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Today's News... This Morning

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Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Athens, Tennessee

## Tennessee Wesleyan Awards Neff Scholarship

Samantha Robbins of Tellico Plains High School and Carson Blevins from Polk County High School were recently honored as the deserving recipients of an academically competitive award, the Harriet Reaves Neff Award. This award is a full tuition scholarship that is renewable for up to four years. The recipients must have a minimum high school GPA of 3.75 and at least a 30 on the ACT. The Neff Scholarship was established following a major bequest from the namesake, Harriet Reaves Neff. Neff was a daughter to a Tennessee Wesleyan alumnus, and her late husband, who was a state senator for Virginia, served on the Holston Conference Colleges Board of Governors. The Neff Scholarship is Tennessee Wesleyan's top academic award and is awarded to two incoming freshmen demonstrating high academic leadership annually. Robbins will graduate from Tellico Plains High School this spring and is extremely involved in several extracurricular activities including forestry judging, 4-H, and FFA, and has won many awards demonstrating her excellence in those areas. Additionally, she has received awards for academic excellence in pre-calculus and psychology. Blevins will graduate Polk County High School during their Spring Commencement.

Continued on page 2

## Community News You Can Use

✓ Englewood First Church of God. 1340 Hwy 39 E in Englewood is having a spring tea on March 9 at 12 noon. The guest speaker is Candace "Kitty" Wenger, Navy Tailhook Pilot. Special entertainment is by Berna Dene Clark and Pastor Chris Alexander. The tea is sponsored by Ladies in Fellowship together. For more information, please call Frances Powers at 423-887-3631 or Gail Key at 423-507-7097.

✓ **DON'T FORGET:** The deadline for ordering daffodils is Thursday, February 29th. The cost is \$8.00 per pot. You are welcome to send an email to [athensmainstreet@gmail.com](mailto:athensmainstreet@gmail.com) if you are interested in placing an order.

### From McMinn Co. Elections: McMinn Co Election Early Voting Totals

R 2199—D 177—T 2376

The next day to vote is Election Day, March 5th. Voters need to vote at their assigned voting precinct. Polls open at 9 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

◆ The guest this week on "Hope From the Well" will be Connie McIntosh discussing Women of the Bible: Rahab. Hope From the Well is heard each Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

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### TODAY IN HISTORY - February 28<sup>th</sup>

**1844** - The newly-built U.S.S. Princeton exploded while cruising on the Potomac River with top government officials on board. When the ship fired one of its guns to demonstrate the latest in naval armament, the gun exploded, killing the U.S. Secretary of State and Secretary of Navy and several other people. President John Tyler narrowly escaped death.

**1849** - The first shipload of gold-seekers arrived in San Francisco after a five-month journey from New York City.

**1940** - Race car driver Mario Andretti was born in Italy. He won the Indianapolis 500 race in 1969.

**1940** - Singer Joe South was born. His biggest hit was "Walk A Mile In My Shoes."

**1953** - Scientists James D. Watson and Francis H.C. Crick discovered the double-helix structure of DNA, the molecule that contains the human genes, at Cambridge University.



### Practical Nursing OPEN HOUSE

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MARCH 2024

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3

Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

◆ **Sarah Jane Waters Pointer**, age 81, of Athens passed away on Tuesday, February 27, at Morning Pointe Senior Living Facility surrounded by family. She reunited with her high school sweetheart and husband of 63 years, Robert who passed away last December 7, 2023. They were members of Allen Memorial United Methodist Church. She was a realtor for Century 21 Realty for 22 years. A graveside service will be at 2:00 pm, Thursday, February 29, at Cedar Grove Cemetery. There will be no visitation. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is in charge of arrangements.

◆ **Charles Edward McNelley**, age 86 of Athens, passed away Saturday, February 24. He was a native and lifelong resident of McMinn County. He was a member of Mt. Verd Baptist Church and served his country proudly in the U.S. Army from 1960-1962. He was retired from Athens Bed Company after 34 years of service. He had a love for reading the bible, fishing and spending time at Watts Bar Lake. Graveside services will be at 11:00 am Thursday, February 29, at McMinn Memory Gardens. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

◆ **Clyde "Spider" Burns**, age 83, of Niota, passed away, Monday February 26 after a brief illness. He was surrounded by his family. Spider was born in McMinn County where he has lived his whole life. He was a Livestock or Cattle man most all his life. He loved putting up hay with his son. He enjoyed sitting outside in the sun in his chair in these past few years. He was a member of Union McMinn Church and of Baptist faith. Visitation will be on Thursday, February 29, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at Companion Funeral & Cremation Service, 410 S. White St., Athens, TN 37303. A graveside service will be held on Friday at 11:00 am at Union McMinn Baptist Church Cemetery. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge of arrangements.

## Neff Scholarships Continued

Continued from page 1: Her career includes involvement in the Future Business Leaders of America, National Honor Society and varsity cheerleading. She plans to attend law school following Tennessee Wesleyan. "Samantha and Carson both exhibit the qualities we are looking for in future Bulldogs," said Dr. Tyler Forrest, TWU President. "I am always excited to be part of these presentations and am anxious to see the contributions of both to our campus and region." For additional information about Tennessee Wesleyan University, visit [www.tnwesleyan.edu/](http://www.tnwesleyan.edu/), become a TWU fan on Facebook or follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/TNWesleyan](https://twitter.com/TNWesleyan). Tennessee Wesleyan University, founded in Athens, Tennessee, in 1857, is a four-year liberal arts institution affiliated with the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church offering more than sixty undergraduate and graduate majors and minors. Through strong academic programs, service-learning opportunities, student organizations, and athletics, Tennessee Wesleyan University helps students become enlightened servant leaders who believe in serving others, pursuing knowledge, and leading by example.

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)



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