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Today's News...This Morning

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**WYXI RADIO**  
 FM 94.5 AM 1390

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 Athens, Tennessee

## Animal Shelter Nears Completion

The Larry Dean Wallace Sr. Animal Shelter in Athens is a collaborative effort between the City and the McMinn Regional Humane Society, which will consolidate all animal services into one facility. The single facility will be home to an animal shelter, animal adoption center, and an animal clinic. The facility will be at the location of the former Daily Post-Athenian newspaper building, located at 320 S. Jackson St., a building that was purchased by the city in 2021. Re-designed by Allen & Hoshall, the facility addresses the needs of both entities and aims to replace the existing outdated facilities. The construction includes features such as modular kennels, separate areas for different animal groups, and a meet-and-greet room for potential adopters. There will be 22 indoor/outdoor kennels with an additional 10 indoor-only kennels. Aggressive dogs will be housed separately from moms and pups, just as cats will be housed separately from kittens. Construction began in April of 2023 and there has recently been a video update shared on the City of Athens' Facebook page showing the incredible amount of work that had to be done along with a walkthrough of the new facility. Watch the update [HERE](#)

## Community News You Can Use

- ✓ MEDIC Regional Blood Center is having a Mobile Blood Drive at Tennessee Wesleyan University (204 East College Street) **TODAY** from 11 am to 5 pm. Remember, if you donate in the month of March, you'll receive a free pair of socks. When you GIVE local, you SAVE local!
- ✓ The Good Faith Clinic will be open **TODAY**, March 12 and at 3 p.m. for refills and at 3:30 p.m. for doctor visits. The Good Faith Clinic is a **FREE** primary health clinic for residents of McMinn and Meigs counties, aged 18-64, who do not have any form of medical insurance, including TennCare. The clinic meets on the campus of Christ Community Church at 18 S Congress Parkway in Athens. **REMINDER:** The Good Faith Clinic is open the 2nd, 4th, and 5th, Tuesday of each month.
- ✓ Pictures have arrived from the 38th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance. Pick them up at City Hall (815 N. Jackson St., Athens) between 8 am and 5 pm.

**LISTENING REMINDER:** Today's guest on Main Street Moments will be Meleena Livesay, Program Coordinator for E.G. Fisher Public Library. Main Street Moments broadcasts every Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio, FM 94.5 and AM 1390.

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Tuesday, March 12, 2024

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

Athens, Tennessee

## Wednesday's Events

❖ At E.G. Fisher Public Library, Spring Break Programs will continue with Dinosaur Activity Stations including Dino Footprint Painting, Dino Origami and more. This will take place at 12:30 pm TOMORROW in the Community Room. For more information, visit [fisherlibrary.org](http://fisherlibrary.org)

❖ ALC Youth meets at Ascension Life Church (935 Rocky Mt. Rd, Athens) Tomorrow, March 13 from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Ministry Leaders are Nick and Sarah Dalby.

## Obituaries

**Patsy Jane Saffles Webb**, age 71, lifelong resident of McMinn County passed away on Friday, March 8, 2024. She is survived by her husband of 53 years: Nathan, her son, sisters, granddaughter, and a great grandson. At Patsy's request, there will be no formal visitation or services. There will be a private gathering announced at a later time. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements.

## Obituaries (Continued)

**Norma Jean Bandy Earls**, 84, a resident of Cleveland, passed away Saturday afternoon, March 9, 2024 at the family residence. She was a member of the Washington Avenue Baptist Church. A Remembrance of Life Service will be conducted on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 2 P. M. at Jim Rush Funeral and Cremation Services Wildwood Chapel in Cleveland. Interment will follow in the Tasso United Methodist Church Cemetery with family and friends serving as casket bearers.

**James Hesser**, age 77, passed away in Gainesville, GA. A graduate of the University of Tennessee, Hesser was a longtime resident of Cleveland, TN and considered Tennessee home. He is survived by his wife, Janet Fleler Hesser, and locally by a Brother-In-Law, Mark Fleler and his wife, Mary. He enjoyed a career in medical sales. A private service will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, GA.



*You're Invited to a*

**Tea Party**

**at The Depot**

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*at 2 O'Clock in the Afternoon*

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# Arrest Reports

**03/06/24**

- Katherine Brown, age 37 of Englewood, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Violation of Probation and was held for a cash bond of \$2,520.85.
- Shirley Neil, age 53 was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Violation of Probation and was assigned a cash bond of \$1,194.40.
- Holly Lunsford, age 44 was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Driving on a Suspended License, Simple Possession of Schedule VI Marijuana and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. She was assigned a \$3,000 bond.
- Tyhem Smith, age 30 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for a Warrant issued in Monroe County. He was held without bond.
- Zane J. Byas, age 24 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for a Violation of Probation (State) and was held without bond.
- Dustin Green, age 37 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Failure to Appear and was assigned a \$6,000 bond.
- Brandon Ferguson, age 30 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for False Reporting and was assigned a \$3,000 bond.
- Rashied Wilkerson, age 43 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office in regards to a warrant issued in Meigs County and was held without bond.
- Rufus Collier, age 58 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office on charges of Maintaining a Drug Dwelling and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He was assigned a \$5,000 bond.
- Miguel Gonzalez, age 27 of Madisonville, was arrested by Athens PD for Criminal Trespassing and was assigned a \$1,000 bond.
- Cody Hardee, age 30, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for a Warrant related to Domestic Assault. He was assigned a \$2,000 bond.
- Jenna Peak, age 50 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Violation of Probation and was assigned a cash bond of \$1,527.45.
- Keith G. Myers, age 37 of Knoxville, was arrested by the Englewood PD for the charge of Felony Theft of Property (\$2,500-\$10,000) from Blount County. He was held without bond awaiting transfer to Blount County.
- Michael Guffey, age 43 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for charges of Violation of Probation, Simple Possession of Schedule II Fentanyl, Simple Possession of Schedule II Methamphetamine, Simple Possession of Schedule IV Xanax, Simple Possession of Schedule VI Marijuana, Driving Under the Influence, and Driving on a Restricted License. He was held for a cash bond of \$3,234.30.
- Edith Downing, age 54 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia and was assigned a \$1,000 bond.

**03/07/24**

- Brad Steele, age 50 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Violation of Probation and was held for a cash bond of \$231.00
- Michael C Clark, age 34 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD on charges of Simple Possession and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia
- David F Gennoe, age 62 of Decatur, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Violation of Probation. Bond is set for \$619.45 cash plus 30 days,
- Darrell Bergin, age 59 of Athens, was arrested by the McMinn County Sheriff's Office for Violation of Probation and is being held with no bond to serve 30 days.
- Patrick Thompson, age 23 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Domestic Assault and was assigned a bond of \$1,000.
- Johnathan Powell, age 26 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Failure to Appear and was assigned a \$1,000 bond.
- Austin E. Jones, age 29 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia and was assigned a \$1,000 bond.
- Amanda Ricker, age 41 of Decatur, was arrested for Violation of Probation and was assigned a \$1,197.90 cash bond.
- Harley McCormick, age 19 of Englewood, was arrested by the Tennessee Highway Patrol for Driving Under the Influence and Open Container. He was assigned a \$1,000 bond.

**The accused are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.  
Information gathered from public sources.**