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Wednesday, August 05, 2026

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Athens, Tennessee

## TWRA Seeking Dove Fields for 2026 Hunting Season



The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is seeking landowners willing to lease fields for the 2026 dove hunting season, which opens at noon on Sept. 1. The agency's long-running leased-field program helps expand public hunting access across the state.

Landowners can earn up to \$4,200 by providing fields for at least three priority hunt dates in September. Standard leased fields are typically harvested grain fields, with TWRA paying up to \$75 per acre for a maximum of 40 acres. Fields top-sown with wheat may receive an additional \$30 per acre. Registration for interested landowners takes place in August.

Mourning dove hunting remains one of Tennessee's most popular outdoor traditions. An estimated 28,000 hunters harvest roughly 399,000 birds each year, making doves the most-harvested migratory game species in the country.

The leased-field program, established in the late 1980s, supplements public hunting opportunities already available on wildlife management areas across all TWRA regions.

Landowners in East Tennessee can contact **TWRA Region IV** between **8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.** at **423-587-7037** or **800-332-0900** for details.

Source: [The Chattanooga](#)

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

Athens, Tennessee

Chinzei Gakuin Students Complete Two-Week Cultural Exchange in Athens



Nineteen students and two teachers from Chinzei Gakuin in Isahaya, Japan spent two weeks in East Tennessee as part of a summer language and cultural exchange program led by Dr. Ana Barrios, Tennessee Wesleyan University professor and Honors Program faculty member. The visit also included participation from Athens high school students learning about the city's long-standing Sister City relationship with Isahaya.

During their stay on the Tennessee Wesleyan University campus, students explored Athens and the region's history, culture, and natural resources. Their schedule included visits to Denso Manufacturing, City Hall, and the Living Heritage Museum, along with hands-on activities such as cornhusk doll making, traditional Asian dance demonstrations, an Appalachian music session, and a trip to Kilbride Nature Sanctuary. The group also toured major Tennessee destinations including Rock City, Mayfield Dairy Farms, Knoxville, Nashville, and Dollywood.

To prepare for the visit, six families from Athens City Middle School corresponded with Chinzei Gakuin students ahead of their arrival and later welcomed them into their homes for an evening of dinner and cultural sharing.

Chinzei Gakuin High School, founded in 1881 by Rev. Dr. Carroll Summerfield Long, shares deep historical ties with Athens and Tennessee Wesleyan University. The program continues to strengthen those connections through person-to-person exchange.

TWU credits the success of the program to support from university staff, the Friendly City Sister Cities Committee, local churches, and community volunteers, and looks forward to expanding the initiative in future years.

Source: Chrisi Jackson, TWU



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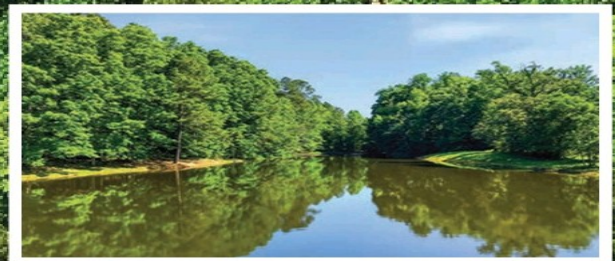
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Athens, Tennessee

## Obituaries

**Annie Bell Hampton Martin Malone**, 96, a native and lifelong resident of McMinn County, passed away on Monday, August 3, 2026. She enjoyed reading and tending her flowers. Annie especially enjoyed working in the yard. She mowed her own grass until she was 81 years old and was involved in a traffic accident. Annie truly loved the Lord. Visitation will be held on Thursday, August 6, 2026, from 12:00-2:00 PM at Ziegler Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2:00 PM with Pastor Curtis Walden officiating. Interment will follow at Mars Hill Cemetery in Englewood. [Ziegler Funeral Home](#) has been entrusted with serving the family of Annie Bell Hampton Martin Malone.

## McMinn County Arrest Reports

### August 03, 2026

**Kobe Jackson**, 25 of Etowah, charged with disorderly conduct and assault by intimidation.

**Carl Shoemaker**, 58 of Athens, charged with DUI, violation of implied consent, violation of seatbelt law, and domestic assault. Bond \$2,000.

**Brittany Campbell**, 31 of Etowah, charged with schedule 2 fentanyl for resale.

**Michael Derrick**, 64 of Englewood, charged with state violation of probation for Schedule II meth for resale.

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

## AACA Opens Registration for Youth and Adult Art Classes

The Athens Area Council for the Arts has opened registration for a new slate of youth and adult art classes, with participants asked to register at least three days before each class begins.

**The Studio**, a free monthly art club for ages 11-17, meets next on Aug. 17 from 3-4:30 p.m. The club offers rotating activities in painting, drawing, sculpture, and other creative projects, with flexible attendance and required session registration.

AACA will also offer a **Drawing Workshop with Nancy Kyzer** on Aug. 25 from 2-4 p.m. for ages 16 and older. The beginner-friendly session covers gesture drawing, perspective, shading, and basic drawing tools. The workshop fee is \$20, with all materials provided.

For younger artists, **Youth Handbuilding with Patricia Shook** runs Fridays, Sept. 4-18 from 1-3:30 p.m. for ages 8-11. Students will create pinch-pot creatures and coil-built mugs and bowls, which will be glazed, fired, and ready for pickup several weeks later. The three-week class costs \$75, including materials.

Shook will also lead **Intermediate Pottery Wheel** for ages 16 and older, meeting Sundays, Sept. 6-Oct. 18 from 1:30-4 p.m. Designed for those who have completed the beginner wheel course, the seven-week class includes one 25-lb block of clay and costs \$225.

AACA's fall lineup also features **Stained Glass with Adrienne Doucette**, offered Thursdays, Sept. 17-Oct. 29 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. for ages 16 and older. Students will learn stained-glass techniques using studio equipment; tuition is \$120, with some materials included and glass purchased separately.

Instructor details and registration links are available at [athensartscouncil.org/classes](https://athensartscouncil.org/classes). Students may also register by phone at 423-745-8781 or in person at The Arts Center to avoid online transaction fees. Past and current pottery students may now purchase studio hours for \$20 per month during office hours.



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