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## Today's News...This Morning

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**Tuesday, December 10, 2024**

**Page 1**

**Athens, Tennessee**

### Outbuilding Destroyed in Fire on County Road 650



The McMinn County Sheriff's Department and multiple fire crews responded to an outbuilding fire on County Road 650 near Etowah shortly before noon on

Sunday. The fire, caused by embers from a burning barrel, resulted in the total loss of the structure and its contents.

Etowah Rural Fire Chief Adam Hafley led the coordinated response, with teams from Etowah Rural Fire, Claxton Fire, and Englewood Rural Fire assisting. No injuries were reported.

*Photo courtesy of Etowah Rural Fire Dept.*

### Community News You Can Use

- An open, public Called Meeting of the Athens Regional/Municipal Planning Commission of the City of Athens will be held in the City Council Chambers at the Athens City Hall, (815 North Jackson Street, Athens) on Friday, December 13th at 12 Noon. The meeting is a continuation of the tabled preliminary plat request from the December meeting and to hear the City Attorney's opinion on the deed restrictions.
- Etowah Carnegie Library has announced an expansion of their weekend hours. Starting on this Saturday, December 14th, the library will be open from 10AM - 3PM every Saturday. Please call the library at (423) 263-9475 for more info.

**LISTENING REMINDER:** TODAY on *Main Street Moments*: Host Sandra Kinney will be discussing opportunities for giving during the holidays. The broadcast will be aired at 8:15 a.m. TODAY on WYXI RADIO AM-1390 and FM-94.5.

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**20th Annual Etowah Community Christmas Concert**

Thursday, Dec 12 @ 7 pm  
First Baptist Church Etowah

FEATURING  
Etowah Town Band  
Etowah Community Choir  
Saxophone Ensemble

**FREE ADMISSION**

Bring non-perishable food or monetary donations to help the Etowah Cooperative Food Pantry.

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1-2022 BEST OF THE BEST

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

# Obituaries

**Linda Ann Wilson**, 77 of Decatur, passed away on Saturday, December 7. Linda was a 1966 graduate of Meigs County High School. Linda was the owner of Lawson's Café in Decatur, which opened in 1992 and closed in 2009. A Graveside Service will be held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11 in the Decatur Cemetery. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Wilson Family.

**Esther Judd Altizer**, 87 of Decatur, passed away on Friday, November 22. She loved hunting, fishing, horseback riding, gardening, water skiing, being on the lake, and traveling. She was a member of Shiloh Baptist Church. A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11 in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. The family will receive friends from 3 - 4 p.m., prior to the service. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Altizer Family.

# Incline Railway Damaged by Weekend Fire



A brush fire on Look-out Mountain over the weekend heavily damaged Chattanooga's Incline Railway, forcing evacuations and road closures. About a quarter of the railway's tracks and its cable system were destroyed, and CARTA, its operator, awaits assessments to plan repairs.

The Incline Railway, which generates \$2.8 million annually, is a major revenue source for CARTA and a draw for local businesses in St. Elmo. Nearby shops were evacuated, raising concerns about financial impacts from reduced tourism and closures. The timeline for repairs and reopening remains uncertain.

Photo: [Ana Faulk](#)  
Source: [WTVC News Channel 9](#)

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Sliced Ham  
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Baked Apples  
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Pick-up on Tuesday, Dec. 24th from 11-3 pm

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Michael's Casual Dining  
Etowah 423-263-2603

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## December Craft Classes Available at McMinn Senior Center

The McMinn Senior Activity Center has announced the December 2024 Arts and Crafts Classes that are open to older adults aged 50 and older. Through a generous grant from the C. Scott and Muriel Mayfield Family Foundation the Center has over a dozen classes starting in December 2024 that include jewelry making, papercrafts, wreath making, glass bead suncatchers, painted tote bags, and much more.

Anyone aged 50 and up may register for the classes for free. You should sign up in advance to ensure your place as space is limited. Those under the age of 50 may participate but they must pay \$5 at registration to ensure their space.

### Classes for December 2024 include:

#### Diamond Painting

Thursday, December 12 at 9am

#### Cupcake Decorating with Morning Pointe

##### Assisted Living

Friday, December 13 at 9am

#### Jewelry Making

Tuesday, December 17 at 9am

#### Gingerbread House Decorating

Friday, December 20 at 9am

#### Crafting Paper Snowflakes

Friday, December 27 at 9am

For more information on the arts classes at the Center or on any Center activity, contact the Center at 423-745-6830 or stop by from 8am - 4pm at 205 McMinn Ave; Athens, TN 37303.



