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Everyone is Invited!

**McMinn County
Historical Society
Monthly Meeting**

Sunday at 2:00 pm
in Blueroom of
Courthouse



**Controlled Burn Turns Destructive
on County Road 782 in Etowah**



A controlled burn on County Road 782 in Etowah got out of hand Tuesday evening, resulting in the complete destruction of a structure on the site. The incident occurred around 8:30 p.m., when flames spread beyond the intended brush area.

Etowah Rural Fire and Claxton Fire responded to the scene. As of this report, there is no information regarding injuries or the financial cost of the damage.

Authorities are investigating the cause and the circumstances that led to the burn escaping containment.

Photo courtesy of Etowah Rural FD

Community News You Can Use

- WYXI Radio will host a live remote broadcast today (Friday, April 10) at Dooley Tractor Company from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., alongside the dealership's Kubota Orange Days event. Kubota Orange Days brings seasonal offers on select Kubota equipment. Staff will be on hand to answer questions and help visitors explore equipment options. Free doughnuts and coffee will be available from 8 until supplies last, followed by free chicken sandwiches from Bojangles from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., along with free ice cream from Mayfield Dairy Farms as long as supplies last. Attendees can also register for giveaways with no purchase necessary, including DeWalt items and tickets to Soaky Mountain Waterpark. The event is free and open to the public. Listen to WYXI Radio on 94.5 FM and 1390 AM or on your smart device in the Live365 app [HERE](#).
- The McMinn Living Heritage Museum is asking Athens and surrounding communities for photos, newspaper or magazine articles, memorabilia, and artifacts relating to the Battle of Athens. Please call the Museum at (423) 745-0329 if you have any of those items or for more information.

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Friday, April 10, 2026 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

East Tennessee Foundation Marks 40 Years of Philanthropy with Annual Stakeholder Summit



The East Tennessee Foundation (ETF) celebrated four decades of community impact at its 40th Annual Stakeholder Summit on Wednesday, April 1, at Tennessee Wesleyan University. The event brought together donors, nonprofit partners, and community leaders to reflect on the Foundation's legacy and its ongoing mission to strengthen East Tennessee communities.

Since its founding in 1986, ETF has granted more than \$476 million to local nonprofits and awarded over \$14 million in scholarships. The Foundation's assets reached a peak of \$700 million in 2025, with more than \$35 million in estate gift commitments that year alone.

Dr. Keith Barber, ETF President and CEO, emphasized the importance of collaboration and continued generosity. "This milestone is a powerful reminder of what can be accomplished when communities come together with a shared vision," he said.

A highlight of the summit was a surprise grant to Tennessee Wesleyan University, which has received nearly \$1.5 million in ETF funding over the past 30 years. The grant reflects ETF's ongoing commitment to education and regional development.

In addition to the Athens event, the Foundation hosted summits in Knoxville and Bristol, allowing communities across East Tennessee to celebrate its 40-year legacy of philanthropy.

For more information about the East Tennessee Foundation, visit etf.org.

Source: Katie Harbin, ETF

UPCOMING CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

SEND YOUR EVENTS BY
THURSDAY MORNING TO BE FEATURED HERE
EMAIL: WYXRADIO@GMAIL.COM

THIS WEEK
NEXT WEEK
EVERY WEEK

Friday, April 10, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Church News & Events

- [Celebrate Recovery](#) meets every [Tuesday](#) at 6:00pm at Woodward Ave. Church of God in Athens They also meet every [Thursday](#) at 6:00pm at Watts Bar Community Church in Decatur and Thursdays at **6:30pm** at [Spirit City Church North Etowah](#).
- [St. Mary's Legacy Clinic](#) offers free mobile medical care for the uninsured. Anyone who is medically uninsured is eligible to receive care. *St. Mary's Catholic Church (1291 E Madison Ave, Athens) is the McMinn County location and accepts patients every 3rd Thursday of the month.*
- Watts Bar Community Church will host its monthly "Man Up" Breakfast this Saturday, April 11, at 9 a.m. All men, regardless of age or church affiliation, are invited to attend for food and fellowship. The church is located at 1517 Highway 68 in Decatur, on the right side of the highway heading toward Watts Bar Dam.
- Harvest Time Ministries & Worship invites you to the **final day** of their Spring Revival at 7pm **TONIGHT**, April 10 at the McMinn County Expo Center, 2405 Decatur Pike, Athens) There will be food provided.
- One Voice Choir will host a benefit concert on Sunday, May 3 at 2:30pm at Light of Life Ministries. This special concert is to show support for Mr. Ronnie McMahan. All are welcome to come out and support the cause.
- The Etowah Christian Ministerial Association will host three community services on the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 7, in Etowah. A prayer breakfast will be held from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at Spirit City Church, followed by a noon service at the L & N Depot Pavilion featuring group prayer and music from the Miracle Lake Singers and the Central High School Choir will perform. An evening service is set for 6 p.m. at the Gem Theater, with prayers led by local pastors and music by The Men of Praise. For more information, contact ECMA President John Roberson at 423-263-2896.
- [TNValleyChurches.org](#), created by William Davis of TN Valley Churches Ministry, offers a free platform for residents in McMinn, Monroe, Bradley, Polk, Meigs, and Loudon counties to find local churches. Churches can list service times, pastors, contact info, and upcoming events such as revivals, gospel singings, and Vacation Bible Schools. The volunteer-run site aims to help families connect with churches and expand congregations' reach at no cost.

