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Tuesday, August 04, 2026

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Scenic City Sound to perform at Sounds of Summer August 8th!



Friendly City Festivals announces the fifth concert in the 15th annual Sounds of Summer concert series which will feature local favorites, Scenic City Sound of Chattanooga this Saturday August 8th.

The concert will begin around 7:00 p.m. at the Market Pavilion Stage at 106 S. Jackson St. in Athens. Concert goers are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets to enjoy this special evening. Featured food trucks will be Kona Ice, Straight to the Stomach and Backroads.

Scenic City Sound of Chattanooga, LLC, is an 18-piece big band based in Chattanooga, Tennessee that performs classic rock, swing and standards in a big band style. The group includes local amateur and professional musicians from the Chattanooga, Cleveland, TN and North Georgia areas. Their repertoire ranges from Benny Goodman to Guns-n-Roses and regularly performs at venues across East Tennessee and are also available for private parties.

Sound is provided by Integrity Sound Solutions and media support by The Daily Post Athenian, The Monroe County Advocate Democrat and The Morning Fax.

The final concert for the 2026 series will be Confederate Railroad Saturday, August 15th at Athens Regional Park. Gates open at 7:00 p.m. and admission will be \$10.00 per car.

This free to the public series is produced by Friendly City Festivals, a 501(c)3 subsidiary of Willsonthropic, Inc. and is made possible by the financial support of: The City of Athens Tourism Fund, McMinn County Tourism Board, Madison Avenue Pharmacy, Tennessee Overhill Association, Tennessee Arts Commission, DENSO, VEC Customer Shares, Citizens National Bank of Sevier County, Simmons National Bank, Simmons Private Wealth, Mayfield Dairy Farm, Valley Oil, Starr Regional Medical Center, Kona Ice, WarrenJackson CPAs, Athens Kiwanis Club, Athens Insurance, Pendleton's Playground, Let's Bounce Rentals, Smile More Orthodontics, The Financial Mart, REMAX Freedom Realty, KARM Stores and River Valley Health.

Written and Submitted by: Meredith Willson, Friendly City Festivals



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

Athens, Tennessee

TWU Alumna Named Fulbright Finalist



Tennessee Wesleyan University is recognizing Stephanie Rocha ('25) for advancing to finalist status in the prestigious Fulbright U.S. Student Program, a distinction earned by only about 40% of applicants nationwide.

Rocha competed for an English Teaching Assistantship in the Czech Republic, moving through campus review and national evaluation before reaching the final selection round. Although she was not chosen for the award, TWU officials say her achievement reflects exceptional academic preparation and dedication.

"Stephanie passed through what is actually the most competitive round," said Dr. Jack Seitz, TWU's Fulbright advisor, noting the rigor of the process.

The Fulbright Program promotes international cultural exchange through research and teaching assistantships, placing participants in classrooms and communities abroad. TWU expects continued student interest in the Fulbright Program as more graduates pursue global learning opportunities.

Source: Chrisi Jackson. TWU

AACA Brings Back Big Time Small Town Series with American Patchwork Quartet

The Athens Area Council for the Arts is reviving its Big Time Small Town performance series with a concert by the American Patchwork Quartet (APQ) on Friday, Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Sue E. Trotter Black Box Theater at The Arts Center.

Led by multi-GRAMMY® winner Clay Ross, APQ blends American folk traditions with jazz, country, West African rhythms, and East Asian influences. Their debut album earned a nomination for "Best Folk Album" at the 67th GRAMMY® Awards, underscoring the group's innovative sound.

The quartet features an acclaimed lineup:

- **Clay Ross** — 2x GRAMMY® winner and founder of Ranky Tanky
- **Falguni Shah** — GRAMMY®-winning vocalist and Carnegie Hall ambassador
- **Moto Fukushima** — internationally recognized jazz bassist
- **Rudy Royston** — celebrated jazz drummer and educator

This year's Big Time Small Town lineup spans large-scale and intimate performances, including a Broadway-style production in the 800-seat ACMS Auditorium and APQ's folk-focused evening in the 200-seat Black Box Theater. Tickets for all series events are now on sale and range from \$20–\$25. Patrons are encouraged to purchase early.



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Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

August 02, 2026

Corey Fry, 32 of Athens, charged with leaving the scene of an accident, drug paraphernalia, and robbery. Bond \$2,500.

Haley Martin, 31 of Etowah, charged with criminal trespassing. Bond \$4,000.

Kevin Quam, 55 of Etowah, charged with misuse of 911. Bond \$500.

Michael McClure, 50 of Athens, charged with violation of probation for driving on a revoked license. Bond \$1,173.90

Irish Rymer, 26 of Athens, charged with shoplifting theft of property. \$1,000 bond.

Andrew Williams, 58 of Englewood, charged with state violation of probation for possession of meth for resale.

James Guffey, 32 of Athens, charged with criminal trespassing and resisting stop.

Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Manny Adams, 21 of Athens, charged with aggravated assault.

Robert Harris, 43 of Athens, charged with criminal responsibility for another for shoplifting theft of property.

Desiree Goff, 38 of Athens, charged with two counts of burglary, violation of an order of protection, and shoplifting theft of property. Bond \$68,000.

Obituaries

Doris Jean Pressley, 83, of Calhoun, TN passed away at her home on Saturday, August 1, 2026. Doris was a member of Chestuee Baptist Church. Funeral service will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2026 (today), at 2:00 p.m., in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home with Rev. Robert Hatcher officiating. The family will receive friends from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday prior to the service. Interment will follow the service at Chestuee Worship Center Cemetery. [Bordwine Funeral Home of Etowah](#) is in charge of arrangements.

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