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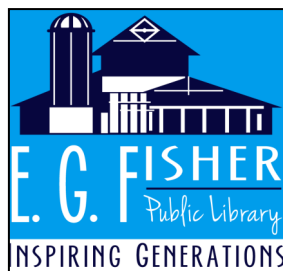
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Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

E.G. Fisher Library to Host Messy Finale Party for Summer Reading Challenge



E.G. Fisher Public Library is closing out its colorful **Summer Reading Challenge** with a one-of-a-kind event that promises paint, slime, and plenty of mess.

The **Messtival Finale Party** will take place **TODAY, Tuesday, July 22, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.**, and it's open to **kids, teens, and families**. The celebration marks the end of this year's "Color Our World" summer program.

Unlike a typical wrap-up party, this event will feature a full lineup of **hands-on, messy art activities**, including:

- Creative stations where participants can paint and craft with their **hands, feet**, and more
- **Interactive games and messy challenges** designed for all ages
- A special recognition of this summer's **top readers** and participants

Families are encouraged to **dress for the mess** and come ready to celebrate creativity and reading in a fun, unconventional way.

The event is **free and open to the public**, with no registration required.

The library also thanks its 2025 Summer Reading sponsors, the **Kiwanis Club of Athens** and **Joseph Ladner with Edward Jones**, for supporting the program.

For more information, contact the library at **423-745-7782** or visit **1289 Ingleside Avenue, Athens**.

LISTENING REMINDER: TODAY on *Main Street Moments*: Host Maggie Blaine invites **Lauren Brown, Director of The Arts Center**, to discuss the role and evolution of The Arts Center! The broadcast will be aired at 8:15 a.m. **TODAY** on WYXI RADIO: AM-1390 and FM-94.5.



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Athens, Tennessee

Athens Utilities Board to Hold July 22 Meeting, Elect New Officers



The Athens Utilities Board (AUB) will convene for its regular monthly meeting **TODAY, Tuesday, July 22, at 5:00 p.m.**, with several items on the agenda, including the **election of new officers** and consideration of a **proposed policy change**.

The meeting will begin with a **public comment period** for pre-approved speakers, followed by the **election of board officers**, including Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, and Budget and Finance Committee Chair. The board will also appoint its **legal representative** and name an **AUB representative to the McMinn County Economic Development Authority**.

Other items include approval of the **June 24 meeting minutes**, a review of the **monthly financial statement**, and updates from each AUB division. The board will also review **bids to replace Vehicle #45** in the Wastewater Division. The meeting will conclude with the **Manager's Report**, highlighting updates on ongoing projects and utility operations.

The public is invited to attend. *Source: Amy McDonald, AUB*

TWU Study Abroad in Costa Rica



This summer, a group of Tennessee Wesleyan University students embarked on a transformative four-week language and culture immersion program in Costa Rica, designed to strengthen Spanish language skills and deepen cultural understanding.

The program was centered in San José, the nation's capital. Students immersed themselves in daily life by engaging with locals in the streets, markets, parks, and restaurants. They visited cultural landmarks including the National Museum, the Costa Rican Art Museum, and a butterfly garden. Two of the most memorable highlights in San José were a guided tour with a biologist from the University of Costa Rica, where students explored local plant and animal life, and attending a performance of Mujercitas (Little Women) at the National Theater.

Beyond the capital, students explored three additional cities within Costa Rica's Central Valley. Highlights included the Juan Santamaría Museum in Alajuela, the historic Fortín de Heredia, and the Basilica of Our Lady of the Angels in Cartago. Tennessee Wesleyan University is proud to support global learning opportunities that empower students to engage meaningfully with the world around them. *Source: Chris Jackson, TWU*

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Athens, Tennessee

Comedian & "Moonshiner" Killer Beaz coming to Gem Theater THIS FRIDAY



Celebrating the milestone of 10 seasons on Discovery Channel's hit series, "Moonshiners", comedian Killer Beaz is running the roads delivering his new "Best Buzz in Town" tour of outrageously funny and clean comedy. This legendary comedian continues to make regular performances at The Grand Ole Opry, and is headed, loaded down with laughs, to The Gem Theater in Etowah, TN, Friday, July 25th at 7:30 PM

Killer Beaz has his own, unique brand of "Hard Hitting" – "Laugh out Loud" – "Laugh A Lot" – "HI-PROOF" – "High Energy" – "Everyman" style humor that appeals to any audience.

When asked, Beaz says about his shows, "I love the art of stand-up comedy! Having been given the opportunity to make people laugh and smile for all these years is truly a blessing!"

