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Today's News...This Morning

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Monday, March 24, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

Honoring the voices behind Emergency calls

This week marks National Telecommunicator Week, a time to recognize the dedicated 9-1-1 dispatchers and emergency communication staff who serve as the first point of contact during crises. These professionals work behind the scenes, providing life-saving instructions, dispatching first responders, and ensuring that critical information reaches emergency teams.

Often referred to as the first, first responders, Telecommunicators remain calm under pressure, managing high-stakes situations ranging from medical emergencies to natural disasters. Their quick thinking and coordination play a vital role in public safety.

Communities nationwide are celebrating **Morning Fax** these unsung heroes through luncheons, Today's News. This Morning. awards, and appreciation events. As technology advances, including Next Generation 9-1-1 systems, dispatchers continue to adapt, improving response times and saving lives.

This week, we express our gratitude to the voices behind the calls, whose dedication keeps our communities safe every day.

Source: Dana Mashburn, Personnel Manager, McMinn Co E911

Community News You Can Use

- **TODAY**, Monday, March 24 from 11:30am - 1:00pm you are invited to have lunch with the staff of the UT Extension at the McMinn Higher Education Center (2345 Denso Drive, Athens). Celebrate March Extension Month!
- **TODAY**, Monday March 24 at 6:00 pm, the McMinn County Library Board will meet at the E.G. Fisher Public Library.
- Casa Corridor of East TN is hosting a Pickleball Tournament on April 12-13. For More Information, visit their website at: casacorridor.org
- Athens Utility Board's monthly board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25 at 5:00pm.
- **ATHENS CITY SCHOOLS** are **CLOSED TODAY**, Monday, March 24th. It is a Professional Development training day for staff. Students will return to class on Tuesday, March 25th. Kids Connection will also be closed today.

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• Monday - Closed
• Tuesday-Decatur beside Southeast Bank at the Boys and Girls Club -10:30 - 2:00
• Wednesday-Etowah Across from Johnsons-10:30 - 2:00
• Thursday-Athens Family Dollar 10:30 -1:30
• Thursday PM Athens MCHS Soccer Game (across from Senior Center @ 152 McMinn Ave)
• Friday-Sweetwater-Little Drugs-10:30 - 2:30

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Monday, March 24, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Patsy Jeanette Ward Janow, 72, passed away on Thursday, March 20. Visitation was held on Saturday, March 22, from 5:00-7:00 PM at Ziegler Funeral Home. Graveside services were held on Sunday, March 23, at 2:00 PM at Cedar Grove Cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home was entrusted with serving the family of Patsy Jeanette Ward Janow.

Mary Elaine Bathon Bamberger, 85, a native of Baltimore, MD and longtime resident of McMinn County, passed away on Friday, March 21. There will be no formal services at this time. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Mary Elaine Bathon Bamberger.

Edna Smith Lee Stephens, 85 of McMinn County, passed away on Monday, March 17. The family will receive friends at Ziegler Funeral Home from 5:00 until 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 25. Funeral services will be held at 7:00 PM at the funeral home. Graveside services will be held at McMinn Memory Gardens at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, March 26. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Edna Lee Smith Stephens.

Marvin Lee King, 64 of Niota, passed away on Wednesday, March 19 at his home surrounded by his family. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. Services of loving memory entrusted to M.D. Dotson and Sons Funeral Home – Athens, TN.

Upcoming Historical Society Workshop: Navigating Online Genealogy Tools



The McMinn County Historical Society and Archives will host an adult education workshop on navigating online genealogy tools on **Wednesday, March 26**, from 10-11 a.m. at the E.G. Fisher Public Library in Athens.

This workshop will provide guidance on researching family history using digital resources. Registration is required, and those interested can sign up at the library's front desk or by calling 423-745-7782. For more details, contact the McMinn County Historical Society and Archives at 423-744-3911.

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Sharon Duggan, 64 of Athens, passed away on Sunday, March 23. Funeral services will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26 in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Wednesday prior to the service. Family and friends will gather in Green Hill Cemetery on Thursday, March 27th for the 11:00 a.m. committal service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.



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Athens, Tennessee

Tesla recalls over 46,000 Cybertrucks due to safety hazard



Tesla has issued a recall for 46,096 Cybertrucks due to a potentially dangerous flaw in the vehicle's exterior paneling. The recall, announced by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), affects all Cybertrucks manufactured between November 13, 2023, and February 27, 2025—essentially covering nearly every truck on the road.

According to the NHTSA report, the **cant rail assembly**, a stainless steel trim panel running along both sides of the windshield, is at risk of detaching while driving. Tesla ac-

knowledged that a loose panel could become a road hazard, increasing the risk of a crash. The issue stems from the adhesive used during assembly, which may be vulnerable to environmental factors.

To fix the problem, Tesla will reinforce and reattach the panel using a stronger adhesive. The company will provide free repairs to affected owners, with notification letters set to be mailed on May 19, 2025.

