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Friday, January 3, 2025

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn Senior Activity Center Offers Free Computer Classes for Seniors



The McMinn Senior Activity Center has announced the return of the *Tech Goes Home* computer classes to be held at the Center. This computer literacy program for older adults aged 60 and up will begin on Monday, February 10, 2025, and includes 15 hours of digital skills training. The classes are from 8:30 am until 11:30 am and will run the entire week through Friday February 14, 2025. When they finish their 15 hours, participants will be able to take a Chromebook computer home with them.

The Southeast TN Area Agency on Aging and Disability (SETAAAD) is partnering with *Tech Goes Home Tennessee* and the McMinn Senior Activity Center for Older Adults Tech Classes. These computer classes include 15 hours of instruction and a Chromebook computer and mouse

upon completion. Classes are open to the public who are 60 and older, a resident of Southeast Tennessee and a first-time class participant. If you are interested in joining the classes beginning February 10-14, 2025, from 8:30 am to 11:30 am, please reach out to Diane Hutsell, Director of the McMinn Senior Activity Center at 423-745-6830 to sign up!

Serving older adults aged 50 and up since 1974, the McMinn Senior Activity Center offers meals, recreational activities, volunteer opportunities, and a variety of programs for older adults to promote their well-being and independence. It is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, contact the Senior Center at 423-745-6830 or go to www.mcminnseniors.com.

WEATHER FORECAST

Friday - Partly Sunny. High 46.
Fri. Night - Mostly Clear. Low 23.
Sat. - Sunny. High 40. Low 26.
Sun. - High 43. Low 38. 70%
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Everyone is Invited!

McMinn County
Historical Society
Monthly Meeting

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Friday, January 3, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Larry Dewayne Johnson, 55 of Decatur, passed away on Thursday, November 21. He enjoyed logging, watching the Falcons play football, and fishing. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, January 14 in the chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. The family will receive friends from 1 – 2 p.m., prior to the service. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Johnson Family.

Kenneth "Ken" Ross Benton, 82 of McMinn County, passed away on Wednesday, January 1. He retired from McKinney Excavating after 42 years of operating a front-end loader. Ken was a member of Clear Springs Baptist Church. Visitation will be held from 11:00-1:00 PM on Saturday, January 4 at Ziegler Funeral Home. Graveside services will follow at Clear Springs Cemetery in Athens. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care of Kenneth "Ken" Ross Benton.

Emma "Jean" Hicks, 74, passed away on Tuesday, December 31, surrounded by her family. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care of Emma "Jean" Hicks.

James "Jim" Crofts, 76 of Smyrna, and formerly of Englewood, passed away on Tuesday, December 31 after a hard fought six-year battle with Alzheimer's. He was raised at Englewood First Church of God, and continued in the church even after moving away. Visitation with the family will be held Friday, January 3, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Woodfin Chapel, Smyrna. Visitation will be held again from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM EST Monday, January 6, 2025, at Bordwine Funeral Home in Etowah, TN. A masonic service will follow the visitation at 1:00 PM EST and then the funeral service. Burial will follow in McMinn Memory Gardens. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Uneeda Kay Paschal aka Doe, 63, of Sweetwater went to be with the Lord on December 31st. Doe was a "do it herself" woman. She loved arts and crafts, and really enjoyed puzzles. The family will have a visitation on Sunday, January 5 from 3-4 pm at Companion Funeral Home of Athens, TN. Companion Funeral Home of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the family with these arrangements.

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EVERY WEEKDAY

Friday, January 3, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

Church News & Events

- Celebrate Recovery meets every Tuesday at 6:00 P.M. at Woodward Ave. Church of God (507 Woodward Ave., Athens). They also meet every Thursday at 6:00 P.M. at Watts Bar community Church (1517 TN HWY-68, Decatur)
- Planted In Christ Outreach Fellowship (317 Maple Street, Athens) holds Outreach Deliverance Classes every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
- The Trinity Trio will be singing at Good Hope Baptist Church in Decatur, TN at 11:00 am on Sunday, January 5. The church is located at 2601 Armstrong Ferry Rd, Decatur, TN.

