

TVAS

Tennessee Valley
Appraisal Services, LLC
When Integrity &
Professionalism Matter.
Covering 11 counties with
Online Ordering & Tracking.
Specializing in Estates,
Expert Witnesses, Divorce,
Listing & Lending Purposes.
746-0027 tvasin.com

The Morning Fax®

Today's News. This Morning.

Okay to distribute
(with attribution)

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



Specialize in gutter removal
and gutter installation.

Owners:
T J Roberts 423-506-3918
Christian Mason 423-368-1807
Call, Text, and Please Leave
Voicemail. Athens, TN

Monday, April 20, 2026

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Athens City Council to Consider Zoning, Budget, Etc. at April 21 Meeting



The Athens City Council will meet Tuesday, April 21 at 6 p.m. at Athens City Hall to consider a range of ordinances and agenda items, including zoning changes, new beer permit classifications, and budget amendments.

Among items on the consent agenda are the rejection of a proposal for a drive-thru Christmas light show at Regional Park, surplus of city equipment, relocation of Parks and Recreation offices to the Southeast Tennessee Trade and Conference Center, and a resolution designating May as Fair Housing Month. Council members will also consider board reappointments, including the Athens Utilities Board and McMinn County Library Board.

Under ordinances, the council will hold a second reading on a rezoning request for property at Hicks Street and Eastanallee Avenue. New business includes several proposed ordinances, such as creating a “craft beer restaurant” permit classification, updates to refuse collection fees and billing methods, establishment of a historic overlay district, new zoning requirements for certain automotive services, and amendments to the city’s current fiscal year budget.

The meeting will also include departmental reports, a community development update, and a report from the city manager. Public comments will be accepted during designated portions of the meeting.

2 DUDES BBQ & CATERING
423-829-4126

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

BEST OF THE 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 If it's not listed, call us!
423-744-0121

All Things Exterior

NEW PRODUCT!


Apex Metal Roofing Panels
3-Foot-Wide
12-Inch Centers
All-Metal Board and Batten
Over 30 Different Colors!

CONTACT US!

723 CONGRESS PKWY S. ATHENS

BUFFY (423) 435-8714 ALLTHINGSEXTERIORS.COM
MICAH (423) 506-1249

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

SELL YOUR STUFF ON THE TRADING POST!

423-745-1390 or 423-746-1390
(from 8:30 am - 9:30 am WEEKDAYS ONLY)

tradingpost1390@gmail.com
(Anytime!)

No email? No Problem! Click anywhere on this ad to go to our Google Form and we'll get your submission INSTANTLY 24/7/365!



103 DYNASTY WAY
ATHENS
423-745-1425

BROWSE OUR MODELS & ORDER YOUR SPA CHEMICALS ONLINE
WWW.DYNASTYSPASSTORE.COM

POOL UP TO **50% OFF**

Pre-Season Pool Chemicals Sale

in-house only



LIKE & FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

CLICK HERE OR VISIT
FACEBOOK.COM/WYXIAM1390

Monday, April 20, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Milk Truck Crash Sends Driver to Hospital



A 35-year-old man was injured Saturday morning after a milk truck overturned on County Road 250 near the intersection of County Road 214 in McMinn County.

Authorities said the driver was hauling approximately 6,000 gallons of milk when he lost control of the vehicle, causing it to overturn. The driver sustained injuries and was airlifted by a Life Force helicopter to Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga.

Responding agencies included the Clearwater, Niota and North McMinn fire departments, along with AMR and the McMinn County Sheriff's Office.

The crash remains under investigation by Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper Ethan Jones.

Community News You Can Use

- The McMinn County Rescue Squad invites the community to a golf tournament on Saturday, June 27 with Tee-Off scheduled for 8:00am. The cost will be \$260 per 4-man team. Register now by emailing: mcminnrescue.jarnwine@gmail.com
- The Athens Board of Zoning Appeals will meet April 22 at 1 p.m. (assuming a quorum) in the City Council Chambers to consider two requests for property on Burkett Witt Boulevard and Denso Drive. Agenda items include a variance request to reduce drive aisle requirements and a use-on-review request to allow an additional story, increasing a proposed new hotel height to five stories. The board will also approve minutes from its February meeting.
- The Cherokee Beekeepers Association will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, April 23 at 7 p.m. at the McMinn Senior Activity Center, 205 McMinn Ave. The meeting is open to the public, and membership is not required to attend.

WATCH SAVINGS BLOOM

NEW AUTO RATES AS LOW AS **3.99% APR***

USED AUTO RATES AS LOW AS **4.99% APR***

Bowater Credit Union
Better Begins Here

*Terms and conditions may apply. Rates shown are the lowest available and may vary based on creditworthiness, debt history, and collateral. Rates subject to change. Membership required.



