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Athens, Tennessee

TDOT Worker Struck by Car



An employee of a state-contracted litter pickup crew sustained serious injuries after being hit while working on I-65 near Nashville. Investigators say that Raymon Cruz-Sanchez, 48, of Cedar Hill was outside a pickup truck equipped with a trailer tossing trash into the back of the trailer when a Hyundai Azera sedan pulled onto the shoulder of the road and hit him. Metro Police report Cruz-Sanchez was pinned between the trailer and the vehicle. The 27-year-old driver of the Hyundai told officer she was having mechanical problems when she drove onto the shoulder. Police say she showed no signs of impairment. Cruz-Sanchez is currently in critical condition at Vanderbilt Hospital. This comes as the Tennessee Department of Transportation reported just last week that state trucks were hit 73 times this year. *Photo Courtesy of WSMV Nashville*

Community News You Can Use

- Old National Bank and the leadership of St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church have met and have established an account for anyone that would like to make a monetary donation to assist the church going forward. The church suffered a total loss in a structural fire and is working to rebuild. Donations can be made at any Old National Bank office or mailed to Old National Bank, 106 West Washington Avenue, Athens, TN 37303. Checks should be made payable to St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church.
- The Good Faith Clinic will be open on Tuesday, August 27 at 3 pm for refills and 3:30 pm for doctor visits. The Good Faith Clinic is free primary health care for residents of McMinn and Meigs counties, ages of 18-64, who do not have any form of medical insurance, including TennCare. The clinic meets on the campus of Christ Community Church at 18 S Congress Parkway in Athens.

◆ *Hope From the Well* will be hosted this week by **Robin Nation** discussing the topic of "The Woman Against the Wall." *Hope From the Well* is heard every Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.





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Obituaries

Wendell Price, 82 of McMinn County, passed away Cindy Leonia Thomas Holloway, 65 of Decatur, on Tuesday, August 20. He was a Master Mason in the passed away on Monday, August 19. She attended Thomas A. Hamilton Masonic Lodge #317 and was New Salem Baptist Church and enjoyed fishing, swimretired from Hiwassee Land Company after 26 years. Wendell was a member of Clay Hill Baptist Church. The family will receive friends from 12:00-2:00 PM on Sunday, August 25. Funeral services will follow at 2:00 PM at Ziegler Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Green Hill Cemetery in Etowah.

Joyce Irene (Howard) Forrester, 76 of Decatur, passed away on July 22 in Decatur. Joyce dedicated six years to the U.S. Air Force Reserves and was a longtime member of Decatur Church of God since 1993. A Celebration of Life will be held at 6 p.m. at Decatur Church of God on Thursday, August 22. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Forrester Family.

ming, listening to music, going to the beach and the movies. A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 24 in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Interment will follow in the Meigs County Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends from 12 noon- 2 p.m., prior to the service. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Holloway Family.







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TNECD Investing in Broadband Expansion

Arrest Reports

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD) has received approval for its initial proposal under the Infrastructure Law's Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, securing \$813 million. This funding aims to bring high-speed broadband to all unserved and underserved areas in Tennessee by 2028. Governor Bill Lee highlighted the importance of this investment in expanding broadband infrastructure, especially in rural areas. TNECD has previously invested over \$715 million to reduce the digital divide in the state. The grant process is expected to begin in November 2024, with eligibility details and maps to be available on TNECD's website. Once the final proposal is approved, TNECD will start disbursing funds.

"I am proud to take part in announcing another milestone in broadband funding for the state. We have made significant strides to expand high-speed internet under Gov. Lee's leadership and receiving approval of our proposed \$813 million in funding is a critical step in further expanding broadband service statewide, which will in turn ensure Tennesseans have better access to high-quality job training," said TNECD Commissioner Stuart C. McWhorter. **David Beasley**, 56 of Etowah, was arrested by the MCSO for Possession of Schedule II Meth for Resale, Schedule II Fentanyl for Resale, Two counts of Possession of Schedule II Alprazolam, Possession of Schedule II Oxycodone, Possession of Schedule II Methadone and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$51,000

Thomas Redman, 73 of Athens was arrested by the Athens PD for Public Intoxication. No Bond Listed.

Steve Givens, 42 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for State Violation of Probation. No Bond.

Chloe White, 49 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Violation of Probation, Introduction of Contraband into a Penal Facility, Possession of Methamphetamine, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$1,346.45

Johnathan Rowland, 45 of Etowah, was arrested by the MCSO for Legend Drugs and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$1,500.

Clifford Winstead, 43 of Etowah, was arrested by the Etowah PD for Violation of an Order of Protection and Theft of a Motor Vehicle. Total Bond: \$6,000.

The accused remain innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered from Public Sources.



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