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Monroe County Auxiliary Deputy Terminated After DUI Arrest



The Monroe County Sheriff's Office has dismissed an auxiliary deputy following an arrest for driving under the influence in Blount County.

According to Sheriff Tommy Jones, **Jared Fowler, 28**, was taken into custody during the early morning hours of **September 16, 2025**.

Fowler, who had served as a volunteer auxiliary deputy since **August 2024**, was immediately terminated from the role.

Sheriff Jones said the department holds all employees, including auxiliary deputies, to high standards of conduct on and off duty, and violations of the law or actions that compromise public trust will not be tolerated.

Fowler is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in court.

Source: [Sheriff Tommy Jones](#)

Madisonville Police Ask for Help in Fatal Hit-and-Run Investigation

The Madisonville Police Department is asking for the public's help in locating a vehicle involved in a fatal hit-and-run late Tuesday night.

The crash happened around **11:30 p.m. on September 16** on **Oak Grove Road near Lincoln Drive**, where a pedestrian was struck and later died from their injuries.

Investigators said there is currently no information about the type of vehicle involved. The case remains an active investigation, and no further details are being released at this time. Anyone with information—"no matter how small"—is urged to contact the **Madisonville Police Department at 423-442-2268** or non-emergency dispatch at **423-442-4357**. Source: [Facebook - Madisonville PD](#)

Reminder: WYXI RADIO will be broadcasting live today at NAPA AUTO PARTS of Athens, during their annual Open House and Milwaukee Tools All Day Sales Event. Jody Harrison, the owner of NAPA AUTO PARTS invites everyone to attend and meet the Milwaukee Tools Rep who will be on site all day. The store, which is the only locally owned Auto Parts Store in Athens, is located at 312 North White Street in downtown Athens. The WYXI Broadcast will be from 11 am to 3 pm. The station will have giveaways including tickets to the Tennessee Overhill Fall Train Ride over the Hiwassee Loop, gift cards to the Midway Milk Shake and Mini Golf, Heavenly Creations by Jen, an oil change from Matlock Tire and a nice gift from the White Street Market. No purchase required to register. Also, the Taqueria El Organo Food Truck will be on site during the broadcast.

What is GYB?

G.Y.B.
/dʒi- wai- bee/

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Praise in the Park

Sept 20 | L&N Depot

10a-5p

*Food Trucks *Auction
*Games *Music
*Bounce Houses & more!

Zion Hill

McMinn County Living Heritage Museum

Upcoming September Events

History of The Robert E. Lee Hotel with Tyler Boyd
Thursday, September 18th @ Noon - Free Admission

HERITAGE SCHOOL: Taiwan A to Z - 1, 2, 3 到臺灣
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th @ 11:00 AM

Stop by the museum for an introduction to Taiwan in this hands on workshop! Learn how to make dumplings among other fun activities. Please bring an apron or wear something you don't mind getting messy.
This program is limited to 20 participants. \$5 or free for members.

High Tea at The Forest Home
Date and Time: September 27, 1-4 PM
1-2 PM: Home Tour
2 PM: Presentation
2:30-4 PM: High Tea
Tickets: \$125 per person.

Programs sponsored by C. Scott & Muriel S. Mayfield Family Foundation, Tennessee Arts Commission, Hugh M. Willson Family Foundation, and City of Athens

Hours:
Tuesday - Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM
Saturday: 10 AM - 1 PM
Sunday - Monday: Closed

Admission:
Adults: \$5.00
Senior 60+: \$3.00
Students: \$3.00

More Information
522 W Madison Ave.
Athens, TN 37303
423-745-0329
www.livingheritagemuseum.org

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Cleveland State Opens Nominations for Community First Awards

Cleveland State COMMUNITY COLLEGE Cleveland State Community College is now accepting nominations for its 10th Annual Community First Awards, which recognize individuals dedicated to serving their communities.

Residents of the college's five-county service area—Bradley, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe and Polk counties—are eligible. Awards will be given in three categories: Alumni of the Year, honoring former students making a significant community impact; Don M. Lorton Community Servant of the Year, recognizing volunteerism and community involvement; and Educator of the Year, for those making a meaningful difference in education at any level.

The awards will be presented during An Evening with Jim "Doc" McCloughan on Feb. 19, 2026. McCloughan, a Medal of Honor recipient and former Army combat medic, is highly decorated with two Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars, and the Combat Medic Badge.

