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Monday, October 27, 2025

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Barn Fire Erupts near County Line Friday Afternoon

Fire crews from three departments responded late Friday afternoon to a barn fire that sent thick black smoke billowing across the countryside near the McMinn-Loudon County line.

Units were dispatched around 4:30 p.m. to County Road 296 after multiple reports of heavy smoke in the area. When firefighters arrived, they discovered a barn fully engulfed in flames on Blue Springs Road, just off Slabtown Road — technically located in Loudon County.

According to officials, the property owner was not present at the time. A Loudon County Fire official later confirmed that a burn permit had been issued for the property. By the time fire units arrived, the structure had already collapsed.

Responding departments included North McMinn, Clearwater, and Niota Fire Departments. Command of the scene was led by North McMinn Rural Fire Chief Stephen Capua. No injuries were reported.

Photo courtesy of a nearby neighbor., Source: David Prater, Niota FD



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Monday - Closed

- Tue-Madisonville Wil Sav -10:30 - 2
- Wed-Etowah Across from Johnsons-10:30 - 2
- Thu-Athens Family Dollar near Ingles 10:30 - 2
- Fri-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30

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Monday, Oct. 27, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

Audition Workshop at The Arts Center

Athens Area Council for the Arts and Athens Community Theatre (ACT) welcomes all ages to Take the Stage Audition Workshop, led by Melonie Carideo, Saturday, November 1, 10:00 AM - Noon. This workshop is beginner-friendly, so no experience in theatre is necessary.

Long time ACT director, Melonie Carideo, leads this two hour workshop to help performers make an impression at their next audition. The workshop includes lots of tips and tricks for standing out at auditions. The instructor will cover stage presence, preparedness, cold reading, how to survive a movement audition, as well as what to bring and what to leave at home, to help performers gain the confidence to do their best!

There is no fee for the workshop, but participants are encouraged to make a donation to AACA to offset facility costs. Participants should also make sure to wear comfy clothes. This workshop is perfect for preparing for upcoming auditions.

Melonie Carideo has spent over 15 years volunteering for ACT performing, directing, and teaching. Performances include *Always Patsy Cline*, *Steel Magnolias*, and *9 to 5*. She directed *Into the Woods*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *The Sound of Music*.

Community News You Can Use

- The monthly AUB board meeting will be held Tuesday, October 28th, at 5:00 p.m.
- The Athens City Schools Board of Education will hold their Fall Retreat/Work Session on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at the Administration Building beginning at 8:30 A.M. and concluding around 1:00 P.M.
- Starr Regional Medical Center is hosting a community Trunk-or-Treat on its Etowah campus on Thursday, Oct. 30 from 5 – 7 p.m. The event will take place on the Etowah campus, located at 886 Highway 411 North, Etowah.
- Join the Athens Area Council for the Arts for *Arts on the Side* on Tuesday, November 18 at The Arts Center. Enjoy a community soup supper (with vegan option) at 5:30 PM, followed by arts activities at 6:00 PM and a table read of *Mean Girls: The Musical* (PG-13) by the Athens Community Theatre at 7:00 PM. All are welcome for an evening of food, fun, and creativity!

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GoComics

Monday, Oct. 27, 2025 **Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3** **Athens, Tennessee**

McMinn County Arrest Reports

10-23-25

Blaze Britain, 25 of Cleveland, charged with state violation of probation for theft of property over \$1,000.

Kerry Beerson, 37 of Athens, charged with child support.

Charles Lowry, 46 of Sweetwater, charged with casual exchange, possession of meth.

Craig Smallwood, 50 of Sweetwater, charged with driving on suspended license, violation of probation for theft and restitution, Bond \$7,000

Terrence Rucker, 37, charged with drug paraphernalia, Schedule VI drugs, and driving on a revoked license.

10-24-25

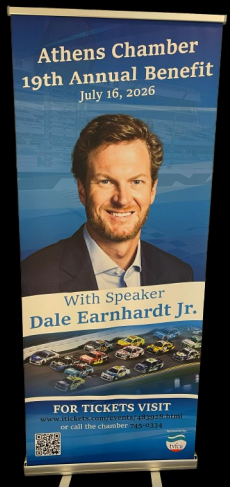
Matthew Hanley, 30 of Athens, charged with domestic assault, Bond \$2,000

James Scott, 26 of Chattanooga, charged with false reporting, Bond \$2000

Ricky Kilpatrick, 63 of Riceville, charged with driving on a revoked license third offense, and improper lane change. Held without bond.

We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, sports results or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, Email it to: wyradio@gmail.com

**Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.
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Monday, Oct. 27, 2025

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

Fire Destroys Mobile Home on Saturday Night



Firefighters from three departments responded late Saturday night to a blaze that destroyed a single-wide mobile home in the 400 block of County Road 280.

Crews were dispatched around 9:00 p.m. and arrived to find the structure fully engulfed in flames. Despite their efforts, the home was deemed a total loss. The cause of the fire remains under investigation. Assistant Chief Cody Millsaps of the North McMinn Fire Department was in command at the scene. Clearwater and Niota Fire Departments also provided mutual aid. *Photo courtesy of Assistant Chief Cody Millsaps, North McMinn FD*

Obituaries

Dr. Julie Goodin, 43 of Englewood, unexpectedly passed away on Thursday, October 23. Funeral service will be held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 28, 2025, in the gymnasium of McMinn Central High School. The family will receive friends from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday prior to the service at the gym. Family and friends will assemble at Bordwine Funeral Home on Wednesday, October 29th at 1:00 p.m. and go in procession to Green Hill Cemetery for the 2:00 p.m. committal service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Deborah Lattimore, 72, passed away on October 24, 2025. Survivors and arrangements to be announced. M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home & Cremation Services is in charge of arrangements.



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