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Thursday, October 15, 2026**Page 1****Athens, Tennessee**

TWU Fine Arts Department to Present "Almost, Maine" in November



The Tennessee Wesleyan University Fine Arts Department is inviting the community to attend its upcoming production of *Almost, Maine*, a romantic comedy by playwright John Cariani.

Performances are scheduled for Nov. 13-15 in Townsend Auditorium on the Tennessee Wesleyan campus. Showtimes are 7 p.m. on Nov. 13 and 14, with a matinee performance at 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 15.

Set in a remote northern Maine town on a cold winter night beneath the aurora borealis, *Almost, Maine* tells nine loosely connected stories exploring themes of love, loss and the unexpected moments that shape relationships.

The production is directed by theatre professor Bob Borwick and produced by assistant professor of music Dr. Jamey Owen. The set, a central element of the production, was designed by Stefani Slaughter Burchfield.

The cast features Tennessee Wesleyan students, alumni, faculty and staff. University officials noted that special scholarships are awarded to students who participate in theatre productions and encouraged community members to support the performers as they bring the story to life on stage.

All performances will take place in Townsend Auditorium. Admission information is available through Tennessee Wesleyan University. **Source: Chrisi Jackson, College Editor, TWU**

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THURSDAY 10/22/26 @ NOON

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Museum Hours:
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Admission:
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Thursday, October 15, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Driver Injured in Single-Vehicle Crash Near Englewood



A driver was injured in a single-vehicle crash on Highway 310 at County Road 876 in Englewood.

According to reports, the driver of a 2003 Ford Mustang was

traveling on Highway 310 when she left the roadway and struck a tree head-on. She was transported to a local hospital by a private vehicle for treatment of her injuries.

Etowah Rural Fire responded to the scene along with Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper D.J. Taylor, who is investigating the crash.

Photo by Gage Spurgeon, Etowah Rural FD

Community News You Can Use

- The Athens Utilities Board Budget and Finance Committee Meeting will take place today, October 15 at 11:30 a.m.
- The SOCM organization is hosting a fall celebration at the site of the old North City School property on Thursday, October 15th from 5pm to 6:45pm to celebrate the fact that the Athens City Council voted (unanimously) to designate this property as a public park space. There will be food, music and games.
- Athens Area Chamber of Commerce Midday Mix and Mingle will be hosted by Spring Arbor Senior Living today, Oct 15 at 12 noon. They are located at 2090 W. Madison Avenue in Athens.
- The dates and location of the Cherokee Beekeepers Association have changed. The meetings will again take place at the AgCentral Farmer's Cooperative located at 920 N. Congress Pkwy., Athens. The meetings will now be held on the **THIRD THURSDAY** of the month at 7:00 P.M. The last meeting for 2026 will be on October 15, 2026 then the meetings will resume in January 2027. The public is welcome and you do not need to be a member to attend.

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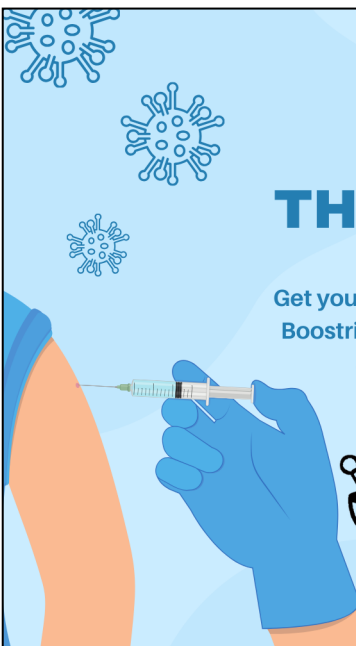
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Thursday, October 15, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Starr Regional to Host Flu Shot Fundraiser for Friendly Fellow Christmas Basket Program

Starr Regional Medical Center will host a flu shot fundraiser benefiting the Friendly Fellow Club's annual Christmas Basket Program on Friday, Oct. 23, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Flu shots will be administered in the conference room inside the main lobby of Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens. While the vaccinations are free, donations are encouraged, with all proceeds going toward the purchase of food for nearly 500 Christmas food baskets distributed each year to families in need through the Friendly Fellow Club.

The event is open to adults age 18 and older. Parents are encouraged to have children receive flu vaccinations through their pediatrician. For those unable to enter the building, a nurse will be available to administer flu shots in vehicles upon request.

