

**MCMINN  
TANK & PIPE**

We offer same day & next day delivery!

- 1,000 gal Tank & Lowboys
- 1,000 & 1,500 gal Pump Tanks
- 2' & 3' Chamber Pipe
- 3" Schedule 40 Pipe
- Risers in Lids for Easy Pumping

423-507-9487  
423-744-0121

If it's not listed,  
call us!

# The Morning Fax®

## Today's News. This Morning.

Okay to distribute  
(with attribution)

Click here to send your stories to  
[wyradio@gmail.com](mailto:wyradio@gmail.com)

**MR. Gutter**

Specialize in gutter removal  
and gutter installation.

**Owners:**

**T J Roberts 423-506-3918**

**Christian Mason 423-368-1807**

**Call, Text, and Please Leave  
Voicemail. Athens, TN**

**Monday, October 05, 2026**

**Page 1**

**Athens, Tennessee**

## Pumpkintown takes over Downtown Athens on Saturday, October 10th

On Saturday, October 10th from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., one of East Tennessee's favorite fall traditions returns for its 24th year celebrating the history, harvest and heritage of Athens and McMinn County. And with attendance topping 25,000 last year, this is a fall event worth putting on your calendar!

Come ready to spend the day exploring 325 arts, crafts, food and information booths, downtown shopping and many activities for young and old.

There will be live entertainment on three stages with Inspirations Dance Studios, Raw Art Dance Studio and Jacoby Allmon aka Thriller on the Madison Avenue Stage. The Courthouse Steps Stage will feature crowd favorites Jim Brooks and his grandson Rafe Paul, Tom Cordle, Trevin Wade and "Doc" Shelley Griffith.

Market Park Pavilion Stage will showcase Just Us, the McMinn Regional Humane Society's Doggie Costume Contest announcements, Madelyn Tallent and will close out the day with Applachian Road Show!

Other festival favorites will be returning too, including the Scott Crisp Memorial PowWow, McMinn Regional Humane Society Mutt Strutt and Pet Costume Contest, McMinn County Living Heritage Museum's annual quilt show and pumpkin painting at The Arts Center with photo ops at the Pumpkin House.

There will be plenty of activities for the young and young at heart - a petting zoo, axe throwing, pony rides, inflatables, dinosaurs and interactive vendors. History buffs will want to witness the unveiling of "McMinn Answers the Call" mural sponsored by the Patriot Project Memorial. And the best part? It's all FREE!

Grab the family, call your friends, wear your walking shoes and come hungry - you'll need the whole day for this one.

*Written/submitted by Meredith Willson, Friendly City Festivals*



**2 DUDES BBQ  
& CATERING**  
423-829-4126

- **Monday & Tuesday: Closed**
- **Wed: Etowah Across from Johnsons 10:30 - 2**
- **Thu: Athens Family Dollar 10:30 - 2**
- **Fri: Sweetwater Main St Marketplace 10:30 - 2:30**
- **Sat: Athens Pumpkintown 10:00 - 5**

**Muscadine UPICK Season:**  
First weekend in September through October.



For more info text UPICK to 423.417.9463

162 Harrison Rd. Madisonville, TN | [tsalinotch.com](http://tsalinotch.com)



**Let Traci help with  
your 401K rollover.**



Traci White  
Athens Branch Manager  
1314 Decatur Pike  
Athens, TN 37303  
423-634-8310

Federally insured by NCUA



**VINYL SIDING  
DOORS**

**WINDOWS  
ROOFING**

**All Things Exterior**

**BUFFY**  
**423-435-8714**

**MICAH**  
**423-506-1249**

**723 Congress Parkway S. Next to B J's Snack Bar.**

**WE HAVE 19 COLORS TO CHOOSE FROM. MOST ORDERS  
READY WITHIN 24 HRS. WE OFFER PICK UP AND DELIVERY.**

**Your One Stop Shop For All  
Your Metal Roofing Needs!**

**Come See Us and Check Our Prices Before Buying!**

**We Want To Earn Your Business!**



- Civic Experience
- Community Service
- Veteran

# TOM HAMILTON

FOR ATHENS CITY COUNCIL

Paid for by Hamilton for City Council, Cary Davis, Treasurer.

