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# Morning Fax<sup>®</sup>

## Today's News...This Morning

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**(423) 337-1493**

**Thursday, February 13, 2025**

**Page 1**

**Athens, Tennessee**

## Madisonville Police Capture Suspect after Two-Day Search

The Madisonville Police Department apprehended Joey Miller, 26, on Tuesday morning, two days after he allegedly stole a vehicle and evaded capture.

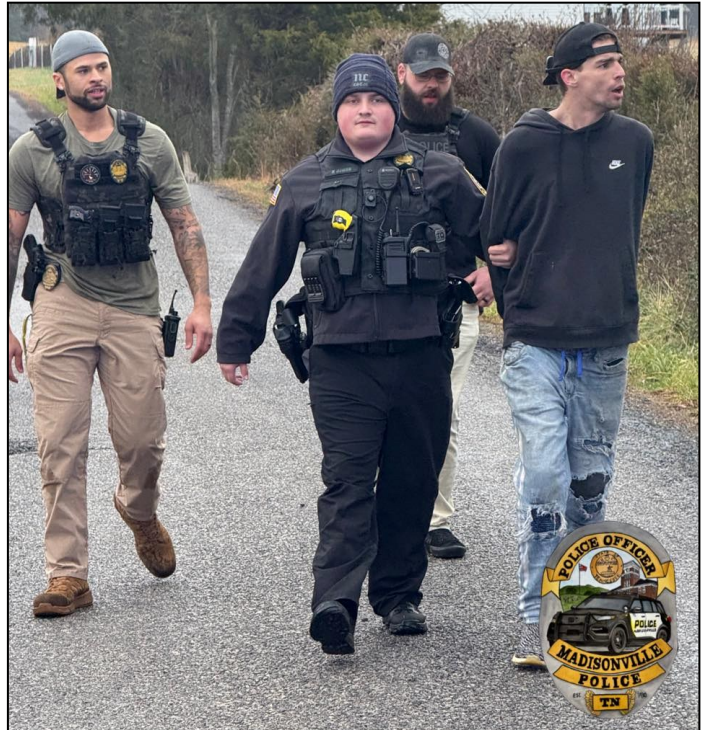
Officers responded to a laundromat on Englewood Road on Saturday after receiving a report of a stolen vehicle. The next day, an officer spotted the stolen car during patrol and attempted to stop it, but the driver fled on foot.

Police received a tip on Miller's location Tuesday morning. When officers **Morning Fax** arrived, Miller again attempted to flee on foot but was quickly caught. Today's News. This Morning.

Miller faces multiple charges, including felony theft, evading arrest, and possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. He has been booked into the Monroe County Justice Center.

Source: [WATE](#)

Photo Courtesy of: [Madisonville PD - Facebook](#)



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**McMinn County Living Heritage Museum**

Upcoming Events

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Hours:  
Tuesday - Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM  
Saturday: 10 AM - 1 PM  
Sunday - Monday: Closed

Admission:  
Adults: \$5.00  
Senior 60+: \$3.00  
Students: \$3.00

### More Information

522 W Madison Ave.  
Athens, TN 37303  
423-745-0329  
[www.livingheritagemuseum.org](http://www.livingheritagemuseum.org)

### WEATHER FORECAST

**Thursday** - Mostly Sunny.  
High 46.  
**Thurs. Night** - Mostly Clear.  
Low 24  
**Friday** - Mostly Sunny. High 49.  
**Fri. Night** - 50% Showers. Low 37.

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

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Thursday, February 13, 2025 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

**Jerry Ray Lewis**, 80 of Decatur, passed away on Tuesday, February 11. He was a member of the Shiloh Baptist Church and a 48-year Meigs Lodge #213 F.& A.M. A Masonic Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, February 15 at 11 a.m. in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services with the Funeral following thereafter. Interment will follow in the Beta Cemetery. The Family will receive friends from 5 to 7 on Friday, February 14 in the Chapel of Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Decatur Funeral Home & Cremation Services is honored to serve the Lewis Family.

**Theresa Palermo**, age 67, passed away on Tuesday, January 11, 2025. Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later time. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care and the arrangements for Theresa Palermo.

We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to: [wyxiradio@gmail.com](mailto:wyxiradio@gmail.com)

## Meigs Decatur Public Library hosting Author Denise Heinze



The Meigs-Decatur Public Library will host award-winning author Denise Heinze for a free "Meet the Author" event on Saturday, Feb. 15, at 12:00 p.m.

Heinze, known for her work in fiction, poetry, memoirs, and scholarly writing, will discuss her historical novel, *The Brief and True Report of Temperance Flowerdew*. The novel, a finalist for the University of New Orleans Press Publishing Lab Prize, follows the struggles of two women navigating the harsh realities of Jamestown in 1609.

A descendant of Louisa May Alcott, Heinze has also written the eco-thriller *Sally St. Johns*, Morning Fax Today's News. This Morning. praised for its dark humor and environmental themes. The event is presented by Meigs-Decatur Friends of the Library and will take place at 120 E. Memorial Dr., Decatur, TN.

