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Monday, September 8, 2025

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Tellico Plains Man Charged with Second-Degree Murder After Fatal Stabbing



A Tellico Plains man has been charged with second-degree murder after a deadly stabbing late Thursday night, according to the Monroe County Sheriff's Office (MCSO).

Deputies said they responded to a 911 call around **11:45 p.m. on Sept. 4** at **700 Cagle Road**, where they found **44-year-old Keith Brandon McJunkin** detained and **Jeffery Dale Millsaps** suffering from two stab wounds to the chest.

Deputies performed CPR and applied chest seals until emergency medical services arrived. Millsaps was transported to the **University of Tennessee Medical Center**, where he was pronounced dead Friday morning, Sept. 5.

The Monroe County Crime Scene Team collected evidence overnight, and investigators interviewed McJunkin and witnesses at the scene. McJunkin was originally arrested for attempted second-degree murder but saw his charges upgraded to **second-degree murder** following Millsaps' death.

McJunkin is being held at the Monroe County Jail, MCSO said.

Source: WBIR.com

Monday - Closed

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- Wed-Etowah Across from Johnsons-10:30 - 2
- Thu-Athens Family Dollar 10:30 -1:30
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Athens, Tennessee

Athens Community Theatre Presents Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*

Athens Community Theatre (ACT) will present Agatha Christie's classic whodunit *The Mousetrap*, directed by Bob Borwick, **October 24 – November 2, 2025**, in the Sue E. Trotter Black Box Theater.

Performances are scheduled for **Fridays and Saturdays, October 24, 25, 31, and November 1 at 7:00 p.m.**, and **Sundays, October 26 and November 2 at 2:00 p.m.**

Friday, October 31, will feature a special catered event. Ticket holders are invited to join ACT at 6:30 p.m. for the **Mystery Maven Costume Contest**, where prizes will be awarded for best costume, best pair or group costume, and most unique interpretation of the theme.

Tickets go on sale **September 12** and are **\$20 for adults and \$15 for students**. Tickets for the October 31 performance are **\$25**. Patrons are encouraged to purchase tickets early, as ACT events frequently sell out before show dates.

For more information about the ACT Mainstage Series or to purchase tickets, visit the Athens Community Theatre box office or website.

Community News You Can Use

- The Athens City Schools Board of Education will meet Today, Monday, September 8 at 5:30 pm at the ACS Administration Building.
- The McMinn County Election Commission will hold its regular meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2025, at 5 p.m. in the conference room of the McMinn County Courthouse. The agenda will be posted by Thursday, Sept. 11 on the bulletin board at the Election Office and on the commission's website.
- The McMinn-Meigs Alzheimer's Support Group will meet **Tuesday, Sept. 9, at 7 p.m. at Life Care of Athens, 1234 Frye Street**. Guest speaker **Kim Warnick**, founder of Dementia Care Solutions of East Tennessee, will share her expertise on dementia care, early detection, advanced care planning, and family support. For more information, visit www.dementiasolutionstn.com or call group facilitator **Linda Garza at 423-381-9549**.
- The guest this week on Main Street Moments will be Brianna Baker, the McMinn County Tourism Director. Main Street Moments is broadcast each Tuesday morning at 8:15 on WYXI 94.5 FM & 1390 AM.

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Monday, Sept. 8, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

Heartbeats & Harmonies Concert Brings Music, Family Fun and Community Spirit to Athens

The Athens community is invited to come together for an evening of music, fellowship, and celebration at **Heartbeats & Harmonies**, a **free** outdoor concert benefiting **Full Circle Medical Center for Women**. The event is set for **Saturday, October 4, 2025, from 5 to 8 p.m.** at the Athens Market Park Pavilion.

This year's concert promises a lively mix of bluegrass and country gospel music. **Ethan McNelly & The Manly Band** will open the night, setting the tone for the evening before the acclaimed **Endless Highway** takes the stage as the featured headliner. Alongside the music, families can enjoy **bounce houses, kids' games, food trucks, and plenty of family-friendly activities.**

While the concert is free, organizers will make a **special appeal for donations** during the evening to help fund the life-saving mission of Full Circle Medical Center for Women, which provides compassionate support to women and families facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies.

