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Today's News...This Morning

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Monday, March 3, 2025

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

## Driver Injured After Car Plunges Down Embankment in Etowah



A 2009 Mazda MZ6 crashed into a stream and struck a tree after veering off the road and down a steep embankment at County Road 609 and

County Road 795 late Friday morning.

Emergency crews from Etowah City Fire, Etowah Rural Fire, and Englewood Rural Fire Departments responded, with Etowah Rural Deputy Chief Dustin Ruebush leading the scene. Fire personnel, assisted by the McMinn County Sheriff's Department, extricated the driver, who was then transported by AMR to Erlanger for treatment.

Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper Andrew Metelits is investigating the crash.

*Photo credit: Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Dept.*

## Community News You Can Use

- The Meigs Decatur Friends of the Library will be hosting its "Never Ending Book Sale" fundraiser on Friday, March 7 from 10am to 2pm. There will be books, games, puzzles and DVD's for every age group. Their prices are \$.50 to \$2.00. Proceeds from the sale are used to purchase new books for the Library's collection. The Meigs Decatur Public Library is located at 120 E. Memorial Drive, Decatur, TN. Phone: 423-334-3332.
- The Athens Municipal-Regional Planning Commission will be meeting TODAY, March 3 beginning at 12 pm in the Conference Room of the Athens Municipal Building.
- The Athens Public Works Dept. announces the closure of Parking Spaces 112, 113, and 114 from Madison Ave. to Bank St. This closure will be from Monday, March 3 at 6:30 a.m. until Friday, **Morning Fax** May 30 at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of this closure is for building repairs. For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.

*More Community News on Page 3*

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• Monday – Closed  
• Tuesday-Madisonville: Wil-Sav 10:30 - 1:30  
• Wednesday-Etowah Across from Johnsons-10:30 - 2:00  
• Thursday-Athens Family Dollar 10:30 -1:30  
• Friday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30

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We encourage you to e-mail results from local school sporting events for use in the **Morning Fax**. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to:  
[wyxiradio@gmail.com](mailto:wyxiradio@gmail.com)



## Compassionate Service in Your Time of Need

In times of grief, making difficult decisions about how best to honor the memory of someone so important can be overwhelming. We are here to help with complete, professional and compassionate funeral planning services to meet your needs and respectfully celebrate the life and legacy of your loved one.

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Monday, March 3, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

**Roy Hickman Leamon**, 83 of McMinn County, passed away on Thursday, February 27. He was a member of Solid Rock Baptist Church. Roy was employed with Davis Digger Service and TAG Construction. Visitation will be held at Ziegler Funeral Home from 3:00 until 7:00 PM on Wednesday, March 5. Funeral services will follow at 7:00 PM. Graveside services will be held at McMinn Memory Gardens on Thursday, March 6 at 11:00 AM. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Roy Hickman Leamon.

**David Nelson Millwood**, 53, passed away on Thursday, February 27. He was a member of the Church of God. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, March 4 at 7 p.m. in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Interment will be held on Wed., March 5 at 1 p.m. in the Meigs County Memorial Gardens. The Family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. prior to the service on Tuesday. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Millwood Family.

**Rose Lee Wolf Phillips**, 87 of Englewood, passed away on Thursday, February 27. Rose worked as a payroll clerk at Etowah Industries and Carwood Industries. Later, Rose worked alongside her husband Freddie at Phillips CPA. Funeral services will be 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 4 at Englewood Christian Church, 308 Englewood Ave. Englewood. The family will receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday at the church. Family and friends will assemble at McMinn Memory Gardens, Wednesday, March 5th for the 11:00 a.m. committal service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

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



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Monday, March 3, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

## Driver Injured in Hwy 307 Crash After Striking Tree



A driver was injured Friday morning after losing control of a 2002 Chevy Silverado and crashing into a tree on Highway 307 near County Road 350.

