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Athens, Tennessee

# Attorneys Reviewing Mental Evaluation for Meigs County Teen Accused of Killing Her Father



Lawyers for a 15-year-old Meigs County girl accused of fatally shooting her father in June say they have received the results of her mental health evaluation and need time to review it.

Evalett High appeared for a hearing Thursday morning in Meigs County Juvenile Court before Judge Casey Stokes. Her attorneys said they received the evaluation earlier (last) week and will have until her next court date, scheduled for December 11, to go over the findings. High, who was nearby but did not sit inside the courtroom as she has in past hearings, was supported by family members in attendance.

Authorities say High shot and killed her father, 44-year-old Richard High, while he slept in their Georgetown, Tennessee, home. Investigators allege the teen was angry

after her father took away her phone and limited her contact with her boyfriend. Judge Stokes previously ruled there was probable cause to believe High fired the gun.

One major question remains—whether High will be tried as a juvenile or transferred to adult court. She turns 16 on November 20. Earlier this year, prosecutors requested more time to complete High's mental health evaluations before deciding whether to seek her transfer. Another option under consideration is Tennessee's "serious youth offender" provision, which allows for a blended sentence combining elements of both juvenile and adult punishment.

According to court records, High called 911 after the shooting and later told investigators she had gone to bed angry, woke up still upset, loaded her gun, and debated for about 20 minutes before shooting her father as he slept. High remains in juvenile custody while the court determines how the case will proceed.



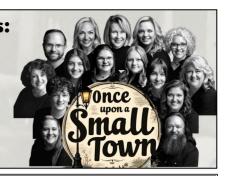








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LOCATED: 301 BROAD ST. SWEETWATER

Athens, Tennessee

## TVFCU Supports Salvation Army Angel Tree and Local Holiday Giving Programs



The holiday season is here, and Tennessee Valley Federal Credit Union (TVFCU) is once again partnering with the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program and other community initiatives to help brighten the holidays for children and families in need.

Members and community residents can now visit participating TVFCU branches to pick up an "Angel tag." Each tag represents a local child and includes personalized gift suggestions. All gifts should be returned to a TVFCU branch by December 8, allowing the Salvation Army time to distribute them before Christmas. The Athens TVFCU branch is participating in the Angel Tree program.

#### TVFCU is also supporting other holiday drives:

**Stocking Full of Love Program** — Chickamauga (return by Dec. 5), Fort Oglethorpe, Highway 41, and Ringgold branches (return by Dec. 12).

Toys & Coats for Kids — Dayton branch (return by Dec. 10).

Every donation helps ensure families across the Tennessee Valley experience the joy and hope of the holiday season. TVFCU invites everyone to join in by stopping at a participating branch to pick up an Angel tag and make a difference for a local child.

#### **Community News You Can Use**

The McMinn County Board of Education will have a Board Work Session on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at 4:45 p.m. prior to the Regular Session Meeting at the McMinn County Center for Educational Excellence.

#### TODAY IN HISTORY

**1888** - Fritz Kreisler, a 13-year-old violinist from Vienna, made his American debut in New York City.

1928 - It was on this day, after Knute Rockne delivered his 'Win One for the Gipper' halftime speech to the Irish football players, that Notre Dame upset Army, 12-6. Rockne's speech: "The day before he died, George Gipp asked me to wait until the situation seemed hopeless, then ask a Notre Dame team to go out and beat Army for him. This is the day, and you are the team."

**1939** - The first air-conditioned automobile went on display at the Auto Show in Chicago.

**1993** - The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Brady Bill. The bill called for a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases.

**1996** - Dan Marino was the first NFL quarterback to throw for 50,000 yards in his career. He reached that mark as he completed a pass to O.J. McDuffie in a game against the Indianapolis Colts this day. Marino went on to a run up a career record of 61,361 yards passing.

**2006 -** U.S. President George W. Bush dedicated the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Virginia.





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Athens, Tennessee

#### Living Heritage Museum Awarded State Grant for Roof Replacement Project



The McMinn County Living Heritage Museum has been awarded a \$54,280 Capital Maintenance and Improvements Grant from the Tennessee State Museum to replace its aging roof, gutters, and downspouts — a long-needed project to stop leaks that have threatened valuable 18th- and 19th-century artifacts.

The grant is part of a \$5 million statewide program funded through the 2025–2026 Appropriations Act, supporting nonprofit and government-affiliated museums. Now in its third year, the program received 178 applications totaling \$12 million in requests and awarded full or partial funding to 99 museums across 45 counties. Over the past three

"This replaces a failing 27-year-old roof, ending leaks that endanger our top-floor collections," said Museum Director Brett King. "It secures McMinn County's 200-year story for future generations of students, quilters, and visitors."

Tennessee State Museum Executive Director Ashley Howell praised the program's impact, noting, "The Tennessee Capital Improvement Grants strengthen institutions preserving our history and culture. We're inspired by the dedication of staff and volunteers, made possible by the state's support."

The McMinn County Living Heritage Museum must complete the project by June 30, 2026.

Located in Athens, the museum preserves and interprets artifacts reflecting McMinn County's diverse history, providing educational opportunities for residents and visitors alike.

For a full list of grant recipients, visit TNMuseum.org/grants.





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Athens, Tennessee

#### **McMinn County Arrest Reports**

#### 11-6-25

**Charles Newman**, 44 of Sweetwater, charged with driving on a revoked license, third offense, Bond \$6,000

Mandy Kane, 46 of Etowah, charged with state violation of probation for theft of property \$10,000 to \$60,000.

**Tiffany Brown**, 34 of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, charged with state violation of probation for evading arrest.

**Travis Barnett**, 45 of Englewood, charged with theft of property over \$500, and vandalism under \$500, Bond \$3,000

**Jason Key**, 19 of Athens, charged with failure to appear for theft of property, Bond \$6,000

**Angela Croft**, 56 of Etowah, charged with theft of property in Blount County.

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

Information gathered using public sources.

## **Obituaries**

Minister, Dr. Captain Alfreada Henley Westfield, 74, went home to be with the Lord, Thursday morning November 6, in a health care facility in Phoenix, AZ. Survivors and funeral arrangements to be announced by M.D. Dotson and Sons Funeral Home of Cleveland, TN.

Violet Elizabeth Minge, 91 of Athens, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family Thursday, Nov. 6, at her residence. She was a member of Athens Church of Christ. Graveside services will be 11:00 A.M. Tuesday in McMinn Memory Gardens. There will be no formal visitation. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, Athens, Tenn. in charge of arrangements.



