

**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 [tvasinc.com](http://tvasinc.com)

# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

## Today's News... This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute with attribution)  
Phone: 423-745-1390 E-mail: [vyxiradio@gmail.com](mailto:vyxiradio@gmail.com)

**READY TO BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME THIS SUMMER?**

Just unloaded a semi truck full of gorgeous, simple to maintain styles & colors of high quality 100% waterproof, pest proof & kid proof plank flooring for unbeatable prices! We have a large assortment of budget friendly specials starting @ \$1.49 sq ft or buy it by the full pallet & get it for only \$1.39 sq ft. Also have a large selection of beautiful carpets, sheet vinyl & hardwoods. Ask about our match & beat any price policy! You can't buy flooring for less, unless it's a lot less flooring!

Easy to find and worth the drive!  
Across from McMinn County High School  
We can't wait to see you!

**OSMENT FLOORING**  
UNBEATABLE PRICES

2410 Congress Parkway  
Athens, TN 37303  
423.252.0316  
[www.osmentflooring.com](http://www.osmentflooring.com)

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

# 2024 Athens Soap Box Derby Recap



The 29th annual Athens Soap Box Derby was held on Saturday, June 1 with 21 racers in 3 divisions racing their way down Keith Lane toward Akron, Ohio and a spot in the 86th Annual All-American Soap Box Derby World Championships on July 20th. The Soap Box Derby is a youth-oriented gravity car racing program which has been running in the United States since 1934.

The first Athens champion to be crowned was Breylin Hagerty in the Super Kids Division. Super Kids are special needs children who race in two seat cars driven by experienced Derby drivers. In a repeat of last year's Super Kids finals, Breylin defeated his sister Kyia in the championship race by .003 of a second to claim the title. Kyia had earned her way to the championship run by defeating her sister Layna by .525 in round one. Super Kids are allowed to repeat as champions and Breylin will be making a return trip to Akron to race in the National Super Kids Classic on July 19.

In the Stock Car division, drivers aged 7 to 14 race in entry level cars where the car and driver race at 200 pounds. In the Stock, all races except for one were won with a time under a second. Titus Millsaps won the Stock Division Championship winning 8 of 9 races, including 5 sudden death matchups on the way to the title. In round one he raced Madelyn Priestwood winning by .459 of a second. Next, he defeated

Matthew Davis by .349 to earn a spot in the semifinals of the winner's bracket against Rayen Hembree. Having drawn a bye in round one, Hembree arrived in the semifinals by defeating Mykenna Starrit in round 2 by 1.397. In what would be the closest race of the day in the Stock Division, Hembree dispatched Millsaps to the elimination bracket by a scant .004 setting her, (Hembree), up for a winners bracket final with Chloe Mercer. Mercer had arrived at the finals by defeating Langston Sherrod by .712 and Makenzie Williams by .349. The crowd anxiously awaited the showdown of the 2 undefeated cars and they did not disappoint, as Hembree defeated Mercer by only .446 of a second, leaving Hembree as the sole undefeated car and sending Mercer to the elimination bracket. Being a double elimination race the attention now turned to the elimination bracket to see which driver would win that bracket. In the first elimination race Danny Womac was defeated by Starrit by .072, ending his day of racing. Next, Priestwood defeated Sherrod by .441 setting up a race with Levi Brewster which Brewster won by .094. Brewster ran into a formidable foe in the next race as he found Millsaps the eventual race winner waiting.

Story Continued on Page 3

*Relax*  
Your mind and body

Lena Perkins,  
Licensed Massage Therapist

Save \$15 off your session  
by clicking this ad!

502 Shoemaker St. Athens, TN 37303  
By Appointment Only (Weekends Upon Request)

To Book an Appointment visit:  
[wellnesswithlena.com](http://wellnesswithlena.com)  
Call or Text: 423-405-4335

**NEW YORK LIFE**

Hugh Willson  
Financial Professional  
New York Life Insurance Company

Retirement Planning  
401k Rollover Options  
Traditional and Roth IRAs  
Brokerage Accounts\*  
Business Retirement Plans

423-299-1080  
[hwillson@ft.newyorklife.com](mailto:hwillson@ft.newyorklife.com)

265 Brookview Centre Way Suite 102 Knoxville, TN USA 37919  
\*Registered Representative for NYLife Securities LLC. (Member FINRA/SIPC), A Licensed Insurance Agency and a New York Life Company.

