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Thursday, October 22, 2026

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Passenger Injured After Pickup Strikes Utility Pole in Englewood



A passenger was seriously injured Friday morning after a pickup truck left the roadway and struck a utility pole in Englewood.

The crash occurred around 6 a.m. on South Amhurst Place when the driver of a 2018 Ford F-150 veered off the road and collided with a large metal power pole, cutting the pole in half.

Authorities reported the driver was uninjured. However, the passenger suffered injuries after striking the windshield and was transported by AMR to the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville for treatment.

Responding agencies included the Englewood Police Department, Englewood Rural Fire Department and Athens Utilities Board crews. Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper Andrew Metelits investigated the crash. *Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural FD*



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Museum Hours:
Tuesday - Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM
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Admission:
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More Information

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Thursday, October 22, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Former School Building Destroyed by Fire



Monday close to 11:00 am Meigs County's Fire Department called for Mutual Aid for the former school building located on Peakland Road near Decatur, which had been converted into apartments and was on fire. The building was a total loss. The apartments were unoccupied and there were no injuries reported. Over 15 agencies responded to the scene and assisted: Athens City Fire, Athens Rural Fire, Bradley County Fire and Rescue, Clearwater Fire, Dayton Fire, Decatur Fire, Englewood Rural Fire, Highway 58 Volunteer Fire, McMinn County Hazmat Air Trailer, Rhea County Fire, and South Roane County Fire. Other Agencies assisting were Meigs County Sheriff's Department, Meigs County EMS, VEC and Cleveland City Fire Department who stood by for Decatur City Fire Department. Tri State Mutual Aid Fire Chiefs were Dewey Woody, Billy Roach and Jeff Stewart. Meigs County Fire Chief Jason Finnell was in command of the scene. Photo by Englewood Rural Firefighter Haden Seagle. *Source: Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural FD*

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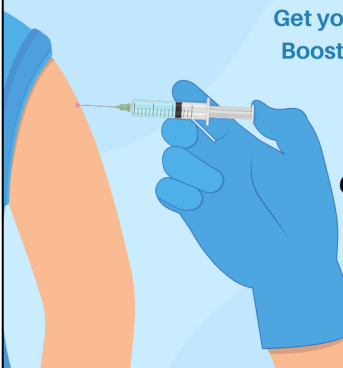
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Thursday, October 22, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Early Voting Continues in McMinn County Ahead of Nov. 3 Election

McMinn County voters still have time to cast their ballots during the early voting period for the Nov. 3 State and Federal General Election.

Early voting continues through Thursday, Oct. 29, giving residents additional flexibility with weekday and Saturday voting hours. The McMinn County Election Commission is open for early voting Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

Election officials are reminding voters that the annual Pumpkin Town festival, scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 24, may affect access to the courthouse. The Election Office will remain open for voting from 9 a.m. to noon. Voters may park and walk to the courthouse, while a shuttle service will be available from the McMinn County School Board Office for those needing assistance. Designated voter parking will also be available at the School Board Office. Maps and parking information will be posted on the McMinn Elections Facebook page, mcminnelections.com, and the Pumpkin Town festival page.

Saturday, Oct. 24, is also the deadline for the Election Commission to receive applications requesting an absentee ballot.

Voters must present a valid photo ID when voting. Acceptable forms of identification include a Tennessee driver's license or photo ID issued by the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, the State of Tennessee, or the federal government, even if expired. Student IDs and out-of-state driver's licenses are not accepted.

Residents who choose to vote on Election Day, Nov. 3, must vote at their assigned precinct between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Sample ballots, polling locations and additional election information are available at www.mcminnelections.com, GoVoteTN.gov, or through the GoVoteTN mobile app. For more information, contact the McMinn County Election Commission at 423-745-0843.

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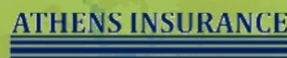
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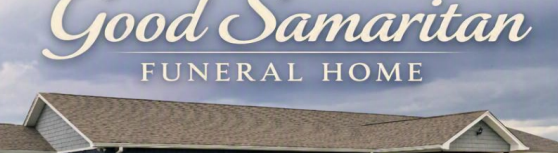


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EASTANALLEE

Dump Truck Overturns on Highway 39 in Englewood



A dump truck overturned Monday morning on Highway 39 East near County Road 477 in Englewood, according to emergency responders.

The crash occurred around 8:30 a.m. when the driver of a 2025 Mack Granite dump truck was traveling east-bound and left the roadway. Authorities said the driver overcorrected, causing the truck to overturn onto its side. The driver was not injured in the crash.

Responding agencies included Englewood Rural Fire Department, Etowah Rural Fire Department, the McMinn County Sheriff's Department, and Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper Rodney Best, who investigated the incident. *Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural FD*

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Oct. 25, 2026

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Thursday, October 22, 2026

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Connie Denise Cate, 61, former resident of Athens and resident of Rome, GA for 24 years, passed away on Monday, October 19. A graveside service will be held on Friday, October 23 at 2:00 PM at McMinn Memory Gardens. [Ziegler Funeral Home](#) has been entrusted with serving the family of Connie Denise Cate.

Terry Benas, 70, of Moore, OK, formerly of Athens, TN, and Los Angeles, California, passed away on Tuesday, September 22. Terry took great pride in helping others and enjoyed volunteering with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. A man of many talents, there wasn't much Terry couldn't build, fix, or figure out. In his younger years, he enjoyed building and racing cars, and his love for anything Chevy stayed with him throughout his life. His kindness, humor, and unforgettable personality left a lasting impression on everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him. Services will be announced at a later date. [Companion Funeral Home & Cremation Service](#) is in charge of arrangements.

Margaret June Cochran, 79, of Englewood, TN passed away Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at her home in Englewood, Tennessee, following a hard-fought battle with cancer. Englewood was the small town where she was born and raised and the place, she always called home. June shared a particularly special bond with her twin sister, Jean, from childhood throughout their lives, the two shared a connection unlike any other, built memories, love and an understanding only twins can truly know.

Funeral service will be held at 6:00 p.m., Friday, October 23, 2026, in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home with Mike Cochran Officiating. The family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday prior to the service. Family and friends will assemble at Cochran Cemetery, Saturday, October 24th for the 11:00 a.m. committal service. [Bordwine Funeral Home](#) of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Elizabeth Ann Wells, age 58 passed Monday October 19, 2026 at her residence. Survivors and arrangements to be announced. [M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home & Crema-](#)

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