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This marks the eighth recall for the Cybertruck since its release just over a year ago, adding to growing safety concerns about the highly anticipated electric vehicle.

Source: [NBC News](#)

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Athens, Tennessee

Food Hub opens Thursday



A new opportunity for aspiring food entrepreneurs has arrived in Athens with the opening of [The Food Hub](#), a business incubator designed to help food and beverage startups overcome the high costs and risks of launching a new venture. Operated by [Main Street Athens](#), The Food Hub provides access to a fully equipped commercial kitchen, expert mentoring, and affordable business solutions to support local restaurateurs and food producers.

To celebrate its opening day on Thursday, March 27, [WYXI Radio](#) will broadcast live from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on FM 94.5 and AM 1390. The broadcast will feature interviews with patrons, vendors, and Main Street Athens Director Sandra Kinney as well as others responsible for the creation of The Food Hub. Attendees will also have a *chance to enter giveaways from local businesses.*

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By fostering collaboration and providing essential resources, The Food Hub aims to strengthen the local food industry while enhancing Athens' vibrant culinary scene.

Kids Connection Summer Program celebrates 20 years in 2025



Kids Connection (KC) at Athens City Schools is gearing up for another exciting summer with its [2025 Summer Adventure program](#), celebrating 20 years of serving students and families. The program will run from June 2 to July 18 at Athens City Intermediate, operating daily from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (closed on July 4).

Families interested in enrolling their children should mark their calendars, as the Intent to Apply link will be open online from April 7-11. The link will be shared via [social media](#), the school website (www.athenscityschools.net), and Morning Fax the school's notification system once available.

With two decades of excellence, Kids Connection continues to provide engaging activities, learning opportunities, and fun for students. This summer will feature special highlights and celebrations in honor of KC's milestone anniversary.

For more information, stay tuned to Athens City Schools' official platforms.

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Monday, March 24, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

Updates from TWU Athletics



The spring seasons are full steam ahead for Tennessee Wesleyan Athletics.

Here are the latest updates:

The baseball program has won five of their last seven games. Included in those wins are a 16-13 win against Cumberland University, a 26-3 win against Kentucky Christian University, and a no

-hitter against Kentucky Christian. Anthony Figueroa threw the no-hitter for the Bulldogs.

In the most recently released NAIA rankings, the three programs that were ranked, men's tennis (No. 2), baseball (No. 2), and women's tennis (No. 7) all maintained their spot in their respective sport's NAIA poll.

The softball team moved their record to 9-5 overall and 7-4 in the conference. One of their most recent wins came on the road against No. 6 Georgia Gwinnett College.

The women's lacrosse team added another win to their record, winning their game against Madonna University 14-8. The men's lacrosse team also recorded a win, beating Siena Heights University 13-6.

The Ben & Cythnia Wilson Tennis Center, which was brought together through many generous donations, was officially opened for the tennis programs. The center features locker rooms for both teams, a veranda, and the coach's office.

Individual accolades include:

AAC Weekly award winners- Dalton Sutton (Men's Golf), Devin Dixon (Baseball), Corbin Shaw (Baseball), Anthony Figueroa (Baseball), Maisie Hassall (Women's Golf) Ivet Prat (Women's Tennis)

10 student-athletes between men's and women's basketball and men's and women's bowling were named Daktronics NAIA Scholar-Athletes. To earn this honor, a student-athlete has to be a sophomore or older academically and hold a 3.50 or higher GPA.

Upcoming events:

Away:

Mon./Tue. March 24-25 Women's Golf at Blue Mountain Invite
 Mon./Tue. March 24-25 Men's Golf at Blue Mountain Spring Classic
 Tue. March 25 M/W Tennis at Union Commonwealth University at 2:00 PM

Home:

Tue. March 25 Baseball vs. No. 3 Georgia Gwinnett College at 3:00 PM
 Wed. March 26 Women's Lacrosse vs. Georgetown College at 1:00 PM
 Wed. March 26 Softball vs. Reinhardt University at 4:00 PM/6:00 PM

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*Written By: Chris Berry,
 Director of Sports Information, TWU*



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McMinn County Arrest Reports

Ayleena Earls, 19 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Violation of Probation and Vandalism. Bond Unclear.

Teresa Nicholes, 54 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl for Resale, Possession of Methamphetamine for Resale. And Traffic Violations. Bond Unclear.

Daniel Filyaw, 60 of Decatur, was arrested by the MCSO for Assault. Total Bond: \$1,000.

Jacob Smith, 30 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for Failure to Appear. Total Bond: \$1,000.

Jason Gaustad, 38 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Disorderly Conduct and Resisting Stop, Halt & Frisk. Total Bond: \$2,000.

Charles Kennedy, 41 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Felony Evading, Leaving the Scene of an Accident, and Driving without a License. Bond Unclear.

Tiffany Perry, 42 of Niota, was arrested by the MCSO for Manufacturing, Delivering, Selling & Possession of a Controlled Substance, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Bond Unclear.

Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered using public sources.

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