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Thursday, June 5, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

Final Mic-Drop for Fellow Radio Broadcaster Randy Sliger



A well known Athens Radio Personality has made his final broadcast. Randall W. "Randy" Sliger passed away at the age of 57 at Starr Regional Medical Center this week, ending a life-long career in Radio Broadcasting. Randy was 11 years old when his father, the late Jim Sliger, constructed and put on the air, WJSQ FM, December 1, 1979. Unknown to most people, Jim Sliger was also the Chief Engineer of numerous radio stations in our area, including WYXI. Jim passed-on many of those highly technical skills and knowledge to Randy, who "took up the mantle" and followed in his father's footsteps.

Over the years Randy and Jim acquired other radio stations; WLAR AM in 1983 and WYGO FM in 1993. They also were the former owners of WCLE FM in Cleveland. Randy was an exceptional individual who had a very big heart and was willing to help anyone at anytime. When tornadoes struck Athens on November 30, 2016 and virtually destroyed the WYXI broadcast facilities, Randy Sliger was the first on the scene to assess the damage and ask "what can I do to help you get back on the air?"

Randy was a kind and decent person and most of all, a very dear friend. He will be deeply missed.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jim Sliger, in 2005 and by his mother, Alma Sliger, in 2016. He is survived by two sisters and brothers-in-law, Melissa Sliger Sutherland and Camden of Athens, and Emilee Sliger Elliott and Steve of Nevada. A funeral service will be held at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, June 8, 2025 at Laycock Hobbs Funeral Home with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. A graveside service will be held Monday, June 9, 2025 at 11 a.m. at McMinn Memory Gardens. A formal Obituary will be forthcoming.

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McMinn County Living Heritage Museum

Upcoming May Events

HERITAGE SCHOOL: History of Dog Showing
Enjoy a short tour of the Fisher Manor followed by a presentation on the history of dog showing with homeowner Pam Gallery. This is an on site program at the Fisher Manor. This program has a limit of 30 participants. Registration is required.
Saturday, June 7th @ 10:00 am
\$5 for members - \$10 for nonmembers

HISTORY FOR LUNCH
Bring your lunch and learn about the founding of the United States, from 1763-1776 with our very own director Brett King.
Saturday, June 21st @ 11:00-1:00
Free admission

Programs sponsored by C. Scott & Muriel S. Mayfield Family Foundation, Tennessee Arts Commission, Hugh M. Wilson 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
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More Information
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www.livingheritagemuseum.org

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Athens, Tennessee

TWRA's Bobby Wilson Free Fishing Day Returns June 7



The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) has announced that **Saturday, June 7, 2025**, will be this year's **Bobby Wilson Free Fishing Day**, allowing all Tennessee residents and visitors of any age to fish license-free in public waters across the state.

In addition, youth ages 15 and under can enjoy an entire week of free fishing, from June 7 through Friday, June 13. Established in 1991, Free Fishing Day is part of TWRA's long-running effort to introduce families, children, and first-time anglers to the joys of fishing and outdoor recreation.

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Each year, the agency stocks thousands of pounds of fish in waters across the state to help ensure a successful experience for participants. Fishing is permitted on public waters, TWRA lakes, and state park facilities during the free period. Privately owned pay lakes may still charge regular fees, and anglers are encouraged to check with those operators directly.

Source: TN.gov

Community News You Can Use

- The Athens City Schools Board of Education draft agenda and packet for the Monday, June 9 board meeting can be viewed online on the Athens City Schools website. The meeting will take place at 5:30 pm at the ACS Administration Building on Crestway Drive.
- WYXI Radio** is taking it to the streets! This Saturday at the [National MooFest](#) in Downtown Athens, come and hang out with Cousin Mark, J.P., and Stephanie as they go LIVE between 11 am - 3 pm on FM 94.5 and AM 1390 and cover all the events happening throughout the day! They'll be talking with different vendors and hosting some of the people responsible for putting MooFest together this year. They will be right across [Mexi-Wing](#) at the [old Shade Tree Mechanic Shop](#). Come see them under the burgundy tent and sign up for some giveaways with NO PURCHASE NECESSARY!

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Athens, Tennessee

Athens, DENSO, and TWU Representatives Attend Private Dinner at Japanese Consulate

Representatives from the City of Athens, DENSO, and Tennessee Wesleyan University were recently invited to a private dinner at the Japanese Consulate General Residence in Nashville to celebrate and discuss the longstanding relationship between Japan and McMinn County.

