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Monday, August 19, 2024 **Page 1** **Athens, Tennessee**


Athens City News

Community News You Can Use

Here's an update on the massive fire that destroyed St. Mark AME Zion Church. Athens City Mayor, Steven Sherlin, says the church is a total loss. It took about six hours for firefighters to get the fire under control because it spread so fast. Mayor Sherlin says the outside rear of the church caught fire first. He also stated that one person died in the blaze. The name of the deceased has not been officially released, however, through several sources and social media, she was Linda Buchanan of Athens. Ms. Buchanan was a former Special Education teacher for the McMinn County Schools. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. Mayor Sherlin has confirmed that members of St. Mark Church have been in touch with the insurance company that covered the church and they do plan to rebuild.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all residents of Athens, Tennessee, and to all persons interested, that a called meeting of the Athens City Council will be held TODAY (8-19) at the Athens Municipal Building at 3 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to consider the selection of new City Manager and discuss, authorize and approve any and all matters related to the hiring of a City Manager.

- The McMinn County Election Commission will meet in regular session on Tuesday, August 20 at 5 pm in the conference room of the McMinn County Courthouse to verify petitions for Athens, Calhoun, and Niota City Elections and will conduct any election business to legally come before the board.
- The monthly meeting of the Cherokee Beekeepers Association will be on Tuesday, August 27 at 7:00 pm. The meetings are held at the AgCentral Farmer's Cooperative located at 920 Congress Pkwy. N., Athens. The public is always welcome. You do not need to be a member to attend.
- SETHRA will be distributing USDA commodities to eligible Meigs County residents on Sept. 4th from 8 am to 11 am. If you have already signed up for commodities and have been issued a card since Oct. 1, 2023, you will not need to bring anything to participate. If you have not already signed up, you will need to visit your local SETHRA office to sign up.



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 • Wednesday–Etowah Across from Johnsons-10:30 - 2:00
 • Thursday–Athens Sock Shop- 10:30 –2:00
 • Friday–Sweetwater–Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30



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Monday, August 19, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

What Day is It?

Doyle E. Cain, 83 of Murfreesboro, passed away on Wednesday, August 14. A McMinn County native, he was a member of Good Springs Baptist Church and a member of the Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Tennessee, Etowah No. 653. Funeral services will be 2:00 pm Monday, August 19 in the chapel of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. The interment will follow at Riceville Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 12-2 pm Monday at the funeral home before the service. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home will be in charge of the arrangements.

Ricky "Panama" Lynn Willis passed away on August 17, 2024, at Tennova Turkey Creek Medical Center after a lengthy illness. He was a member of Union McMinn Baptist Church. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m., Tuesday, August 20, 2024, in the chapel of Good Samaritan Funeral Home. Family will receive friends from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday prior to the service. Burial to follow at Union McMinn Baptist Church Cemetery, Niota. Good Samaritan Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Today in History - August 19

1856 - Gail Borden of Brooklyn, NY patented his process for condensed milk. You've heard of Borden's condensed milk ... "The milk from contented cows."

1871 - Pioneer aviator Orville Wright was born in Dayton, Ohio.

1909 - The first race was held at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indiana. It wasn't a brick track yet. It started as a crushed stone and tar track.

1934 - A plebiscite in Germany approved the vesting of sole executive power in Adolf Hitler as Fuhrer.

1960 - A tribunal in Moscow convicted American U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers of espionage.

1964 - The Beatles began their first North American concert tour. They went to 26 cities.

1976 - President Gerald R. Ford won the Republican presidential nomination at the party's national convention in Kansas City.

1977 - Comedian Groucho Marx died at age 86.

1994 - President Bill Clinton halted the nation's three-decade open-door policy for Cuban refugees.

2004 - The Internet search engine Google went public.

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Monday, August 19, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3 Athens, Tennessee

Newly Weds Foods Expands Cleveland Operations



Tennessee Governor Bill Lee, Economic and Community Development Commissioner Stuart C. McWhorter, and Newly

Weds Foods, LLC officials announced the company's plans to expand its Cleveland, Tennessee operations. The expansion includes an investment of over \$2 million and is expected to create approximately 40 new jobs, boosting product capacity.


"I'm proud to announce Newly Weds Foods' second expansion in the Volunteer State. This expansion will create about 40 new, high-quality jobs for workers in Bradley County. Newly Weds Foods has been a valued part of the Cleveland community for decades, and I look forward to seeing their continued growth in the coming years." - Governor Bill Lee

Founded in 1932 in Chicago, Newly Weds Foods began by producing America's first specialty ice cream dessert and has since grown to operate facilities across Asia, Australia, Europe, and North America.

"It's not lost on us that companies can choose anywhere across the nation, but they choose Tennessee. Not only has Newly Weds Foods already put down roots here, but also their success is leading them to expand. I thank all our partners who were involved with this project, and I'm grateful this company made the choice to expand in Bradley County." – TNECD Commissioner Stuart C. McWhorter

Since 2020, the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development has supported 40 projects in Southeast Tennessee, leading to nearly 5,700 job commitments and over \$2.6 billion in capital investments.

Photo Courtesy of WTVC




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Never Miss an Update!



Monday, August 19, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4 Athens, Tennessee

Mendingwall at Sounds of Summer



Friendly City Festivals announces the 11th concert in the 2024 Sounds of Summer series will showcase Mendingwall.

The concert will be held at Market Pavilion at 106 South Jackson Street in downtown Athens Tennessee starting at

7:00 p.m. Concert goers are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs, blankets, family and friends for an entertaining evening of original rock and roll.

Mendingwall provides a fun musical experience with roots in American, rock, jam, reggae and folk music. Their lyrics are positively influenced and their sound will make you want to get up and dance. With roots in West Virginia and now calling East Tennessee home, Mendingwall's last album *Famous* can be found on YouTube, Tidal, Spotify and Apple Music.

30th with The Dexter Thomas Band.

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 Hotel/Motel Tax Fund, McMinn County Tourism Board, Wolfenden Family Pharmacies, Dynasty Spas and Pools, TVA, Tennessee Overhill Association, Tennessee Arts Commission, Mayfield Dairy Farms, DENSO, Humana, VEC Customer Shares, Citizens National Bank of Sevier County, Valley Oil, Starr Regional Medical Center, Kona Ice, Pendleton's Playground, Simmons Bank, Simmons Wealth Management Group, Warren Jackson CPAs and Athens Kiwanis Club. Special thanks to The Morning Fax, The Daily Post-Athenian, Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, The Arts Center and Main Street Athens for social media and advertising support.

Source: Meredith Willson
[Friendly City Festivals](#)



The 12th and final concert in the 2024 series will be August



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