- Honesty
- Integrity
- Civility

Monday, October 05, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

## Community News You Can Use

- Athens Utilities Board has launched a new outage reporting system. Customers can now report outages from any phone by calling 877-451-3131 and providing the service address. The previous outage number, 423-745-3131, will continue to be forwarded during the transition. Customers are encouraged to save the new number for future use.
- Athens Parks & Recreation will host a public meeting on the city's Parks & Recreation Master Plan on Thursday, Oct. 8, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Conference Center in Athens Regional Park. Residents are invited to drop in, share ideas, and help shape the future development of city parks over the next 10-15 years. Those unable to attend may submit feedback by Oct. 8 to [recreation@athenstn.gov](mailto:recreation@athenstn.gov).
- Athens Community Theatre and the Athens Area Council for the Arts have **postponed all performances of The Crucible due to unforeseen circumstances**. Shows originally scheduled for Oct. 2-11 have been moved to corresponding dates Oct. 9-18. Previously purchased tickets will be automatically transferred. For ticket and scheduling information, visit: [athensartscouncil.org/crucible-postponement](http://athensartscouncil.org/crucible-postponement).
- The Athens Municipal-Regional Planning Commission will meet Monday at noon in the conference room of Athens City Hall. Agenda items include proposed subdivision developments off Bell Lane and Davis Place Drive, on Oak and Haley streets, and on Bell/Hughes Street, with public comments and plat approvals scheduled for each proposal.
- The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce is accepting entries for the annual Jimmy Liner Memorial Christmas Parade, set for Monday, Dec. 7, at 6:30 p.m. in downtown Athens. This year's theme is "A Jolly Dolly Christmas." Churches, civic groups, businesses and organizations are encouraged to participate. Applications and guidelines are available at [AthensChamber.org](http://AthensChamber.org), or by calling (423) 745-0334.
- Several downtown Athens streets, including portions of Madison Avenue, Washington Avenue, Hornsby Street, White Street, N. Jackson Street, Long Street, and Baxter Street, will be closed from 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9, through 10 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, for the 2026 Pumpkintown Festival. Detours will be posted, and motorists should expect delays and use caution in the area. For information, call the Athens Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.

Member  
Appreciation Day

Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026



All branches.  
All day.

 **Bowater**  
Credit Union  
Better Begins Here

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR POOL CLOSING!**

- WATER TESTING
- TOP QUALITY CHEMICALS
- SPAS AND SWIM SPAS
- ABOVE GROUND POOL KITS

**POOL Liquidation Sale**

ASK ABOUT OUR MONTHLY SPECIAL!

FINANCING AVAILABLE

**DS**  
DYNASTY SPAS  
Trévi

ORDER YOUR CHEMICALS ONLINE

103 DYNASTY WAY • ATHENS  
**423-745-1425**  
[www.dynastyspasstore.com](http://www.dynastyspasstore.com)



## STRONGER LEADERS. STRONGER ORGANIZATIONS.

Leadership & Organizational Consulting • Executive & Senior Staff Placement •  
Board Governance & Organizational Resources • Strategic Planning & Leadership Solutions

COO@BLUESKIESINNOVATIONS.COM

**423.252.1472**

**Monday, October 05, 2026**

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

**Athens, Tennessee**

### Driver Charged After Crash Near Niota



A 27-year-old man was charged following a single-vehicle crash on Highway 11 near the Niota city limits Saturday night.

According to reports, a Dodge 2500 was traveling northbound around 8 p.m. when the driver failed to negotiate a curve and left the roadway, coming to rest in a ditch. The driver was later located walking north about a

half-mile from the crash scene and allegedly denied being the driver. Authorities reported that an iPhone crash alert helped link him to the incident.

The man was taken into custody and transported to the McMinn County Justice Center. Athens Rural and Niota Rural fire departments, the McMinn County Sheriff's Office, and Tennessee Highway Patrol responded to the scene. Trooper Edwin Condiff is leading the investigation.

