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## Today's News...This Morning

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### LaborUp Ribbon Cutting



A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for new Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, Laborup of Knoxville, is now serving the McMinn county area. Laborup hires skilled manufacturing talent. Chamber friends joining the celebration and pictured here left to right are: Lisa Rhea (Chamber Diplomat), Karen Sullivan (Athens Chamber), Rhonda Wilson, Corbin Hooker & Simba Jonga (Laborup), Wesley Skinner (Chamber Board), Traci White (Chamber Board), Back: Stephanie Devine, Tod Marner (Chamber Board), Melinda King (McMinn County Clerk), Rob Preston (Chamber President/CEO), Krista West, Lisa Bingham, Garrett Frye (Rep. Fleischmann's office), Jared Greene, Kari Oliver.

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### Community News You Can Use

- The Athens City Council will meet for a Work Session TODAY, March 10 at 5:00 pm in the Burkett L. Witt Council Chambers of the Athens Municipal Building.  
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- The TWU Criminal Justice Club Fundraiser is set for TOMORROW, Tuesday, March 11 from 6:00pm - 7:00pm in the Johnson Event Center in the Colloms Campus Center. Hear the story of Jeffry Skaggs: A Cold Case Solved! Featuring national award-winning journalist Phil Williams. Price of attendance is \$10 for general public and \$5 for students. Light refreshments will be provided.

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• Monday – Closed  
 • Tuesday-Decatur beside Southeast Bank at the Boys and Girls Club -10:30 - 2:00  
 Tuesday PM: Niota School 5-7  
 • Wednesday-Etowah Across from Johnsons-10:30 - 2:00  
 • Thursday-Athens Family Dollar 10:30 -1:30  
 • Friday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30

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Monday, March 10, 2025

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

Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

**Mark McElhane**y, age 81, of Athens, died Sunday, March 9, at the home of his son, Joe. He was a longtime member of Fairview Baptist Church, having served in the bus ministry and deacon for many years. Funeral services will be 6:30 pm Tuesday at Fairview Baptist Church. The family will receive friends from 5:00 pm until 6:30 pm prior to the funeral service. Burial will be 11:00 am Wednesday in Sunrise Cemetery in Englewood. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Mark McElhane.

**Linda Joyce Raper**, 77, of Etowah, passed away on Saturday, March 8. It is with heavy hearts and profound sadness that we announce the passing of Joyce, a cherished mother, grandmother, friend and the unwavering rock for all who knew her. She left us to join the angels, leaving behind a legacy of wisdom, love and immeasurable strength. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, March 10, in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral. The family will receive friends from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday prior to the service. Interment will follow the service in Etowah Cemetery. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

**Gene Robert Land**, age 75, of Coral Springs, Florida, formerly of Athens and Chattanooga, passed away Wednesday March 5. Gene was born in Athens. He was a 1967 Graduate of McMinn County High School, a 1969 graduate of Miami-Dade Junior College North, where he received his degree in Mortuary science. Gene was a veteran of the United States Army having served during Vietnam. He was a funeral director and embalmer at Lane Funeral Home Coulter Chapel for over 50 years. Gene was an active member of Red Bank Baptist Church where he served as deacon and was a member of the Wood/Aslinger Life Group. Graveside services will be held on Tuesday March 11, at 11:00 A.M. in Chattanooga National Cemetery with military honors. A time of remembrance and visitation will be held Monday, March 10, from 5:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. at the Coulter Chapel of Lane Funeral Home. Arrangements entrusted to Lane Funeral Home.

## Parent Night at Cleveland State



Cleveland State Community College welcomed over 100 attendees to Parent Night at the college. Potential students and their families learned about the programs and resources at Cleveland State including financial aid, dual enrollment, admissions, **Morning Fax**® counseling, testing and career services, and Today's News. This Morning. more. The free event included dinner and giveaways. **The next Parent Night will be Thursday, March 20, 6-8 p.m. at the McMinn Higher Education Center (MHEC) in Athens.** Sign up to attend at [mycs.cc/parentnight](http://mycs.cc/parentnight). For more information, call (423) 473-2310 or [enroll@clevelandstatecc.edu](mailto:enroll@clevelandstatecc.edu).

Source: Andrea Byerly, CSCC

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Athens, Tennessee

## Meet the Author: Reba Rhyne



The Meigs Decatur Friends of the Library Presents: Meet the Author - [Reba Rhyne](#). This free event will take place on **Saturday, March 15 at 12:00 pm** at the [Meigs Decatur Public Library](#) located at 120 E. Memorial Dr., Decatur. The featured series is [The Tipton Chronicles](#). Reba

**Morning Fax**® Rhyne's *Tipton Chronicles* is a Today's News. This Morning. historical series that blends fact, fiction, legend, and family lore. The series delves into the rich and complex history of her ancestors spanning thousands of years. Reba's deep connection to her family's past is woven into every story, bringing to life the triumphs, struggles, and legacies of those who came before her.

## ACIS K-Kids to Host "Happy Healthy Kids Fest" on March 29

[Athens City Intermediate School's](#) K-Kids is inviting the community to join them for a day of fun and fitness at the [Happy Healthy Kids Fest](#) on **March 29** at the **Athens City Sports Complex**. Events kick off at 9:00 a.m. and will continue throughout the day, promoting movement and wellness for all ages.