Source: *Meigs-Decatur Friends of the Library*

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Thursday, February 13, 2025 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3 Athens, Tennessee

## Large Donation to TWU fully funds Old College Restoration



Tennessee Wesleyan University is thrilled to announce a significant contribution from the Dr. Mintie Cantrell Willson Family to fully fund the tuckpointing project in an ongoing restoration effort for the Old College building. This generous gift underscores the Willson family's deep commitment to preserving the cultural heritage of our campus and ensuring that future generations can experience the rich history this iconic structure represents.

Old College, completed in 1858, would become the core of a college ultimately known as Tennessee Wesleyan University. The three-story brick building has served every purpose on the campus, was used as an American Civil War hospital, served as the original home of the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum, and is currently the home to the Religion and Philosophy Department, the TWU Honor's Program, Sam and Stella Roberts Library and Conference Room, and offices of the President and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

During the dedication ceremony held last Friday, Tennessee Wesleyan University President Dr. Tyler Forrest said, "It is an extreme honor to celebrate the Willson family, a family whose support has spanned decades not only on the TWU campus, but the entire community."

In honor of the Willson family contribution, the parlor in Lawrence Hall, whose picturesque windows look out to the campus quad and Old College, was named "Mintie's Parlor" in honor of Dr. Willson's many years of dedication and service to the university.

"Tennessee Wesleyan University continues to be a big part of this community; it is one of our biggest assets," said Dr. Willson. "Athens is very blessed not just to have a university, but to have it located downtown."

The tuckpointing project will begin immediately on Old College and preserve the building for generations to come.

The contribution is part of the "We Are Wesleyan" capital campaign that includes many initiatives that are meaningful to the long-term sustainability of Tennessee Wesleyan including facilities enhancement, scholarship support, and endowment growth.

In the photo: (L-R) Dr. Robert Goodfriend, Meredith Willson, Dr. Mintie Willson, Paul and Deb Willson, Hugh Willson, and TWU President, Dr. Tyler Forrest.

Source: Blake McCaslin, TWU

**Morning Fax**  
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### Athens Parks & Recreation Presents the 39th Annual

### Daddy Daughter Dance

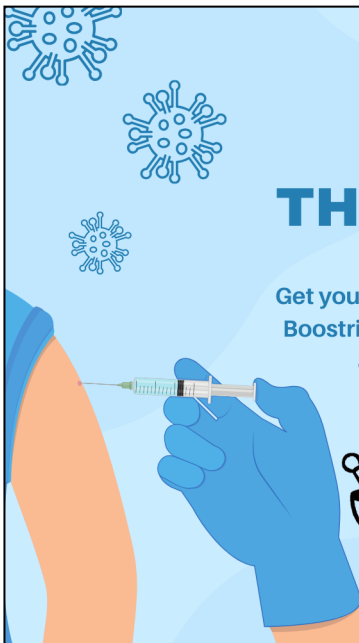
February 21st @ 7:30pm  
February 22nd @ 1pm, 4pm, & 7:30  
McMinn County High School



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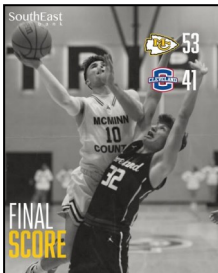
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**SPORTS**

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Thursday, February 13, 2025 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4 Athens, Tennessee

## McMinn Cherokees Basketball Update



This past Friday night the McMinn County Cherokees and Lady Cherokees hosted the Cleveland Blue Raiders. The Lady Cherokees fell 66-25. McMinn was led by Aven Hennessee with 9 points followed by Molly Trentham with 8. The Cherokees claimed a hard fought 53-41 win over the Blue Raiders. McMinn was led by Reese Frazier with 23 points followed by Madden Cobb with 18 points. Brady Mullins pulled down 9 rebounds.

Tuesday nights games against Rhea County were split as well. The visiting Lady Golden Eagles defeated the Lady Cherokees by a score of 57-31. Mia Sewell paced McMinn with 10 points followed by Lady Dingess with 8 points. The boys game saw McMinn erase a double-digit deficit to win 73-67. Reese Frazier topped all scorers with 28 points followed by Madden Cobb with 14 points, Brady Mullins with 10 points and 13 rebounds and Joe Williams with 10 points.



The Cherokees and Lady Cherokees will celebrate Senior Night this coming Friday evening as they play their final regular season game at home versus Walker Valley. Girls play at 6:00 PM followed by the boys at 7:30 PM.

McMinn Cherokees Coverage Provided by: Shane Sewell

## Volunteers Fall at Kentucky

The No. 5/4 Tennessee Volunteers fought back from a nine-point deficit against No. 15/18 Kentucky, briefly taking the lead in the second half before falling 75-64 at Rupp Arena. Zakai Zeigler led Tennessee with 17 points and six assists, while Igor Miličić Jr. contributed 16 points and nine rebounds. Despite a strong defensive stretch, the Vols couldn't contain Kentucky's late 20-6 run, as the Wildcats shot 12-of-24 from three-point range. Tennessee, now 20-5 (7-5 SEC), returns home to face Vanderbilt on Saturday at 1pm.

@THEMORNINGFAX ON X (TWITTER)

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