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Wednesday, July 09, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

Man Killed in Family Altercation in Meigs County

A family dispute turned deadly Sunday night in Meigs County, leaving one man dead following a confrontation on Shiloh Road.

According to District Attorney General Richard Johnson, the incident occurred around 10:00 p.m. at a family compound where several relatives live on the same property. The victim, 59-year-old Jackie Allen Fairbanks, had reportedly been drinking with two of his grandsons when he became violent and began attacking a woman.

The grandsons ran to get their father, who arrived with a pistol and found Fairbanks still assaulting the woman. Authorities say Fairbanks then threatened his son with a long, silver-colored object. The son reportedly fired a warning shot into the wall before shooting multiple times, striking Fairbanks in the femoral artery. He attempted to stop the bleeding using a belt as a tourniquet, but Fairbanks died at the scene.

The Meigs County Sheriff's Office, the District Attorney's office, and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation are investigating. No charges have been filed at this time.

Source: [Local 3 News](#)

Community News You Can Use

- The **McMinn County Election Commission Regular Meeting** will be **Thursday, July 15 at 5:00pm** in the Conference Room of the McMinn County Courthouse and will conduct any election business to legally come before the board. The agenda will be posted on the bulletin board at the election office and on the website by Wednesday, July 9.
- Tennesseans now have the opportunity to support organ, eye, and tissue donation by pre-purchasing a Donate Life Tennessee specialty license plate. The plate helps raise awareness for the lifesaving benefits of donation, but production will only begin once 1,000 plates are pre-sold. The cost is \$35 plus applicable county fees, with an additional \$2 for online payment processing. Once the plates are ready, purchasers will be notified to pick them up at their local County Clerk's office. To reserve a plate, visit DonateLifeTNPlate.org

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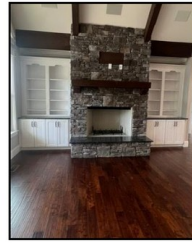
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Athens, Tennessee

Final Weeks for "Food for Fines" at E.G. Fisher Library



E.G. Fisher Public Library is reminding patrons that its annual *Food for Fines* program ends July 31, offering a few more weeks to turn overdue fines into a chance to support local causes.

Through the program, library cardholders can donate non-perishable, unexpired food and hygiene items to receive \$1 in overdue fine forgiveness per item, with a maximum of \$50 per account. Donations will benefit the library's blessing box, care cabinet, local pet shelter, and other community food pantries.

Accepted items must be unopened, in original packaging, and have at least a one-year shelf life. Suggested donations include canned

goods, boxed meals, hygiene products, and pet supplies. A variety of items is encouraged, especially for larger donations.

Items can be dropped off during regular hours at the library, located at 1289 Ingleside Avenue in Athens. The program applies to overdue fines only and does not cover fees for lost or damaged items. For more information, call 423-745-7782.



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Athens, Tennessee

Etowah Gem Theater to Host Free Lecture on Sequoyah and Cherokee Syllabary

The Overhill Lecture Series continues Thursday, July 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the historic Etowah Gem Theater with a presentation on Sequoyah, the Cherokee leader who developed the Cherokee Syllabary.

Charlie Rhodarmer, director of the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum in Vonore, will explore the life of Sequoyah (1776–1843), who was not only the creator of the written Cherokee language but also a father, soldier, silversmith, blacksmith, and statesman. After 12 years of dedication, Sequoyah and his daughter introduced the syllabary in 1821, revolutionizing literacy among the Cherokee people.

The event is free and open to the public. The Gem Theater is located at 700 Tennessee Avenue in downtown Etowah. For more information, call 423-263-7232.

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Cleveland State Electrical Wiring Bootcamp

Cleveland State Community College Workforce Development recently partnered with City Fields to provide a new Electrical Wiring Bootcamp. Fourteen students completed the 40-hour program and earned National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3) certifications in Basic Electrical Installation, Hand Bending, Conductor Fishing and Conductor Pulling, creating a path for an entry level position at a residential or commercial electrical contractor.



Pictured back row left to right: Shakur Ladd, Roshawn Holloway, Mike Owens, Ashton Russ, Bradley Parker, Jovon Derrick, City Fields Executive Director David Goodwill, City Fields Workforce Development Coordinator Brandon Gaines, CSCC instructor Jesse Bunch, and CSCC Vice President of Economic and Institutional Development Dr. John Squires. Front row left to right: Tracey Lowery, Joshua Ison, Deric Terrell, Marcus Bradford, Mercedes Acevedo, Fletcher Pearson, Jordan Gonzalez, and Shere Taylor.

Source: Andrea Byerly, CSCC

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Russell "Rusty" Jones, 65, beloved father, grandfather, brother, and devoted fisherman at heart, passed away on Friday, July 4 in Etowah. Rusty had a talent for lifting spirits, known for delivering the perfect joke at just the right moment, even during his hardest days. He will be missed beyond measure. Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Athens, TN, and the Cody family are honored to assist his family with these arrangements.

Isidro "Isi" Alvarez, 64 of Loudon, passed away peacefully at his home in the early morning hours of Wednesday, June 25. Isi proudly served his country in the Marine Corps. Isi enjoyed the great outdoors, art, music, and history. He was a creative soul. He loved his job as manager for Komyo Logistics. Isi's family will honor him with a VA Military Honor Service and a separate celebration of life service with just his family at his home, at his request. Companion Funeral & Cremation Service of Athens, TN, and the Cody family are honored to assist his family with these arrangements.

Monreda Lee Webb, 90 of Etowah, passed away peacefully at her home Monday, July 7. She was a graduate of Madisonville High School where she played basketball. She later attended Carson Newman and Tennessee Wesleyan. She and her late husband, Yale, owned and operated Johnson's Department Store in Etowah for many years. She was a long-time member of First Baptist Church Etowah. Funeral services will be held at 7:00 p.m., Thursday July 10 at First Baptist Church of Etowah. The family will receive friends from 5:00pm to 7:00pm Thursday prior to the service. Family and friends will assemble at McMinn Memory Gardens on Friday, July 11 for the 11:00 a.m. committal service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Monique A. Wells Moody age 32 died Monday July 7, 2025 at her residence in Cleveland, TN. Survivors and funeral arrangements to be announced by M. D. Dotson Funeral Home.

Ronnie Smith age 72, died Monday, July 7, 2025 at his residence in Sweetwater, TN. Survivors and funeral arrangements to be announced by M. D. Dotson Funeral Home.



InTouch
with DR. CHARLES STANLEY

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10:00 am - 10:30 am

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