**Experience the Southern Difference!**

Southern Homes Rentals is your  
**FULL SERVICE & LICENSED**  
Property Management Team

- Professional
- Reliable
- Friendly
- Careful
- Successful

The **SOUTHERN HOMES** REALTY GROUP, LLC Leasing • Managing

"We embrace technology but understand the importance of communication and work hard to partner and build relationships with our clients."

We offer an on-call team—24 hours emergency maintenance system, extensive application and background checks, and online payment system for tenants and owners in 6 counties.

We are licensed. We do bi-annual inspections.  
We have years of successful experience in managing portfolios!

contact us  
[TheSouthernHomesRentals.com](http://TheSouthernHomesRentals.com)

300 W. Madison Avenue • Athens • 423.744.3515

**GiddyUp Junction**  
KICKOFF  
JUNE 7TH  
6-8 PM

Classes For All Ages!

**SOLID ROCK**  
HAPPENING AT THE CHURCH  
4975 Hwy 11  
Cathoun, TN 37309

**ONE DAY VBS**  
JUNE 8TH  
8:45-2:00 PM

Cookout, Bounce Houses, Snow Cones, Popcorn & More

**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!

### WEATHER FORECAST

**Tues.** - Sunny. High 86.  
**Tues. night** - Mostly Clear.  
 Low 66.  
**Wed.** - Mostly Sunny. High 84.  
**Wed. Night** - Mostly Cloudy  
 Low 68.

More weather at: [wyxi.com](http://wyxi.com)

# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

## Today's News...This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute **with attribution**)  
 Phone: 423-745-1390 E-mail: [wyxiradio@gmail.com](mailto:wyxiradio@gmail.com)

**FAITH & FINANCE**  
*with Rob West*

Addressing Today's  
 Financial Questions with  
 Biblical Answers.

Listen on WYXI  
 FM 94.5 and AM 1390  
 Mon. - Fri. 10:30 am  
 Sat. 6:30 am



Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>...Today's News This Morning Page 2

Athens, Tennessee

## TBI Arrest Ashland City Man



An undercover investigation by the TBI Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force and the FBI has resulted in the arrest of an Ashland City man, on charges of soliciting a minor.

In July 2023, during a joint investigation with the FBI, agents identified an individual who had been communicating with someone identifying to be a 14-year-old minor female, but was actually an undercover special agent.

During the course of the investigation, agents identified the male who was contacting the teen person as Keith Choate.

On May 28<sup>th</sup>, Keith Taualii Choate (DOB 08/15/2003) was arrested in Williamson County by TBI ICAC Task Force agents, with assistance from the Ashland City Police Department and the Cheatham County Sheriff's Office. He is charged with one count of Solicitation of a Minor and one count of Soliciting Sexual Exploitation of a Minor by Electronic Means. He was transported to the Cheatham County Jail, under a \$50,000 bond. The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation is an ICAC affiliate of the Tennessee ICAC Task Force. Anyone with information about these cases or other cases of online child exploitation should contact the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation Tipline at 1-800-TBI-FIND, [TipsToTBI@tbi.tn.gov](mailto:TipsToTBI@tbi.tn.gov), or report via the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) CyberTipline at [CyberTipline.org](http://CyberTipline.org).

*Photo Courtesy of the TN Bureau of Investigation*

## Obituaries

**Betty Jo Pierce**, 90 of Athens, passed away Sunday, May 26 at her residence. Betty worked for McMinn County Ford Motor Company for many years, as well as Farm Bureau of McMinn County. Betty was known for her acts of love and service to many friends and family, through her cooking and many quilts that she made and gifted through the years. Graveside services will be 5:00 PM, Thursday, June 6 at Cedar Grove Cemetery. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home will be in charge of the arrangements.

**Mary Ruth Varnell Matthews**, 94 of Calhoun, passed away peacefully on June 1. Mary lived a life filled with love and family. She was a proud graduate of Calhoun High School, where she made memories playing on the basketball team. She was a member of the Spring Creek Church of Christ. A celebration of Mary's life will be held at 1:00 PM on Thursday, June 6 at Upper Spring Creek Cemetery, 358 County Road 117 in Riceville. Ziegler Funeral Home will be in charge of arrangements.

**Wanda Akins Watson Davis**, 87 of Etowah, passed away Monday, June 3 at Morning Pointe of Athens. Wanda was a member at Wesleyana Global United Methodist Church. Funeral service will be held at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 5 in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Wednesday prior to the service. Family and friends will assemble at Bordwine Funeral Home at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 6, 2024 and go in procession to Jones Chapel Methodist Church Cemetery for the 11:00 a.m. committal service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.



