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2025 Area Guidebook



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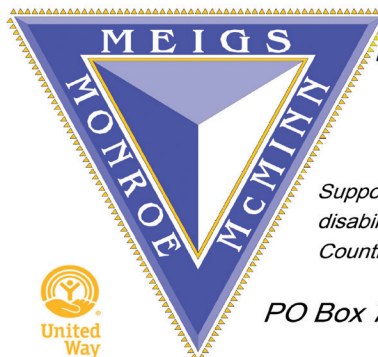
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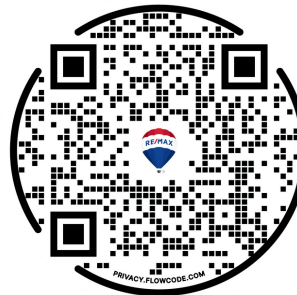
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President's Message



As we move into 2025, I reflect on the positive things that happened in 2024 and look forward to another great year. We saw a record number of ribbon cuttings for the second year in a row and continued to help our members by promoting them on our social media as well as through our weekly newsletter. The Chamber had considerable growth of new members by almost 10 percent which was the most in several years.

The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce serves around 500 members in the Athens area as well as over 40 other cities including five other states besides Tennessee. Our mission, and my goal, is to provide community leadership supporting economic development, education, local government and quality of life for our wonderful community. The Athens Area Chamber of Commerce is the largest professional membership organization in McMinn County. We have a wonderful group of diplomats who volunteer to help accomplish our organization's bold mission.

Member benefits include dozens of specialized advertising, networking and business opportunities including our monthly business before hours. This meeting is hosted each month by Chamber members. Each member also receives a free Internet listing along with a link to their website. One new tool which the chamber invested in is ChamberMaster which will enable our members to go on the site and update their information as well as post job openings and available property. The Chamber is also proud to conduct ribbon cuttings for each new member.

Another great benefit is being listed in this guidebook. This publication is utilized as the key recruiting piece for families and small businesses considering relocation to the area. The chamber provides thousands of direct and indirect referrals to its members and provides them with targeted professional development and educational opportunities. We also provide free seminars for our members throughout the year on topics such as customer service, social media, tax laws, marketing and retirement planning.

The Chamber also offers a wonderful program for adults – Leadership McMinn. The goal of this program is not only to produce leaders in the community but to give these individuals a detailed look at what our area has to offer. For more information about our events and programs, please call us or check out our website at www.athenschamber.org

I really enjoy working with the businesses and people of the Athens area to make our community a better place to live, work and play. My office door is always open and I want to encourage everyone to visit the Chamber in historic downtown Athens or call us at 423-745-0334.

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Welcome to Athens

We hope you like what you see and we invite you to become a “Friendly City” resident.

Athens is a vibrant community that offers a variety of events and resources that make it a great place to live, work and play. Residents in “The Friendly City” enjoy a small-town atmosphere where neighbors feel like family and newcomers are always welcome.

This community is fortunate to have a strong and diverse industrial base, a wealth of educational opportunities, a dynamic cultural scene, as well as a rich heritage steeped in tradition, all of which are outlined in the pages of this Guidebook.

Nestled in the picturesque East Tennessee, outdoor recreational opportunities are an important part of our identity and are widely available. Nearby, residents enjoy whitewater rafting, hiking, mountain biking, boating, fishing and many other outdoor recreations.

When it's time to plan a vacation or weekend getaway, Athens is within easy driving distance to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. Athenians can also enjoy a wide range of amenities from nearby cities. Conveniently located halfway between Knoxville and Chattanooga on Interstate 75, Athens is less than a three-hour drive to two metropolitan cities: Athens and Nashville; and it's less than a day's drive to Memphis, Savannah, Charleston, Asheville, Charlotte, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Birmingham and Lexington, to name a few.

As you explore the streets and neighborhoods of the Athens area, use this Guidebook to learn more about all Athens has to offer, including the cultural experiences, businesses, food, activities and most importantly, the people.

McMinn County Top 10 Employers

DENSO (DMAT- Athens)	1589
McMinn County Schools	746
Starr Regional Medical Center	704
Adient	520
E&E Manufacturing	428
Mayfield Dairy Farms (Dean Foods)	365
ABB (formerly Thomas & Betts)	336
Heil Trailer International	310
Johns Manville	302
Resolute Forest Products	200

Numbers current as of 2024

History of Athens

While the Athens area has played a role in regional and national historic events, the city is also rich with more than 200 years of history.

The first explorers to the area found Cherokee living on the land. The City of Athens sits halfway between the Cherokee villages of Great Tellico to the north and the Overhill Cherokee villages to the south. The Cherokees signed the Calhoun Treaty in 1819, selling the land north of the Hiwassee to the United States, which includes all of modern-day McMinn County.

The City of Athens was organized on Nov. 12, 1819, and consisted of 35 acres. Calhoun was the original county seat, but the county seat was soon relocated to a more central location, known originally as Pumpkintown, to make it more accessible to the majority of McMinn Countians.

The Tennessee Legislature renamed the town Athens on Aug. 23, 1822. Local lore credits the city's name to Elijah Hurst, one of the original town commissioners, because he had read about Athens, Greece, and believed the two were similar.

McMinn County's population grew to more than 14,000 by 1830. According to the 1830 census, Athens had a population of 500, comprised of four doctors, four lawyers, four divines (ministers), 10 stores (three more than Knoxville at the time), one tavern, one printing office, one painter, two hatters, two tailors, two shoemakers, two tanners, two silversmiths, one wagon maker, two mills, one factory and a male and female academy.

One of the early prominent residents was Jesse Mayfield, whose descendants created the Mayfield Dairy Farm.

In 1836, Athens experienced one of its more tragic events when General John Wool arrived to help coordinate the Cherokee Removal. His headquarters were located in what was the Bridges Hotel located across from the McMinn County Courthouse. The removal was originally voluntary, but when many Cherokees were still in the area in 1838, it became mandatory. The removal included with a forced march west that became known as the Trail of Tears.

The railroad had its beginnings here in the mid-1830s when the state chartered a rail line to be built from Knoxville to Dalton, Georgia. In fact, the first railroad construction in Tennessee began in 1837 about 1.5 miles from the center of town. A statewide depression halted the building of the railroad in 1839 and it did not start again until 1849.

McMinn County was divided during the Civil War, as was most of East Tennessee. McMinn County voted against secession by a vote of 904 to 1,144, although the state of Tennessee joined the Confederacy in 1861.

Loyalties were divided in McMinn County: 12 units were sent to fight with the Union Army and eight units fought for the Confederacy. Union General William T. Sherman used the Bridges Hotel as headquarters briefly during the war.



The South as a whole suffered following the Civil War and rebuilding was hampered in the Athens area, as well. The railroad somewhat spurred development and, by 1887, several companies were established, including the Athens Mining and Manufacturing Company. Other manufacturing and industrial companies in the area at that time included flour mills, timber mills, textile mills and some furniture factories.

There are 11 historical markers in McMinn County, six of which are in Athens. Take a few hours and find each one.

(stop along the way and take some photos, learn more about the area, eat some lunch and visit with a few residents. Some may be trickier to find than others):

1. **Free Hill** – located on Knoxville Avenue across from the Athens-McMinn Family YMCA in Athens.
2. **The Battle of Athens** – located at the intersection of North White Street and East College Street in Athens.
3. **Bethsalem Presbyterian Church** – located off TN Highway 30 at Watson Road in Athens.
4. **Harry Thomas Burn** – located on Willson St. just north of Burn Rd., Niota.
5. **John Tyler Morgan** – located at the intersection of Ingleside Avenue (Tennessee Route 305) and Old Niota Road in Athens.
6. **Joseph McMinn** – located at 5195 Highway 11, Calhoun
7. **McMinn-Meigs County Line**
8. **Petty-Manker Hall** – located at 443 Green Street in Athens.
9. **Samuel Cleage** – located on North Jackson Street north of East Hornsby Street in Athens.
10. **Tennessee Wesleyan University** – located at the intersection of North Jackson Street and East College Street in Athens.
11. **The Nocatula Legend** – located on Coach Farmer Drive east of North Jackson in Athens.

Newcomer Information

If you're a new resident of the Friendly City — or plan to become one soon — below is some helpful information to help you become familiar with the services provided in the Athens area.

City Services: Athens is a full-service city, providing fire, police, community development, parks and recreation, utilities, education, sanitation, environment, and infrastructure for citizens and guests. All of the departments can be reached via the city's website, cityofathensstn.com or by phone (423) 744-2700.

Hours for general office operations are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Sanitation: Residential and commercial pickup is provided by Athens Department of Public Works in the city limits, as well as a convenient recycling



center located at 118 Rocky Mount Road. The recycling center provides receptacles for dropping off mixed

paper, tin cans, aluminum, cardboard, used motor oil, used auto batteries, used cooking oil, used electronic

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equipment (except for television and computer monitors), and hazardous household waste.

Utilities: The Athens Utilities Board (AUB) provides utility services for the Athens area. Services include: Water, sewer, electricity and natural gas. To reach AUB's offices, call (423) 745-4501.

TV/Internet/Phone: AT&T and Comcast both offer paid television, internet and landline phone services.

Local Media: The local newspaper for the Athens area is The Daily Post-Athenian (The DPA), which has been in circulation since 1848.