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Friday, April 10, 2026 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4 Athens, Tennessee

Starr Regional Medical Center to Host Lunch & Learn on Foot Health



Starr Regional Medical Center will hold a free Lunch & Learn event on Wednesday, April 15, at 12 p.m. on its Athens campus. The session, in honor of Foot Health Awareness Month, will feature podiatrist Derek Slack, DPM, discussing "The Importance of Healthy Feet."

Lunch will be provided, and pre-registration is encouraged. Interested participants can register by calling or texting 423-507-3659.

The monthly Lunch & Learn series takes place on the third Wednesday of each month at noon, covering a variety of health topics open to the public. For more information on this and future events, visit StarrRegional.com or email strr.cares@lpnt.net.

Source: Brandi Armstrong, Starr Regional

Cleveland State Community College Names Presidential Finalists


The Tennessee Board of Regents has named three finalists for the next president of Cleveland State Community College. Public interviews will be held April 17, 20, and 21 at 10 a.m. in the George R. Johnson Cultural Heritage Center, with livestream and community feedback available online. The finalists are:

- **Dr. John M. Davis**, vice president of administrative services at Germanna Community College in Virginia, with prior experience at Thomas Nelson Community College, Regent University, and the University of Michigan.
- **Dr. James W. Ross**, former president of Pamlico Community College in North Carolina, with extensive experience in institutional advancement, development, and educational leadership.
- **Dr. Patricia P. Weaver**, vice president of external affairs at Pellissippi State Community College in Knoxville, and former Cleveland State administrator and adjunct instructor, with prior experience in workforce development and K-12 education.

Following the campus interviews, Chancellor Flora W. Tydings will gather input and conduct final interviews before the Board of Regents appoints a new president, expected at a special meeting on April 30. The new president will succeed former President Andy White and interim President Ray Brooks. Source: Andrea Byerly, CSCC

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for **MCMINN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CLERK**



Friday, April 10, 2026

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 5

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

April 08, 2026

Frederick Harris, 34 of Benton, charged with violation of probation for domestic assault, Bond \$2,000.

Walter Fox, 27 of Sweetwater, charged with casual exchange, possession of meth, casual exchange, possession of fentanyl, drug paraphernalia, and failure to appear in Roane County.

Amber Hall, 43, charged with DUI.

Candace Baker, 33 of Oneida, Tennessee, charged with disorderly conduct, resisting stop, and assault against a first responder, Bond \$6,000.

Erica Treadway, 36 of Sweetwater, charged with violation of probation.

Matthew Kraskowskis, 50 of Decatur, charged with DUI, implied consent law, and possession of a handgun while under the influence, Bond \$4,000.

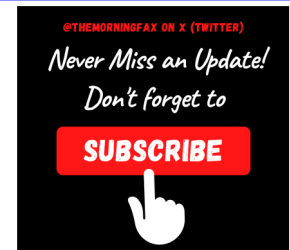
Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Information gathered using public sources.

Obituaries

Margaret Sue Bryant Hicks, 83, of McMinn County, passed away on Tuesday, April 7. She was a member of Bethel Springs Baptist Church for over 60 years. The family will receive friends at Bethel Springs Baptist Church from 10:00-11:30 AM on Sunday, April 12. Funeral services will be held at 11:30 AM at the church. Interment will follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care of Margaret Sue Bryant Hicks.

We encourage you to e-mail us community events, church news, or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax.

Any items you would like us to consider, e-mail: wyradio@gmail.com



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