

FARRELL'S CUSTOM CABINETS & TOPS

Custom Cabinet & Countertop Solutions for Every Space

931 County Road 172, Athens

(423) 462-4238

farrellscabinets.com

The Morning Fax
Today's News. This Morning.

Okay to distribute (with attribution)

Click here to send your stories to wyradio@gmail.com



is accepting nominations for **Febb Burn Woman of the Year**

Deadline: March 20
Nominations may be sent to Crescent at P.O. Box 669, Niota or by email to: sbboyd@crescent-inc.com or callen@crescent-inc.com

Monday, March 09, 2026

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Athens City Council to Discuss Grants, Zoning Change at Monday Work Session



The Athens City Council will hold a work session on **Monday, March 9, at 5 p.m.** in the conference room at City Hall in Athens.

Council members will review several resolutions authorizing the city to apply for state and federal grants aimed at improving public safety, infrastructure and community facilities. Among the items up for discussion is a resolution allowing the city to seek funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency **Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program**, which supports fire department staffing needs.

The council will also consider applying for the **Fiscal Year 2026 Assistance to Firefighters Grant** through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency. Additional grant-related items include an application for the **2026 Community Development Block Grant** program and a proposal to seek funding from the Tennessee Department of Health Healthy Built Environment Grant program for improvements at Prof Powers Park, specifically at Brody Ellis Field.

Another resolution would authorize the city to apply for a **Traffic Signal Modernization Program grant** through the Tennessee Department of Transportation and commit local funding if the grant is awarded.

Council members are also expected to review **Ordinance 1150**, which would amend the city's zoning map to rezone property at the corner of Hicks Street and Eastanallee Avenue from **I-1 (Light Industrial District)** to **R-2 (Medium Density Residential)**. Additional items include a **request for an extension from Athens Wine & Liquor** and a proposal to amend the city code and zoning ordinance to allow a **Craft Beer Restaurant (brewpub)** classification.

The agenda also includes discussion of board and committee vacancies, including an alternate position on the **Board of Adjustments and Appeals** and an opening on the **Historic Preservation Commission**, preferably to be filled by an architect if available. The work session will conclude with any new business before adjournment.

2 DUDES BBQ & CATERING
423-829-4126

• **Monday: Closed**
• **Tue: Madisonville Wil Sav 10:30 - 2**
• **Wed: Sweetwater EK Auction-10:30 - 3-4ish**
• **Thu: Athens Family Dollar 10:30 - 2**
• **Fri: Sweetwater Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30**

BEST BEST
facebook

OSMENT FLOORING AND CABINETS
(423) 252-0316
30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Stretch Your Tax Refund TODAY!
LVP starting at \$1.29/sq.ft.
Carpet starting at .69/sq.ft.

High Quality Flooring & Cabinets WITHOUT THE RIDICULOUS MARKUP

Ask about our "Match & Beat ANY Price" Policy
2412 Congress Pkwy South, Athens

MCMINN TANK & PIPE

We offer same day & next day delivery!

- 1,000 gal Tank & Lowboys
- 1,000 & 1,500 gal Pump Tanks
- 2' & 3' Chamber Pipe
- 3" Schedule 40 Pipe
- Risers in Lids for Easy Pumping

423-507-9487
423-744-0121

If it's not listed, call us!

VINYL SIDING DOORS WINDOWS ROOFING

All Things Exterior

BUFFY 423-435-8714 **MICAH 423-506-1249**

723 Congress Parkway S. Next to B J's Snack Bar.

WE HAVE 19 COLORS TO CHOOSE FROM. MOST ORDERS READY WITHIN 24 HRS. WE OFFER PICK UP AND DELIVERY.

Your One Stop Shop For All Your Metal Roofing Needs!

Come See Us and Check Our Prices Before Buying!

We Want To Earn Your Business!

facebook

Let Traci help with your 401K rollover.

Traci White
Athens Branch Manager
1314 Decatur Pike
Athens, TN 37303
423-634-8310

Federally insured by NCUA

TW Tennessee Wesleyan
UNIVERSITY

Prospective Student OPEN HOUSE

**10 AM- 2PM
MARCH 26, 2026**



Monday, March 09, 2026 **Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2** **Athens, Tennessee**

Volunteers Sought for Watts Bar Lake Shoreline Cleanup



The Watts Bar Lake Association will host its annual shoreline cleanup on Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m. to noon, inviting volunteers to help remove litter and debris along Watts Bar Lake.