The DPA provides complete coverage of local news and community and sporting events, as well as national coverage through its affiliation with The Associated Press. The DPA's website dailypostathenian.com is updated daily with local information and also includes a community calendar. Call The DPA's office at (423) 745-5664 for more information.

There are several local radio stations: WJSQ 101.7 FM (country), WYGO 99.5 FM (adult contemporary) and WLAR 1450 AM (classic hits). WYXI 1390 AM (oldies/talk) broadcasts a local Trading Post twice daily Monday through Friday

and once on Saturdays. Additionally, on weekdays, they send out "The Daily Fax," which contains local information.

Registering to Vote: Eligible McMinn County residents can pick up a voter registration application at the McMinn County Election Commission office, the County Clerk's office, the Register of Deeds office, public libraries, any public assistance agency, the Tennessee Department of Safety's driver's license testing centers, or download an application at sos.tn.gov/elections. Eligibility requirements, as well as instructions on where to turn in or mail the registration form, are included on the application. Registration must be completed 30 days prior to Election Day. Contact the McMinn County Election Commission with any questions – (423) 745-0843.

Driver's License Information: New Tennessee residents have 30 days from the time permanent residency is established to convert to a Tennessee driver's license. You must pass a vision test, present a valid license from another state, have an approved form of identification (certified birth certificate or passport), and two proofs of Tennessee residency (two received pieces of mail with your name and new address) to obtain a Tennessee driver's license. The

Athens Driver Services Center is located at 150 Plaza Circle in Athens. Call (423) 744-2812 for more information.

Vehicle Tags and Registration: The County Clerk's office requires current vehicle registration or title, or the name and address of the lien holder, in order to obtain a Tennessee license plate or to renew your registration. For more information regarding vehicle registration, call the County Clerk's office at (423) 745-4440.

Those planning to start a business: The Main Street Athens office is located at 3 West College Street and Director Lisa Dotson can be reached at 423-333-0329 or by e-mail at athensmainstreet@gmail.com or interested parties can visit the Athens Main Street Facebook page or website at www.mainstreetathens.org to learn more.

The LITE House: A business incubator in Downtown Athens. Interested parties seeking more information on it can e-mail Ann Montgomery at yourlitehouse1@gmail.com, visit their website at yourlitehouse.com, or find them on Facebook and Instagram. The LITE House is located adjacent to Tennessee Wesleyan University's campus, upstairs from the White Street Market at 1 W College Street, Athens, TN 37303.



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The banner features a dark blue background with a white grid pattern. On the left, there are three colored pencils (green, red, blue) and on the right, there are two paper clips (yellow and red). The text is in a bold, sans-serif font.

Athens Area Education

There are three public school systems in the Athens area: McMinn County, Athens City and Etowah City, as well as several private, church-sponsored schools. Tennessee Wesleyan's main campus is in Athens and Cleveland State Community College has a satellite office in the area. The Tennessee College of Applied Technology – Athens also offers post-secondary education opportunities at their Athens facility.

The Athens City School System has a voluntary pre-kindergarten program. There are three schools in the system and all are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

McMinn County Schools is committed to providing students with the highest quality learning environment possible. With seven elementary schools (Pre-K to 8), two high schools, and a vocational school, MCS has approximately 5,200 students in the system.

Etowah is a single-school system and is overseen by the Etowah Board of Education.

There are five private schools in McMinn County: Valley Christian Academy, Liberty Christian School, Fairview Christian Academy, Christ's Legacy Academy and Antioch Christian Academy.

Area Colleges

Tennessee Wesleyan University, founded in 1857, is a private, four-year, liberal arts institution affiliated with the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church. The school is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the University Senate of the United Methodist Church.

Cleveland State Community College, a two-year public college, is fully accredited and operates within the governance of the Tennessee Board of Regents and is approved by the Tennessee Higher



Education Commission. Cleveland State Community College has an Athens campus located inside the McMinn Higher Education Center.

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology – Athens is fully accredited and is governed by the Tennessee Board of Regents. The Tennessee College of Applied Technology has been a member of the Athens community since 1965 and offers

10 diploma programs in career technical fields. All programs are eligible for federal financial aid and the HOPE Lottery scholarship.

The Tennessee Promise is both a scholarship and mentoring program focused on increasing the

number of students that attend college in our state. It provides students a last-dollar scholarship, meaning the scholarship will cover tuition and fees not covered by the Pell grant, the HOPE scholarship or state student assistance funds.

Students may use the scholarship at any of the state's 13 community colleges, 27 colleges of applied technology, or other eligible institution offering an associate's degree program. For more information, visit tnpromise.gov

The Tennessee Promise can be used to attend two local institutions: Cleveland State Community College and Tennessee College of Applied Technology - Athens.

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Athens Area Higher Learning

Tennessee Wesleyan University



Near the center of Athens, Tennessee Wesleyan University provides experiences one expects from a major university with the attention and nurturing a liberal arts education offers.

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Faculty and staff are dedicated to assisting students in the realization of

their full potential through holistic and transformational learning experiences in the classroom, the field, and our community. TWU is a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and offers 21 athletic teams.

As a part of the TWU family, the southeast Tennessee community plays an important role in the development of our region's future leaders. The main campus is located two blocks from the town center, with easy access to the surrounding area.

Instructional sites in Knoxville house

the TWU-Fort Sanders Nursing Program and the Master of Occupational Therapy program. Additionally, TWU offers degree completion in Criminal Justice, Nursing, and Management, either fully online or with fully online options. No matter where a student chooses to take their classes, they will find learning experiences and a supportive community to help them grow personally and professionally.

Explore all that Tennessee Wesleyan offers to students, alumni, and community members by visiting www.tnwesleyan.edu



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Athens Area Post Secondary Learning

Tennessee College of Applied Technology

As the industrial process is revolutionized by technology, many companies are finding that skilled labor is becoming harder to come by.

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology – Athens is located at 1635 Technology Way, Athens, and provides valued skills training in several job fields. The school operates day courses currently on the trimester system and provides special industry training in the evenings for local industries.

The courses to study at the school include collision repair, automotive technology, computer electronics, machine tool technology, practical nursing, administrative office technology, electromechanical technology, welding and pharmacy technology. Certificates and diplomas are offered in the varying fields of study.

Financial aid is available, including scholarship opportunities provided to local high school students. Also, students can qualify for a Wilder-Naifeh skills grant, funded through the Tennessee Lottery Corp. TCAT Athens also participates in the Tennessee Promise and Tennessee Reconnect.

The basic philosophy of TCAT is that every citizen should have the privilege and opportunity to reach as high a station in life as the student is capable of reaching or desires to reach. Recognizing that all people do not have the same background, abilities or desires and therefore cannot be fitted into the same mold, the objective of TCAT is that each student is treated as an individual.

Individualized instruction is utilized to the maximum in most programs. School policy provides that a student may enter a program when a vacancy occurs, start training at the the student's own level, and progress at a pace to the level desired within the limitations of the school. Individualized instruction provides the student with the highest quality instruction possible in the occupational area chosen.

The philosophy is further subscribed to that the mere development of specific



skills and knowledge in an individual is not sufficient. Desirable worker characteristics are emphasized to instill character development, good work habits, reliability, honesty and respect for authority needed for a productive society.

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology — Athens is governed by the Tennessee Board of Regents and is approved by the Council on Occupational Education

For more information, call 744-2814. The school's website is www.tcatathens.edu

TCAT Athens has been the go-to resource for technical education programs since 1965 and offers nine different areas of study:

- Administrative office technology
- Automotive technology
- Collision repair technology
- Computer electronics
- Electro-mechanical technology
- Machine tool technology
- Practical nursing
- Welding

More information about programs is available on the website at tcatathens.edu

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Athens works directly with the McMinn County Economic Development Authority, local schools, government agencies, and manufacturing partners to develop solutions that benefit students and build strong businesses.



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Athens Area Post Secondary Learning

Cleveland State Community College

Cleveland State Community College (CSCC) is a comprehensive two-year public community college operating within the governance of the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) and approved by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. For almost 50 years, Cleveland State has been committed to providing a quality education and open access for the people of Bradley, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe and Polk counties.

The college enrolls approximately 3,500 credit students and 1,500 non-credit students in a typical fall semester. Cleveland State offers a wide variety of programs including Associate of Arts, Associate of Science and Associate of Applied Science degree options, as well as over 25 technical certificates. There are a number of different scheduling options for working adults, as well as the Advance program, the TN e-Campus, and programs for veterans.

The 105-acre campus has 11 major buildings housing modern classrooms, laboratories and student activity centers. Additional features include an excellent library, dynamic classrooms, computer lab-



oratories, a 400-seat theatre, a 3,000-seat gymnasium, athletic fields, a small business development center, a workforce readiness center, and a student center with bookstore and student lounge areas. In addition, the college recently opened the new state-of-the-art Health and Science Center, the first new academic building in over 46 years.

The college also maintains off-site

locations to serve students in the northern service area. The McMinn Higher Education Center in Athens provides students in McMinn, Meigs and Monroe counties with a convenient location to access classes and various student services. The Monroe County Center, located in the Tellico West Industrial Park in Vonore, currently provides workforce development training, continuing

education opportunities and also offers certificate and degree programs in addition to its mechatronics program.

CSCC is also home to the OneSource Workforce Readiness Center made up of mechatronics assessment machines that assess an individual's aptitude and skill set for electrical, mechanical and PLC (programmable logic control). This method of assessment and

training is unique to the region.

