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Wednesday, August 20, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

## Fire Crews Respond to Rollover Crash; Driver Flees Scene



Claxton, Riceville, and Athens Rural Fire Departments were dispatched to a single-vehicle rollover at County Road 700 near County Road 674 on Monday around 5:30 p.m. Claxton and Riceville units responded, with Riceville Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth taking incident command.

When crews arrived, they found the vehicle overturned but no occupant at the scene. Authorities believe the driver had fled the area before first responders arrived.

The Tennessee Highway Patrol is investigating the crash.

*Photos by Kayne Watkins, Public Information Officer for Claxton Fire Department*

◆ On Thursday's *Hope From the Well*, host **Julie Tillis** invites Robin Nation to the program to discuss "Your Testimony." *Hope From the Well* is heard every Thursday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

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**Wednesday, August 20, 2025**
Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2
**Athens, Tennessee**

## Seth Mulder & Midnight Run Coming to Athens



The Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA) is pleased to welcome Seth Mulder & Midnight Run to open the 2025-26 Black Box Concert Series on Friday, September 12 at 7:00 pm at The Arts Center's Sue E. Trotter Black Box Theater.

Seth Mulder & Midnight Run's tight style fuses bluegrass, classic country, and folk to resonate with traditionalists and new audiences alike. The group was born in the holler of a Tennessee distillery, where the spirit of tradition still runs strong. Since forming in 2018, the band has been on a mission to blend the roots of traditional bluegrass with the energy of modern performance, crafting a sound that is both deeply authentic and refreshingly original.

All Black Box Concert Series performances are in the Sue E. Trotter Black Box Theater. Tickets are on sale now. Tickets for this series range from \$20 to \$25. Patrons are encouraged to purchase tickets early. *Source: Lauren Brown, AACA*

## Community News You Can Use

- **Etowah Senior Center** is hosting a Tech Goes Home Class Monday through Friday next week from 11:30 until 2:30. Each person will be able to keep their laptop if completing all 15 hours of basic computer skills. You need to be at least 60 years of age and live in McMinn County. *Call the senior center at 423-781-7632 if interested.*
- Join the Meigs County Historical Society and Museum on Sunday, August 24 at 2pm for a presentation directed by Jacob Ellis. His presentation will explore the history of the Hiwassee Garrison in Rhea County, a frontier military post established in the early 1800's to protect settlers and Native Americans and to oversee U.S. Dealings with the Cherokee Nation. It will trace the garrison's role from regional defense and treaty enforcement to its connection with the Blythe Ferry during the Cherokee removal, highlighting its enduring place in local national history. The event is free. The Meigs County Historical Museum is located at 200 Smith Avenue in Decatur.

### HONORING THE MCMINN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL **Class of 1975** FOOTBALL TEAM



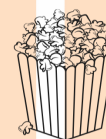
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Wednesday, August 20, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

## McMinn County Arrest Reports

**08-17-2025**

**Tashina Williams**, 34 of Englewood, charged with disorderly conduct and drug paraphernalia. Bond set at \$1,500.

**Chloe Callaway**, 21 of Cleveland, charged with violation of probation for shoplifting; \$1,358 bond.

**Alyssa Natola**, 33 of Athens, charged with state violation of probation for felony evading and resisting stop.

**Cassandra Belcher**, 26 of Etowah, charged with schedule one and drug paraphernalia; \$7,000 bond.

**DeMarcus Steeler**, 26 of Chattanooga, charged with state violation of probation for 2,500 to 10,000 with no bond.

**Tammy Presswood**, 45 of Sweetwater, charged a simple possession, casual exchange, of meth; \$12,000 bond.

**Kevin O'Neil**, 54 of Old Fort, charged with attempted first degree-murder in Polk County.

**Kirby Davis**, 33 of Athens, charged with violation of probation for drug paraphernalia; \$1,850 bond.

**Mark Hughes**, 46 of Niota, charged a simple possession & casual exchange of schedule II meth, driving on revoked license, misuse of registration, failure to appear for driving on revoked license; \$9,000 bond.

**Gregory Manfield**, 72 of Athens, charged with failure to appear for driving on suspended license, speeding, no insurance, and drug paraphernalia; \$3,000 bond.

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

## Obituaries

**Ray "Eddie" Cox**, 79 of Athens, passed away on Monday, August 18. Funeral service will be held at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, August 21 in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Thursday prior to the service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

**Jeffrie "Jeff" Wayne Morgan**, 66 of Athens, passed away on Friday, August 15. Jeff was the proud owner of Morgan Tool and Automation. He was also a member of the Athens Elks Lodge. Jeff's wishes were to be buried on his property by his lakes that he built himself. Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Athens, TN, and the Cody family are honored to assist his family with these arrangements.

**Jennifer Watson Bowman**, 58 of Athens, passed away on Monday, August 18. Funeral service will be held at 7:00 p.m., Friday, August 22 in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7p.m., Friday prior to the service. Family and friends will assemble at New Zion Baptist Church Cemetery, on Saturday, August 23rd for the 11:00 a.m. committal service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

**Carl L. Sturgill**, 88 of Athens, passed away on Thursday, August 14. He retired from The City of Athens as Director of Administration and Emergency Services after 32 years of service. He was a member of Fairview Baptist Tabernacle. Funeral services will be 7:00 P.M. Saturday, August 23, at Fairview Baptist Tabernacle in Sweetwater. Interment will be 2:00 P.M. Sunday in Pisgah Cemetery. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, Athens, Tenn. in is charge of arrangements.

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