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Driver Avoids Head-On Crash on Hwy. 39



A 2023 Kia Forte ran off the road early Friday morning after its driver swerved to avoid a head-on collision on Highway 39 at County Road 580 in Athens. The incident occurred around 6:30 a.m. when another vehicle crossed the center line.

The driver of the Forte went into a ditch to avoid impact and was treated at the scene by first responders and EMS before being transported by AMR to Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens.

The McMinn County Sheriff's Department and Englewood Rural Fire Department assisted at the scene. Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper Whitney Dixon is investigating the crash.

Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Department

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Tuesday, August 19, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

Art Center Seeking Entries for Upcoming "Open Exhibit"



Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA) is pleased to present its annual **Open Exhibit** for residents of McMinn County and the surrounding counties. The entry deadline is **Wednesday, September 3, 2025**.

The exhibit has three divisions: High School, College, and Open. There is no entry fee for high school and college division artists, and those in the open division may enter for \$10 per piece. Information about how to enter, including detailed prospectus and exhibit timeline, is available at athensartscouncil.org/open-exhibit-prospectus.

The exhibit will be on display in the Hallway Gallery at The Arts Center, October 3 through November 7, 2025. Viewing hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and during special events.

Source: Lauren Brown, AACA

Community News You Can Use

- The **McMinn County Amateur Radio Club** will have their 2025 Chili Supper November 1st at the Southern Events at 298 W Madison Ave, Athens, TN from 11am-4pm. The price for the chili dinner is \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors, \$6 for kids and first responders eat free. The McMinn County Amateur Radio Club is a nonprofit organization, and all proceeds go back into the club for yearly expenses such as the maintaining of ham radio towers and repeaters. These repeaters are used for emergency personnel, and for emergency situations.
- The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating Farm Bureau Insurance (804 S. White Street) as they officially join the Chamber with a Ribbon Cutting. It will take place today at 1:30 pm.
- McMinn County Road 212, Hollow Road, will be closed Tuesday, August 19th, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for emergency road construction.

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.

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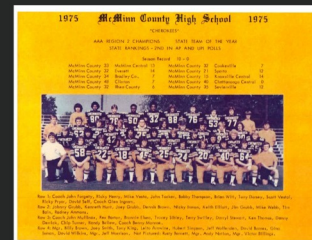
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Tuesday, August 19, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

8-13-25

Orice Shelton, 58 of Etowah, charged with drug paraphernalia and violation of state probation for theft of property.

Christopher Tremblay, 19 of Athens, charged with failure to appear for driving on suspended license.

Christina Andon, 36 of Athens, charged with manufacturing, selling, delivery, and possession, drug paraphernalia, child abuse or neglect, nonviolent, Bond is \$3,000.

Alexander Barnett, 34 of Athens charged with simple possession, casual exchange, driving on revoked license, violation of registration laws, failure to have insurance, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Bond is \$5,000.

8-14-25

Jonathan Gray, 49 of Athens, charges violation of state probation for sale and delivery of schedule two drugs.

Dustin Atchley, 33 of Athens, charged with failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, and, violation of probation for possession of fentanyl, Bond \$3,730.

Dylan Boggess, 26, of Benton, charged with failure to appear in Sevier County.

Devin Collier, 29, of Athens, charged with schedule two drugs, Bond \$14,000.

Marvin Buchanan, 44 of Athens, charged with failure to appear for driving on suspended license.

Anthony Pike, 19, of Loudon, charged with evading arrest, reckless endangerment, and child endangerment.

8-15-25

Richard Hughes, 64 of Etowah, charged with a violation of probation for possession of meth, has a \$4,116.35 bond.

Ricky Abner, 32 of Etowah, charged with unlawful carry or possession of a weapon by convicted felon, simple possession, scheduled 2 fentanyl, aggravated assault, and drug paraphernalia.

Andrew Reid, 43 of Athens, charged with scheduled 2 meth for resale, drug paraphernalia, armed dangerous felonies.

Nicholas Chastain, 45 of Cleveland, charged with failure to appear for schedule six drugs.

Justin Childrick, 37 of Athens, charged with violation of probation for possession of marijuana, resisting stop, and evading arrest, has a \$2,500 bond.

Julie Shaw, 52 of Englewood, charged with casual exchange, possession of meth, schedule 6 drugs, schedule 2 drugs, tampering with evidence, and driving without license.

Angelica Gray, 44 of Tellico Plains, charged with failure to appear for possession of paraphernalia. \$4,000 bond.

Chastity Beasley, 39 of Athens, charged with schedule 6 drugs, casual exchange and possession of meth, possession of drug paraphernalia, and falsification of a drug test.

Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.
Information gathered using Public Sources.

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Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

David Lee Hicks, 62, a native of Gary, Indiana and long-time resident of McMinn County, passed away on Wednesday, August 13. He was a football player for McMinn County High School. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, August 19 at The Lighthouse Church International in Charleston from 6:00-8:00 PM. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of David Lee Hicks.

Frank Lee Rymer, age 62 of Reliance and Etowah passed away on Wednesday, July 23, 2025. After graduating from McMinn Central High School, Frank began working on towboats on the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers and then he retired from Bowater. Frank's last job was serving as a bail bondsman. Frank was widely traveled, having visited all 50 states and most of the Caribbean Islands. The family will receive friends on Saturday, August 23rd from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. A celebration of Frank's life will be held at 2:30. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Donald Humble, age 78, passed away peacefully at home on August 15, 2025, surrounded by his loved ones. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts. Donald was a Vietnam Veteran and took immense pride in his Leatherwork with over 30 years of experience. "Suaimhneas Siorai Air." Good Samaritan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Glenn C. "Peanut" Richeson, age 95, of the Pond Hill Community, passed away on Sunday, August 17, 2025. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. Glenn was a long-time employee of Athens Stove Works, a cattle farmer and gardener. He enjoyed farming, fishing and training his cattle dogs. He's survived locally by daughters: Vickie Proffitt and Susan Lee; daughter-in-law, Annette Richeson. Visitation is 9.30-10.30 Wednesday at Kyker Funeral Home. Graveside service 11.00am at Mt Pisgah Baptist Church. Kyker Funeral Home of Sweetwater is in charge.

Richard "Pastor Rick" Patterson, a loving husband, devoted father, grandfather and great grandfather passed away on Sunday morning, August 17, 2025, surrounded by his family. He crossed life's final finish line with grace, leaving behind a legacy built on faith, love, and cherished memories. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7 And now just as the checkered flag waves to mark the end of the race well-run, we know Richard has crossed life's finish line. The race may be complete, but the legacy of faith, love and determination remains. A graveside service will be held on August 19, 2025, at McMinn Memory Gardens in Athens, Tennessee, at 2:00 PM with Art Clawson officiating. Family and friends are welcome to gather together to celebrate the remarkable life of Rick Patterson, who touched so many lives with his kindness, unwavering faith, and boundless love. His spirit will live on in the hearts of all who knew him, a testament to a life well-lived. Good Samaritan Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

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