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.
- The McMinn County Historical Society will have their monthly meeting in the Blue Room of the McMinn County Courthouse in Athens on Sunday, January 5 at 2:00 pm. Frances Witt-McMahan will be making a presentation about growing up in St. Mark AME ZION Church.

We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, e-mail it to: wyxiradio@gmail.com

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Friday, January 3, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County 4-H Baking Contest

The McMinn County 4-H Baking Contest invites all 4-H members to participate by dropping off their homemade baked items on January 21st at the McMinn Higher Education Center between 7:30 AM and 6:00 PM. Participants should use a disposable container for their entries and ensure that their recipes are attached.

Participants

- 4th grade- 6 Cornbread muffins or a pan of cornbread.
- 5th grade - 6 biscuits
- 6th grade - 6 cookies
- 7th and 8th grade - cupcakes
- 9th - 12th grade - quick bread

The judging will take place on January 22nd. The winners will be notified by phone that day. For more information call 423-745-2852.

New Tennessee Laws Effective January 1, 2025

Starting **January 1, 2025**, several new Tennessee laws will take effect:

Juvenile Justice Reform: A blended sentencing law allows juveniles convicted of violent crimes to serve both juvenile and adult sentences, closing loopholes and holding offenders accountable.

Healthcare Efficiency: Hospitals and doctors must accept electronic insurance cards as valid proof of insurance, streamlining patient visits.

Land Protection: New rules prohibit hostile foreign entities from owning Tennessee land, requiring divestment within two years. An Office of Agriculture Intelligence will oversee enforcement.

These laws aim to improve public safety, healthcare access, and protect state assets.

Source: State Senator J. Adam Lowe

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Our guest speaker will be the Executive Director here at Dominion of Athens, Larry Griffin!

Larry Graduated from Southern Adventist University with a degree in Long Term Healthcare and has served seniors for 35 years. He has worked in Assisted Living, Memory Care, and in the Nursing Home setting.

Larry has stated Dominion of Athens is the most exciting place he has ever worked!

Please join us on January 8th at 11am as Larry shares about his life experiences in healthcare and in the Memory Care setting. Lunch will be served.

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Friday, January 3, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

Massio Looney, 33 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for Murder, Vandalism, Evading, Resisting Arrest and Aggravated Assault. No Bond.

Larry Holtzclaw, 42 of Madisonville, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$5,700.

Caroline McDavid, 36 of Kingston, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$800.

Caitlyn Spain, 26 of Athens, was arrested by the APD for Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$3,300.

Sarah Woods, 38 of Riceville, was arrested by the MCSO for State Violation of Probation. No Bond.

Caleb Newton, 33 of Etowah, was arrested by the Etowah PD for Disorderly Conduct. Total Bond: \$1,000.

Brandon Smalling, 40 of Tellico Plains, was arrested by the MCSO for Failure to Appear. Total Bond: \$4,000.

Brittney Phoebus, 35 of Niota, was arrested by the MCSO for Tampering with evidence, Simple Possession/Casual Exchange of Fentanyl, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia.

Johnny Arnwine, 21 of Athens, was arrested by Athens PD for State Violation of Probation. No Bond.

Gregory Rymer, 43 of Kingston, was arrested by the MCSO for Simple Casual Possession of Methamphetamine. Simple Casual Possession of a Schedule VI Substance, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$18,000.

Marlin McCroskey, 35 of Cleveland, was arrested by the MCSO for Failure to Appear. Total Bond: \$2,000.

Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty. Information gathered using Public Sources.

 **InTouch**
with DR. CHARLES STANLEY

Weekdays
10:00 am - 10:30 am
Sundays
Noon - 12:30 pm



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