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Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Female Inmates Earn OSHA Certification Through Jail Education Program



McMinn County Sheriff Joe Guy announced another step forward in rehabilitation and reentry efforts at the county jail, as several female inmates recently completed OSHA certification courses.

The OSHA 10-hour course, taught in partnership with Adult Education and the McMinn Education Foundation, equips inmates with essential workplace safety knowledge, including proper use of PPE, handling of chemicals, blood borne pathogen awareness, and accident prevention.

Inmates meet weekly with instructors over a 2- to 4-week period to complete class hours and testing. Upon successful completion, they receive an official OSHA certification card along with helpful resources such as interview tips, dress code guidance, resumé templates, and job application

links.

"This certification puts these women one step closer to employment upon release," Sheriff Guy said. "We are proud of their hard work and hope this positive choice leads to even more success in their futures." Special thanks were given to Inmate Programs Coordinator Kayla Crowder for her dedication to making these opportunities possible.

Source: [Joe Guy - Facebook](#)

LISTENING REMINDER: TODAY on *Main Street Moments*: Host Maggie Blaine invites **Chinzei Gakuni** to discuss the TWU Sister City Program! The broadcast will be aired at 8:15 a.m. TODAY on WYXI RADIO: AM-1390 and FM-94.5. *See ad on Page 3*

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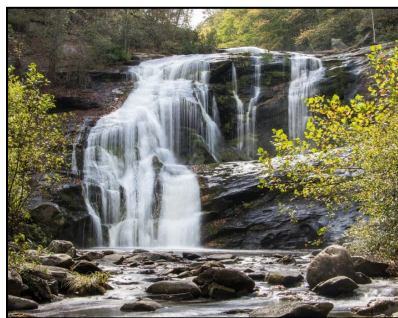


Tuesday, July 29, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

Loudon County Native Drowns at Bald River Falls



The McMinn County Sheriff's Office has confirmed the death of a 37-year-old man who drowned Saturday near Bald River Falls along River Road. The victim, originally from Loudon County and visiting from

Florida, was recovered following a coordinated response by first responders and the Monroe County Sheriff's Office Dive Team.

Authorities were on the scene for several hours conducting search and recovery operations. The area was temporarily closed to the public during the investigation. The victim's family has been notified. Officials ask the community to keep the family and friends of the man in their thoughts during this difficult time. No further details have been released at this time. *Source: [Sheriff Tommy Jones - Facebook](#)*

Donate Blood and Get a Free Ticket to Anakeesta, July 30–31

MEDIC Regional Blood Center is offering a special thank-you to donors on **Tuesday, July 30, and Wednesday, July 31**—a **free ticket to Anakeesta** in Gatlinburg.

Anakeesta is a mountaintop adventure park offering scenic rides, treetop skywalks, ziplines, mountain coasters, and immersive attractions like the Astra Lumina nighttime light show. Donors will receive a ticket valid for entry to this unique Smoky Mountains destination.

Appointments are encouraged but not required and can be made at www.medicblood.org, through the MEDIC app, or by calling the Athens Donor Center (next to Ingles) at **423-453-5846**. Walk-ins are welcome. MEDIC supplies blood products to **25 hospitals and air medical transport services across 23 counties**, including Blount Memorial, UT Medical Center, East TN Children's Hospital, Tennova, and Covenant Health System. Donations directly help East Tennessee and Southeastern Kentucky communities. When you donate with Medic Regional Blood Center, you save local lives. Because when you give local, you save local.

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Tuesday, July 29, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

AACA Announces Dynamic Start to 2025-26 Concert Season

The Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA) is opening its 2025–26 performance season with two exciting and diverse concerts that highlight the region's artistic talent and musical heritage.

First up, AACA presents *TWO*, a celebration of iconic duets, on **Friday, August 8 at 7:00 PM** in the Sue E. Trotter Black Box Theater. Directed by audience favorite G. David Brown—known for past productions like *Evening with the Stars*, '64–'71: *The Music of a Changing World*, and last year's *ONE—TWO* promises twice the harmony and heart. The concert will feature beloved duets from folk traditions to theatrical ballads, performed by a stellar lineup of local vocalists. Singers include Alex Sharp, Amanda Reynolds, Andrew Kimball, Crystal Hall, Cynthia McCowan, Emerson McKenzie, Lauren Brown, Lu Kimball, Miah Baker, Natalie Leonesio, Pam Thigpen, Raegan Graves, Stephanie Roberts, Tad Roberts, and Whitney Kimball Coe.

They'll be backed by The Arts Center's house band, September Song, led by Music Director Andrew Kimball on guitar and vocals, and featuring Kyle Littleton (lead guitar), Joe Littleton (bass), Matt Flowers (drums), with special guests Ellen Kimball (keys) and Cody Hensley Sharp (brass). Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students.

Then, on **Friday, September 12 at 7:00 PM**, the Black Box Concert Series kicks off with **Seth Mulder & Midnight Run**, a band known for their high-energy fusion of traditional bluegrass, classic country, and folk. Formed in 2018 in the hills of East Tennessee, the band brings authenticity and flair to every performance, captivating both bluegrass purists and new fans alike. Tickets for the Black Box Concert Series range from **\$20 to \$25**, and early purchase is encouraged.

Both concerts take place in the **Sue E. Trotter Black Box Theater at The Arts Center**, located at 320 North White Street in Historic Downtown Athens. For tickets and more information, visit athensartscouncil.org or call **423-745-8781**. The Arts Center office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

ATHENS CITY INTERMEDIATE SNEAK PEEK FAMILY NIGHT



3RD GRADE
JULY 29TH - 5-6:30 P.M.



