Kids are back in school, so great time to freshen up the house with NEW PLOORING from the professionals with over 20 years and the professional with over 20 years to be provided by the proof of the pr

# Morning Fax®

Today's News...This Morning

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Thursday, September 26, 2024

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Athens, Tennessee

# **Convicted Rapist Indicted**



A Bradley County man has been indicted for the solicitation of a minor. The indictment said that force and coercion were used to commit the act. His bond has been set for \$20,000. James Jonah Winters was found guilty on September 18 of Aggravated Statutory Rape committed in March of 2024. Bradley Co. Jail Booking Photo. Source: Local3news

#### **AUB Article Clarification**

In Wednesday's Morning Fax, which is found HERE, AUB said they would be passing along TVA's 5.25% base rate increase to fund ongoing construction and energy development. In that news story, we used the term "claims" in two sentences which were not in the original press release. In a review of the original release with AUB, the facts stated by AUB and in our news story are correct and were not intended to be an opinion of our publication. We are glad to offer a clarification and welcome feedback from our readers.

# **Community News You Can Use**

- Tennessee Wesleyan University's music program is performing a concert of Broadway songs, featuring students both from the University and from the Community Music Program. It will be tonight, September 26, at 7 p.m. at Allen Memorial UMC at 800 Decatur Pike in Athens. The concert is free and open to the public.
- The LITE House has announced the second session of NEST meetings featuring recent TWU graduate and current MBA student in Marketing, Juli Brackett. She is also the Director of Human Resources and Marketing for Sloan's Hardware. Learn how to craft an effective campaign, engage customers, and drive sales. This session will be on Thursday, October 3 at 8:30 am.
- The VFW Auxiliary is hosting Trunk or Treat at the VFW on Saturday, October 26 from 4-6 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.













HISTORY FOR LUNCH

Join us for a presentation and book signing with Aime Alley Card, author of The Tigerbelles: Olympic Legends of Tennessee State. Thursday, Sept. 26th @ Noon \*Free admission



## **ANNUAL QUILT SHOW - "QUILTED CREATIONS"**

SPONSORED BY DENSO HOSTED BY HERITAGE QUILT GUILD OF MCMINN COUNTY



#### **HERITAGE SCHOOL** Stained Glass Demonstration with Jerry Axley

Saturday, October 5th @ 11:00 am Stained Glass Butterfly Giveaway

ed by C. Scott & Muriel S. Mayfield Family Foundation, Tennessee Arts Commission, Hugh M Willson Family Foundation, and City of Athens

Saturday: Sunday - Monday:

Adults:

Senior 60+:

Hours: 10 AM - 5 PM 10 AM - 1 PM

\$3.00

Admission: \$5.00

## **More Information**

522 W Madison Ave. Athens, TN 37303 423-745-0329 www.livingheritagemuseum.org

#### WEATHER FORECAST

Thursday - 90% T'storms. High 70. Thurs. Night - Rain likely. Patchy fog. Low 65.

Friday - Near 100% rain. Wind gusts to 60 mph. High 73. Friday Night - 40% rain. Wind gusts to 30 mph. Low 64.

More Weather at: wyxi.com



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Thursday, September 26, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

# **State Trooper Indicted**



A former Tennessee state trooper, Brenton Wiegand, has been indicted and arrested following an investigation by TBI special agents. The investigation, requested by 12th Judicial District Attorney General Courtney Lynch, began in April 2024 after a complaint surfaced regarding Wiegand's frequent contact with an individual involved in prostitution who had outstanding

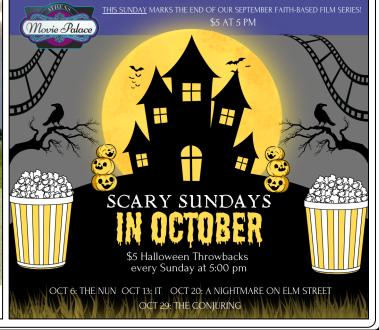
warrants. The investigation revealed that Wiegand was involved with the woman between September 2023 and April 2024, while in uniform and using his state vehicle. On September 23, a Sequatchie County Grand Jury indicted Wiegand on charges of Aggravated Rape and Official Misconduct. He was arrested the following day and is being held in the Sequatchie County Jail, with bond to be set on September 30. Wiegand is no longer employed by the Highway Patrol. All charges are accusations, and Wiegand remains innocent until proven guilty in court. *Source: TBINewsroom.com Photo Courtesy: WDEF* 