In addition to the live event, Heartbeats & Harmonies is hosting an **online silent auction from September 29 through October 3** on the event's official Facebook page. Community members can bid on a variety of items and claim their winnings at the concert or arrange for later pickup.

"Heartbeats & Harmonies is more than a concert — it's a celebration of life, family, and community," organizers said. "It's a chance to gather with neighbors and churches who share a passion for helping families thrive."

Full Circle Medical Center for Women's mission is to **empower women to choose life for their preborn children** and to offer hope, truth, and practical resources through the love of Christ.

Concertgoers are encouraged to **bring lawn chairs, blankets, and friends** for what promises to be a meaningful and memorable night. For more info, visit the Facebook event page [HERE](#)



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Monday, Sept. 8, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

9-4-25

- Patricia Smith**, 51 of Dalton, GA, charged with violation of probation for driving on a suspended license, Bond \$735.95
- William Ballew**, 44 of Cleveland, charged with violation of probation for driving on a revoked license, Bond \$550.95
- Cherish Fritz**, 38 of Knoxville, charged with domestic assault, Bond \$1,000
- James Isbell**, 36 of Athens, charged with criminal impersonation, Bond \$1,000.
- Christopher Hernandez Thornton**, 35 of Athens, charged with felony aggravated domestic assault and resisting stop. Bond \$15,000
- Jenna Pike**, 33 of Decatur, charged with public intoxication Bond \$1,000
- James Anthony**, 57 of Splendora, TX, charged with failure to give identification and walking on the interstate. No bond listed.
- Lidge Houston**, 29 of Spring City, charged with failure to appear for theft of property valued from \$1,000 to \$2,500. Bond \$572.45

J. Doyle Wilson, 22 of Athens, charged with failure to maintain lane, DUI, child support, and reckless endangerment, he is being held without bond.

9-5-25

- Jason O'Daniel**, 55 of Athens, charged with criminal trespassing, Bond \$2,000
- Frank Howard**, 41 of Athens, charged with domestic assault, Bond \$1,000
- Mark Borden**, 60 of Sweetwater, charged with theft of property, motor vehicles, Bond \$15,000
- Tiara Wilcox**, 22 of Nashville, charged with state violation of probation for a burglary, No Bond.
- James Kuntz**, 50 of Englewood, charged with being a fugitive from justice, No Bond.
- Brandon Ferguson**, 19 of Athens, charged with failure to appear for driving without a license, Bond \$1,000
- Daniel Mack**, 59 of Athens, charged with failure to appear for possession of unlawful drug paraphernalia, Bond \$2,000

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

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Monday, Sept. 8, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Paul "Willis" Sliger, 82 of McMinn County, passed away on Friday, September 5. He was a member of Short Creek Baptist Church. Visitation was held on Sunday, September 7, at Short Creek Baptist Church. Interment followed at Short Creek Cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Paul "Willis" Sliger.

David Lynn Thompson, 67 of Ten Mile, passed away peacefully on Friday, September 5. He was an active member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. He found joy in the great outdoors through fishing and hunting. The funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, September 10 at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. Interment will follow in the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 5 – 7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9 in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Thompson Family.

Clinton Ray Moore, 65, died on Friday September 5, 2025 at a local Athens, TN hospital. Survivors and arrangements to be announced by M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home & Cremation Service.

Ella Mae Moore, 95 of Athens, passed away on Monday, September 1 in Sweetwater. Ella Mae served as a domestic in her younger years and attended church all her life. The family received friends on Sunday, September 7 with the funeral service following at Redemptions to the Nations Church. Interment was in Lanetown Cemetery. Companion Funeral Home of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the family with these arrangements.

Jimmy "Ruel" Nance, 79, passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 4 in Knoxville. Ruel dedicated 32 years of his life to his career as a machinist at TVA. Ruel was of the Baptist faith and a man of many passions and interests. The family will receive friends Wednesday, September 10 from 5 P.M. to 8 P.M. at Good Samaritan Funeral Home, Athens. A Masonic funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 11. Burial will follow the service in Shiloh Baptist Church Cemetery. Good Samaritan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Sandra "Sandy" Pyle, 73, of Englewood, TN passed away Saturday, September 6, 2025. She was of the Baptist faith and loved her family dearly. The family will hold a service at a later date. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

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