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Emergency responders from Niota Rural Fire, Englewood Rural Fire, and the McMinn County Sheriff's Department arrived at the scene. The driver sustained minor injuries and was treated by AMR paramedics but declined transportation to the hospital.

Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper James Dalton is investigating the accident.

*Photo credit: Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department*

## Community News You Can Use

- A Women's Veterans Day Celebration will be at the Niota Depot on Friday, March 7 at 11am. If you have questions, call the Veterans Services Office at 423-744-1605.   
Morning Fax  
Today's News. This Morning.
- The Vietnam Veterans Day Celebration will be on Friday, March 28 at 11am at the Niota Depot.
- "Veterans All Call" will be taking place on Wednesday, April 30 from 8am - 5pm at the Athens Conference Center. Enjoy fellowship with other local Veterans and learn about the resources available to Veterans in the area.



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2025-2026

## PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Keith Children's Academy is accepting registration for the 2025-2026 school year!

March 3

600 W Madison Avenue

- ✓ PreSchool
- ✓ Parents' Day Out
- ✓ Registration forms on website:

<https://www.keithumc.org/keith-childrens-academy>



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Monday, March 3, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

## Local Student Wins Optimist Club Oratorical Contest



**Addison Brock**, an 8th grader at Athens City Middle School, recently won the Optimist Club of Athens oratorical contest based on a theme of “How Optimism Has Guided Me Through Trying Times.” Addison was awarded a medal and \$250 for the honor. In addition, Brock will be sent to the district level where she will compete against winners from other Optimist Clubs in the area with the chance to win a scholarship, and then possibly on the Optimist International Regional/World Championship for a chance to win an additional \$5,000 or up to another \$15,000 scholarship. Scarlett Starkey was awarded \$150 and a medal for 2nd place, with Hope Humbert winning \$100 for 3rd place. Hope will be joining Addison at the District competition in lieu of Scarlett in March.

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The Optimist Club of Athens has been participating in the Optimist Oratorical Contest for over 30 years and has been active in the community since 1960. Other programs and service projects that the Club is involved in include Essay Contest, Respect for Law and Distinguished Young Woman. Optimist International is one of the world's largest service club organizations with over 80,000 adult and youth members in almost 3,000 clubs in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and Mexico and throughout the world. The Optimist Oratorical Contest is one of the organization's most popular programs, with more than 2,000 clubs participating annually. Carrying the motto “Bringing Out the Best in Youth, in our Communities, and in Ourselves,” Optimists conduct positive service projects that reach more than six million young people each year. To learn more about Optimist International, please visit the organization's website at [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org).

Source: Joe Allen - The Optimist Club of Athens



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**Monday, March 3, 2025 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 5 Athens, Tennessee**

**Etowah Rural Fire Department Receives Grants for Hazardous Materials and Wildland Fire Response**



The Etowah Rural Fire Department has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from Chemtrec and the American Chemistry Council to enhance emergency response capabilities for hazardous material incidents. The department was one of only six agencies in the United States selected for this prestigious award. To qualify, recipients must be members of the National Volunteer Fire Council. A formal recognition included Etowah Rural Fire Chief Adam Hafley, Assistant Fire Chief Kevin Elliott, Joseph Milazzo of Chemtrec, Jeff Sloan of the American Chemistry Council, Tennessee Fire Chief's Association Vice President Melvin Martin, Congressman Chuck Fleischmann's field representative Garrett Frye, McMinn County Mayor John Gentry, and Register of Deeds Cheryl Ingram.

Additionally, the department received a grant from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry to aid in purchasing equipment for combating grass, woods, and wildland fires. The equipment, valued at approximately \$3,000, will strengthen the department's wildfire response efforts.

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Pictured in recognition of the forestry grant were members of the department along with Dozer Operator Jimmy Brown and Forestry Technician Spencer Casteel from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Forestry Division. *(Photo credit: Etowah Rural Fire Department)*

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