# **Ribbon Cutting in Athens**

A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for new Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, The Baroque Lemon, located at 321 Maple St., Athens. The Baroque Lemon features boutique clothing and unique antiques. Chamber friends joining the celebration and pictured here left to right are: Wesley Skinner (Chamber Diplomat), Stacey Hester (Chamber Diplomat), Angela Patterson, Kayln Blake (Owner, The Baroque Lemon), Brittany Sofield, Jordon Curtis (Athens City Councilman), Rhonda Wilson, Karen Raby (Chamber Diplomat), Kimberly Croft, Lisa Rhea (Chamber Diplomat). Back: John Rodriquez (Chamber Board), Kayleigh Heaton (Congressman Chuck Fleischmann Office), Stephanie Devine, Rob Preston (Chamber President/CEO), Hugh Willson (Chamber Diplomat), State Representative Mark Cochran.







# JOIN THE MOVEMENT IN BETTER HEALTHCARE



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Thursday, September 26, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

# TWU in Top 10 of U.S. News Best Colleges South Rankings



Tennessee Wesleyan University moved up five spots to #10 out of 131 institutions reviewed in the Best Regional Colleges South category according to a recent report by U.S. News & World Report. They released the 2025 Best Colleges rankings to the public, including Tennessee Wesleyan University's rankings, on Tuesday. Tennessee Wesleyan is also the highest ranked Tennessee school on the list and one of only three in the top fifty. Tennessee Wesleyan University earned multi-

ple spots on the list of 2025 Best Colleges because of its high rankings. The rankings are based on in-depth analyses of a wide variety of data points, as explained in the Best Colleges methodology article.

Among the areas in the 2025 Best Regional Colleges South that TWU ranked were:

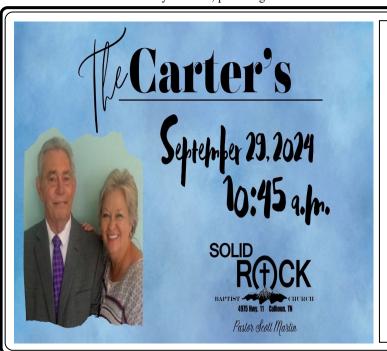
- Overall Rank #10
- Best Value #18
- Social Mobility #35

"We're excited to move into the top ten in the rankings provided by U.S. News and World Report each year," said Dr. Tyler Forrest, TWU President. "These rankings confirm our exceptional reputation for excellence and affordability in the Southeast United States." Many of TWU's improvements were in areas that students and faculty deem important, for instance smaller class sizes. Eighty percent of classes at TWU have fewer than twenty students, providing for much more sub-

missive and engaging learning interactions. No TWU class has more than fifty students. The calculation used to determine TWU's Best Value ranking considers the school's academic quality, as indicated by its 2025 U.S. News Best Colleges ranking, and the 2022-2023 net cost of attendance for an out-of-state student who received the average level of need-based financial aid. The report also revealed that Tennessee Wesleyan University has done well in the area of social mobility, ranking 35th among top performers. Social mobility is described as how well schools graduated economically disadvantaged students. Now in its 40th year, the rankings evaluate nearly 1,500 national colleges and universities on up to seventeen measures of academic quality and place emphasis on social mobility and outcomes for graduating college students. Students interested in learning more about Tennessee Wesleyan University are invited to the Fall Open House, October 3 or can schedule an individual or group tour at any time. Tennessee Wesleyan University, founded in Athens, Tennessee, in 1857, is a fouryear liberal arts institution affiliated with the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church offering more than sixty undergraduate and graduate majors and minors. Through strong academic programs,

service-learning opportunities, student organizations, and athletics, Tennessee Wesleyan University is transforming the lives of nearly 1,200 students to become enlightened servant leaders who believe in serving others, pursuing knowledge, and leading by example. Visit tnwesleyan.edu or follow @tnwesleyan on many social media platforms to learn more.







#### Camp Meeting & Old Time Singing

**Spring Creek United Methodist Church** 

Sunday, September 29 6:00 pm

Guest Speaker Rev. Mickey Rainwater

115 County Road 36 Riceville, TN



Join us for an evening of worship on the historic camp meeting grounds under the new building honoring years of old.