With many thousands of radio, television and stage appearances, Beaz has been entertaining millions throughout his career. He is an award-winning artist and has been signed with both Sony and Warner Brothers Records, and received reviews such as:

"Beaz is 'Killer!'" - Rolling Stone Magazine

"Killer Beaz lives up to his name, "Killing" his audience, night after night, show after show!" - Entertainment Today/Las Vegas, NV

"Killer Beaz has a universal appeal that makes him a crowd favorite!" – SHOWTIME/Reno, NV

Don't miss your opportunity to see **"THE BEST BUZZ in TOWN"**. See him on television, hear him on the radio, see his stage performance live...you'll be "Stung for Life!" **The show is at The Gem Theater, Etowah, TN, Friday, July 25th at 7:30 PM.** Tickets and information for the tour are available at www.KillerBeaz.com.

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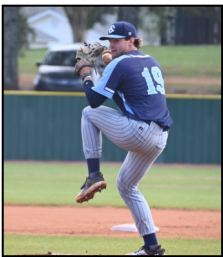
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Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

Breedlove Signs with New York Yankees



Austin Breedlove, former player for the Cleveland State Community College baseball team, has signed an undrafted free agent deal with the New York Yankees. Breedlove was a pitcher on the Cleveland State team during the 2024 season and transferred to Tony Vitello's team at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK) before the 2025 season.

While at Cleveland State, Breedlove earned Power Pitcher of the Year honors while also becoming a Second Team All-Conference player. He appeared in 15 games with 13 starts, throwing 82.0 innings and totaling 123 strikeouts. He posted a 4.3 ERA and a 1.2 WHIP for the season.

"Austin was a major part of our 2024 season in which we finished runner up in the state," said Aaron Bryant, Cleveland State Baseball Head Coach. "He led the country in strikeouts for 90% of the season. We are thrilled and excited for what the future holds for him in professional baseball!"

The Ooltewah native graduated from McCallie School. While at UTK for the 2025 season, Breedlove had an ERA of 13.50 in eight outings during SEC games; he struck out six and allowed three walks in 4.0 innings as conference opponents hit .375 off him.

Source: Andrea Byerly, CSCC

Auditions and Art: A Busy Fall Ahead at the Athens Arts Center

The Athens Community Theatre is calling all aspiring actors to audition for Agatha Christie's legendary murder mystery, *The Mousetrap*, set to hit the stage October 24–November 2. Auditions will be held Monday and Tuesday, August 18–19, at 6:00 p.m. at The Arts Center. Director Bob Borwick welcomes participants ages 18 and up, with or without previous stage experience. Those auditioning should be ready for a cold read, a simple direction session, and a short musical moment involving the tune *Three Blind Mice*.

Meanwhile, the Athens Area Council for the Arts invites local creative's to take part in its annual **Open Exhibit**, showcasing works from high school students, college artists, and community members. The submission deadline is Wednesday, September 3, and the exhibit will run from October 3 to November 7 in The Hallway Gallery at The Arts Center. Entry is free for students, and \$10 per piece for open division participants.

For more details on either opportunity, visit athensartscouncil.org, call 423-745-8781, or stop by The Arts Center in downtown Athens during office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

Athens, Tennessee

Man Found Dead in Loudon County in 2019 Identified Through Forensic Genealogy



Authorities have identified human remains discovered in 2019 near Interstate 75 in Philadelphia as those of John Arthur Troutman, a man originally from Herndon, Pennsylvania, thanks to advanced DNA testing and a partnership between multiple law enforcement and forensic agencies.

The remains were found on August 20, 2019, by a Tennessee Department of Transportation crew working along I-75. The Loudon County Sheriff's Office and the Knox County Regional Forensic Center began an investigation but were initially unable to identify the man, who was listed as John Doe for nearly five years.

Earlier this year, the case was taken up by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's Cold Case and Unidentified Human Remains Initiative. A sample was sent to Othram, a private DNA lab in Texas, for forensic genetic genealogical testing. In July, Othram linked the DNA to potential relatives in North Carolina and Pennsylvania, who confirmed they hadn't seen their brother since the 1980s. Follow-up DNA comparisons confirmed the man's identity as John Arthur Troutman, born January 1, 1952.

Troutman's cause and manner of death remain undetermined, and authorities are now asking for the public's help in learning more about what brought him to Loudon County and the circumstances surrounding his death.

Anyone with information is urged to contact the Loudon County Sheriff's Office at 865-986-4823 or the TBI at 1-800-TBI-FIND.

Funding for the DNA testing was made possible through a 2024 Community Project Funding request by U.S. Congressman Tim Burchett, administered through the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

Source: [TBINewsroom.com](https://www.tbinewsroom.com)

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