In addition, Cleveland State offers Tennessee Promise and Tennessee Reconnect, last dollar scholarships for both traditional (Promise) and non-traditional (Reconnect) students who want to obtain a degree.

For more information about Cleveland State and its programs, visit the college's website at www.clevelandstatecc.edu



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E.G. Fisher Public Library



The E.G. Fisher Public Library builds community, offering all people in McMinn County a full range of resources needed to live, learn, govern and work.

The library is a dependable source of reliable information and of challenging ideas that enlighten and enrich. The library offers materials in many formats that enhance leisure time and expand our knowledge of our world.

The library encourages the love of reading and the joy of learning and offers the assistance people need to find, evaluate and use electronic and print information resources that help us live successful and rewarding lives.

E.G. Fisher Public Library is a full-service library with over 110,000 visitors each year. Not only can you find best-selling, newly released books, audiobooks and blockbuster movies, you can also find resources on local history and unique genealogical resources.

The library provides free computer use and 24/7 wireless Internet access. E-books, audiobooks and streaming video are available through the Overdrive R.E.A.D.S. program and the library offers one-click access to the Tennessee Electronic Library, which pro-

vides online test-preparation resources, homework help, university-level research materials and much more.

Babies, toddlers and their caregivers are encouraged to participate in the weekly story times and musical play times. The library also hosts a weekly Lego Club and a weekly tech program, called STEM Night, when schoolaged children can build and experiment with open sources software, Legos and more.

The Friends of the Library, a group of library supporters and advocates, present monthly book discussions and host the ongoing Gently Used Book Sale. Most months throughout the year, a Noon Book Discussion comes together over lunch on the third Tuesday to discuss thought-provoking reads.

Once a year, The Annual Used Book Sale takes place, offering Athens the best selection of used books locally available.

This is one of the Friends of the Library's annual fundraisers and all proceeds to go support the library.

A second fundraiser, the Book Ball, has also been started, where guests are invited to dress as a book character and help raise funds for special library projects.

Membership to Friends of the Library

is open to everyone and membership forms can be found at www.fisherlibrary.org

E.G. Fisher Public Library also offers meeting rooms for rent. Baby showers, retirement parties, business meetings, and birthday surprises are all welcome in the community room.

Rental fees are determined by the hour and a discounted rate is available for non-profit organizations. The library also offers a small meeting room for use free of charge. Reservations for the board room are available on a weekly basis.

The Wetlands at E.G. Fisher Public Library is a unique habitat for native plants, birds and other wildlife. Created by the City of Athens Public Works Department, The Wetlands offers over a mile of walking trails and plenty of opportunities to learn about flood control, native habitats and wildlife conservation.

The Pergola offers picnic seating and is often the venue of musical events and other gatherings during good weather.

For more information about E.G. Fisher Public Library, visit fisherlibrary.org, like them on Facebook, or call at (423) 745-7782.



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Painting by Susan Wilhoit

MCMINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE Painting by Susan Wilhoit

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MCMINN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX Photograph provided by Jay Hacker

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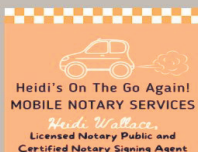
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Athens Area Industries

“Make it in McMinn”

Industries make up more than one third of the employment base in McMinn County, leading all other business sectors, but it is the diversity of this sector that is exciting!

McMinn County is well known globally for its automotive supply cluster. It is also home to established Fortune 500 companies such as Johns Manville, a Berkshire Hathaway Company, and DENSO Manufacturing.

Numerous small business operations that are crucial to our local economy also call McMinn County home. These industries are doing some exciting things and making their mark in their various fields of expertise.

DENSO Manufacturing Athens Tennessee, a Fortune Global 500 leader in automotive supply manufacturing, is the largest employer in McMinn County.

Creative Foam, E&E Manufacturing, Adler Pelzer, Heil Trailer, Adient, Maxwell Industries, Morgan Automation, Southern Hydraulic Cylinder and Waupaca Foundry are some of the local industries that contribute to the automotive supply cluster.

At more than 100 years old, Mayfield Dairy is one of Athens' oldest industries. Resolute Forest Products continues to be an employer in McMinn County.

Originally a newsprint paper manufacturer, it currently manufactures bath tissue at the Calhoun mill.

Because of Mayfield Dairy's and Resolute Forest Products' presence in McMinn County, agriculture still plays an important part in McMinn County's industrial make-up.

Although the textile industry has significantly declined in the U.S. over the past couple of decades, Crescent Sock Company, established in 1902, is family owned and operated, and the oldest operating hosiery mill in the U.S. Crescent Sock Company continues to offer the “World's Softest Sock” here in McMinn County.

They operate a retail establishment in Athens, The Sock Shop, where they sell their socks direct to the public.

The McMinn County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA) is the single recruiter of industry to McMinn County and is also responsible for existing industry retention and expansion programs. The mission of the MCEDA is to facilitate the creation and retention of quality jobs for the citizens

of McMinn County and increase capital investment through a targeted marketing plan and program with regional partnerships.

The MCEDA owns and manages several industrial properties in McMinn County:

Athens McMinn Interstate Industrial Park: The Athens McMinn Interstate Industrial Park has 130 acres available for development. This site has interstate visibility and excellent highway accessibility. Tenants of the Athens McMinn Interstate Industrial Park include: DENSO, Midlab, Morgan Automation, Creative Foam, and NDX Rogers Dental Lab.

Mt. Verd Industrial Park: The Mt. Verd Industrial Park consists of 223 acres and has excellent interstate accessibility.

Approximately 200 acres remain for development. Adler Pelzer is the anchor tenant in the park.

North Etowah Industrial Park: The North Etowah Industrial Park includes 270 acres of developable CSX rail-served industrial property. This site has been recognized as a certified site by both CSX Select and Select TN Sites certification programs. Existing and established industries located in the North Etowah Industrial Park include: Inspectech and Johns Manville.

Additional public owned and privately owned industrial sites are available throughout McMinn County.

For information related to available industrial properties in McMinn County, please contact Lindsey Ferguson, MCEDA executive director, at (423) 745-1506 or by e-mail at Lindsey@MakeltnMcMinn.org



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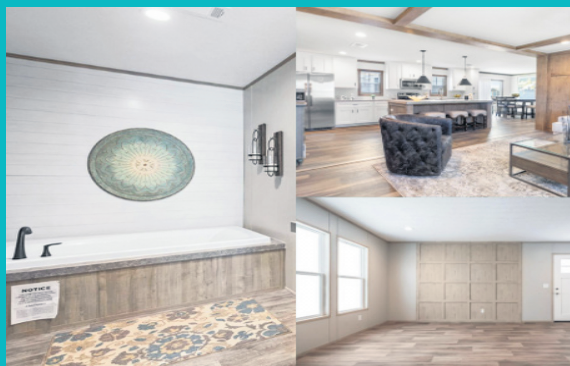
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Main Street Athens

Since 2016, Athens has been designated as an Accredited Main Street America community. Main Street Athens, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is guided by an engaged board of directors working closely with the executive director to develop sustainable strategies that foster entrepreneurship, celebrate arts and culture, and preserve the area's rich history. The organization actively connects with local, state, regional and national partners to identify resources that drive economic growth and build a vibrant community. While Main Street's primary focus is on revitalizing downtown, its initiatives deliver widespread benefits that enhance an entire community.

The Main Street Approach for revitalization has four transformation strategies: Organization, Promotion, Design and Economic Vitality.

Athens became a part of The THRIVE Regional Partnership Initiative in 2018 and this value-added component helps bring more awareness of the local arts and cultural assets that are available in the community. The organization has learned to utilize them as a driver for economic development, whether through programs, projects, or events. The Athens Arts



Center has been a collaborative partner with Main Street Athens since its inception.

In 2016 when the program started, the vacancy rate of ground floor buildings was reported as 40%.

According to the 2023 Main Street Athens Annual Designation Report, this percentage is now at 10%.

The façade improvements that have taken place in the district is an attraction for other businesses.

"This shifting has been a result of public-private investments and we are excited about what the future of downtown Athens. Our

vision is to join forces with our partners and key stakeholders to transform downtown into a prosperous, popular, business and tourist destination for residents and visitors to shop, eat, play and live," states Sandra Kinney, Main Street Athens Executive Director.

Main Street Athens office is located at 3 West College Street
Contact: 423-333-0329 or by email at info@mainstreetathens.org

For updated event information visit Athens Main Street Facebook page or website at www.mainstreetathens.org

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Athens: A Quick Look

Demographics:

Population: 14,225 (2021)

Male: 48.7%

Female: 51.3%

Median Age: 40.4 years

Married: 40.7%

Single: 59.3%

High School Graduates (age 25+): 85%

Bachelor's Degrees or More (age 25+): 22.7%

Graduate or Professional Degree: 7.5%

Racial Diversity:

White: 79.6%

Black: 7.6%

Hispanic: 7.6%

Two or More Races: 4.0%

Asian: 1.0%

American Indian: 0.2%

Other: 0.2%

Housing Information:

Median Household Income: \$43,135

Estimated Median House/Condo Value: \$198,530

Property Tax per \$100 (2023): City/\$1.0078 County/\$1.0823

Year City Incorporated: 1860

Elevation: 867 feet

Land Area: 15.1 square miles

Form of Government:

Council-Manager, Private Act Charter. Five at-large council members serve staggered terms as the governing body, selecting a mayor from amongst themselves. Council appoints a professional city manager to serve as the administrative head of the municipal government. Council also appoints a city attorney and a city judge.

