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## Meigs County Teen Charged with First-Degree Murder in Georgetown Shooting



A 15-year-old Meigs County girl is facing a charge of first-degree murder following the shooting death of a man early Tuesday morning in the Georgetown area.

District Attorney General Russell Johnson confirmed that a juvenile delinquent petition has been filed against the teen in connection with the fatal shooting of 35-year-old Richard High. High was killed by a single gunshot wound at a resi-

dence on Gunstocker Road during the early morning hours of June 10.

The name of the juvenile has not been released due to her age. A detention hearing was held Thursday, June 12, in Meigs County Juvenile Court.

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General Johnson stated the case will proceed in juvenile court for now. No decision has been made regarding whether the case will be transferred to adult court. "As in these types of cases, we expect that there will be court-ordered evaluations of the juvenile given the seriousness and nature of the crime and the age of the juvenile," he said.

The incident occurred at 245 Gunstocker Road. The property owner told authorities he rents one unit of the duplex to a father and two children and was unaware of any issues until law enforcement arrived around 5:00 a.m. Tuesday.

The Meigs County Sheriff's Office and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation are continuing the homicide investigation. No additional details have been released. **Source:** [Local 3 News](#)

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Athens, Tennessee

## Community News You Can Use

- Reminder: it's not too late to register for the 2025 Co-Ed Adult Softball League, which kicks off June 24 at Athens Regional Park. Teams and individuals ages 16 and up are welcome to participate. The cost is \$400 per team or \$30 for individual free agents. Free agents will be assigned to teams after the registration period closes. Games will be held every **Tuesday night from June 24 through August 19 at Athens Regional Park**. To register, visit [athenstn.gov/parks](http://athenstn.gov/parks) or call (423) 744-2704. See more info on the City of Athens Facebook Page [HERE](#).
- The City of Athens Public Works Department announces the following traffic notice:

The areas affected are **MADISON AVE AND WASHINGTON AVE** from *Cook Dr. to Green St.*,

**WHITE STREET AND JACKSON STREET** from *Washington Ave to Madison Ave.*

Construction crews will be paving the asphalt road surface until Friday, June 20, from 7:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. nightly. **NO PARKING** allowed on **Madison Ave., Washington Ave., White St., and Jackson St. during the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.** Vehicles parked in the path of the paving contractor will be towed. For more information, please contact the Athens Public Works Dept. at 423-744-2745.

## Driver Hospitalized After Crashing Across Highway 411 Median



A single-vehicle crash on Tuesday afternoon sent one person to the hospital after a 2017 Hyundai Sonata left a business and crossed two lanes of Highway 411 before coming to a stop in the median.

The incident occurred around 12:30 p.m. at the intersection of Highway 411 and County Road 532 in Etowah. Authorities believe the driver may have suffered a medical episode that led to the crash.

Emergency crews from Etowah Rural Fire, Etowah City Fire, Englewood Rural Fire, and the McMinn County Sheriff's Department responded to the scene. The driver was transported by AMR to Sweetwater Hospital for treatment. Etowah Rural Fire-fighter Chris Jones was in command of the scene. The accident is being investigated by THP Trooper Andrew Metelits.