*Define Your Tomorrow*

Register for fall classes today!  
[registration.clevelandstate.cc](http://registration.clevelandstate.cc)

**Cleveland State**  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WHEN DIGNITY MATTERS THE MOST



Funeral Services with Personalized Care  
 Providing Families with Peace of Mind

**GOOD SAMARITAN**  
 FUNERAL HOME LLC

1326 Frye St.  
 Athens

[goodsamaritanfh.com](http://goodsamaritanfh.com) 423-405-5277





With an estimated 10,000+ Daily Audience,  
 Advertise with the Morning Fax and  
 We'll Show You to our Readers!

Contact: Stephanie Devine  
 Account Sales Representative  
 Email: radiostephaniedevine@gmail.com



Phone#: 423-462-5309

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

## 2024 Athens Soap Box Derby Recap

From that point Millsaps went on his run of 5 consecutive wins including .529 over Brewster, .208 over Williams and .175 over Mercer to set up a race final against Hembree. Millsaps, with one loss, would be faced with an uphill battle having to beat Hembree twice if he wanted the title, and he proved up to the challenge. He won race one by .110 to set up the winner take all championship. In race two the cars ran the entire 880 foot track inches apart where Millsaps crossed the finish line first by .069 of a second to win the Local Stock title giving Hembree second and Mercer 3rd.

The official order of finish for the Stock Division is:

- 1st Place Titus Millsaps
- 2nd Place Raylen Hembree
- 3rd Place Chloe Mercer
- 4th Place Makenzie Williams

Stock Division: (L-R)

- 2nd Place Raylen Hembree, 1st Place Titus Millsaps, 3rd Place Chloe Mercer



Athens Parks Department Photos

In the Super Stock division, drivers and cars weigh a combined 240 pounds and the cars are larger to accommodate older, bigger drivers. On Saturday someone forgot to tell Anniemaye Johnson the part about older and bigger as she won the race as the youngest and smallest driver in the division. Johnson moved up to Super Stocks after winning the Stock Division title in 2023. Since you cannot race in a division after you have won the same, Johnson, by rule, moved up to Super Stocks, seemingly among the giants of racing, in stature and experience. The maximum age for Super Stocks is 19 years old, as an 8-year-old, she raced drivers almost twice her age in Athens. It was soon evident that age and size were no match for experience and determination.

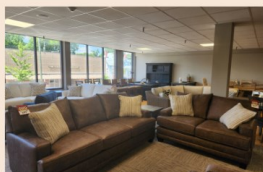
In Johnson's first race she faced veteran Collin Grooms and defeated him by .184 of a second. In round two she faced Brayden Pearson who won his first race against Tucker Williams by .332. In what would prove to be her widest margin of victory of the entire race Johnson defeated Pearson by .579 moving her to the winner's bracket final against Cage Jackson. Jackson advanced to round two when Landen Tindell, his round 1 opponent, hit the curb and retaining fence causing car damage that resulted in a disqualification.

Story Continued on Page 5

**JOHNSON'S**  
 HOME FURNISHINGS &  
 MATTRESS GALLERY

A TRUCKLOAD OF NEW FURNITURE AT WHOLESALE PRICES!

THIS LIMITED TIME SALE WON'T LAST FOREVER!



(423) 745-3752

109 E. Washington Ave., Athens

[johnsonshomefurnishings.com](http://johnsonshomefurnishings.com)

CLICK THE BUTTON OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE MORNING FAX



# Never Miss an Update!

**SUBSCRIBE**



Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

## From the Almanac

### TODAY IN HISTORY - June 4

**1896** - Auto-maker Henry Ford pulled his first car out of a brick shed in Detroit and drove it around the city's darkened streets on a trial run. The car had one seat, bicycle wheels, and an electric bell. It is now on display in Michigan...and it still runs!

**1912** - Massachusetts became the first state to adopt a minimum wage law.

**1919** - Congress approved the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guaranteeing citizens the right to vote regardless of their gender, and sent it to the states for ratification, which was finalized the following year.

**1937** - The world's first shopping carts were introduced at Humpty Dumpty grocery stores in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

**1942** - The Battle of Midway began on this date during World War II. The Japanese Navy suffered its first decisive defeat in the battle. The United States was well prepared because Japan's secret codes had been cracked and the attack plans were discovered.

