEETWATER @ MEIGS CO. 21-28
	VS		BLED SOE CO. @ POLK CO. 35-0
	VS		HIXSON @ SEQUOYAH 7-13
	VS		WALKER VALLEY @ GADDY DAISY 38-15

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