*Photo courtesy of Etowah Rural Fire Department*

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Athens, Tennessee

## Church News and Events

- **Planted In Christ Outreach Fellowship** (317 Maple Street, Athens) holds Outreach Deliverance Classes every Thursday at 7:00pm.
- **Celebrate Recovery** meets every **Tuesday** at 6:00pm at Woodward Ave. Church of God in Athens They also meet every **Thursday** at 6:00pm at Watts Bar Community Church in Decatur.
- **SRBC Kids presents: Kingdom Seekers** on Sunday Nights at 5:30pm at **Solid Rock Baptist Church** (4975 Hwy. 11, Calhoun) This event combines, God, music, games and fun into a very special all ages affair.
- **Athens Lutheran Church** (710 Forrest Ave, Athens) invites children ages 6-12 to their Vacation Bible School from June 23 - 27 from 9 a.m. to 12:30p.m. Lunch will be provided. Register online at: [AthensLutheranChurch.org](http://AthensLutheranChurch.org)
- **East Niota Baptist Church** will host a One Day Vacation Bible School for grades 1 - 6 on Saturday, June 21, 10 am - 5 pm. Lunch and snacks will be provided, along with a Family Program and dinner starting at 4:30 pm.
- **Niota UMC** will be hosting a free week-long summer camp on July 14-18 in partnership with Camp in the Community at their church in Niota. The summer camp is open to all children ages 5-14 The camp will run from 8:30-4:30pm (Friday ends at 2pm) and includes breakfast and lunch. Sign up soon to secure your spot. To register, visit: <https://www.campinthecommunity.org/host/niota>
- **Englewood First Church of God** is sponsoring a marriage conference hosted by Larry and Anna Lawrence on June 20-21st with child care provided. You can sign up at [englewoodfcog.com](http://englewoodfcog.com). The cost is \$35 and includes a meal Friday night and a light breakfast on Saturday morning. Scholarships are available if needed to cover the cost.
- **Oak Grove Baptist Church** is holding a Women's Celebration on Saturday, June 28 from 10:30am-1pm at the Niota Depot Event Center (201 E. Main St., Niota). Admission is \$20 and includes the ladies brunch, fellowship and sweet treats. For tickets, contact Lisa Dotson: (423) 368-2069 or Lisa Dotson at (423) 829-5305.
- **Tennessee Valley Operation Christmas Child** will have a Mini Conference at Wetmore Baptist Church, 9801 US-411 N. Delano on Tuesday, June 17 at 6:00 p.m. Learn how to help spread the Gospel through a shoebox gift. Melanie LaMunyan will be sharing about her recent vision trip to Romania.
- **The Etowah Area-Wide Annual Gospel Meeting** will be held at the Etowah Church of Christ, 501 Athens Pike, Etowah. Speakers include Mike Williams (Liberty Hill), Mark Stephenson (Etowah), Stephen Null (Madisonville), Aaron Pope (Liberty Hill), and Lee Cox (Union Grove). Services are available online at: [youtube.com/@etowahchurchofchrist](https://youtube.com/@etowahchurchofchrist).

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The United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties  
is currently seeking a new

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties is responsible for leading the organization in its mission to improve health, education, and financial stability in the community. The role involves strategic planning, fundraising, community engagement, and overseeing operational and administrative tasks to ensure the organization meets its short- and long-term goals. This position will remain open until filled.

Click here for full job description and application information.

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**Athens, Tennessee**

## Two Injured in Fire Explosion in McDonald



Two people were seriously injured Wednesday night in McDonald, Tennessee, after an explosion occurred while they were using an accelerant to start a fire. According to Bradley County EMS and Fire Chief Jeff Stewart, the blast caused severe burns to both individuals.

One of the victims was airlifted to the burn center at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in serious condition, while the second was transported by ground to Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga.

Authorities have not released the names of the man and woman involved. The incident remains under investigation.

Source: [Local 3 News](#) Morning Fax  
Today's News This Morning

## McMinn County Arrest Reports

**Noel Wiedner**, 33 of Niota, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Probation, Driving on a Revoked License and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$5,122.90

**Daniel Buis**, 40 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Possession of Schedule II Methamphetamine for Resale. No Bond.

**Audrey King**, 26 of Ten Mile, was arrested by the MCSO for Public Intoxication and Indecent Exposure. Bond Unclear

**Sierra Lowe**, 26 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for Casual Exchange/Possession of Meth, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, Introduction of Contraband into a Penal Facility and Identity Theft. Total Bond: \$16,000.

**Kariss Grubb**, 31 of Nashville, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Probation—State, and Attempted Felony Escape. Total Bond: \$10,000.

