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Athens Police Investigating Fatal Crash Involving Motorcycle and Box Truck



The Athens City Police Department is investigating a fatal crash that occurred at the intersection of Redfern Drive and Congress Parkway North involving a motorcycle and a box truck.

Officers arrived on the scene and discovered two individuals involved, one of whom was pronounced dead at the scene. According to the department, evidence and witness statements revealed that two separate incidents occurred at the location.

After the initial collision, a dark-colored SUV reportedly struck the motorcyclist and fled northbound on Congress Parkway. Lieutenants Witt and Patterson are leading the investigation, which remains active. The names of those involved have not been released, though next of kin have been notified.

Police are asking anyone with information to contact the Athens Police Department. Nearby businesses are being asked to review surveillance footage, and detectives will be canvassing the area for additional leads. Anyone with information can contact the Athens Police Department at 423-744-2730 or the McMinn County 911 Center at 423-745-3222. *Source: Blake Witt, Special Services Lieutenant, Athens Police Dept. // Photo Courtesy of Google Street View, 2017*

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McMinn County Living Heritage Museum
Upcoming June Events

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
- ★ Civil War & Settlement in Southeast Tennessee with Aaron Astor, Professor of History @ Maryville College, will be discussing early 19th century settlement in McMinn & the county's divide during the Civil War.
Thursday, June 26th @ noon
Free admission

HERITAGE SCHOOL:
Kombucha Tea Making with Rachel Hampton-Owens of Starr Mountain Teas
Saturday, June 28th @ 11:00 am \$5 or free with membership
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
Students: \$3.00

More Information
522 W Madison Ave.
Athens, TN 37303
423-745-0329
www.livingheritagemuseum.org

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Thursday, June 19, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

Paul Houk Earns Journeyman Lineman Certification at AUB



Athens Utilities Board is recognizing Paul Houk for completing the requirements to become a Journeyman Lineman, a major milestone in his career.

Houk began at AUB in 2018 as an Engineering Technician before entering the apprentice program in 2020. He recently completed the program's rigorous training and is now one of the utility's few linemen qualified to

handle high-level tasks like equipment installations on 200-foot communication towers.

Known for his dedication and leadership, Houk finds fulfillment in the challenges of linework and its impact on the community. Outside of work, he enjoys time with his wife and three children, along with managing his land and occasional golf.

AUB congratulates Houk on this achievement and looks forward to his continued service.

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Community News You Can Use

- The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce Business Before Hours will be held TODAY, Thursday, June 19 at 8am at Southern Events (298 W. Madison Ave.) Chamber members, Please remember to bring your door prizes!
- The Athens Public Works Dept. announces the following street closure:

Slack Road from *Shadows Lawn Dr. to Central Ave.*
The closure will be from Thursday, June 19 at 7:30 am until Friday, June 20 at 5:30 pm. The purpose of this closure is for the installation of sewer connection utilities.

Knight Road from *Alford St. to the Dead End.* This closure will be on Thursday, June 19 from 5:00 p.m. until further notice. The street will be closed to thru traffic. The purpose of this closing is for street repairs.

Motorists are advised to use extreme caution and watch for traffic signs, workers, and pedestrians. Motorists should allocate additional time for traffic delays when traveling in this area. For more info contact the Public Works Dept at 423-744-2745.

- Today is a Federal holiday. "JUNETEENTH" commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. Federal offices and most state offices and banks will be closed. Also, the USPS will close most post offices.

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Thursday, June 19, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

Jeremy Boyd, 46 of Niota, was arrested by the MCSO for two charges of Failure to Appear. No Bond.

Christopher Bennett, 49 of Decatur, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$2,161.40

Jaylen Tillman 23 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Failure to Appear. Total Bond: \$2,000

Joshua White, 26 of Cumming, GA, was arrested by the MCSO for State Violation of Probation. No Bond.

Joshua Millsaps, 38 of Decatur, was arrested by the THP for Evading Arrest, Reckless Endangerment, Driving on a Revoked License, and Resisting Arrest. Total Bond: \$15,000

Anthony Phillips, 57 of Tellico Plains, was arrested by the MCSO for Driving on a Revoked License. Total Bond: \$1,000

Taylor Young, 28 of Etowah, was arrested by the MCSO for State Violation of Probation, Driving on a Suspended License, Leaving the scene of an accident, and Evading Arrest. Total Bond: \$7,500

Diamond Stamey, 18 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Misuse of 911. Total Bond: \$1,000.

Anthony Taylor, 28 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Criminal Trespass. Total Bond: \$1,500

Charles McSpadden, 59 of Sweetwater, was arrested by the MCSO for Failure to Appear and Fugitive from Justice. Total Bond: \$154,000

Terry Baxter, 50 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Resisting Stop and State Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$2,000

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

Truck Crashes into Tree on County Road 561



A 2009 Toyota Tacoma crashed head-on into a tree around 9:30 p.m. Monday near County Road 550 in Athens after the driver lost control while traveling on County Road 561.

The passenger was transported by AMR to Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens for observation. Englewood Rural Fire Department and Etowah Rural Fire Department responded to the scene. The accident is under investigation by THP Trooper D.J. Taylor. *Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural Fire Dept.*

◆ Today on *Hope From the Well*, **Julie Tillis** invites **Lisa Macon** to the program. *Hope From the Well* is heard every Thursday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5. *See their ad below.*



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HOPE FROM THE WELL

HOSTED BY: JULIE TILLIS

THURSDAYS AT 8:15 AM

"If you have Jesus in your life, you will always have hope."



**WOMEN AT THE WELL
MINISTRIES**

ETOWAH AREA WIDE ANNUAL
GOSPEL MEETING JUNE 23-24 & 26-28 @ 7 PM

Monday:
You're gonna need more oil-Mike Williams-Liberty Hill

Tuesday:
The walls of Jericho-Mark Stephenson-Etowah

Thursday:
The seven ones-Stephen Null-Madisonville

Friday:
All leafed out, but no fruit to give-Aaron Pope-Liberty Hill

Saturday:
7 things God wants us to know-Lee Cox-Union Grove

Etowah Church of Christ
501 Athens Pike Etowah, TN 37331

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GoComics

Thursday, June 19, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

RJ Young joins Athens Chamber

A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for new Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, RJ Young, located in Chattanooga and surrounding areas. RJ Young offers a wide range of office technology solutions that power your business.



Chamber friends joining the celebration and pictured here left to right are: Stacey Hester (Chamber Diplomat), Noah Moore (RJ Young), Kevin Finklin (RJ Young), Karen Sullivan (Athens Chamber), Traci White (Chamber Board/Diplomat). Back: Stephanie Devine, Rob Preston (Chamber President/CEO), Tod Marnar (Chamber Board), Hugh Willson (Chamber Diplomat)

Obituaries

Deloris Ann Howard Hacker, (known to many as “Lois”), 68 of McMinn County, passed away on Tuesday, June 17. She worked many years in the cafeteria at Riceville School and was a member of West End Baptist Church. She spent the majority of her younger life on the softball field, leading to local Hall of Fame recognition. Visitation will be held on Friday, June 20 from 12:00-2:00 PM at Ziegler Funeral Home with a funeral service to follow at 2:00 PM. Interment will follow funeral services at Cedar Grove Cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Deloris Ann Howard Hacker.

We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, school sports results or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax.

If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to:

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