VOTE JOE GUY SHERIFF MAY 5

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



Leadership. Integrity. Service



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



**Vote
DOUG
BAILEY**
PAID FOR BY THE CANDIDATE

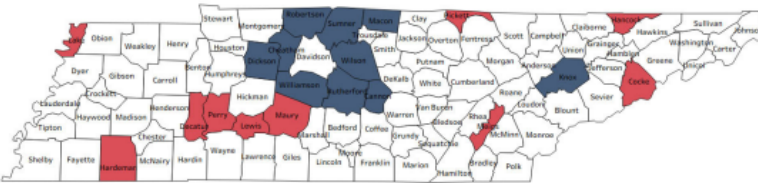
MCMINN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

Monday, April 20, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Most Tennessee Counties See January Unemployment Increase; State Rate Remains Below U.S. Average



Unemployment rates rose in most Tennessee counties in January, though the majority remained below 5%, according to data from the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Ninety of the state's 95 counties reported increases from December to January, while only three saw declines and two remained unchanged. Despite the uptick, 84 counties posted unemployment rates under 5%. In Southeast Tennessee, Meigs County recorded a 5.3% unemployment rate in January—the ninth highest in the state.

Williamson County had the lowest rate at 2.7%, followed by Cheatham County and Wilson County at 2.8%. The highest rates were reported in Perry County at 11.3%, Coker County at 6.4%, and Pickett County at 6%.

Lowest County Unemployment Rates

Rank	County	January 2026
1	Williamson	2.7%
2	Cheatham	2.8%
3	Wilson	2.8%
4	Macon	2.9%
5	Knox	2.9%
6	Dickson	2.9%
7	Sumner	2.9%
8	Rutherford	2.9%
9	Robertson	3.0%
10	Cannon	3.0%

Highest County Unemployment Rates

Rank	County	January 2026
95	Perry	11.3%
94	Coker	6.4%
93	Pickett	6.0%
92	Hancock	5.8%
91	Hardeman	5.6%
90	Decatur	5.5%
89	Lewis	5.3%
88	Lake	5.3%
87	Meigs	5.3%
86	Maury	5.3%

Updated figures show Tennessee's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly to 3.6% in February, up from 3.5% in January, but still below the national rate of 4.4%. Over the past year, total nonfarm employment in the state declined by 6,400 jobs, with the largest losses in trade, transportation and utilities, manufacturing, and the federal government. From January to February, employment dropped by 9,200 jobs, led by declines in private education and health services, as well as trade, transportation and utilities, and leisure and hospitality. Officials noted county unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted and can fluctuate due to seasonal employment trends. [Source: TNDLWD](#)

ATTENTION GARDENERS!!

Starr Mountain Greenhouse

NOW OPEN For all your
Flowers, Baskets, and
Vegetable Plants

Open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm Sat. 9am-3pm

1/4 mile off Hwy. 30 between Athens & Etowah
259 County Road 608

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

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



Summer Classes
 Discounted Tuition
 HOPE and Pell may be available
 Learn more at tnwesleyan.edu

Monday, April 20, 2026 **Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4** **Athens, Tennessee**

Libraries Celebrate National Library Week in McMinn County



Local libraries across McMinn County are recognizing National Library Week, observed April 19–25, with a message of appreciation for the

community they serve.

Officials from the county's four public libraries — Calhoun Public Library, E.G. Fisher Public Library (above), Englewood Public Library, and Etowah Carnegie Public Library — expressed gratitude to patrons and residents for their continued support.

Community members are encouraged to show appreciation by visiting their local library, calling, or connecting through social media.

McMinn County Arrest Reports

April 16, 2026

Quinn Jarrett, 31 of Athens, charged with schedule 6 for resale, child abuse, neglect, nonviolent, and drug paraphernalia in violation of interlock device, Bond \$17,000.

Roosevelt Pearson, 31 of Athens, charged with schedule 6 for resale, child abuse, neglect, nonviolent, criminal littering, and drug paraphernalia, Bond \$25,500.

Tracy Scruggs, 57 of Athens, charged with casual exchange possession of meth, Bond \$6,000.

Caleb Hall, 31 of Madisonville, charged with violation of probation for joyriding, and violation of state probation for felony evading, Bond \$3,052.35

Derek Humphrey, 23 of Athens, charged with public intoxication, Bond \$1,500.

Amanda Garrett, 38 of Sweetwater, charged with violation of probation for possession of paraphernalia, Bond \$1,146.45

Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Information gathered using public sources.

AMANDA CARR HOWARD
 FOR
 ★ CIRCUIT COURT CLERK ★

- EXPERIENCED
- HONEST
- HARDWORKING
- COMMITTED TO GET THE JOB DONE!

PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE

YOUR VOTE COUNTS Experience... Working For You
Cheryl INGRAM
 REGISTER OF DEEDS

Thank You FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
 EXPERIENCE. INTEGRITY. DEDICATION.

EVERY VOTE COUNTS. EVERY VOICE MATTERS.

InTouch
with DR. CHARLES STANLEY

Weekdays
10:00 am - 10:30 am

Sundays
Noon - 12:30 pm



WYXI RADIO
McMinn County
FM 94.5
AM 1390

★ ★ ★ VOTE ★ MAY 5, 2026 ★ ★ ★

MIKE HAYES
for SHERIFF
McMinn County



★ Experience ★ Integrity ★ Accountability

Paid for by Committee to Elect Michael Hayes Sheriff



Monday, April 20, 2026 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 5 Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

April 17, 2026

Travis Finney, 35 of Etowah, charged with drug paraphernalia, Bond \$1,000.

Miranda Kofit, 43 of Athens, charged with aggravated assault, Bond \$30,000.

Catherine Levine, 43 of Niota, charged with drug paraphernalia.

Joshua Morgan, 48 of Etowah, charged with DUI, Bond \$3,000.

Angela Huff, 32 of Englewood, charged with public intoxication, assault against a first responder, resisting stop, evading arrest, and drug paraphernalia.

Gerald Espy, 21 of Riceville, charged with burglary, theft of property over \$1,000, violation of probation for possession of meth, Bond \$14,220.

Mark Blair, 38 of Black, Missouri charged with possession of meth for resale over 300 grams.

Derek Brennan, 31 of Maryville, charged with driving on a revoked license.

Steve Borden, 51 of Athens, charged with schedule 6, disorderly conduct, and violation of probation for theft, Bond \$2,567.

Sherry Hickman, 46 of Athens, charged with drug paraphernalia,

Angel Alvarez, 43 of Athens, charged with drug paraphernalia.

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

RE-ELECT

DAN EVANS

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

For the past 12 years I have put my 30+ years of construction experience to use in maintaining 800 miles of roads and 127 bridges in McMinn County.

Specialized certifications that has saved McMinn Co. thousands of dollars in engineering fees.

- ✓ TDOT Asphalt Certified Inspector (ACI)
- ✓ Certified Public Administrator from the University of TN Institute for Public Service (COCTP)
- ✓ TDOT Certified in Construction, Engineering and Inspection (CEI)

I have represented McMinn County at the State and Federal Level

- ✓ Serving on the TN County Services Association Board of Directors
- ✓ Former President of Region 2, TN County Highway Officials Association
- ✓ Former Secretary of the State Board of Directors for the TN County Highway Officials Association
- ✓ Former President of the Technical Committee for the East TN Economic Development District



I have the Experience and Education that has delivered constant and reliable results to the people of McMinn County for the past 12 years!

PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE



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, April 20, 2026

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 6

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Brenda Gail Wiggins Flowers, 62, passed away on Friday, April 17. She worked as a seamstress for 15 years. She attended services at New Life Church in Athens. A Celebration of Life will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21 in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m., prior to the service. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Flowers family.

Rhonda Reed, 60, of Englewood, passed away on Thursday, April 16. She was a member of Englewood First Church of God. Funeral services will be held at 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 20, 2026 at Englewood First Church of God. The family will receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Monday prior to the service at the church. Family and friends will assemble at Bordwine Funeral Home Tuesday, April 21st at 10:00 a.m. and go in procession to Sunrise Cemetery for the 11:00 a.m. committal service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Zelma Puett, 78 of Etowah, passed away on Friday, April 1. She was a member of the Coghill Baptist Church. Funeral services will be held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 21, in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Tuesday prior to the service. Family and friends will assemble at Coghill Baptist Cemetery, Wednesday, April 22 for the 2:00 p.m. committal service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Knowledge. Experience. Passion to Serve

- ✓ 10 Years - Circuit court clerk's office
- ✓ 4 Years - Paralegal at local law firm
- ✓ Associate degree in business management
- ✓ Associate degree in business technology



To serve the people of McMinn County with
★ **PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY**

STEPHANIE SWAFFORD

FOR MCMINN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT STEPHANIE SWAFFORD

The
RED, WHITE & BLUE TOUR

RONNIE MCDOWELL
WITH
PAULETTE CARLSON, JEFF BATES AND DOYLE GRISHAM

APRIL 24TH - THE GEM THEATER
700 TENNESSEE AVE, ETOWAH, TN

RED, WHITE & BLUE TOUR
CLASSY COUNTRY ON THE ROAD
★ 2026 ★

CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS!
CALL FOR TICKETS- 615-906-1970