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Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Good Faith Clinic Open Thursday for Free Medical Services

The Good Faith Clinic in Athens will be open Thursday, May 14, offering free healthcare services to area residents in need.

Sign-ups for refills and doctor visits will begin at 3:00 p.m., followed by test results at 3:45 p.m. The clinic, located at 18 Congress Parkway South, provides medical care for uninsured adults and those with limited access to healthcare.

Volunteer physicians, nurses, and staff from local churches and community organizations work together to provide compassionate care in a welcoming environment.

The clinic encourages anyone needing prescription refills, medical consultations, or test follow-ups to arrive early for registration.

For more information, contact the Good Faith Clinic at (423) 745-4541.

Community News You Can Use

- The City of Athens Public Works Department will close Sharp Road from Richardson Street to Velma Road beginning Thursday, May 14 at 8 a.m. through Friday, May 15 at 4 p.m. for asphalt paving. Drivers should expect delays and watch for flaggers, detours, pedestrians, and work crews. For details, contact Public Works at 423-744-2745.
- MEDIC Regional Blood Center will host its Summer Kickoff Cookout at the Athens Donor Center (Ingles Shopping Center, Decatur Pike) on Monday, May 18, with grilling from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donors receive a special-edition Tee-shirt, prize entries, coupons, and first-time donors get a \$25 e-gift card. Walk-Ins are welcome; call 423-453-5846 or schedule an appointment at: medicblood.org

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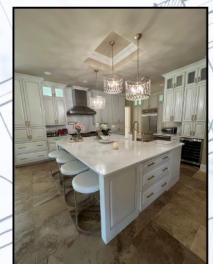
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Wednesday, May 13, 2026

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Athens, Tennessee

Tennessee Wesleyan University Honors Class of 2026 at Spring Commencement



Tennessee Wesleyan University celebrated more than 200 graduates during its commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 9, in Colloms Courtyard, marking the Class of 2026's official induction into the TWU Alumni Association.

Students completing undergraduate and graduate degrees in fields such as **teaching, business, education, social work, nursing, arts, sciences, and dental hygiene** were recognized before an audience of families, faculty, and community members.

TWU President Dr. Tyler Forrest welcomed attendees and congratulated graduates on their achievements. The student address was delivered by Brooklyn Ingram-Nelson, who completed three degrees and encouraged her classmates to use their education to strengthen their communities.

The university awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Jim Winer of Make3 Architecture for decades of service to TWU, including major contributions to campus planning and leadership on the Board of Trustees. Several faculty members were honored, including retiring professors Dr. Keith Wheeler, Dr. John Ferguson, and Dr. Dan Gilbert. Emeritus status was granted to Dr. Betty Ruleman and Dr. Kerry Towler. Additional recognitions included Dr. Jack Seitz, recipient of the Deane G. Hall Award; Dr. Sean Hayden, Lockmillier Teacher of the Year; and Dr. Julianne Hale, UMC Exemplary Teacher of the Year.

HAND UP
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Grace and Mercy Ministries

RESOURCE EVENT

Thursday
May 14, 2026
9 am - 12 pm
@ Market Park Pavilion

FREE RESOURCES FOR THE COMMUNITY



This event is Free for our community who are in need of a hand up. We will have many resources including the Health department, FREE Hair cuts (men, woman and kids), Social Security office, Hygiene packs, food/snacks, FREE Dog/ cat vaccines, FREE Spay/ Neuter vouchers from the McMinn Regional Humane Society.

This week!!

Yard Sale

May 14th - May 15th

Huge yard sale this weekend! Tons of antiques and unique finds waiting for a new home

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

127 Hunters Branch Rd,
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Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

Single-Vehicle Crash Reported on Hwy 310 in Englewood



A driver escaped injury Monday morning after her 2014 Ford Focus left the roadway and overturned on Highway 310 in Englewood. The crash occurred around 9 a.m. when the driver reported that a pickup truck crossed the center line and clipped her vehicle, causing it to drop off the shoulder and lose control.

The pickup truck was not located following the incident. Responding agencies included Englewood Rural Fire and THP Trooper Chandler Lamar, who investigated the crash.

Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural FD

Responding agencies included Englewood Rural Fire and THP Trooper Chandler Lamar, who investigated the crash.

Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural FD

Crash on County Road 500 Sends Two to UT Hospital



A two-vehicle collision Saturday afternoon on County Road 500 near 508 left multiple injured and required two medical helicopter transports. The crash happened around 4

p.m. when a 1999 Toyota Tacoma and a 1998 Toyota Tacoma collided.

First responders and AMR treated all patients at the scene. The 1998 Tacoma driver was extricated and flown by LifeForce to UT Hospital in Knoxville. The 1999 Tacoma driver went to Starr Regional Medical Center in Athens, while a passenger was flown by LifeStar to UT Hospital.

Responding agencies included Englewood Rural Fire, Etowah City Fire, Etowah Rural Fire, the McMinn County Sheriff's Department, AMR, and investigating officer THP Lt. Cory Russell. Madisonville City Fire provided standby coverage. Englewood Rural Fire Chief Billy Roach was incident commander. *Photo by Lynn Ingram, Englewood Rural FD*

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Grandparents and Grandchildren Invited to AACA's Second Annual Grand Ball



The Athens Area Council for the Arts will host its Second Annual Grand Ball on Friday, May 29, welcoming grandparents, honorary grandparents, and their grandchildren for an evening of dancing and community at The Arts Center. The event runs from 5:30 to 7 p.m., with donations accepted at the door to support AACA's youth scholarship programs.

The Grand Ball is the creation of Sloane Shepherd and Taylor Kimball, two 11-year-old "Arts Center Kids" whose idea began as a simple dance for grandparents and grew into a successful fundraiser. Last year's event raised more than \$1,000 for summer camp scholarships, and the young organizers have set a new goal of at least \$2,000 to help more children access arts programming.

The dance features music spanning eight decades, from the 1940s through the 2020s, along with balloons, cookies, and a selfie station. Proceeds benefit AACA's efforts to remove financial barriers to arts participation—an ongoing need in a community where many families face economic challenges.

AACA's scholarship initiatives include the **Marian Biddle Trew Scholarship Fund**, which supports youth enrollment in arts classes and camps, and the **Laura Abbott Scholarship Fund**, which assists senior citizens seeking arts education opportunities. Together, these programs reflect AACA's long-standing commitment to expanding access to the arts across McMinn County and surrounding areas.

Donations to support these scholarships may be made at the Grand Ball or directly to AACA in person, by phone, or online at athensartscouncil.org. Applications for both scholarship programs are available by email or at The Arts Center.



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Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

May 11, 2026

Heather Burton, 39 of Decatur, charged with driving on a revoked license, simple possession casual exchange of schedule II meth, simple possession casual exchange of marijuana, simple possession casual exchange of xanax and valium, and drug paraphernalia, Bond \$18,000.

Jamaris Thornton, 23 of Athens, charged with criminal trespassing, and evading arrest, Bond \$1,000.

John McCullough, 29 of Spring City, charged with simple possession casual exchange of meth.

Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Information gathered using public sources.

Obituaries

Evelyn Taylor Runion, 80, of Athens, passed away at her residence on Monday, May 11. Evelyn was known as a classy lady with impeccable style, whose presence brightened every room she entered. A passionate aficionado of antiques, she collected and sold treasured pieces that spoke to her refined taste and appreciation for history. Her green thumb was evident in the lush, lovingly tended flower beds that she nurtured. Funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, May 14 in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., Thursday prior to the service. The interment will follow the service at Green Hill Cemetery. Bordwine Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

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