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Today's News...This Morning

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## Update on Calhoun Crash that Killed Two



Anastasia Balkcom is facing multiple charges after it was discovered she lied about not being the driver in a fatal accident that killed two Cleveland High students. The charges include two counts of vehicular homicide, false reports, vehicular assault, aggravated assault, and driving without due care.

According to an affidavit from the McMinn County court, the accident occurred on Cherokee Crossing in Calhoun, Tennessee. Troopers found a white Hyundai Santa Fe overturned with two deceased victims, Air'ra Wilson and Shytez Jackson, inside. Balkcom and Jaylen Deandre Wesley-Cook were questioned at the scene.

Wesley-Cook claimed he was driving eastbound at 35 mph when he swerved to avoid an animal, causing the vehicle to roll over. Balkcom supported this story, but the evidence contradicted their accounts. Discrepancies indicated Balkcom was the driver, such as her plea to Wesley-Cook to lie and the driver's seat being adjusted to her height of 5ft 11in.

Sheriff Joe Guy stated that Balkcom has since turned herself in, and the Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP) is investigating the crash. Source: [Newschannel9.com](http://Newschannel9.com)

Photo Credit: McMinn County Sheriff's Department

## Community News You Can Use

- In memory of Marie Lambert, the Etowah Senior Center (435 Cooper St.) will offer "Marie's Watercolor Classes". Marie taught watercolor painting at the senior center for many years. There is no charge for the class or for materials. The first class is June 25th at 11:30. Please call the center to register at 423-781-7632.
- The McMinn County Living heritage Museum (522 W. Madison Ave, Athens) is hosting a Living Legacy Fall Trade fair on August 23-24 from 12 pm - 5 pm. This event will have free entry and feature woodcarving, soap making, Appalachian music, hand quilting, herbal tinctures, felting, bead making, pyrography and more. For more info: visit [livingheritagemuseum.org](http://livingheritagemuseum.org).

**2 DUDES BBQ & CATERING**  
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- Monday – Sweetwater Little Drugs 10:30-1:30
- Tuesday-Madisonville-Will Sav -10:30 - 2:00
- Wednesday-Etowah Across from Johnsons-10:30 - 2:00
- Thursday-Athens Sock Shop 10:30 –2:00
- Friday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30

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**WEATHER FORECAST**

**Monday** Partly sunny. Less Humid. Pleasant. High 81.  
**Mon. night** - Clear. Low 56.  
**Tuesday** - Comfortable. Intervals of clouds & sunshine. High 79.  
**Wednesday** - Clear. Low 58.

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

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Monday, June 10, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

**James "J.C." Charles Lankford**, 81 of Decatur, passed away on Thursday, June 6. He was a devoted member of Freedom Baptist Church. The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Monday, June 10 at Ziegler Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 7:00 PM at the funeral home. Graveside services will be held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, June 11 at Meadow Fork Cemetery in Riceville, TN. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of James "J.C." Charles Lankford.

**Christopher Alan Hamonds**, 32 of Athens, passed away at home on Saturday, June 1st. He enjoyed spending time with his children and family. He also enjoyed doing all kinds of outdoor activities. Visitation will be Tuesday, June 11 from 4-8pm at Companion Funeral Home of Athens. Funeral Service will be held Wednesday, June 12 at 2pm with graveside to follow at Cedar Grove Cemetery. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is honored to assist his family with these arrangements.

## Lee Allows Narcan in Schools



Governor Bill Lee signed a bill recently that authorizes a new state law that allows the overdose-reducing drug Narcan into schools. It's one step that might help in the fight against opioid overdoses. The legislation allowing students, staff, and visitors to carry naloxone received bipartisan support. Staff, teachers, and even

students will be able to carry the nasal spray version of Narcan on school grounds. So if an emergency happens, they can save a life. According to the CDC, Tennessee has the second highest overdose death rate in the nation behind West Virginia, and 91% of drug overdoses in young people involve opioids. The FDA allowed the nasal spray version to be sold over the counter last year. It's available at most pharmacies. Healthcare workers say that an accidental dose of Narcan taken by someone wouldn't have any side effects.