Budget: \$21,000,000

County Seat:

Athens is the county seat for McMinn County and the McMinn County Courthouse is located in downtown Athens.

Statistics from United States Census Bureau,
city-data.com – valid as of 2022.



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Athens Area Recreation



The Athens area has an abundance of recreational resources available. Several of the outstanding recreational facilities offered in the Athens area are detailed here.

The Athens-McMinn Family YMCA includes a basketball court, exercise classes, an indoor pool, an indoor walking track, a racquetball court, fitness programs and multiple weight rooms with modern exercise equipment. The YMCA also provides sports for children as well as swimming lessons, before and after-school care, day camps and fitness programs. For more information call (423) 745-4904 or visit athensmcminnymca.org

The City of Athens serves the area with 12 parks covering 282 acres.

With over 324,000 annual visitors, these facilities serve citizens locally and regionally with a wide variety of programs and amenities. The 162-acre Athens Regional Park boasts meeting facilities inside the Southeast Trade and Conference Center, two fishing lakes, a 36-hole disc golf course, five baseball/softball fields, a three-mile walking/mountain bike trail, miles of paved walks and seven soccer fields.

Additionally, the park boasts one of the largest splash pad/playground areas in the state complete with three

shade structures perfect for outdoor parties. The large lake is stocked with trout regularly and has an overlook pavilion great for family reunions or outdoor events.

The park is also home to a story book trail, the only one outside of a state-owned park, where entire books are printed on story boards and families can take a healthy stroll and practice reading. The story board trail was developed by students at Athens City Middle School.

Market Park and Veterans Park anchor the downtown area. Veterans Park is home to a 4,000 brick Veteran's Walkway, monuments to each branch of service and to county historical veteran events. A half-mile paved walking path runs the length of the property making it a popular place for downtown walking.

Market Park is home to the Athens Farmers Market, Sounds of Summer and numerous festivals throughout the year. The park has a large pavilion making it a favorite place for these types of events.

Ingleside Recreation Complex has eight lighted tennis courts, which are also marked for pickleball; a skatepark and a swimming pool.

The nationally recognized Eureka

Trail begins in Athens and ends in Englewood and is a great place for running, bicycling, horseback riding and walking. Eureka is built on over 5.5 miles of converted railroad line and is a hard-packed gravel surface.

The Athens area and surrounding regions overflow with a multitude of recreational opportunities sure to please everyone in the family.

The Athens area has four nearby golf courses: Mouse Creek, an 18-hole public course in Athens; Ridgewood, an 18-hole public course with a driving range, located between Athens and Etowah; Springbrook Golf and Country Club, a private club with an 18-hole golf course in Niota; and White Oaks, an 18-hole public course just outside the Athens city limits.

Another venue for recreational activities is the McMinn Senior Activity Center in Athens, which provides numerous opportunities for adults 50 years and older.

Activities include, but are not limited to: dancing, arts and crafts, fitness programs, computer classes, and card games. Visit the McMinn Senior Activity Center on Facebook at facebook.com/McMinnSeniorCenter, online at mcminnseniors.com or call (423) 745-6830 for more information.



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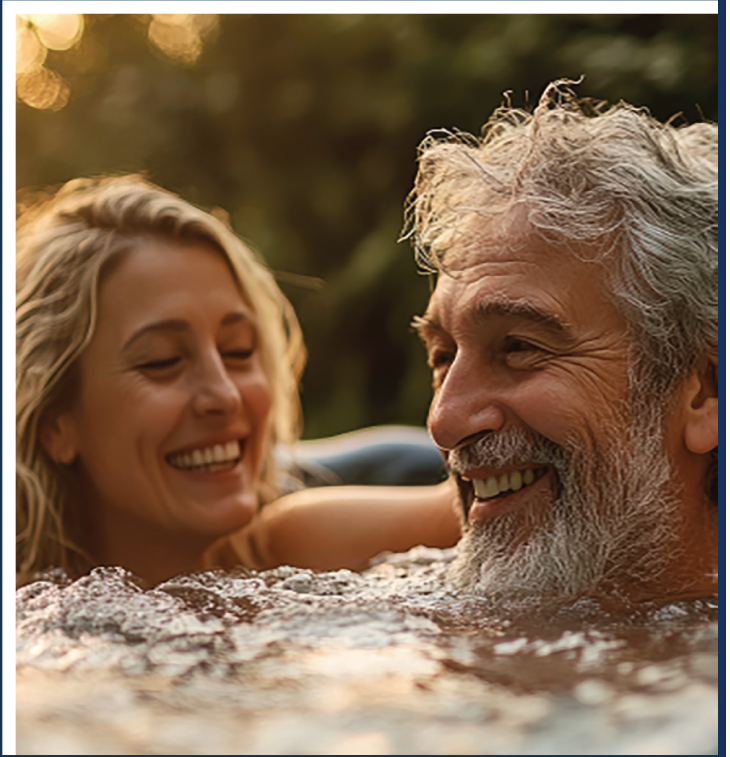
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Arts & Culture in Athens

Walk through a tree-lined neighborhood and see a free concert on a warm summer night or enjoy an indie band in an intimate hall and chat with them after.

View high quality art in a small town atmosphere or see a Broadway musical with talented local performers. There's history, colorful stories, events and people of our past a short drive or walk away and places for children to enrich arts and cultural understanding or learn to use creative thinking skills right here in Athens.

Athens is a small town full of artistic souls, who have cultivated long standing arts and culture organizations and programs. Our rich history and cultural heritage as well as performing and visual arts are affordable and accessible to all the people of our region.

Children who participate in arts education develop skills and aptitudes that make them successful in work and school. That's why Athenians strive to provide high quality arts and cultural educational opportunities. We want present and future generations to stay connected with a deeper aesthetic and a continuing appreciation of their roots.

How do we do it? With volunteers, employees and administrators of the various organizations that work tirelessly and passionately to provide these arts and culture programs.

We are privileged to share our stories, joys, sorrows and way of life with each other in creative ways. Find out where you fit in Athens' arts and culture scene, starting with Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA).



Photo courtesy of Emma Trew

The Arts Center Home of Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA) | 320 North White St., Athens

Athens Area Council for the Arts has provided the region with a front row seat and backstage pass to worldclass visual and performing arts experiences for more than 40 years. The volunteers and administrators at The Arts Center in downtown Athens uphold the mission its founders penned in 1979 "to enrich the quality of life and make a difference for our community by providing opportunities for the expression and appreciation of the arts."

Under Executive Director Lauren Brown, AACA is the premier arts and cultural resource for our community.

In 2024, The Arts Center completes an expansion, which nearly doubles its square footage and space to host arts experiences.

Part of AACA's rich legacy is hosting performances at an affordable price. The Sue E. Trotter Theater at The Arts Center is a home venue for concerts by national touring artists, community theatre productions and a variety of free performances throughout the year.

The Arts Center is also home to exhibit spaces such as The Willson Exhibit Room and Hall Gallery, which hosts up to eight curated exhibitions each year by regional and local artists including an annual themed art and college and high school art competitions each year. The

Artisan Corner is where locals buy handmade gifts and original artwork by artists in the region.

AACA offers arts education opportunities to local students, such as live performances, artist residences and workshops and master classes with professional musicians ... most at no cost to the schools or students (thanks to the gracious support of the C. Scott & Muriel Mayfield Family Foundation, the Tennessee Arts Commission and AACA members).

Four generations of students have benefitted from these arts education programs, including public art works such as sculptures like those on display at Athens City Middle School and the mobiles that hang at The Arts Center, as well as the

Arts & Culture in Athens

etchings in the walls surrounding The Arts Center's River of Life Marian Biddle Trew Memorial Fountain. Art students of all ages can take classes year round at The Arts Center.

For more information, call (423) 745-8781 or visit athensartsCouncil.org

It's probably no surprise that arts and cultural programming has a huge economic impact on the Athens area. That's why AACA led McMinn County's participation in Arts & Economic Prosperity 6, the largest nationwide survey conducted by Americans for the Arts.

The survey, which measures the economic impact of arts programming, found that arts & cultural events in McMinn County generated \$8.6 million of spending in 2022.

Tennessee Wesleyan University 205 College St. | Athens

TWU's Fine Arts Department hosts art exhibits at The Muriel Mayfield Exhibit Hall in Reece Hall and live performances in Townsend Auditorium.

For more information, call (423) 745-7504 or visit tnwesleyan.edu

E.G. Fisher Public Library 1289 Ingleside Avenue | Athens

Nestled in the curve of the Oostanaula Creek and just blocks from historic Ingleside School and the Mayfield Visitors Center, stands a barn-like structure that houses E.G. Fisher Public Library.

A hub of community learning and regional culture, our public library hosts workshops, book discussions



and children's story time, as well as free activities for youth and teens. Home of the Goldie Mayfield Gallery, the Community Artists' League of Athens hosts rotating exhibits.

For more information, call the library at (423) 745-7782

or visit fisherlibrary.org

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nights, bring your lawn chair and enjoy a free concert by regional performers, presented by Friendly City Festivals, Sounds of Summer volunteers and community sponsors.