The association is partnering with the Tennessee RiverLine River-Town Communities of Spring City, along with Meigs County, Roane County, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Responsible Stewardship to carry out this year's event.

Organizers say they are seeking additional participants and encourage community members to take part in the effort to help keep the lake clean while enjoying time outdoors and meeting others in the community. The Watts Bar Lake Association will provide gloves, grabbers, and trash bags for volunteers.

Those interested in participating or seeking additional information can contact Peter Giroux at 404-304-1115 or by email at pgiroux@comcast.net. More details are also available on the Watts Bar Lake Association website under "Upcoming Events" and on the organization's Facebook page. *Source: WBLA*

Community News You Can Use

- The E.G. Fisher Public Library will host its Noon Book Club meeting on Wednesday, March 11 in Athens. Participants will discuss the memoir *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb. The book tells the story of Malala's advocacy for girls' education and her survival after being attacked by the Taliban. Community members interested in reading and discussing the book are invited to attend the program at the library.
- Registration is now open for McMinn County 4-H Camp for students currently in 4th–6th grade. Camp will take place May 25–29, 2026 at the Clyde Austin 4-H Center. A \$100 discount is available for the first 25 campers who register. For details or to sign up, visit mcminn.tennessee.edu.

SCORE A BETTER RATE



AUTO RATES
AS LOW AS

3.99% APR

Bowater
Credit Union
Better Begins Here





VOTE JOE GUY SHERIFF MAY 5

Paid for by the committee to Elect Joe Guy
Dana Jaquish, Treasurer



GoComics



UP TO 50% off
Pre-Season Pool Chemicals Sale
 103 DYNASTY WAY
ATHENS
 423-745-1425
 BROWSE OUR MODELS & ORDER YOUR SPA CHEMICALS ONLINE
WWW.DYNASTYSPASSTORE.COM



LIKE & FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
 —
 CLICK HERE OR VISIT
FACEBOOK.COM/WYXIAM1390

Barn Destroyed by Fire in Niota Saturday Evening



A barn fire Saturday evening destroyed a structure and equipment on County Road 225 in Niota.

The fire was reported around 6:30 p.m. in the 400 block of County Road 225, where a barn measuring approximately 1,200 square feet caught fire. The structure contained a tractor and hay baler at the time of the blaze.

When firefighters arrived, the barn had already collapsed and nearby structures and vehicles were threatened by the flames. Crews worked to contain the fire and prevent it from spreading further. Officials believe the fire may have started with the tractor, though the exact cause remains unknown. Fire departments responding to the scene included North McMinn Fire Department, Clearwater Volunteer Fire Department, Niota Rural Fire Department and Athens Fire Department. North McMinn Fire Chief Thomas McKeehan was in charge of fire personnel at the scene. *Photo provided by David Prater with Niota Rural FD*

Crash on I-75 Dislodges Camper, No Injuries Reported



A crash Friday night on Interstate 75 in McMinn County left a camper dislodged from a pickup truck but resulted in no reported injuries.

The crash occurred around 8 p.m. near the 55 mile marker when a late-

model Kia four-door sedan traveling northbound apparently ran underneath a fifth-wheel camper being towed by a pickup truck. The impact caused the camper to become dislodged from the truck. Officials say distracted driving may have been a factor in the crash.

Responding agencies included the Niota Rural Fire Department, North McMinn Fire Department and Clearwater Volunteer Fire Department, along with AMR and the McMinn County Sheriff's Office. The crash is being investigated by the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

Photo provided by Trevor Howell, Niota Rural FD

RE-ELECT
DAN EVANS
 HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

PROVEN LEADERSHIP
TRUSTED RESULTS

Advertisement Paid For By Candidate

WHEN MARGINS ARE LEAN, YOU NEED A LENDER THAT GETS FARMING.

GET AN OPERATING LOAN
 CALL THE ATHENS OFFICE AT
423-745-1683



farm CREDIT
 MID-AMERICA



Leadership. Integrity. Service

★★★★★
 EARLY VOTING APRIL 15th - 30th
 ELECTION DAY MAY 5th, 2026



Vote DOUG BAILEY
PAID FOR BY THE CANDIDATE

MCMINN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

Monday, March 09, 2026 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4 Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

March 05, 2026

Christopher Dawson, 52 of Athens, charged with state violation of probation in Meigs County.