*Photo by David Prater, Niota Rural FD*

### McMinn County Arrest Report

#### October 01, 2026

**Candace Baker**, 34, of Riceville, charged with violation of probation for resisting, and failure to appear for criminal trespassing. Bond \$3,222.

**Sierra Lowe**, 27, of Athens, charged with drug paraphernalia, and shoplifting theft of property.

**Garrett Goforth**, 31, of Athens, charged with driving on a revoked license. Bond \$3,000.

**Michael Buckner**, 24, of Athens, charged with drug paraphernalia, casual exchange, possession of meth, shoplifting, and theft of property.

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



  
**POP-UP MARKET AT  
THE NOTCH**  
OCT 10TH, 2026  
12PM-3PM

**SHOP WITH LOCAL  
CRAFTERS,  
ARTISANS &  
BOUTIQUES**

**LIVE MUSIC WITH  
SEPTEMBER SONG**

For more info about Happenings at  
The Notch, text "LIVE" to 423.417.9463

Tsali Notch Vineyard  
162 Harrison Rd.  
Madisonville, TN  
423-506-9895  
info@tsalinotch.com  
tsalinotch.com | @tsalinotch



**Scott Crisp**

**Memorial PowWow**

**McMinn County Living**

**Heritage Museum's**

**42nd Annual Quilt Show**

**Local Shopping**

**MRHS Mutt Strutt**

**& Adopt-a-thon**

**Appalachian Roadshow**

**Dedication of the Patriot**

**Memorial Project Mural**

**Live Music on 3 Stages**

**October 10, 10-5 PM  
Downtown Athens**

**WWW.FRIENDLYCITYFESTIVALS.COM**





# The Morning Fax®

## Today's News. This Morning.

Okay to distribute  
(with attribution)

Click here to send your stories to  
[wyxiradio@gmail.com](mailto:wyxiradio@gmail.com)

With an estimated 10,000+ Daily Audience,  
Advertise  
with the Morning Fax and  
We'll Show You to our Readers!

Contact: Stephanie Devine  
Account Sales Representative  
Email: [radiostephaniedevine@gmail.com](mailto:radiostephaniedevine@gmail.com) Phone#: 423-462-5309

Monday, October 05, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

## McMinn County Arrest Reports

### October 02, 2026

**Sean Sisson**, 50, of Etowah, charged with drug paraphernalia. Bond \$2,000.

**Mark Trew**, 62, of Benton, charged with driving on a revoked license, casual exchange, possession of meth, drug paraphernalia, simple possession, casual exchange of marijuana. Bond \$18,000.

**Jennifer Hicks**, 38, of Calhoun, charged with failure to appear for driving on a revoked license. Bond \$3,000.

**Donna Hawkins**, 63, of Calhoun, charged with evading arrest, resisting stop, driving on a revoked license, and violation of registration laws.

**Karen Lowry**, 46, of Benton, charged with theft of property, \$1,000 to \$2,500, conspiracy to commit theft of property 1,000 to 2,500, and violation of probation for possession of meth. Bond \$7,000.

**Shannon Lowe**, 50, of Englewood, charged with violation of probation for Schedule II. Bond \$1,800.

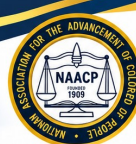
**Kimberly LaVallette**, 59, of Etowah charged with casual exchange, possession of meth, shoplifting, theft of property, and drug paraphernalia. Bond \$16,000.

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

### HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

LAST WEEK'S  
RESULTS

|                                                                                     |    |                                                                                     |                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
|  | VS |  | BRADLEY CENTRAL @ CLEVELAND<br>10-44        |
|  | VS |  | KINGSTON/ROANE CO @ MCMINN CENTRAL<br>27-13 |
|  | VS |  | MCMINN CO. @ KNOXVILLE CENTRAL<br>20-42     |
|  | VS |  | MEIGS CO. @ BRAINERD<br>64-0                |
|  | VS |  | POLK CO. @ PIGEON FORGE<br>14-21            |
|  | VS |  | SEQUOYAH @ LOUDON<br>7-49                   |
|  | VS |  | SWEETWATER @ AUSTIN-EAST<br>49-20           |
|  | VS |  | EAST HAMILTON @ WALKER VALLEY<br>7-49       |



**McMinn County  
NAACP Branch**  
ADVOCACY • EQUITY • OPPORTUNITY  
STRONGER TOGETHER

PEOPLE  
POLICY  
PROGRESS  
A STRONGER  
McMINN COUNTY

## McMinn County NAACP CANDIDATE FORUM

Inform. Engage. Empower.

