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Today's News...This Morning

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Wednesday, February 26, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

Good Scout: Bo Perkinson



The Great Smoky Mountain Council recently **announced** the 2025 McMinn County Good Scout Award Dinner will take place on Thursday, March 13 with registration beginning at 6:00 pm and the program commencing at 6:30 pm. They wish for you to join them as they celebrate Scouting in our community

and honor Former Athens Mayor, William "Bo" Perkinson. The event will take place at the Johnson Event Center within the Colloms building on the TWU campus. To RSVP, email Sarah Stevens at: sarah.stephens@scouting.org or via phone at (423) 920-4536 by Thursday, February 27.

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Community News You Can Use

- If you are still filing your taxes by mail and need forms there are FREE 1040 tax forms available at E.G. Fisher Public Library, They also have instruction booklets in English and Spanish.
- The McMinn Senior Activity Center is offering Tax Prep Assistance. Appointments are available on Mondays and Thursdays from 9 am - 3:30 pm until April 7th. To schedule an appointment, call the Senior Center at 423-745-6830
- The United Way of McMinn and Meigs Counties invites you to The Barn at Faith Farms on March 27 for the Power of the Purse Silent Auction Event. The event takes place from 6pm - 9pm with doors opening at 5:30pm.

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Wednesday, February 26, 2025 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Tawana Ann Howard, of Sweetwater, passed away on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later time. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care of Tawana Ann Howard.

Sherry Harrison Baek, 64 of Athens, passed away on Monday, February 24 at the University of Alabama - Birmingham's Comfort Care. Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later.

Robert Wylie Allen, 75 of Athens, passed away on Sunday, February 23. Robert was a Veteran of the United States Air Force where he served in Vietnam. During his time, he reached the rank of Staff Sergeant . A Funeral Service will be held Friday, February 28 at 5:00pm at Companion Funeral Home of Athens. A Visitation will be held prior from 3:00pm - 5:00pm. Companion Funeral Home of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the Allen family with these arrangements.

Helen Louella Lunsford, 77 of Athens, passed away Monday, February 24, 2025 at Dominion Assisted Living of Athens. Family and friends will assemble at 12:30 p.m., Thursday, February 27th at the funeral home and proceed to Council Baptist Church Cemetery in Charleston for the 2:00 p.m. graveside service. Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Linda Gail Torbett, 72 of Sweetwater, passed away on Sunday, February 23 at Select Specialty Hospital in Knoxville. Funeral Services will be 1:00 PM Saturday, March 1 in the chapel of Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. The interment will follow at Chestuee Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 11-1 prior to the funeral service. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

John William Gentry, 86 of Riceville, passed away on Friday, February 21. John was a veteran of the United States Army and served 13 months in Korea. There will be a Graveside Service on Monday, March 3 at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Cleveland at 12:00pm. A Visitation will be held prior from 10:00am – 11:00am at Companion Funeral Home of Athens. Companion Funeral Home of Athens and the Cody family are honored to assist the Gentry family with these arrangements.

◆ This week, *Hope From the Well* host, **Julie Tillis** invites guest **Emma Stafford**. *Hope From the Well* is heard every Thursday morning at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.



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Wednesday, February 26, 2025 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 3 **Athens, Tennessee**

Daffodil Days Race for Morning Star

On Saturday, March 8th, The Lantern and Downtown Beauty Lounge are very excited to be hosting a race to raise money for Morning Star Ministries. It's on the last day of Daffodil Days in Downtown Athens, TN. Businesses will have their daffodils out for display so it'll be a beautiful time to walk/run through downtown! The price for admission is \$35. It includes a t-shirt and donation to Morning Star. We will have Morning Star students at The Lantern handing out free waters to the runners! If you're interested in signing up, please stop in at The Lantern (118 N Jackson St.) to fill out the form. The fee can be paid by cash or check. You can also drop donations only off here as well.

There will be a limited amount of shirts ready by the time of the race. All other shirts will be ready for pickup within two weeks after the race.

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Today's News. This Morning.

Morning Star is a local, nonprofit organization in Athens. Our mission is to empower individuals with physical, intellectual, and developmental disabilities by fostering lives that reflect our Creator's glory and inspire their peers.

Our mission also encompasses cultivating an environment of belonging that acknowledges and honors these uniquely gifted individuals for who they are, enabling them to reach their full potential. Our students cherish their fellowship time, creating meaningful crafts for homebound individuals, and embracing every opportunity to engage actively within their community. The services and activities provided to the students are completely free of charge.

Students volunteer their time at The Lantern for fashion opportunities like modeling and learning how the day to day of a small business operates. The Lantern vendors donate items to Morning Star at monthly events held by The Lantern and allow the students to keep all of the proceeds from the donations to go towards their program. We sincerely appreciate the community's support and engagement with our amazing students.

A special thank you to Laken Farris for helping this all come together in such a short amount of time. You may also drop order forms off with cash or check to Downtown Beauty Lounge at 201 North White Street Downtown Athens. (See ad on Page 1)

Please email Tia Stephens at thelanternboutique@yahoo.com or call The Lantern at 423-252-0041 for any questions you may have.

Written By: Tia Stephens - The Lantern

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