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

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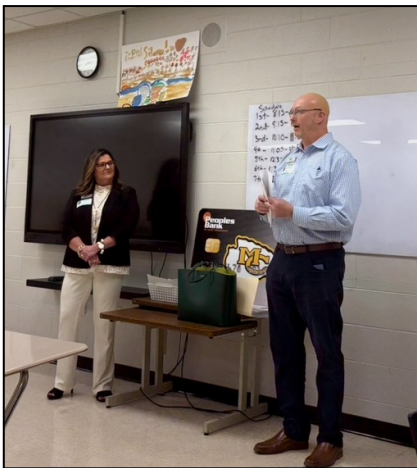


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**Peoples Bank Expands Financial Education Efforts Across East Tennessee**



Peoples Bank of East Tennessee (PBET) is continuing its commitment to empowering individuals and strengthening communities through its expanding Financial Education Program. In observance of National Financial Literacy Month and Tennessee Financial Literacy Week, PBET team members visited schools and organizations across East Tennessee during April and May, offering engaging lessons designed to build strong financial foundations.

In Vonore, PBET staff members visited Vonore Middle School to lead students in Bank Bingo and teach budgeting basics. In Sweetwater, 11 classes at Brown Intermediate participated in a fun and informative round of Bank Bingo, focusing on saving and money management. At Copper Basin Elementary, representatives from the Ducktown and McCaysville branches read to first graders about the importance of saving. At Maryville Junior High, staff from the Maryville branch worked with students on setting money goals and practicing healthy financial habits. In Athens, team members visited McMinn County's Senior-TN Success Class to cover real-world money topics with high school seniors. In Tellico Plains, PBET brought Money Bingo to the Boys & Girls Club of Ocoee – Rural Vale Unit, combining fun with financial education.

PBET also reached adults in the community through a series of educational events. In Madisonville, a Lunch & Learn focused on financial fraud and scam prevention provided attendees with tools to protect their finances. PBET also partnered with the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce to deliver a cybersecurity session, and a similar fraud prevention talk was hosted at Rocky Springs Baptist Church.

These efforts reflect PBET's broader mission to make financial literacy a year-round priority. The bank is committed to continuing the Financial Education Program as an ongoing resource for schools, families, and communities, with regular outreach events, classroom visits, and lessons designed to help people of all ages make informed financial decisions. For more information or to schedule a session, residents are encouraged to contact their local PBET branch.

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Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

**Frances Lusk Kyker**, 94 of Athens, passed away on Thursday, June 12 at her home. She was a longtime member of McMahan Calvary Baptist Church. A graveside service will be conducted, 11:00 am, Saturday, June 14 at Foster Cemetery. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is honored to serve the family of Frances Lusk Kyker.

**David Roy Sneed**, 79 of Decatur, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, June 11. He retired from Astec Industries and was an avid sports fan. David will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, June 13 in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, June 14, at 11 a.m. in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Interment will follow in the David Sneed Memorial Cemetery.

**Gale Dawson Huffaker**, 76 of McMinn County, passed away on Tuesday, June 10. She was the Director of Nursing at St. Mary's Medical Center and held a Masters in Social Work from UT Knoxville. There will be a private family service at a later date. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Gale Dawson Huffaker.

**Oneida Harris**, 93 of Athens, passed away Monday, June 9, at Lifecare Center of Athens where she had been a long term resident. She loved her church, family and her late husband Daulford. A service will be held at 2:00 pm, Friday, June 13, at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home with the burial immediately to follow at Pond Hill Cemetery. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

**Edna Burgner**, 91 of Decatur, passed away on Wednesday, June 11. Edna retired after 44 years of service at Charleston Hosiery Mill in Cleveland. She was a member of Bethsadia Baptist Church in Decatur. A Funeral Service will be held at 2 p.m., Monday in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Interment follows in the Bethsadia Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. on Monday, June 16. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Burgner Family.

**Ric Oestreich**, 68, of Etowah, passed away on Wednesday, June 11. Ric was an avid bird hunter and looked forward to the annual trip he took. He loved watching NASCAR and riding through the mountains. Ric loved ice cream and was also a Green Bay Packers fan. No services will be held. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

## MOMENTS of Praise

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