Nominations are open to the public until Oct. 31 at mvcs.cc/cfanominations. Source: Andrea Byerly, CSCC

Community News You Can Use

- The monthly meeting of the Cherokee Beekeepers has changed the weekday and location of the monthly meetings. The next monthly meeting will be on Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting will be held at the McMinn Senior Activity Center located at 205 McMinn Avenue, Athens. The public is always invited. You do not need to be a member to attend.
- Former employees of Dany Industries are invited to a reunion on **Tuesday, Sept. 23, from 3–5 p.m.** at the **Lake Pavilion in Athens Regional Park**. Share memories, reconnect with old friends, and enjoy light snacks and beverages. Each attendee may bring one guest.
- The McMinn County Library Board will meet on Monday evening, September 22 at 6:00pm. The meeting will be held at the E.G. Fisher Public Library.
- Athens Community Theatre (ACT) continues its **2025-26 Table Read season** with Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* on **Tuesday, October 28, 2025**, led by ACT director, Autumn Lowry. All ACT Table Reads take place at The Arts Center in Athens, TN. **ACT's 2025-26 Table Reads are on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM unless otherwise indicated.** All Table Reads are free and open to the public.

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Short Leach **Tom Cordle**

Scenic City Dance Band **Hiking for Healing Live Benefit Auction**

Inspirations Dance Studio **Josh Gilbert**
Nina Ricci

October 11, 10–5 PM
Downtown Athens

WWW.FRIENDLYCITYFESTIVALS.COM

Athens Kiwanis Club 73rd Annual BBQ Sale

Friday, September 19 • 11am to sold out

Tickets • Cash • Check
\$12 for one package* of BBQ or
two bottles of Gus Bagley's BBQ Sauce
*packages are approximately 1lb each.

Drive Thru Location:
Market Park Pavilion
in Downtown Athens

Proceeds benefit the
Youth of McMinn County.

Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

9-15-25

Jeremy Boyd, 46 of Niota, was charged with violation of probation for driving on a revoked license, Bond \$989.95

Michael Vance, 43 of Madisonville, was charged with Schedule II meth.

Angela PapaGeorge, 46 of Niota, charged with driving on a revoked license, Bond \$2,000

Cheryl Lowe, 51 of Athens, charged with failure to appear for possession or casual exchange.

Shane Fritz, 41 of Englewood, charged with failure to appear for driving on a revoked license out of Blount County.

Caitlin Perdue, 34 of Athens, charged with violation of probation, Bond \$546.45

9-16-25

Natasha Monroe, 34 of Athens, charged with violation of probation, child support, manufacturing, selling, delivering, and possession of a controlled substance, Drug paraphernalia, Bond \$9,886.45

Ryan Francis, 37 of Chattanooga, charged with failure to appear for shoplifting, in violation of probation, Bond \$11,000

Peyton Buckner, 23 of Charleston, charged with Simple Possession of Schedule VI, Simple Possession of Schedule II meth for resale, drug paraphernalia, driving and possession of meth, and violation of probation for vandalism, Bond \$18,000

Kenneth Dodd, 64 of Athens, charged with possession of a handgun while under the influence, and reckless endangerment, Bond \$3,000

Courtney Clark, 33 of Athens, charged with violation of probation for driving on a suspended license, theft of property under \$1,000, and child support, Bond \$6,500

Lakota Jones, 30, of Sweetwater, charged with child endangerment, and Reckless Driving, Bond \$5,000

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

ARTSPLORATIONS Theatre Workshops



**FALL BREAK
OCTOBER 6 - 10**
320 N. White Street
athensartscouncil.org



HEARTBEATS & HARMONIES

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DOWNTOWN EVENT

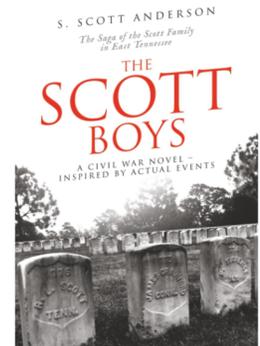
the event space @ White Street Market
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH 5:30-8:00PM



Athens native Scott Anderson attended Ingleside Elementary School and McMinn County High School, then on to college at Tennessee Wesleyan and Tennessee Tech. Growing up in Athens in the fifties and sixties Scott was immersed in the history of the area, much of it shared with him through his family who have been in East Tennessee since the early 1700s. A lifelong writer and photographer, he focuses on automotive history, creative fiction, and historically inspired unique stories since retiring from John Deere.

THE SCOTT BOYS

BOOK DISCUSSION STARTING AT 6:30



Copies for purchase at White Street Market

216 North White Street Athens, TN 37303

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**MEET LOCAL AUTHOR AND ENJOY DINNER
 AT THE ATHENS FOOD HUB FROM 5:30-8:00!**

MENU

Meat Loaf, Pinto Beans, Corn Bread, & Collard Greens.



Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 5 Athens, Tennessee

Vols Gear Up for UAB as Neyland Stadium Prepares for Smoother Entry



No. 15/15 Tennessee will look to rebound from a narrow loss to Georgia as the Vols close out a three-game homestand against UAB on Saturday at 12:45 p.m. on SEC Network. Tennessee's defense will face a challenge against UAB's balanced offense, requiring strong communication and teamwork across all levels to stop both the run and the pass. Offensively, the Vols hope to build on a 41-point performance against Georgia, led by redshirt junior Chris Brazzell II, who recorded career highs with 177 receiving yards and three touchdowns, showcasing his development as a key play-maker.

Following congestion at Neyland Stadium during the Georgia game, University of Tennessee Vice Chancellor/Director of Athletics Danny White has implemented new entry procedures to improve the fan experience. Gates now open at 10:15 a.m., two and a half hours before kickoff, with Gate 20 reopening to the public and students entering through Gate 4 at the southeast corner of the stadium. Fans are encouraged to follow designated walking routes, including Lake Loudoun Blvd. and Phillip Fulmer Way.

The Pride of the Southland Band will begin its march at 11:05 a.m. on Pat Head Summitt Street, proceeding to the Johnson-Ward Pedestrian Walkway and entering at Gate 25. The traditional salute to the hill will take place at the corner of Volunteer Blvd. and the pedestrian walkway entrance. Security measures remain in place, including metal detectors on the southeast corner of the stadium, with fans able to move freely through the area until four hours before kickoff. Tailgaters can access G10 coolers until that time, after which they should move to G3, G4, G5, or G30 to find their spot.

Fans can find additional updates and gameday information at utsports.com as Tennessee prepares for another high-energy Saturday at Neyland Stadium.

Source: UTSports.com

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE ON THE MORNING FAX®

SEC

GAMES TO WATCH THIS SATURDAY

ARKANSAS @ MEMPHIS 12:00 PM ON ABC	NIU @ MISSISSIPPI ST. 4:15 PM ON SECN	SLU @ #3 LSU 7:45 PM ON SECN
UAB @ #15 TENNESSEE 12:00 PM ON SECN	S. CAROLINA @ #23 MISSOURI 7:00 PM ON ESPN	
#22 AUBURN @ #11 OKLAHOMA 3:30 PM ON ABC	FLORIDA @ #4 MIAMI (FL) 7:30 PM ON ABC	
TULANE @ #13 OLE MISS 3:30 PM ON ESPN	GEORGIA ST. @ #20 VANDERBILT 7:30 PM ON ESPNU	SAM HOUSTON @ #8 TEXAS 7:00 PM ON ESPN+/SECN+

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A B C G K LSU M N O R T Y V

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL WEEK OF SEPT. 15

VS	SODDY DRAISY @ McMINN CO. FRIDAY, SEPT. 19 @ 7 PM
VS	SWEETWATER @ ROANE CO. FRIDAY, SEPT. 19 @ 7 PM
VS	SCOTT @ McMINN CENTRAL FRIDAY, SEPT. 19 @ 7 PM
VS	POLK CO. @ MEIGS CO. FRIDAY, SEPT. 19 @ 7 PM
VS	WALKER VALLEY @ OOLTEWAH FRIDAY, SEPT. 19 @ 7 PM
VS	SIGNAL MOUNTAIN @ SEQUOYAH FRIDAY, SEPT. 19 @ 7 PM



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 WYXI RADIO FM 94.5 AM 1390 WOMEN@THEWELL MINISTRIES

Crash Shuts Down I-40 Eastbound Near West Hills



Knoxville drivers faced major delays Monday night after a crash shut down all eastbound lanes of Interstate 40 near West Hills.

The wreck was reported around 7:15 p.m., according to the Tennessee

Department of Transportation. By 8:30 p.m., traffic was heavily backed up near the North Cedar Bluff Road exit as crews worked to clear the roadway.

TDOT SmartWay cameras showed a tractor-trailer jackknifed against the concrete divider in the center of the interstate. Emergency responders blocked traffic in all eastbound lanes while they attended to the crash.

Lanes remained closed for several hours as responders worked to move the tractor-trailer and restore traffic flow.

Source: [WBIR](#)

Obituaries

Michael James Lavergne, 53 of Athens, passed away Friday afternoon surrounded by his family. He enjoyed spending time outdoors, loved working with his hands, loved gospel music and going to church with his mother. There are no formal services scheduled at this time. Good Samaritan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Larry King, 77 of Dayton, passed away peacefully at his home on Tuesday, September 16. Larry honorably served his country for over 28 years in the Armed Forces. Though he is deeply missed, Larry leaves behind a lasting legacy of love, resilience, and quiet strength that continues in the hearts of his cherished family and many dear friends. Friends and family are invited to gather for visitation on Friday, September 19th, 2025 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services, with a graveside service to follow in the Decatur Cemetery. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the King Family.

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