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McMinn Senior Activity Center Hosts FREE Estate Planning Workshop on January 7



The McMinn Senior Activity Center invites the community to attend a free estate planning workshop on Tuesday, January 7th, at 12:00 PM. Led by attorney Sarah Beth Locke, the session will provide valuable insights into wills, estate

joining age for the Activity Center starts at 50 and the Center is a great place to find the resources to age successfully," said Diane Hutsell, the Center's Executive Director.

The McMinn Senior Activity Center, open to those aged 50 and up, offers a wide range of programs to support successful aging. In 2025, the Center will host additional free workshops on Medicare, financial security, and more. Members can also explore new hobbies through art classes, chair yoga, gardening clubs, and travel opportunities, including trips to Ireland and the Grand Canyon. Pre-registration for the workshop is encouraged, and donations to support the Center's mission are appreciated but not required. For more information or to register, call 423-745-6830 or visit the Center Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM.

planning, health care documents, and asset protection. The event will take place at the Center, located at 205 McMinn Avenue in Athens.

This workshop, part of the Center's "Orientation to Aging" series, is designed to help individuals navigate key aspects of aging successfully. Topics will include:

- Ensuring loved ones are cared for according to your wishes.
- Protecting assets from government claims, creditors, and scams.
- Understanding the importance of passing on your legacy beyond financial wealth.

"The McMinn Senior Activity Center is redefining what it means to get older. People may be surprised to learn that the

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- Athens Community Theatre will hold auditions for *As She Likes It* on January 12 and 13, 2025, at 6:00 PM at The Arts Center. Actors aged 18+ are invited to audition, with cold readings from the script required. The show runs March 13-16, 2025. Visit athensartscouncil.org/auditions or call 423-745-8781 for details. Continued on Page 3



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Monday, December 30, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Joy Mullinax, 78, passed away Monday, December 23, at NHC of Athens, the family will have a visitation from 10:30 am-1:00 pm at Smith Funeral Home on Saturday, January 11, 2024. There will be no service at this time.

Laura Michelle Stephens, 59 of Decatur, passed away at her residence on December 23, after a lengthy illness. A private memorial service will be held later. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Stephens Family.

James D. Thomas, 90 of Etowah, passed away Thursday, December 26. James retired from the United States Army after 24 years of service. He was an avid fisherman and loved camping. The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday, December 30, in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. Family and friends will assemble at McMinn Memory Gardens, for a private graveside service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Edith Lucille Chaffins Manns, 92 of Dayton, passed away on Friday, December 20. She loved singing gospel music and sang with many groups. A private graveside service was held at Decatur Cemetery. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services was honored to serve the Manns Family.

Kelly A. Austin, 61 of Englewood, passed away Tuesday, December 24, 2024 at U.T. Medical Center in Knoxville. The family will receive friends Saturday, January 4, 2025 from 9:30-11:00 am at Smith Funeral Home with a Celebration of Life Service to follow at 11:00 am.

Fred Thomas "Tommy" Wyatt Jr., age 72, of Decatur, passed away on Friday, December 27. He worked for Hudson of Tennessee for 25 years and built the McDonald's in Decatur. A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 2, in the chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. The family will receive friends from 5 - 7 p.m., prior to the service. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Wyatt Family.

Albert Lee Webb, 88, of Niota passed away December 27. He was a long-time member of Union McMinn Baptist Church where he served as a deacon for many years. The family will receive friends on Monday, December 30, at Union McMinn Baptist Church from 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm. Funeral services will immediately follow at 7:00 pm Interment will be held on Tuesday, December 31, at 10:30 am at the Union McMinn Baptist Church Cemetery. Kyker Funeral Home in Sweetwater is honored to serve the Webb family.



President Jimmy Carter, age 100, passed away on Sunday, December 29 in Plains, Ga. James Earl Carter Jr. was an American politician and humanitarian who served from 1977 to 1981 as the 39th president of the United States. A member of the Democratic Party, he served from 1963 to 1967 in the Georgia State Senate and from 1971 to 1975 as the 76th governor of Georgia.



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Morgan Olson is Latest to Announce Layoffs



Morgan Olson, LLC, located at 9600 Corporate Park Drive, Loudon, TN, has issued a WARN (Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification) notice to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, stating that 250 employees will be permanently laid off starting February 11, 2025.

The notification was filed on December 18, 2024, with the state's Dislocated Worker Unit. Employees at the facility are not represented by a collective bargaining agreement.

The East Tennessee Human Resource Agency (ETHRA) has activated its rapid response team to work with Morgan Olson and the affected employees. The East Local Workforce Development Board will oversee ongoing support and services, including Rapid Response and Dislocated Worker programs, to assist displaced employees in transitioning to new opportunities.

For further information or resources, impacted workers can reach out to the [Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development](#).

Community News You Can Use

- UT Extension's SNAP Employment and Training Program: Skill Up Tennessee is a program that helps SNAP participants gain the skills and training they need to get a job. If you currently receive SNAP benefits and are NOT receiving TANF cash assistance, you may qualify for benefits including Gas cards for Transportation, Uniforms, Equipment, Tools, and Supplies, Testing fees and Textbooks. Visit tiny.utk.edu/SkillUpTn to see if you are eligible and to preregister.
- The McMinn County Historical Society will meet Sunday, January 5th at 2 p.m. in the Courthouse Blue Room. The presentation will be by Frances Witt-McMahan about Growing Up in St. Mark AME Church.



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