5-5:30
GRADE LEVEL MEETING IN
CAFETERIA TO DISCUSS 3RD GRADE

5:35-6:30
MEET THE TEACHERS

ATHENS CITY INTERMEDIATE SNEAK PEEK FAMILY NIGHT



4TH GRADE
JULY 30TH - 5-6:30 P.M.



5-5:45
MEET THE TEACHERS

5:45-6:00
TRANSITION

6:00-6:30
GRADE LEVEL MEETING IN
CAFETERIA TO DISCUSS 4TH GRADE

ATHENS CITY INTERMEDIATE SNEAK PEEK FAMILY NIGHT



5TH GRADE
JULY 30TH - 5-6:30 P.M.



5-5:30
GRADE LEVEL MEETING IN
CAFETERIA TO DISCUSS 5TH GRADE

5:30-5:45
TRANSITION

5:45-6:30
MEET THE TEACHERS

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Athens, Tennessee

TWU Honors Students Studying Abroad in Czech Republic



Four Tennessee Wesleyan University Honors students recently returned from a weeklong study abroad internship at Palacký University in Olomouc, Czech Republic. Accompanied by professors Jack Seitz and Ana Barrios, the group explored historic sites

including Lednice Castle, Bouzov Castle, and the Basilica of the Visitation.

The trip concluded in Prague with visits to synagogues and Holocaust memorials. Sophomore Lindsey Roberson said the experience brought classroom lessons to life.

Supported by TWU and its partnership with Palacký University, the program continues to offer students immersive global learning opportunities.

Source: Chrsi Jackson, TWU

Obituaries

Arthur L. "Toby" Ghorley, 70, a lifelong resident of McMinn County, passed away peacefully on Sunday, July 27. He retired from Mayfield Dairy Farm after 33 years of service. Toby was a member of Victory Baptist Church. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, July 30, 2025, from 5:00-7:00 PM at Victory Baptist Church with a funeral service to follow at 7:00 PM. Grave-side services will be held on Thursday, July 31 at 11:00 AM at McMinn Memory Gardens. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Arthur L. "Toby" Ghorley.

Karen Hutsell Sullivan, 58, of Athens, passed away on Monday, July 25, 2025 at her home. She was a lifelong resident of McMinn County. She was known as Pippa to her grandchildren. She was a member of Clear Water Baptist Church. She was a graduate of McMinn County High School and was associated with the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce as the Membership Services Director. A memorial service will be conducted 7:00 pm, Thursday, July 31, 2025 in the chapel of Smith Funeral Home with Pastor Bo Dunkle officiating. The family will receive friends Thursday from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the funeral home prior to the service. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is honored to serve the family of Karen Hutsell Sullivan.

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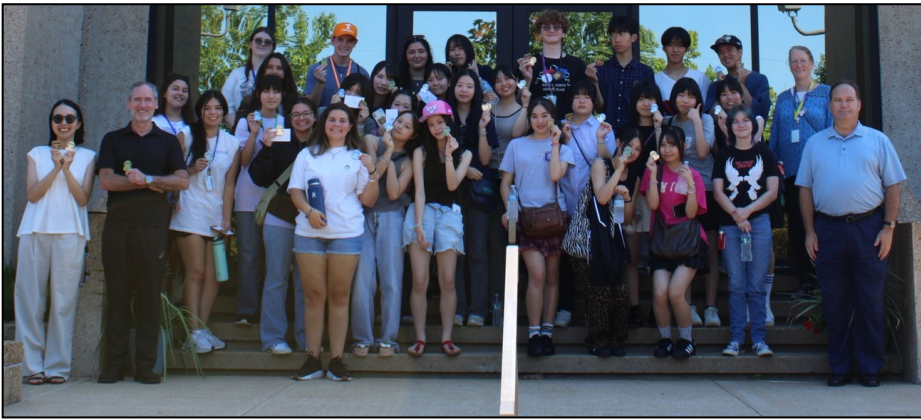


Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 5

Athens, Tennessee

Athens City Hall Hosts Japanese Exchange Students as Part of Sister Cities Program



On Thursday, July 24, Athens City Hall welcomed a delegation of 30 students and sponsors from *Chinzei Gakuin* in Isahaya, Japan, as part of the city's ongoing Sister Cities exchange program in partnership with Tennessee Wesleyan University and the Athens Sister Cities Committee.

The day began with a warm welcome from City Manager Dr. Randy Dowling, who spoke to the group about the structure of municipal, state, and national governments. His talk highlighted both the similarities and differences between the systems in the U.S. and Japan, setting the tone for a day focused on learning and cultural exchange. Students were then treated to a behind-the-scenes tour of the Athens Fire and Police Departments. Highlights included hands-on demonstrations of fire engine tools and equipment, fingerprinting activities with local officers, and an up-close look at patrol cars and fire trucks. The visiting students showed great curiosity and enthusiasm throughout the visit.

“We are deeply grateful for the strong and enduring relationship we share with our Sister City, Isahaya,” said Dr. Dowling. “It is through these exchanges that our communities grow closer, fostering understanding and lasting international friendships.”

The visit reflects the City of Athens' commitment to global connection, cultural learning, and the continued success of its Sister Cities program. City officials look forward to more international guests in the years ahead. *Source: [City of Athens - Facebook](#)*

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