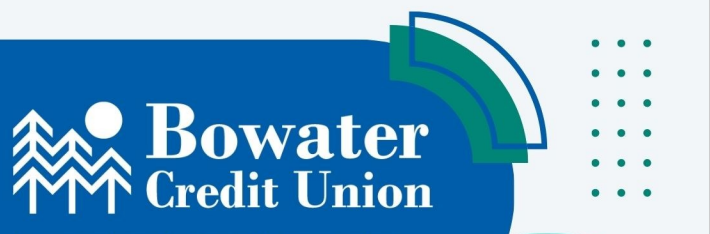
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\*\*Based on EDA tractor sales data of under 40 horsepower models from 2018 to 2022. © Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2024. \$0 Down, 0% A.P.R. financing for up to 84 months on purchases of new Kubota L3302 series equipment at participating dealers in-stock inventory is available to qualified purchasers through Kubota Credit Corporation USA; subject to credit approval. Example: 84 monthly payments of \$11.90 per \$1,000 financed. Customer instant rebates include Orange Plus Attachment Instant Rebate of \$100 with purchase of the second qualifying new implement and \$200 for the third new qualifying implement. Some exceptions apply. There is no rebate on the first implement purchased. Offers expire 06/30/24. Terms subject to change. For complete warranty, disclaimer, safety and product information see dealer or [KubotaUSA.com](http://KubotaUSA.com). Your Kubota Limited warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may have other rights which vary from state to state. 6 years limited powertrain warranty. Kubota Tractor Corporation does not authorize any person to create for KTC any obligation or liability other than that stated in the limited warranty. This material is for descriptive purposes only. Kubota disclaims all representations and warranties, express or implied, or any liability from the use of this material. For complete warranty, disclaimer, safety and product and incentive offer information, consult your local Kubota dealer and the Owner's Warranty Information Guide for the Kubota limited warranty on all products. Visit [KubotaUSA.com/disclaimers](http://KubotaUSA.com/disclaimers) for more information. KCDA-04-150716-2

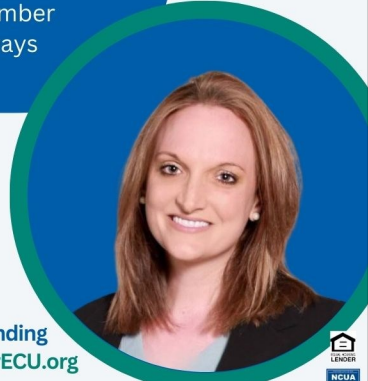


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Monday, June 10, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3 Athens, Tennessee

## Arrest Reports

Tanoah Porter, 39 of Cleveland, was arrested by the MCSO for Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl for Resale and State Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$30,000.

Chaston Walker, 36 of Decatur, was arrested by the MCSO for Failure to Appear. No Bond.

Nyzaya Vincent, 23 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Possession of Methamphetamine and Public Intoxication. Total Bond: \$500.

Ethan Rutland, 34 of Athens was arrested by the Athens PD for Attempted Arson, two counts of Felony Vandalism and Burglary. Total Bond: \$66,000.

Derreck Humphrey, 21 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Possession of a Handgun while Under the Influence, and simple possession of a Schedule VI substance. Total Bond: \$2,000.

Keven Young, 45 of Riceville was arrested by the MCSO for Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl, Simple possession of a Schedule VI substance, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. No Bond.

Angel Woody, 46 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Domestic Assault Disorderly Conduct, and Resisting Stop. Total Bond: \$2,000.

Charles Dyal, 67 of Niota, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of the Sex Offender Registry. Total Bond: \$50,000.

Kelsey Shumate, 24 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Domestic Assault. Total Bond: \$1,000.

Dustin Watson, 36 of Englewood, was arrested by Englewood PD for State Violation of Probation and Violation of Probation in Monroe County. Total Bond: \$1,000

Keyshawn Robinson, 18 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Robbery and Possession of a Schedule VI substance. Total Bond: \$16,000.

Anastasia Balkcom, 18 of Cleveland, was arrested by the MCSO for two counts of Vehicular Homicide, False Reports, Vehicular Assault, Aggravated Assault, and Failure to Exercise Due Care. Total Bond: \$343,000.

James Fritts, 19 of Riceville, was arrested by the MCSO for Possession of a Schedule IV Substance. No Bond Reported.

**The accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. All Information gathered from Public Sources.**



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