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Monday, August 26, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

7-9487

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Man in Custody, Charged in Homicide, and Arson at St. Mark AME Zion Church

Community News You Can Use

On August 15th, TBI special agents, certified in fire and explosives investigations, began a case into the fire at St. Mark AME Zion Church in the 700 block of North Jackson Street in Athens. During the initial investigation, authorities found the body of 69year-old Linda Buchanan inside the church, and an autopsy subsequently revealed she died prior to the fire. Further investigative efforts and evidence collected by TBI special agents, with the assistance of Athens Police Department, led to Kyle Hickox (DOB 3/28/1988), as the individual responsible for Buchanan's death and

the fire at the church. On Friday, agents arrested and charged Hickox with one count of Second Degree Murder and subsequently booked him into the McMinn County Jail on \$600,000 bond. Additional charges may result as the investigation continues. The charges and allegations referenced in this release are merely accusations of criminal conduct and not evidence. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt and convicted through due process of law. Source: TBINewsroom.com Photo credit: Mobile Patrol



• 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.

- The McMinn County Historical Society and Archives (MCHSA) has announced an Open House will be held on Thursday September 12. The event will last from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM at their office, located at 107 W. College Street in Athens.
- The Athens Utilities Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.
- The LITE House is announcing the first session of NEST meetings with recent TWU graduate and executive Master's student in Business Analytics, Olivia Sargia. She will be discussing Locable, a marketing platform designed to help small and mid-sized businesses enhance their community engagement. The first session will be on Wednesday, August 28 at 8:30 am.

LISTENING REMINDER: This week on *Main Street Moments*: Tiffany Ahlberg of Ahlberg Audiology will join host Sandra Kinney to discuss hearing loss and their new Athens office. The broadcast will be aired at 8:15 a.m. Tuesday on WYXI RADIO : AM-1390 and FM-94.5.





Monday, August 26, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Linda Gail Buchanan, age 69, passed away Thursday, August 15, 2024 in Athens. Funeral arrangements to be announced at a later date. M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home & Cremation Service in charge of arrangements.

Linda Ann Brown (Nee Cofer), age 79, of Cleveland, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Dotson and Sons Funeral Home - Athens. The family will Wednesday, August 21. Linda was proud of her work as a parole officer for the State of Tennessee, but, perhaps her favorite accomplishment was being "Mom" and "Nana" to her two children and five grandchildren. A private graveside service will be held at a later date. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Brown Family.

Virginia Louise Rollins, age 76 of Riceville passed away, Thursday, August 22, at her residence. She was retired from the United States Postal Service after more than 30 years of service. Funeral services will be 2:00 PM Sunday, August for 30 years. Jeff was a former employee of Beene and 25, in the chapel of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. Grave- Wilson Construction Company. Graveside services will be side services will be 11:00 AM Monday, August 26 at 4:00 pm Monday, August 26, at Idlewild Cemetery. The McMinn Memory Gardens. The family will receive friends family will receive friends from 2-4 pm Monday at Idlewild from 1:00-2:00 PM Sunday prior to the service at the funer- Baptist Church before the graveside service. Laycockal home. Lavcock-Hobbs Funeral Home in Athens is in Hobbs Funeral Home will be in charge of the arrangements. charge of the arrangements.

Jessie Roby, age 88, passed away Friday, August 16, in a Sweetwater health care facility. He attended Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Athens and was employed for many years at Bowater Paper Company. Funeral services will be held Thursday, August 22, at 1:00 p.m. in the chapel of M.D. receive friends one hour before the service at the funeral home from noon until 1:00 p.m. Interment will follow the service at Hammonds Cemetery in Athens. M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home & Cremation Service in charge of arrangements.

Jeffrey Thomas "Jeff" Dake, age 49 of Niota, passed away after a brief illness. A native and lifelong resident of McMinn County, he was a member of East Athens Baptist church. He served as a volunteer at the Special Olympics







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8:30 - 9:30

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Athens, Tennessee

Spanish-language Broadcast for Volunteer Football



Building on the interest generated last season with the first Spanish audio broadcast of a Tennessee football game, there is historic news coming from Rocky Top. For the first time in history, every Tennessee football game this season will be broadcast in Spanish, thanks to a partnership between The

Vol Network, Cumulus Media Knoxville/The Sports Animal, and University of Tennessee Athletics. The Spanish broadcasts will air on The Sports Animal's AM 990 signal in Knoxville and be available for streaming on <u>991thesportsanimal.com</u>, The Sports Animal App, <u>UTSports.com</u> and the Tennessee Athletics App.

This initiative builds on the success of last season's first-ever Spanish broadcast of a Tennessee football game. The broadcast team will feature Carlos Lopez on play-by-play, a former kicker with a rich football background, and VFL Fuad Reveiz as the color analyst, a former Tennessee star and NFL player. Jean-Pierre "J.P." Vasquez will serve as the studio producer, adding updates and scores throughout the broadcasts.