For more information, visit facebook.com/SOSAthenSTN

Athens Area Health

Starr Regional Medical Center

Starr Regional Medical Center is committed to its mission of making communities healthier® and demonstrates this commitment through welcoming new providers, adding and expanding service lines and continually investing in its facilities and technology. With campuses in Athens and Etowah, Starr Regional Medical Center proudly supports McMinn County and the surrounding communities by ensuring everyone has access to care, regardless of their ability to pay; creating an environment where providers want to practice and employees want to work; and continuously championing local activities and organizations committed to improving the lives of our neighbors and communities.

Inviting highly trained providers to our community and supporting them is essential to providing high-quality care and further enhancing our services. In the last year, more than 75 employed and independent providers were added in cardiology, emergency medicine, general surgery, nephrology, OB/GYN, oncology, pathology, pediatrics, radiology, tele-neurology, telepsychology, urology and more, to allow the communities we serve to access the healthcare they need closer to home.

Investments in our facilities and improving technology, allows Starr Regional Medical Center to ensure we continue meeting our community's healthcare needs. Since 2023, the hos-

pital's Cardiac Cath Lab opened, renovations were completed to add office space for providers in the Medical Arts Plaza, and medical imaging equipment was upgraded to offer new services, including new computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanners and ultrasound equipment. Additional investments were made to upgrade the sterile processing department, defibrillators and the cardiac rehabilitation system. Looking ahead to 2025, Starr Regional Medical Center plans to launch its da Vinci robotic-surgery program, complete expansion of its geriatric behavioral health program – Senior Care (Etowah campus), and break ground on a new intensive care unit (Athens campus).

In 2023, the organization paid more than \$8.2 million in local and state taxes, while also continuing its support of local activities and organizations committed to serving the region, including American Cancer Society, Athens City Schools, Etowah City School, Friendly City Festivals, Friendly Fellow Club, Good Faith Clinic, Isaiah 117 House, McMinn County Economic Development Authority, McMinn County Living Heritage Museum, McMinn County Schools and United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties.

Additionally, Starr Regional provided nearly \$43.8 million in health services to those in need,

demonstrating its continuous commitment to ensuring everyone has access to care, regardless of their ability to pay.

Starr Regional Medical Center is also devoted to creating environments where providers want to practice and employees want to work. In 2023, the hospital distributed more than \$43.6 million in salaries, wages and benefits for its approximately 645 employees, while contributing more than \$95,000 in professional development and tuition assistance so all its employees can have the opportunity to learn, grow and improve the care they provide their patients.

Starr Regional Medical Center's Emergency Departments are accredited Chest Pain Centers, which means the staff has achieved a higher level of expertise to care for patients who arrive with symptoms of a heart attack. Emergency services, including telepsychiatry and telestroke assessments, are available on both campuses with private rooms and specialty rooms for cardiac and trauma events.

Advanced imaging services include X-ray, CT, MRI, ultrasound and positron emission tomography-computed tomography (PET/CT). Also, the Etowah campus offers low-dose CT screenings for patients with an increased risk for lung cancer.

Upgraded CT and MRI scanners on the Athens campus will allow Starr Regional Medical Center

to offer additional services related to breast health, cardiology, enterography and prostate health in 2025.

The Starr Regional Breast Center in Athens offers 3D mammography, making it possible to detect breast cancer in earlier stages so treatment can begin sooner and giving patients a greater chance at beating the disease. Additional services offered include breast ultrasound, bone density tests and stereotactic and ultrasound core biopsies.

Starr Regional Medical Center has been working diligently to expand cardiovascular services offered within the community. The providers and technology within the hospital's cardiac cath lab diagnose and provide treatment for heart blockages, peripheral arterial disease (PAD) and other cardiovascular conditions.

The Cardiac, Pulmonary and PAD Rehabilitation Programs are medically supervised exercise programs that are tailored to each patient's specific needs. Each program focuses on reducing risk factors related to the patient's diagnosis and improving many aspects of the patient's overall health through improved exercise tolerance, disease management and energy conservation.

The Rehabilitation Services Department at Starr Regional Medical Center offers inpatient care as well as one-on-one

outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapies and sports medicine services at convenient locations in Athens and Etowah. Specialized treatment programs are available for patients with various diagnoses, including rehabilitation following orthopedic surgery, sports injury or total joint replacement; neurological rehabilitation for CVA/stroke, Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis and others; gait and balance therapy; and speech/language therapy, including swallow, voice and feeding therapies, among others.

Starr Regional Surgical Services Department offers innovative, total hip and knee replacement procedures utilizing surgical robotics equipment, and look forward to adding additional procedures to its list of robotic-assisted surgeries in 2025. The surgical team also provides expertise in general surgery procedures and those relating to gastroenterology, gynecology, podiatry and urology. Surgeries are performed on the Athens campus.

The Surgery Center of Athens, which is located at 105 North Meadows Drive in Athens, offers an additional option for patients

undergoing same-day procedures. Surgeries performed at The Surgery Center include general surgery, ophthalmology and gastrointestinal procedures.

The Center for Women & Babies at Starr Regional, offering prenatal and postnatal care, offers families an exceptional birthing experience with care provided by a team of compassionate maternity professionals, including obstetricians/gynecologists, midwives and pediatricians.

Starr Regional Health & Rehabilitation specializes in major joint and stroke rehabilitation, providing individualized skilled and long-term care for each patient through the coordination of various on-site services, including physical, occupational and speech therapies. Long-term residents also take part in daily activities, special events and outings. The facility is an 88-bed, licensed nursing home adjoining Starr Regional Medical Center – Etowah, which ensures continuity of care and immediate access to imaging and emergency services when necessary.

Senior Care is a geriatric behavioral health program that provides acute inpatient treatment

to patients ages 50 and older who are experiencing behavioral health concerns related to cognitive disorders, dementia, loss or adjustment concerns, or other physical health issues. The care team comprises nurses, social workers and activity/occupational therapists under the direction and supervision of a psychiatrist.

Starr Regional Medical Group, which includes employed physician practices, offers primary, urgent and specialty care to patients of all ages in Athens, Etowah and Charleston. Specialty services include cardiology, cancer and hematology, general surgery, orthopedics and sports medicine.

Additional services and outreach initiatives, including the Advanced Wound Care Center, Sleep Diagnostic Center, Starr Regional Diabetes Center, CPR classes and community wellness programs, help to further Starr Regional Medical Center's mission of making communities healthier®.

For a complete list of services and to learn more about Starr Regional Medical Center, visit StarrRegional.com. To find a healthcare provider, call 423-374-6571.

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Athens Area Health Other Institutions

Some of the health organizations near the Athens area are listed below.

McMinn County Health Department

Offers a wide range of services including immunizations, the Special Supplemental Nutritional Program for Women, Infants and Children, (WIC), tuberculosis testing, wellness checkups for children, communicable disease control, and family planning. The health department also offers flu and pneumonia vaccinations in the fall. It is located at 393 County Road 554 in Athens. For more information call (423) 745-7431.

Good Faith Clinic in Athens

A free clinic created by local doctors to treat the needs of uninsured McMinn Countians. The clinic typically operates two evenings each month. The clinic is located at 14 Congress Parkway South

and offers physician evaluations, consultations, diagnostic and medical testing, and medication. The Good Faith Clinic is a non-profit, volunteer-staffed operation, and a partner agency of the United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties. For more information call (423) 745-8185 or visit cccathens.org/goodfaithclinic.html

Sweetwater Hospital Association (SHA)

Offers family practice, general surgery, internal medicine, geriatrics, gastroenterology, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, orthopedic surgery, urology, neurosurgery, pulmonology, podiatry, oncology, otolaryngology and emergency medicine. SHA also offers many patient services including, but not limited to, pharmacy, radiology and physical, speech, and occupational therapies. For more information call (865) 213-8200 or visit sweetwaterhospital.org

Tennova Healthcare in Cleveland

Offers diagnostic, rehabilitative, surgical and orthopedic series. Its two campuses also include a dialysis clinic, a cardiac and cardiopulmonary care emergency department, a sleep center, nutritional counseling, and a wound care center. For more information call (423) 559-6000.

The Surgery Center of Athens

Provides same-day surgical services for general surgery; gastrointestinal (colonoscopy and EGD); orthopedics; ear, nose and throat; ophthalmology (cataract); and podiatry procedures, which require more care than can be offered in a physician's office, but do not require an overnight hospital stay. For more information call (423) 649-3300.

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 Junior Achievement of the Ocoee Region
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 Main Street Athens
 McMinn County Education Foundation
 McMinn County Historical Society

McMinn County Humane Society
 McMinn County Living Heritage Museum
 McMinn County Republican Women
 McMinn County Senior Citizens, Inc.
 McNabb Center
 Mid-East Tennessee Community Chorus
 NAACP of McMinn County
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 Optimist Club of Athens
 Remnant Discipleship Ministries
 Solomon Family Solutions
 St. Mark AME Zion Church
 St Mary's Legacy Clinic
 Straightway Ministry
 Swift Museum Foundation, Inc.
 Tennessee Overhill Heritage Association
 The Better Living Center
 Tri-County Center
 United Way of McMinn & Meigs Counties
 Valley Christian Academy
 Veterans of Foreign Wars VFW
 Women at the Well Ministries
 YMCA

For information on the services offered by any of the above,
please call the Chamber of Commerce at (423) 745-0334.