A STRONGER TOMORROW BEGINS WITH INFORMED VOTERS.



**MEET**  
the candidates



**HEAR**  
their perspectives



**BE AN INFORMED VOTER**  
make your voice count



Thursday  
October 8, 2026  
6:30 PM



Athens Middle School Auditorium  
200 Keith Lane  
Athens, TN 37303

*Your Vote. Our Community. A Brighter Tomorrow.*



## Compassionate Service in Your Time of Need

In times of grief, making difficult decisions about how best to honor the memory of someone so important can be overwhelming. We are here to help with complete, professional and compassionate funeral planning services to meet your needs and respectfully celebrate the life and legacy of your loved one.

# Ziegler Funeral Home

521 W. Madison Avenue • Athens, TN

423-745-3123

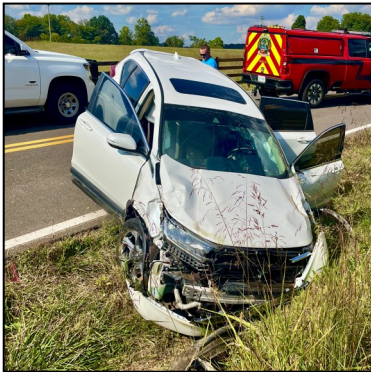
[www.zieglerfuneralhome.com](http://www.zieglerfuneralhome.com)

Monday, October 05, 2026

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 5

Athens, Tennessee

## Driver Injured In Highway 307 Crash



A single-vehicle crash on Highway 307 in Athens sent one person to the hospital Monday afternoon.

According to reports, the driver of a 2019 Honda CR-V lost control of the vehicle

around 3:30 p.m. and struck a ditch. The driver was treated at the scene by AMR personnel before being transported to Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens.

Englewood Rural Fire Department responded to the crash, and Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper Andrew Metelits investigated the incident.

*Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural FD*

## Obituaries

**William "Bill" O. Johnson**, 87, of Athens, passed away on Thursday, October 1. For 43 years, Bill owned and operated a KJV Bible bookstore. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, October 6 from 1:00-3:00 PM at Ziegler Funeral Home, with a funeral to follow at 3:00 PM. Interment will follow at Sullins Cemetery. [Ziegler Funeral Home](#) has been entrusted with serving the family of William "Bill" O. Johnson.

**Ruth King Malone**, 96, passed away on Wednesday, September 30. Arrangements are incomplete and entrusted to [M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home & Cremation Service](#)

**Eddie "Shotgun" Dunlap**, 79, of Ten Mile, passed away on Tuesday, September 29. Eddie spent 42 years as a truck driver, logging millions of miles across the country. For 30 of those years, he drove for C&C Trucking in Maryville. [Companion Funeral Home](#) and the Cody family are honored to assist the family with his arrangements.

**William "Ronny" Burger**, 76, of Tellico Plains, passed away on Saturday, October 3. He was a member of Druid Hill Baptist Church in Tellico Plains. He retired from the Monroe County School System and was the co-owner of RBK Flowers and Gifts in Tellico Plains. A funeral will be held on Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00pm at Companion Funeral Home of Athens. A visitation will be held prior from 5:00pm-7:00pm. A graveside service will be held on October 7 at 5:00pm at New Providence Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery. [Companion Funeral Home of Athens](#) and the Cody family are honored to assist with these arrangements.

# TOWN HALL

## MCMINN COUNTY

**EVERY COUNTY<sup>2</sup>**  
**ZERO EXCUSES**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2026**  
Heritage Park Pavilion  
1005 S. Jackson Street  
**6:00 pm - 7:30 pm**

Paid for by Patricia Waters