The festival will feature activities like a [1-mile Family Fun Run/Walk](#) (sign up [HERE](#)), kickball games, sack races, tug-of-war, an inflatable obstacle course, a bounce house, and more. There will also be a pickleball tournament, Zumba with Miss Maggie Witt, and a Taekwondo demonstration by Grand Master Contreras. To keep participants fueled, the ACMS Soccer Team will be selling concessions, and [Chilly Bone's Food Truck](#) will offer Sno Cones and other treats. This **FREE** event is open to everyone in the community. Come out, get active, and enjoy a day filled with fun and fitness!

Check out the promotional video for the event [HERE](#)  
*Source: Ms. Jennifer Hudson, ACIS K-Kids Advisor*

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Monday, March 10, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

## McMinn County Arrest Report

**Tyler Moats**, 26 of Decatur, was arrested by the MCSO for Aggravated Domestic Assault, Reckless Endangerment, Vandalism, and State Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$34,000

**Donnie Martin**, 36 of Athens, was arrested by the DTF for Failure to Appear and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$1,000.

**Scott White**, 36 of Athens, was arrested by the DTF for Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, and Possession of Schedule II Methamphetamine. Total Bond: \$7,000.

**Montana McCaslin**, 31 of Athens, was arrested by the DTF for possession of Schedule II Fentanyl and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$21,000.

**Michael Campbell**, 37 of Carolina Beach, NC, was arrested by the DTF for Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$3,000.

**Brian Malone**, 32 of Athens, was arrested by the DTF for Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$1,000.

**Patricia Miller**, 59 of Athens, was arrested by the DTF for Maintaining a Drug Dwelling. Total Bond: \$4,000.

**Bobby Stewart**, 34 of Athens, was arrested by the DTF for Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$3,000.

**Savanna Hitt**, 24 of Sweetwater, was arrested by the DTF for Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl for Resale and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$48,000.

**Ashley Roderick**, 32 of Athens, was arrested by the DTF for Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$7,000.

**Lindsey Knox**, 31 of Sweetwater, was arrested for Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$14,000

**Katie King**, 31 of Athens, was arrested by the DTF for Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$7,000.

**Jessica Ramsey**, 46 of Benton, was arrested by the Athens PD for Theft over \$10,000 - Embezzlement and Possession of Schedule II Oxycodone. No Bond.

**Garrett Goforth**, 29 of Cleveland, was arrested by the THP for Violation of Implied Consent, Driving without Due Care, Driving on a Suspended License and No Insurance. Total Bond: \$4,000

**Joshua Miller**, 37 of Athens, was arrested by the DTF for Manufacturing and Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, Resisting Arrest, Maintaining a dwelling for Drug Use, Armed During Dangerous Felonies and Tampering with Evidence. No Bond.

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

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Monday, March 10, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

## Bulldog Athletics Round-Up



The winter sports season has pretty much come to an end for Tennessee Wesleyan Ath- Morning Fax letics and the spring season is rolling! Today's News. This Morning. **Here are the latest updates:**

The women's basketball team made a run to the Appalachian Athletic Conference (AAC) Women's Basketball Tournament Championship game. The team, the No. 7 seed, defeated the No. 10 seed, No. 2 seed, and the No. 3 seed on their way to the championship game. In the semifinal win against the No. 3 seed, the team made a school record 18 three-pointers in the victory. The team fell in overtime to the No. 1 seed in the championship game.

The men's basketball team made it to the quarterfinals of the AAC Men's Basketball Tournament. The team earned the seventh seed in the tournament and defeated the No. 10 seed in their opening round game. The team fell to the No. 2 seed in the tournament. The baseball program has won nine straight games since our last update and is currently on a 10-game win streak. Four of the wins came against teams ranked No. 5 and No. 6 in the NAIA. The team currently has an 18-3 overall record.

The men's tennis team, who remained No. 2 in the latest NAIA poll, won two more matches recently. The team beat Milligan University 7-0 and No. 18 University of the Cumberlands 4- 0.

The women's tennis team, who kept their No. 7 ranking in the most recent NAIA poll, moved their four-match winning streak to six consecutive wins after beating Milligan University and Brenau University by 7-0 scores.

The softball team has begun the season with a 4-2 overall record and a 3-1 record. Two of their four wins have come in extra innings.

The women's lacrosse team won their first game of the season, beating Warner University 10-9 in overtime to give first-year head

coach Lorna Schoemehl her first career win.

The men's lacrosse team also picked up a win recently, beating the University of Michigan Dearborn 13-8.

Men's and women's golf started their spring schedules over the last few weeks.

The men's golf team finished seventh at the 2025 Ram Spring Invite while the women's golf team finished seventh at the Pfeiffer Spring Invitational.

Head baseball coach Billy Berry won his 800<sup>th</sup> career game as a head coach recently in a walk-off win over Reinhardt University.

### Individual accolades:

*AAC Weekly award winners-* Carson Bowling (Men's Lacrosse), Bailee Phillips (Softball), Blake Peyton (Baseball) and Kruiise Newman (Baseball)

*Women's basketball-* Anna Crowder (All-AAC Second Team, All-Defensive Team), Jacelyn Stone (All-AAC Second Team), Jalaya Lindsey (All-Freshman Team)

*Men's Basketball-* Ty Hurst (All-AAC Second Team), Jay Reed (All-Defensive Team), Reshaun Hampton (All-Freshman Team)

### Upcoming events:

#### Away:

Mon./Tue. March 10-11 **Men's Golf** at Carey Collegiate

Tues. March 11 **Baseball** at Cumberland University at 3:00 PM ET

Wed. March 12 **Women's Lacrosse** at University of the Cumberlands at 5:00 PM

#### Home:

Wed. March 12 **Softball** vs. Bluefield University (DH) at 2:00 PM/4:00 PM

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**Bulldog Round-Up By: Chris Berry, TWU Director of Sports Information**

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