Things To Do Around Athens



The Arts Center

The Athens Area Council for the Arts (AACA) in Downtown Athens has served as the main organization dedicated to the enhancement of the community's cultural life. Throughout its 30-year history, AACA has brought hundreds of artists specializing in various artistic disciplines to perform in the community and to work with students and teachers. For more information call (423) 745-8781.

Athens Regional Park

The largest of 12 municipal parks in the Friendly City, Regional Park is 162 acres of recreational bliss. The park boasts a large playground; softball, baseball and soccer fields; 36 hole disc golf course; pavilions; walking and hiking trails; fishing lake; and a large splash pad. It is also home to the Southeast Trade and Conference Center.

Englewood Textile Museum

The museum is located in Downtown Englewood – only a short drive from Athens. It traces the area's textile industry from 1850 with a special emphasis on working-class women in the mills. Call (423) 887-5455 for more information.

Gem Theater

This historic theater, located in Downtown Etowah, hosts live performances throughout the year, including concerts, plays, and movie screenings. Special tours can also be arranged. Call (423) 263-3270 for more information.

Hiwassee River Rail Adventure

Restored vintage trains carry passengers on the former Louisville & Nashville Railroad's "Old Line" for breathtaking rides into the Hiwassee River Gorge and over the legendary Hiwassee Loop. At the top of the Great Hiwassee Loop, the train passes over a bridge 62 feet above tracks just traveled as the rails negotiate a spiraling formation. For more information call (423) 894-8028 or visit tvrail.com

Louisville and Nashville Railroad Station and Museum

This 1906, two-story Victorian rail station, located in Etowah, is open for tours. An exhibit tells the story of how this town was built as a planned community by the L&N Railroad and traces its working class history. Outside is a working rail yard where visitors are entertained by trains switching, changing crews and passing through.

Mayfield Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch

"Pick-your-own" strawberry and watermelon patches are available in the spring and summer, respectively. During the fall season, activities are available for the entire family including a corn maze, hay wagon rides, pedal cars, and more. For more information call (423) 746-9859 or visit mayfieldfarmdandnursery.com

Mayfield Dairy Visitor Center

See firsthand how Mayfield Dairy produces the South's favorite milk and ice cream by going on a plant tour. For

more information call (423) 649-2653 or visit mayfielddairy.com

McMinn County Airport

The airport, located between Athens and Etowah, is now giving 30-minute plane rides specific to passengers' preferences. Flight training and aircraft rentals are also available. For more information call (423) 746-0439 or visit athensair.net

McMinn County Living Heritage Museum

Thirty permanent exhibit areas at the museum depict the turbulent history of Southeast Tennessee from the Cherokee Indians and early pioneer settlers through 1940. The museum also has several changing exhibits and programs available through the year. For more information call (423) 745-0329 or visit livingheritagemuseum.com.

Sunshine Hollow

Sunshine Hollow is a small, Tennessee agri-business located in Riceville. The Gardens of Sunshine Hollow display thousands of perennials, numerous annuals, and various shrubs on 20, well-manicured acres. For more information call (423) 745-4289 or visit sunshinehollow.com

Swift Museum

The Swift Museum is located at the McMinn County Airport. It has multiple Swift aircraft on display (including the prototype No. 1), stock production and modified Swifts from 1946 to 1951, and two T-35 Buckaroo USAF trainers. The museum is open for individual and group tours. For more information call (423) 745-9547 or visit swiftmuseumfoundation.org

Tsali Notch Vineyard

Surrounded by majestic mountain views in lush foothills outside nearby Madisonville, Tsali Notch is a vineyard and tasting room specializing in wine and products from the Muscadine, "America's Wild Grape™," indigenous to the

Southeastern United States. For more information call (423) 506-9895 or visit tsalinotch.com

Veterans Memorial Park

Veterans Memorial Park was dedicated in 2000 to honor veterans.

There are several monuments in the park to honor area servicemen. In 2002, the park was dedicated with a plaza area with memorial bricks purchased in honor of veterans, monuments representing the five branches of service, and a plaque in honor of Charles R. Ware. The park also offers sitting and picnic areas, as well as a 0.5-mile walking trail. The park is adjacent to Market Park in the historic commercial core of Athens. For more information call (423) 744-2700 or visit cityofathensstn.com

Outdoor activities

In nearby Meigs County, the 39,000-acre Watts Bar Lake offers a perfect location for fishing, water sports and sailing. The lakes in East Tennessee are among the most beautiful in the country and many offer scenic mountain views.

There are also several rivers and streams nearby that provide fishing opportunities. Also, not far from Athens is the Ocoee River in Polk County, where the 1996 Summer Olympics whitewater events were held. Several rafting outfitters provide day trips for all ages.

There are still plenty of opportunities for recreation in Athens, even in the case of inclement weather. Athens is a part of the Tennessee Overhill, which encompasses three counties: McMinn, Polk and Monroe. The Overhill works to highlight places that honor local history, traditions, culture and natural resources.

Whether you want to take a scenic drive, visit a winery or take a complete culinary tour, you can do so within this region.



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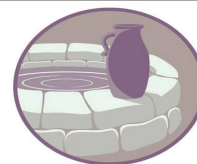


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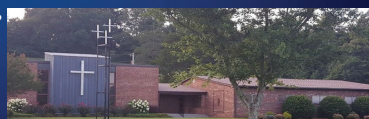
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Weekday Daily Mass: Tue. - Thur. at 9am & Wed. at 6pm.

Saturday: 1st Saturday of Month 9am; Vigil Mass 5pm.

Sunday: Mass 10 am English • 1 pm Spanish

Rev. Christopher Manning



Athens McMinn Family YMCA

The Athens-McMinn Family YMCA has been a part of McMinn County since 1975. While our YMCA has changed in appearance and services over the years, we still stand firm in believing that strengthening community is our cause.

We know that lasting personal and social change comes about when we all work together. Every day, our YMCA staff, volunteers and members work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.

The Y stands firm in our cause for youth development, for healthy living and for social responsibility. That's because a strong community can only be achieved when we invest in kids, our health and our neighbors.

The Athens-McMinn Family YMCA is located in the heart of downtown Athens. Serving individuals and families alike, our branch as a wide variety of amenities and programs. There is something for all ages. We offer:

Full-Service Cardio Room

Full-Service Weight Room

Full-Service Agility Room

Full-Service Indoor Aquatics Center

Two Court Gymnasium

After School Care

Schools Out Camp

Summer Day Camp

Y-CAP

Youth Swim Team and Basketball Clinics

Group Exercise

Personal Training

Indoor Pickleball and Racquetball

Aquatics

Learn-to-Swim Programs for All Ages

Corporate Wellness Programs

Financial Assistance Program

In addition to all of the services listed, we offer a culture of connection. We are a place for our members to come inside our walls, build new relationships and feel an instant sense of connection to our community.

We hope that those new relationships and connections will be the spark that will encourage our members to go out into McMinn County and make it a better place to live.

Our Y is for everyone. Our programs, services and initiatives enable kids to realize their potential; prepare teens



for college; offer ways for families to have fun together; empower people to be healthier in spirit, mind and body; welcome and embrace newcomers; and help foster a community-wide service

ethic. And that's just the beginning.

Stop by the Y today. Have a cup of coffee with staff, take a tour of the facilities and find out what makes being a YMCA member so special.

2025 Chairperson



Todd Watson is the Senior Vice President at Citizens National Bank.

Mr. Watson is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and also earned an MBA from Bryan College. He participated in Leadership McMinn and various projects with the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, including the Athens Shark Chamber.

He has served on the chamber board since 2021 and also currently serves on the Economic Development Board.

Since 2014, he has served on the McMinn County Election Commission. Todd and his wife, Sara, have three daughters and reside in Englewood.

Athens Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

Amy Elkins
Southern Homes

Amy McDonald
Athens Utilities Board

Jeannie Anderson
City of Niota

John Gentry
County Mayor

John Rodriguez
The Mountain Radio Station

Joseph Ladner
Edward Jones

Julie Cardin
Mills Products

Lindsey Ferguson
McMinn County Economic
Development Authority

Luke Dalton
McCay Southern

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Offer cannot be transferred and cannot be combined with any other offers. Limit one (1) gift card per new home purchase. VISA debit card is subject to all terms and conditions set forth on the card, including the expiration date, and also to all terms and conditions set forth in the issuer's Cardholder Agreement. VISA debit cards are issued by MetaBank® pursuant to a license from VISA U.S.A. Void where prohibited by law.