Regine Crandell, 27 of Los Angeles, California, charged with domestic assault.

Tequila Porter, 37 of Athens, charged with theft of property motor vehicles in Anderson County.

Rachel Heiser, 51 of Athens, charged with driving on a revoked license for DUI, Bond \$500.

Ashante Smith, 31 of Athens, charged with DUI, open container law, and implied consent, Bond \$1,000.

Jose Hammonds, 18 of Cleveland, charged with contempt of court.

Uptile Villatoro, 26 of Dayton, charged with driving on a suspended license, Bond \$1,000.

March 06, 2026

Michael Simmons, 45, of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, charged with DUI, driving on a suspended license, and violation of the open container law, Bond \$10,500.

Stephen Wilson, 24 of Athens, charged with violation of probation for possession of paraphernalia.

William Rowe, 23 of Benton, charged with public intoxication and possession of a handgun while under the influence, Bond \$3000.

Thomas Baker, 27 of Sweetwater, charged with violation of the sex offender registry, Bond \$10,000.

Austin Dobbs, 23 of Englewood, charged with public intoxication, Bond \$500.

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

1ST ANNUAL GOOD FRIDAY 5K RUN TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2026
CARRY THE CROSS
 5K RUN AND CROSS CARRY WALK

\$25 FOR EARLY 5K REGISTRATION, BEFORE MARCH 15 INCLUDES FREE T SHIRT
 \$35 FOR LATE 5K REGISTRATION OR DAY OF REGISTRATION

3 GOOD FRIDAY APRIL, 2026

8 AM 5K STARTS
930 AM WALK STARTS



5K RUNNING ROUTE
1/2K CROSS WALK

Register online - <https://trinityumcathens.com/goodfriday5k>
 NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR CARRY THE CROSS 1/2 K WALK

"IF ANYONE WANTS TO BE MY DISCIPLE; LET THEM TAKE UP THE CROSS AND FOLLOW ME" - MATTHEW 16:24

WANTING TO SWITCH BANKS?

It's easier than you think!

CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK
 MEMBER FDIC

MAKE THE SWITCH! WE CAN HELP.

1305 Decatur Pike, Athens
 423-381-8270 | CNBTN.com



Compassionate Service in Your Time of Need

In times of grief, making difficult decisions about how best to honor the memory of someone so important can be overwhelming. We are here to help with complete, professional and compassionate funeral planning services to meet your needs and respectfully celebrate the life and legacy of your loved one.

Ziegler Funeral Home

521 W. Madison Avenue • Athens, TN

423-745-3123

www.zieglerfuneralhome.com

Monday, March 09, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Southeast Tennessee Included in \$200M Broadband Expansion

Residents in McMinn County, Meigs County, Monroe County and Polk County will benefit from a major broadband expansion announced by Governor Bill Lee as part of a \$200 million statewide investment to expand high-speed internet access.

The funding comes through the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program, administered by the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development in partnership with the U.S. Department of Commerce. The program will fund 128 projects across 74 counties, connecting more than 43,000 unserved or underserved locations.

Providers receiving funding for projects affecting the region include AT&T Tennessee, SpaceX and Volunteer Energy Cooperative.

State officials say the projects are part of a broader effort to ensure every Tennessee home and business has access to reliable high-speed internet by 2028.

Source: TN Dept. of Economic & Community Development

Obituaries

James Lyle Chambers, 77 of Englewood, passed away peacefully on Thursday, March 5. Lyle lived a life defined by service, dedication, and love. A proud Marine Veteran, Lyle served his country honorably for two years in Vietnam, reflecting his deep commitment to the values of bravery and sacrifice. Following his military service, Lyle built a successful career at Heil Trailer International, where he dedicated over 30 years of his life. Services will be held at a later date. Bordwine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Lisa Ann Parks Ashley, 59, passed away on Thursday, March 5 at Bradley Medical Center in Cleveland. Survivors and funeral arrangements to be announced. M.D. Dotson & Sons Funeral Home & Cremation Service is entrusted with arrangements for Lisa Ann Parks Ashley.

ATHENS LAWN & GARDEN

celebrating 53 years as a family-owned business!

HUGE Inventory Reduction Sale!
March 9 - March 15

✓ The Best National Brands!

✓ Excellent Customer Service

✓ Expert Knowledge

Visit Website athens-lawnlg.com



BEST PRICES OF THE YEAR!

1310 Railroad Ave.
Athens

(423) 745-9296