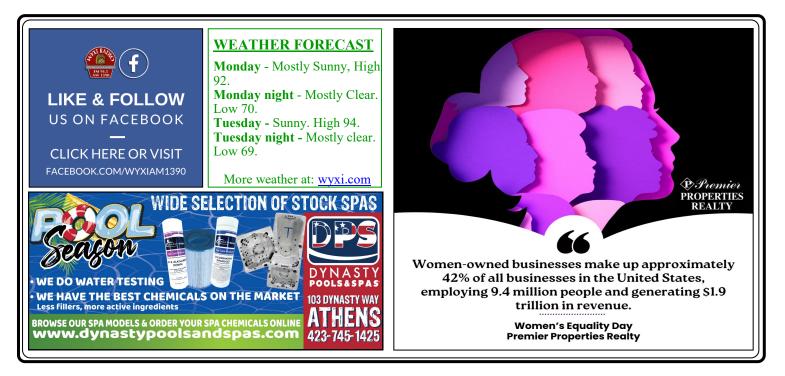
The Spanish broadcasts are part of Cumulus Knoxville's extensive "Game Day All-Day" coverage, expanding the accessibility of Tennessee Football to a broader audience.

City of Athens Acknowledges Bulldog Baseball Success



The TWU Baseball team was recently recognized by the City of Athens and had a proclamation presented to them read by City Councilman Jordan Curtis. The team was recognized for their appearance in the 2024 NAIA National Championship game in Idaho back in May and for their 4th straight season of winning over forty games. Go Bulldogs!

Photo Credit: City of Athens



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Ben and Cynthia Wilson Tennis Center Groundbreaking Ceremony



Tennessee Wesleyan University celebrated a significant milestone with the groundbreaking ceremony for the Ben and Cynthia Wilson (2nd & 3rd from the right) Tennis Center. Scheduled for completion in February 2025, the new facility will include locker rooms for both the men's and women's tennis teams, a coach's office, storage space, and public restrooms. The project, made possible by generous donors, is close to reaching its fundraising goal. Those interested in contributing in honor of the Wilsons or others are encouraged to visit the university's online giving page. Click or tap: <u>HERE</u> (TWU Photo)

USPS to Slow Delivery in Rural Areas to Cut Costs

SUBSCRIBE

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) is considering changes that could slow down delivery times in some rural areas as part of an effort to reduce its annual operational costs by \$3 billion. In an August 22nd statement, the USPS announced a pre-filing conference to discuss plans for improving mail processing and transportation. While delivery times for customers within 50 miles of major processing centers could improve, those in rural areas might experience delays of 12 to 24 hours. Despite these changes, mail delivery will still meet the existing two to fiveday service standards.

"Depending on location, time and distance, expected time to deliver will increase for some ZIP code pairs," the release reads. Exactly how many zip codes could be affected is not reported.

The proposed changes will not be implemented until after the November election and the peak holiday season. The plans must be reviewed by the Postal Regulatory Commission and approved by the USPS's governing board.

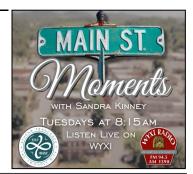
Source: Newsweek







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Athens, Tennessee

Arrest Reports

Brandon Pliske, 30, of Tellico Plains, was arrested by the THP for DUI. Total Bond: \$2,000.

Michael Shelton, 29 of Benton, was arrested by the THP for DUI and Violation of Implied Consent. Total Bond:1 \$2,000.

Teresa Watson, 39 of Englewood, was arrested by the Englewood PD for Violation of Probation in Monroe County, Four counts of Child Abuse/Neglect, Three counts of Child Abuse/Neglect of a child under 8 -years-old. Total Bond: \$70,000.

Dustin Fairbanks, 43 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO, on State Violation of Probation, Possession of Schedule VI Drugs, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, No Bond Listed.

Hector Vidal, 53 of Athens, was arrested by Athens PD for Public Intoxication and Filing False Reports. Total Bond: \$13,500.

Andrew Jackson, 29 of Athens, was arrested by the THP for DUI. No Bond listed.

Michael Ware, 40 of Riceville, was arrested by the Etowah PD for Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, and Possession of Schedule II Methamphetamine. Total Bond: \$7,000.

Crissee Martin, 38 of Riceville, was arrested by the Etowah PD for Failure to Appear, Violation of Probation, Resisting Arrest, Evading Arrest, and Filing False Reports. Total Bond: \$4,500.

Anthony Martin, 34 of Cleveland, was arrested by the MCSO for Driving on a Revoked License. Total Bond: \$4,000.

Timothy Libbey, 34 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Probation and Aggravated Domestic Assault. Total Bond: \$15,000.

Seth Hancock, 28 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$2,641.90.

Sasha Call, 37 of Knoxville, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$1382.45

Rachel Little, 41 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for Driving without a License. Total Bond: \$3,000

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





Today in History - August 26

1883 - The volcano of Krakatoa in the Dutch East Indies began an explosive eruption which destroyed two-thirds of the island and killed 36,000 people. The eruption was heard thousands of miles away.

1906 - Albert Sabin was born in Russia. He moved to the U.S. and won fame for developing the oral polio vaccine.

1920 - The 19th Amendment to the Constitution was certified. It gave women the right to vote. State Rep. Harry T. Burn from Niota cast what turned out to be the deciding vote in favor of the resolution in the Tennessee legislature at the request of his mother.

1944 - French Gen. Charles de Gaulle braved the threat of German snipers as he led a victory march in Paris, which had just been liberated by the Allies from Nazi occupation.

1958 - Alaskans went to the polls to overwhelmingly vote in favor of statehood.