The evening highlighted the deep historical and cultural ties that began in 1881, when Dr. C.S. Long, a missionary from Trinity United Methodist Church in Athens, traveled to Japan and helped found Chinzei Gakuin, a school that remains in operation today.

Discussions also focused on the strong modern-day relationship between McMinn County and its largest employer, DENSO, as well as the shared hope for continued partnership and growth between the community and Japan.

Pictured at the event are Athens Mayor Larry Eaton, members of the Japanese Consulate staff, TWU Chaplain and Trinity UMC Pastor Rev. Skip White, JAST Director Sammie Arnold, and DENSO associate Victoria White.

Source: Victoria White, DENSO



◆ Today on *Hope From the Well*, Julie Tillis invites Tonya Gambrell back to the program. *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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Chattanooga Caregiver Indicted for Exploiting Vulnerable Adult



A Chattanooga caregiver has been indicted and arrested following a **Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI)** probe into the financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult.

Jaliyah Truss, 28, a caregiver with **TennCare's CHOICES program**, is accused of using a client's bank card to make more than **\$25,000 in unauthorized personal purchases** between August and November 2024. The investigation began in January after a referral from the **Department of Disability and Aging**, according to the **TBI's Medicaid Fraud Control Division**.

On **May 28, 2025**, a Hamilton County Grand Jury indicted Truss on **one count each of Financial Exploitation of a Vulnerable Adult, Credit Card Fraud, and Forgery**. She was booked into the **Hamilton County Jail** on **June 3** and released on a **\$40,000 bond**. Authorities emphasized that the charges are merely accusations, and Truss is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in court. *Source: TBI*

'Roots of Resilience' to Honor Meigs County Farmers THIS SUNDAY

The Meigs County Historical Society will host a special community program titled **"Roots of Resilience – Voices of Meigs County Farmers"** on **Sunday, June 8 at 2:00 p.m.** at the **Meigs County Historical Museum**, located at 200 Smith Avenue in Decatur.

More than a celebration of agriculture, the event will spotlight the personal stories of local farmers, highlighting their deep ties to the land, the challenges they face, and the dedication that sustains their work. The program pays tribute to farming's essential role in shaping the region's economy and cultural identity. Through interviews, the project documents how local agriculturalists are caring for their land and paving the way for future generations.

The June 8 event will feature a **staged reading of selected interviews**, offering attendees a moving glimpse into the lives of those who help feed the community.

"Roots of Resilience" is free and open to the public, and the Historical Society encourages all residents to attend in support and celebration of the enduring spirit of Meigs County's farming community.



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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

JoAnn Stephenson Roy, 87, passed away peacefully on, June 3, at her home in Sweetwater. JoAnn was a member of East Athens Baptist Church and the McMinn County High School class of 1956. The family will hold a private graveside service. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is honored to serve the family of JoAnn Stephenson Roy.

Andrew Cole Sampson, 29 of Athens, passed away on Monday, June 2 at his residence. For work, Andrew loved driving a forklift. Visitation will be 5-7 pm Monday, June 9 in the chapel of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home with the funeral service to follow. The interment will be 11 am Tuesday, June 10 at McMinn Memory Gardens. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Aviana Rae Dunn, daughter of Tierra R. Dunn and Adarius Hall, born May 31, 2025 passed away. M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home & Cremation Service is entrusted with arrangements.

Robert Lee Fuller Sr., 83 of Sweetwater, passed away peacefully at his home on Saturday, May 31. A skilled electrician by trade, Robert dedicated many years to his profession. After retirement, he joined his wife at TMG Japanese High School, where he spent five years engaging deeply with students and faculty. Robert also shared his love of sports with the community as a longtime radio announcer for Sweetwater High School football games on WDEH Radio, a role he proudly held for 17 years. Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Athens, TN, and the Cody family are honored to serve the Fuller family during this time.



**seeks a new
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The Director of Communications is responsible for administrative duties and assisting in planning and advertising church events (including Sunday worship, Wednesday night programs, and seasonal activities).

Position has typically been 25-30 hours a week, but days and hours are flexible based on individual needs.

Please email information@keithumc.org for more information or to apply. For full consideration, submit Letters of Interest and Resumes before noon on June 12, 2025.

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