**1998** - A federal judge sentenced Terry Nichols to life in prison for his role in the Oklahoma City bombing.

## Community News You Can Use

- The Friends of the Library Book Sale is set for Thursday, June 20 - Sunday, June 23. The book sale will once again occur at the McMinn County High School Cafeteria. This event is a yearly fundraiser with all proceeds benefitting the E.G. Fisher Public Library. All types of books from Fiction to Non-Fiction, in hard-back and paperback will be for sale. This is a cash only event, so please come prepared! Their flyer with daily operating times can be seen on their Facebook page [HERE](#).
- A called meeting of the Athens City Council will be held at the Athens Municipal Conference Room located at 815 North Jackson St. in Athens beginning at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 6, 2024. The purpose of this meeting is to:
  - Review candidates for the position of interim City Manager.
  - Discuss, authorize and approve any and all matters related to the hiring of an interim City Manager.

For more information, please contact the Office of the City Manager at (423) 744-2702.



## UPCOMING LIVE BROADCASTS



**FRI  
21  
JUN**

### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

McMinn County High School Cafeteria  
2215 Congress Pkwy S. Athens  
11 am - 3 pm Live Broadcast

**SAT  
22  
JUN**

### DREAMLIFE MINISTRIES CONCERT

Market Park Pavilion - Downtown Athens  
11 am - 2 pm Live Broadcast

**FRI  
28  
JUN**

### RE/MAX REALTY GRAND OPENING

909 N. Congress Pkwy. Athens  
11 am - 3 pm Live Broadcast  
11:30 am - Athens Area Chamber Ribbon Cutting

**THE GREAT JUNGLE JOURNEY**  
Answers VBS

*1 Timothy 1:17 KJV Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

**VBS 2024** **June 3-7**

6:00 - 8:30 pm  
Ages 2-12  
Bible Lessons, Crafts,  
Games, & Snacks

Parkway Baptist Church  
1701 Velma Rd.,  
Athens, TN  
Pastor Mark Sliger  
For more info, call (423) 829 - 6919





# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

Today's News...This Morning

(Okay to copy, post or distribute with attribution)  
Phone: 423-745-1390 E-mail: [wyxiradio@gmail.com](mailto:wyxiradio@gmail.com)



Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>...Today's News This Morning Page 5

Athens, Tennessee

## 2024 Athens Soap Box Derby Recap

Pit crews hurriedly worked to repair the substantial damage to Tindell's car as he was still alive in the elimination bracket if repairs could be made in time. In round 2 Jackson found himself facing one of the most experienced and oldest drivers in Super Stocks in Zachary Newman, age 15, the 2017 Stock Champion.

Newman arrived in round 2 after a .533 win against Chase Tallent. Newman and Jackson raced to a .108 finish, won by Jackson, sending him to a winner's bracket final against Johnson. In a preview of things to come, Johnson defeated Jackson by .201 leaving her as the sole undefeated car and sending him to the elimination bracket. In the elimination bracket, Grooms defeated Williams by .196 and Tindell, having completed repairs, defeated Tallent by .499. Grooms then lost to Newman by .206 and Tindall defeated Pearson by .255 setting up a race where the winner would face Jackson.

Newman then defeated Tindall, in the closest race of the day in Super Stocks, at .103 of a second. Jackson then defeated Newman by .136 setting up a rematch with Johnson for the title. Jackson, with one loss, was faced with defeating Johnson twice and won the first rematch by a mere .201 giving Johnson her first loss and setting up a winner take all race for the title. In the final, racing side by side for 880 feet, Johnson held off Jackson, winning the race and the Super Stock Championship by .119.

The official order of finish for the Super Stock Division is:

- 1st Place Anniemaye Johnson
- 2nd Place Cage Jackson
- 3rd Place Zachary Newman
- 4th Place Landen Tindell



Super Stock Division: (From Left to Right)  
2nd Place- Cage Jackson, 1st Place- Anniemaye Johnson, 3rd Place- Zachary Newman

“One of the fun things about Soap Box Derby is that boys and girls compete fairly against each other, and people always ask who has won the most. After 29 years of racing, it is actually tied with 28 wins apiece in the Stock and Super divisions. In Super Kids, boys have won 8 and girls 6,” said Fesmire. “Also with Anniemaye winning the Stock and Super Stock titles back to back she is the 6th racer to complete the sweep following, Abby Burke 2001-2002, Katy Tilley 2002-2003, Emily Whiting 2005-2006, Kara Grooms 2006-2007, and Jacob Whiting 2011-2012.”

**WYXI Radio aired coverage of Saturday's Soap Box Derby on FM 94.5 and AM 1390 with the help and support of the following sponsors: A&J Body Shop and Wrecker Service, Dooley Tractor Company, Athens Barn Center, Athens Utilities Board, Starr Convenient Care of Charleston and Domino's Pizza.**