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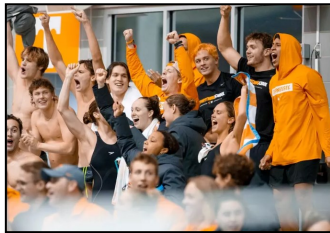


Tuesday, December 10, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

## Tennessee Swimming & Diving Prepares for a Packed Week of Competition



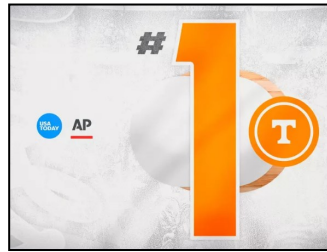
Tennessee swimming and diving athletes are set for a packed week, with 19 competitors participating in three major events.

Fourteen swimmers, including world champion Jordan Crooks, will compete at the Short Course World Championships in Budapest, December 10-15. Crooks is joined by standout teammates Gui Caribe, Lamar Taylor, and Olympian Kira Toussaint, among others.

At the USA Diving Winter National Championships in Indiana, five Vol divers, led by SEC honoree Bennett Greene, will take on various events.

Tennessee also faces Kentucky in a dual meet on Friday in Lexington, giving younger athletes a chance to shine as top competitors are away. Fans can follow the action live on the Meet Mobile app.

## Tennessee Men's Basketball Rises to No. 1 in National Polls



The University of Tennessee men's basketball team has ascended to the top spot in both the AP Top 25 and USA TODAY Coaches Poll, marking the program's first No. 1 ranking in non-conference play. Tennessee (8-0) joins Kansas as the only teams to claim the top position this season.

This achievement is the sixth time Tennessee has been ranked No. 1 in the AP Poll, with five of those instances under head coach Rick Barnes, now in his 10th season. The Volunteers have been ranked in the AP Poll for 65 consecutive weeks, the third-longest active streak in the nation.

Tennessee's dominance extends beyond rankings. The team has led by 26 or more points in all eight games this season, never trailing by more than three points in any contest. Last week, the Volunteers cruised to a 96-70 win over Syracuse in the SEC/ACC Challenge, led by fifth-year guard Chaz Lanier's 26 points. The Vols earned 58 of 62 first-place AP votes and top NCAA NET and KenPom rankings. Tennessee is among nine SEC teams ranked in at least one poll and will face Miami on Tuesday in the Jimmy V Classic at Madison Square Garden. The game begins at 6:30 p.m. ET on ESPN.

**MAIN ST.**

*Moments*

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## Update: Two Monroe Co. Corrections Officers Indicted

In an update to yesterday's press release from the Monroe Co. Sheriff's Office, two former Monroe County corrections officers, Caleb Anthony Kirkland, 30, and Ava Hensley, 24, face official misconduct charges following a Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) probe into contraband at the Monroe County Jail.

The investigation, initiated in 2022 at the request of then-10th Judicial District Attorney General Steve Crump, identified Kirkland and Hensley as responsible for bringing or enabling contraband to enter the jail. On December 4, a Monroe County Grand Jury indicted Kirkland on one count of official misconduct and Hensley on three counts.

Both were arrested without incident and booked into the Monroe County Jail. Kirkland was released on his own recognizance, while Hensley was issued a \$3,000 bond.

Authorities emphasize that the charges are accusations, and both defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty in court. The investigation is ongoing.

Source: [TBI](#)

## November 2024 Food Inspection Scores

- The Traveling Lunchbox Mobile Unit** - Niota | 100
- Mexi-Wing II** -Athens | 98
- Mayumi Asian Mobile Kitchen** -Athens | 99
- Maddie Mas** - Athens | 99
- Buddys Bar-B-Q** - Athens | 96
- Yamato Café** - Athens | 98
- Subway #30016** - Englewood | 81
- Pepo's Burrito Bar** - Etowah | 80
- Mexi- Wing Etowah** | 93
- Red Roof Inn** - Etowah | 98
- Tom Thumb Diner** - Etowah | 98
- BJ's Snack Bar** - Athens | 98
- Denso Mfg.** - Athens | 98
- Front Porch Catering** - Athens | 100
- Iron Pig BBQ** - Englewood | 100
- Burger King #5873** - Athens | 98
- Roots Authentic Puerto Rican Food** - Athens | 99
- Mulligan's at Mouse Creek** - Athens | 99
- Classic Lanes** - Athens | 99

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