“Getting your annual flu shot is a simple way to help protect yourself, your family and our community,” said Amber Bain, LPN, CPR coordinator at Starr Regional Medical Center and organizer of the event. “What makes this event especially meaningful is that it also gives us an opportunity to come together in support of our neighbors through the Friendly Fellow Club’s food basket program.”

For more information about the fundraiser, contact Amber Bain at (423) 744-3151.

Source: Brandi Armstrong, Starr Regional

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Thursday, October 15, 2026

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Athens, Tennessee

Mother-Son Dance Tickets Go on Sale



Tickets for the Athens Parks & Recreation Department's 34th Annual Mother-Son Dance went on sale Wednesday and will be available until sold out.

This year's event, themed "Let's Glow Party!," is scheduled for Nov. 14, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. The annual dance provides an evening of fun and memories for mothers and sons from across the community.

Tickets may be purchased online through the Athens Parks & Recreation registration portal, by calling the department office at 423-744-2704, or in person at 122 Regional Park Drive.

Athens Parks & Recreation encourages families to purchase tickets early, as the popular event has limited capacity and tickets are expected to sell quickly.

Source: Athens Parks & Recreation

McMinn County Arrest Report

October 13, 2026

Monty Adams, 66, of Athens, charged with state violation of probation for DUI, 5th offense.

Alyssa Kahn, 26, of Decatur, charged with violation of probation. Bond \$500.

Amber Moses, 33, of Sweetwater, charged with failure to appear for display of registration.

Joshua Longwith, 43, charged with violation of probation.

Joby Cheek, 28, charged with domestic assault. Bond \$1,000.

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



Thursday, November 19 • 6-7 PM

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Thursday, October 15, 2026

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Athens, Tennessee

Athens Community Theatre to Hold Auditions for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*

Athens Community Theatre (ACT) will hold auditions for its upcoming production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* on Sunday, Oct. 18, at 2 p.m. and Monday, Oct. 19, at 6 p.m. at The Arts Center.

Based on the popular Charles Schulz comic strip, the musical will be directed by Christen Webb, with Michael Webb serving as music director and Ethan León as choreographer. Performances are scheduled for Jan. 28-31, 2027.

ACT is seeking a cast of 12 performers ages 10 to 18 and welcomes participants from all backgrounds. Auditions will include script readings, movement exercises, vocal selections from the show, and the opportunity to follow simple direction.

Those interested in female roles will work with the song "My New Philosophy," while those auditioning for male roles will learn "The Kite." Both songs will be taught during auditions, and performers may sing within their comfort range.

Anyone interested in helping with the production in any capacity is encouraged to attend. All prospective cast and crew members should bring their work, school and family schedules covering the period from Oct. 20, 2026, through Jan. 31, 2027, to assist with rehearsal planning.

Source: Athens Area Council for the Arts

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Thursday, October 15, 2026

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Athens, Tennessee

New Mexi-Wing Location Celebrates with Ribbon Cutting



A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member Mexi-Wing II, located at 2616 Decatur Pike. Shown here at their new location are chamber and business representatives, family members, staff, and owner Jesus Sanchez.

Source: Julie Simbeck, Athens Chamber

Obituaries

Reverend William "Bill" Scott Hicks, 76, of McMinn County, passed away on Monday, October 12. He was employed with Jackson Furniture for many years. Bill was an avid coon and rabbit hunter. He was a lifetime member of Athens Free Saints True Holiness Church, where he served as pastor for over 25 years. Visitation will be held on Friday, October 16 from 5:00-8:00 PM at Athens Free Saints True Holiness Church. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, October 17 at 12:00 PM at the church. Interment will follow funeral services at Riceville Cemetery. [Ziegler Funeral Home](#) has been entrusted with serving the family of Reverend William "Bill" Scott Hicks.

Alene Lones, 88, passed away on Sunday, October 11. Alene was a faithful member of Christianburg Baptist Church in Sweetwater, Tennessee, and a woman whose life was firmly rooted in her Christian faith. Alene found joy in life's simple blessings, especially beautiful flowers and time spent with family. At her request, there will be a graveside service at Christianburg Baptist Church Cemetery in Sweetwater, TN on Saturday, October 17 at 11:00 A.M. [Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Athens](#) is in charge of arrangements.

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10/16/26



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VS



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VS



LENOIR CITY @ WALKER VALLEY
FRIDAY, OCT. 16 @ 7:00 PM