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2 Dudes BBQ
(423) 829-4127
2nd Chance Boxing Club
(423) 920-0794
A & J Body Shop and
Wrecker Service, Inc
(423) 745-2800
A & W Supply Inc.
(865) 966-1133
ABB (formerly Thomas &
Betts Corporation)
(423) 745-6588
ABCOR Packaging
(423) 472-2345
Accent Care Home Care
(423) 745-7131
Adient US LLC
(423) 745-5807
Adman Electric Inc.
(423) 240-0039
Adobe
(408) 753-5826
Advance Financial
(615) 289-8018
Affordable Used Furniture
(423) 744-4648
Ag-Pro
(423) 745-0133
Ahlberg Audiology &
Hearing Aid Services
(423) 641-0956
AirMedCare Network
(706) 483-4428
Allen, Jack
(423) 507-3600
Alley Realty & Auction
(865) 389-7361
Amazon Hub Delivery
Amedisys Hospice-Athens
(423) 507-8755
American Cancer Society
(423) 855-2778
American Job Center of Athens
(Southeast TN Development District)
(423) 745-2028
American Medical Response
(Global Medical Response)
(423) 920-5628
Anderson Heating and Air L.L.C.
423-337-1493
Angela's Miami Grill
(423) 453-5064
APB Properties
(423) 507-7670
Apex Pro Home Repair, LLC
(423) 250-3902

Aramark
(423) 745-6985
Archer's Total Home Healthcare
(423) 337-5812
Ascension Life Church
(423) 829-5102
Athens Air, LLC
(423) 745-4939
Athens Area Council For The Arts
(423) 745-8781
Athens Auto Logic
(423) 746-1625
Athens Church of Christ
(423) 745-0554
Athens City Schools
(423) 745-2863
Athens Coffee, LLC dba
Dunkin Donuts (Bluemont Group)
(423) 252-0236
Athens Family Dental
423-745-3559
Athens Family Practice
(423) 744-7585
Athens Friendly Refill
770-361-6552
Athens Housing Authority
(423) 745-0341
Athens Insurance Agency dba
P&C Risk Services
(423) 745-3062
Athens Lawn & Garden, LLC
(423) 745-9296
Athens Lions Charities
(423) 506-1404
Athens Lutheran Church
(423) 745-9419
Athens Medical Group,
A Division of Summit
(423) 745-6575
Athens Parcel B
(256) 739-1815
Athens Pediatrics, PLLC
(423) 745-5955
Athens Plow Co., Inc.
(423) 744-7569
Athens Station Self Storage
(423) 744-7100
Athens Utilities Board
(423) 745-4501
Athens Wax Studio & Spa
(423) 506-2716
Athens Web Services
423-506-9183
Athens-McMinn Family Y.M.C.A.
(423) 745-4904
Atlas Physical Therapy
(423) 405-7659
Backwoods Dumpsters LLC
(423) 836-4992

Barnes Land Surveying
(423) 333-5329
Bayne's Business Machines
423-479-9677
Belk
(423) 745-3663
Beltone
(423) 649-3010
Best Buy Metals
(423) 728-3336
Blaine Construction Corporation
(865) 693-8900
Bluebird
(202) 689-4061
BMC Office Technology
(800) 400-4321
Bojangles
(423) 744-5292
Bowater Credit Union
(423) 336-7268
Bowater Wealth Management
(423) 826-7334
Bradley Square Mall
(423) 472-2393
Buddy's Bar-B-Q
(423) 746-9920
Builtwell Bank
(423) 263-3900
C & D Tire
(423) 745-5560
C Liner Properties New Construction
Homes Affiliate Broker
East Tennessee Properties, LLC
(423) 507-4589
Caldwell Paving & Grading
(423) 336-3841
Camp Living Stones, Inc.
(423) 263-5060
Candor Web Solutions
(423) 435-6955
Cannon & Cannon, Inc.
(865) 670-8555
Carriage Hill Insurance
(423) 744-9031
Carter Insurance Agency
(423) 745-2333
CASA Corridor of East Tennessee
(423) 746-9037
Cash America
(423) 745-8920
CDS Tennessee dba
Customer Driven Staffing
(423) 453-4555
Cedar Recovery
423-717-2240
Century 21 Legacy
(423) 745-4446
Century 21-Legacy/Cole McKeehan
(423) 333-0181

Membership Directory

- Century21 Legacy Realty/
Charlie Simpson
(423) 462-5521
Chattanooga Area
Chamber of Commerce
(423) 756-2121
Cherokee Millwright, Inc
(865) 379-1500
Chick-Fil-A
(423) 728-5471
Children's Dentistry of Athens
(423) 435-9954
Chota Outfitters, LLC
(423) 887-5712
Christ's Legacy Academy
(423) 649-0040
Christmas on the Hill
(423) 462-4066
Citizens National Bank
(423) 381-8270
City of Athens
744-2701
City of Niota
(423) 568-2584
Clayton Homes
(423) 745-4752
Clean Living Athens
(423) 781-1160
Cleveland Business Machines
(423) 478-2211
Cleveland State Community College
(423) 472-7141
Cleveland Tent & Rental Company
(423) 478-2724
Coleman Glass Co.
(423) 745-2382
Comfort Inn
(423) 252-8030
Companion Funeral and
Cremation Service
(423) 453-2302
Cora Physical Therapy
(423) 405-0013
Country Cove Venue
(423) 252-0633
Covenant Pediatrics
(423) 744-8755
Cox Enterprises
(423) 368-0140
Cox, Charles B., M.D.
(423) 745-2312
Cracker Barrel
(423) 746-8839
Creative Foam Corporation
(423) 649-3182
Crescent Sock Company
(423) 568-2101
Crockett Construction
(423) 506-3462
- Crye-Leike Realtors of Athens Office
Membership + Melonie Carideo
(423) 746-0227
Crye-Leike Realtors Office
Represented by Allyson Kirkland
(423) 506-1965
Crye-Leike Realtors Office
Represented by Robin Manis
(423) 252-7056
Crye-Leike Realtors/Becky Wattenbarger
(423) 295-4904
Cut Above, The
(423) 745-7967
D. R. Horton Builders
(423) 497-1380
David Fankhauser
(423) 253-7100
DENSO Manufacturing
Athens Tennessee, Inc
(423) 746-0000
Dental Designs at Athens
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(423) 650-3955
DJ's Door Service
(423) 920-1557
Doctors Network -
<https://www.doctorsnetwork.com>
(866) 800-3168
Dogwood Dental Care, PLLC
(423) 745-2630
Dominion Senior Living
(423) 405-3075
Domino's - Athens
(423) 745-7676
Don Ledford Chevrolet Buick GMC
476-1191
Dooley Tractor Company, Inc.
(423) 745-1302
Double C Bar & Grill
(423) 462-4829
Down to Earth
(423) 252-0629
Downtown Beauty Lounge
(423) 333-8063
Downtown Diesel
(423) 252-7177
Downtown Square Investments
(423) 453-5610
Dynasty Pools & Spas
(423) 745-1972
E & E Manufacturing of Tennessee, LLC
(423) 649-1700
E.G. Fisher Public Library
(423) 745-7782
East Athens Baptist Church
(423) 745-1394
East Tennessee Auto Outlet
(423) 507-1268
- East Tennessee
Construction Services, Inc.
(423) 887-5399
East Tennessee Foundation
(865) 524-1223
East Tennessee Properties LLC
(423) 453-5722
Eastanallee Baptist Church
(423) 462-2620
Eaton McCaskill Electrical Contracting
(423) 506-1991
Eco Green Dry Cleaners
(423) 252-0944
Edward Jones Investments
Murray Willis
(423) 745-8832
Edward Jones Investments
Jordan Perleoni
(423) 745-0047
Effectv - A Comcast Company
(800) 934-6489
El Jinete Mexican Restaurant
(423) 453-2100
EMS - Electric Motor Sales
(423) 493-8900
Endless Printworks LLC
(423) 919-9579
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(423) 745-6396
Erosion Solutions LLC
(423) 745-0028
Estes & Kennedy Law Offices, PLLC
(423) 507-1157
Etowah Healthcare Center
(423) 263-1138
Every Step Law Group, PLLC
(423) 405-3514
Express Employment Professionals
(423) 420-1111
Eyear Optical, Inc.
(423) 745-1702
Eyes of Athens
(423) 746-9988
Fairfield Inn & Suites
(423) 507-0870
Fairview Christian Academy
(423) 745-6781
Family & Faith Home Care LLC
(423) 453-2200
Farm Bureau Insurance
Athens S. White Street
(423) 717-2900
Farm Credit Mid-America
(423) 745-1683
FCA Ocoee Region
Fellowship of Christian Athletes
(706) 499-9899
Firehouse Subs of Athens
(423) 744-3014

Membership Directory

First Baptist Church
(423) 745-5441
First Horizon Bank
(formerly First Tennessee)
(423) 745-8246
Flavor Cafe Wellness
(423) 252-0361
Fluentstream Technologies
(423) 509-8000
Food City
Forgety, John
(423) 744-9872
Fortney, Joni P., Ms., CPA
(423) 745-1031
Foster Village East TN
Fowlers Construction, Inc.
(423) 745-4165
Friendly City Festivals
(423) 887-3544
Front Porch Catering
(423) 506-3058
Full Circle Medical Center For Women
(423) 744-3005
Fuller's Frame Shop & Gallery
(423) 745-7489
Gage Clancey
(423) 374-1741
Galyon Manufacturing
(Fabrication Shop)
(423) 405-5104
Galyon Manufacturing
(Machine Shop)
(423) 337-5343
Garrett Investment Group
(423) 252-0627
Genesis Juicery LLC
(423) 920-3887
Gentry, John - County Mayor
(423) 745-7634
George Financial
(423) 252-0142
Giles Heating & Air
(423) 746-8995
GodSong Ministries, inc.
(423) 405-8598
Gondolier Pizza & Steak House
(423) 745-5303
Good Faith Clinic
(423) 745-1411
Good Samaritan Funeral Home
(423) 920-3731
Goodwill Industries, Inc.
(423) 746-0611
Grace & Mercy Ministries
(423) 920-1367
Grace Therapy and Wellness LLC
423-214-4455
Grandma's Gingerbread Bakery
(954) 303-8370

Great Smoky Mountain Council-BSA
(423) 920-4536
Greeks Bearing Gifts
(423) 745-2642
Green Lite Health
(423) 405-5943
Grindhead Coffee
(360) 827-1193
Groundscape Concepts, LLC
(423) 622-4297
Guy, Joe
(423) 745-5622
H.O.P.E Center, The
(423) 744-0599
Habitat for Humanity of McMinn
(423) 745-4131
Hacker Properties
(423) 506-3071
Hacker Sign & Graphics Co.
(423) 745-7959
Hair Therapy
(423) 745-0008
Hardee's of Athens
(423) 745-5927
Health Connect America
423-252-0871
Hearth Hospice
(423) 551-9941
Heavenly Creations by Jen, LLC
423-453-5319
Heidi Wallace/Realtor
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Heidi's On The Go Again
(423) 453-8121
Heil Trailer International
(423) 745-5830
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(321) 543-7677
Helping Hands Ministry
(423) 920-4179
Hennessee Hydraulics
(423) 506-1343
HHM CPAs
(423) 756-7771
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
(865) 604-0049
Hiwassee Acres
(863) 446-3685
Hiwassee Builders Supply, Inc.
(423) 745-4704
Hiwassee Mental Health Center
(Volunteer Behavioral Health)
423-745-8802 x107
Hiwassee Paving
(423) 893-7925
Hiwassee Utilities Commission
(423) 336-2861
Hofstede Insights USA
864-637-8491

Holston Gases Inc.
(423) 745-1266
Home Helpers Home Care
(423) 339-5593
Home Instead Senior Care
(865) 273-2178
Homestead Restoration & Remodel
(209) 829-9881
Hospice of Chattanooga
(423) 333-0220
HR SourceS & SolutionS, Inc.
(423) 744-1280
Hughes Retirement Group
(423) 664-4203
Integrity Sound Solutions
(423) 462-4965
IronCraft
(423) 368-4593
Isaiah 117 House Monroe-McMinn
(423) 519-3393
J Pro Car Care & Towing
(423) 746-2600
Jackson, Bryan A., CPA
(423) 745-6425
Jake Marshall, LLC
(423) 698-3132
Jake Miller Excavating & Hauling, LLC
(423) 744-9264
JDH Company, Inc.
(423) 774-2654
Jenkins Grille & Market
(423) 745-7388
Jerry Armstrong Realty
(423) 745-3008
JIMBOB Contracting/JBC
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Johns Manville Corporation
(423) 263-1229
Johnson's Department Store
(423) 263-7888
Johnson's Home Furnishings
(423) 745-3752
Joseph L Ladner, CFP, ChFC, CEPA,
AAMS-Edward Jones
(423) 746-5975
Junior Achievement of the Ocoee Region
(423) 614-8775
Keith Memorial
United Methodist Church
(423) 745-2612
Keller-Williams Realtors/Diana Kelley
(423) 829-6250
Keller-Williams Realtors/
Lisa Rutherford
(423) 405-8572
Keller-Williams Realty
(423) 649-0090
Keylon Eyecare, PC
(423) 745-8882

Membership Directory

Keystone Solutions, LLC 423-464-6424	Maddi Mae's (423) 649-3627	METCC (Mid-East Tennessee Community Chorus) 423-381-0008
Kidzcare Pediatrics (423) 745-7500	Madison Avenue Pharmacy (423) 746-2626	Metro Transport Group (423) 880-0118
Kimberley's Fashion Wear (423) 333-8087	Madison Carpet Outlet (423) 744-7693	Mexi Wing II (423) 435-2171
King Builders (423) 507-3681	Main Street Athens (423) 333-0329	Midlab, Incorporated (800) 467-6294
Kiwanis Club of Athens (423) 745-6213	Mama Bertha Taqueria (423) 252-0306	Midway Milkshake (423) 781-7352
Klix Photography (423) 453-0741	Mars Hill Presbyterian Church (423) 745-1403	Miller & McPhail CPAs, PLLC (423) 745-6680
L & M Motors, Inc./Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep (423) 745-8773	Massey Services (423) 745-1651	Mills Products, Inc. (423) 745-9090
Lamar Advertising (865) 740-4540	Matlock Tire Services (423) 744-9828	MiMi's Jungle Gym (423) 252-0376
Lambcon, Inc. (423) 744-8688	Maxi Auto Service Center (423) 744-9721	Miss Lisa's Dance Studio (423) 745-2157
Land Guard Site Works LLC (423) 368-4229	Mayfield Dairy Farms, Inc. (423) 745-2151	Morning Pointe Assisted Living Residence (423) 745-0608
Latitude Residential (Tradewinds Investment Properties) (423) 506-5818	Mayfield Farm & Nursery (423) 746-9859	Motel 6 (423) 745-4441
Laura LeNoir Rental Properties (423) 745-1623	MBI Companies Inc. (865) 584-0999	Mountain Trust Mortgage (423) 405-6165
Lawson Electric Co. Inc. (423) 267-5471	McCay Southern (423) 506-3166	Mouse Creek Golf Course (423) 453-5455
Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home (423) 745-5361	McDonald's Restaurant (Smith Management) (423) 745-7511	Myers Physical Therapy (423) 212-3310
Lee University (423) 614-8598	McGriff Insurance (423) 648-7224	NAACP-McMinn County Branch (423) 336-3851
Lem's Korner- Athens 423-252-0218	McMinn County Board of Education (423) 745-1612	Napa Auto & Truck Parts (423) 745-1367
Lena May Perkins LMT (423) 405-4335	McMinn County Education Foundation (423) 744-0019	New York Life Insurance- NYLIFE Securities-Hugh Willson, Agent (423) 299-1080
Life Care Center of Athens (423) 745-8181	McMinn County Farm Bureau Insurance - Athens (423) 745-4521	Newman's Heating & Air (423) 263-9815
Lisa Becker, The Rural Queen (321) 704-1106	McMinn County Historical Society (423) 744-3911	NHC HealthCare (423) 745-0434
Little Caesars Pizza (423) 252-0594	McMinn County Living Heritage Museum (423) 745-0329	NHC HomeCare (423) 745-4246
Little Mouse Creek Farm (678) 491-9709	McMinn County Republican Women (865) 466-8470	Nina's Alternations & Sewing (845) 489-8096
Lombardy Plaza (386) 624-5802	McMinn County Senior Citizens, Inc. (423) 745-6830	Northwestern Mutual- Sarah Muth, Advisor (423) 883-5787
Long Chevrolet Buick GMC (423) 745-1962	McMinn Moving N' More (423) 506-4717	Nurture The Next (615) 383-0994
Lost Sea (423) 337-6616	McMinn Regional Humane Society (423) 744-9548	Old National Bank (423) 405-6500
Lotus Thai Cuisine (423) 453-2152	McNabb Center (800) 255-9711	Olde White Oaks Golf Course (423) 506-8029
Loudon County Chamber of Commerce (865) 458-2067	Mechanical Systems, Inc. (423) 336-5739	Optimist Club of Athens (423) 746-9041
LPT Real Estate Agency (423) 599-5469	Medic Regional Blood Center (865) 524-3074	ORN Federal Credit Union (865) 813-2314
Lytle Loan #2 (423) 405-1742		
Mack Daddy Kettle Corn & Concessions (423) 371-8075		

Membership Directory

Osment Flooring Discount Outlet
(423) 252-0316
Park Crest Apartments
(423) 745-5737
Partners for Christian Media, Inc. (J103)
(423) 892-1200
Patriot Cakes Restaurant & Bakery
(423) 506-9233
Paul Willson
Pawsitively K9
(225) 571-6637
Peoples Bank of East Tennessee
(423) 568-7262
Planet Fitness
(423) 617-0404
Plaza Electronics
(423) 745-0502
Porter Roofing Contractors
(931) 668-2298
Pratt-Child Legal Group PLLC
(423) 680-7147
Premier Properties Realty
(423) 745-4131
Price Less IGA
(423) 745-6796
Primerica Financial Services
(951) 870-3935
Printing Expressions
(423) 805-4488
Professional Jewelers
(423) 745-9444
R&S Logistics
865-696-2548
R.W. Crittenden Iron & Steel, LLC
(423) 593-8883
Realty Executives Associates Main Street
(423) 519-7774
Red Roof Inn Etowah
(423) 774-7114
Redemption to the Nations Church
(423) 591-7886
Reel Dealz
(423) 453-6117
Regions Bank
(423) 381-3350
Remax-Freedom
(423) 961-4444
Remember Me Senior Care
(423) 473-3140
Remnant Discipleship Ministries
(423) 507-3305
Resolute Forest Products
(423) 336-2211
RidgeTop Apartments
(423) 746-4411
Riley, Joel
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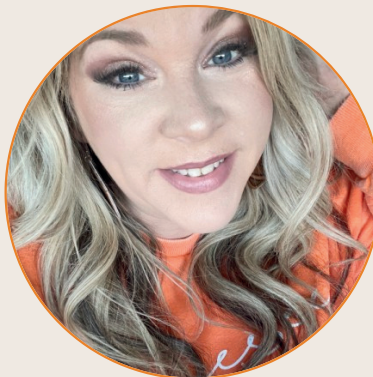
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