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Monday, October 12, 2026

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

DENSO Solar Facility Powers Sustainability Efforts in Athens



DENSO Manufacturing Athens Tennessee (DMAT) has announced the successful operation of a new solar energy facility at its Athens plant, marking a significant step in the company's sustainability efforts.

The 18.8-acre solar installation, which began operating in May, features more than 10,000 solar panels and has a generating capacity of 5.25 megawatts, making it one of DENSO's largest onsite renewable energy projects in North America. The facility is expected to provide nearly 14% of the plant's annual electricity needs.

The project was developed in partnership with Solarity, GridMarket, the Athens Utilities Board and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

According to DENSO, the solar facility generated more than 3,200 megawatt-hours of electricity through August, enough to power about 300 average homes for a year while reducing carbon emissions by an estimated 1,125 metric tons.

DMAT President Mark Moses said the project demonstrates how manufacturing and environmental stewardship can work together while supporting the company's operations and the Athens community.

The Athens facility is one of several renewable energy projects DENSO has launched across North America as part of its goal of achieving carbon neutrality in its products, processes and facilities by 2035.

 2 DUDES BBQ & CATERING 423-829-4126	Thu: Athens Family Dollar	10:30 - 2
	Fri: Sweetwater Main St Marketplace	10:30 - 2:30
	Fri PM: McMinn Co High School	
	Friday Night Football	6:30-9ish

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Monday, October 12, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Living Heritage Museum Names New Executive Director

The McMinn County Living Heritage Museum Board of Trustees has appointed Chris Anthon of Athens as the museum's new Executive Director, effective Oct. 1.

Anthon succeeds Brett King, who is leaving the position to join the Institute of American Civics at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Anthon brings more than 30 years of experience as an executive, consultant, educator and community leader, with expertise in leadership, operations, technology and organizational development. He said he looks forward to working with the museum's board, staff, volunteers and supporters to continue preserving McMinn County's history.

King, who has served as executive director since November 2023, will remain during the transition period before beginning his new role in Knoxville.

The Living Heritage Museum is located in downtown Athens and is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. More information is available at livingheritagemuseum.org.

Community News You Can Use

- The McMinn County Election Commission will hold its regular meeting Tuesday, Oct. 20, at 5 p.m. in the McMinn County Courthouse conference room to conduct election business. The agenda will be posted by Oct. 16 at the Election Office and online.
- The East Tennessee Foundation has launched a searchable East Tennessee Nonprofit Directory to help connect nonprofits, businesses and community organizations across its 25-county service area. The free online resource was inspired by collaboration needs identified during Hurricane Helene recovery efforts and is available at etf.org/nonprofitdirectory.

We encourage you to e-mail community events, church news, sports results or other items of interest for possible use in the Morning Fax. If you take a newsworthy photograph, send it to: wyxiradio@gmail.com

Member Appreciation Day

Thursday, October 15th, 2026



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Monday, October 12, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Athens Chamber goes "Greek"



A ribbon cutting was celebrated recently for Athens Area Chamber of Commerce member, Greek's Bearing Gifts, located at 11 North Jackson St., Athens. Congratulations on your 30-year anniversary! Shown here are chamber and business representatives, city and county officials, staff and owners, Patti and Jim Greek, of Greek's Bearing Gifts. *Source: Julie Simbeck, Athens Chamber*

High School Football Results

Three High School Football matchups took place this past week. Winning results are listed in the graphic below.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

	VS		MCMINN CENTRAL @ SEQUOYAH 43-0
	VS		CAMPBELL CO. @ SWEETWATER 14-63
	VS		SODDY DAISY @ BRADLEY CENTRAL 7-31

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Monday, October 12, 2026

Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 4

Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

October 08, 2026

Carl Miller, 76, of Old Fort Tennessee, charged with DUI, no bond.

Richard Hawkins, 51, of Englewood, charged with failure to appear in Dyer County, no bond.

Tamaya Kennedy, 20, of Etowah, charged with violation of probation, and disorderly conduct. Bond \$800

October 09, 2026

Angela Huff, 32, of Englewood, charged with criminal trespassing, violation of probation for public intoxication, Bond \$3,000.

April Young, 25, of Athens, charged with driving on a revoked license, and violation of probation for possession of paraphernalia. Bond \$6,000.

Kelly Lawrence, 34, of Athens, charged with disorderly conduct. Bond \$1,500.

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

Borden Derrick, 73, of Etowah, charged with violation of an order of protection.

Daniel Prutino, 32, of Lawrenceville, Georgia, charged with DUI, simple possession casual exchange of Schedule 6, and drug paraphernalia. Bond \$15,000.

Aaron Godbey, 55, of Athens, charged with failure to appear for possession of paraphernalia. Bond \$2,000.

Alicia Green, 40, of Athens, charged with state violation of probation for Schedule II fentanyl for resale.

Teresa Cole, 53, of Etowah, charged with criminal trespassing, vandalism, and burglary. Bond \$20,000.

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

Information gathered using public sources.



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Monday, October 12, 2026

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

Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

Maudie Mae Howell, 76, of Athens, passed away on Sunday, October 4. She loved volunteering at the Holley Community Center in Holley, NY playing bingo, diamond art and spending time with her family. In 2011, Maudie and John moved to Tennessee with their son, where they both were able to do a lot of fishing. There will be a Celebration of Maudie's life scheduled in the summer of 2027, where she will be laid to rest in Sunset Cemetery in Hamlin, NY. [Ziegler Funeral Home](#) has been entrusted with serving the family of Maudie Mae Howell.

Wanda Sue Hiefnar, 80, of Decatur, passed away on Saturday, October 3, 2026. No formal services are planned at this time. [Companion Funeral and Cremation Service of Athens](#) and the Cody Family are honored to be entrusted with assisting the family during this difficult time.

Delia Yvonne "Bonnie" Cochran, 78, of Englewood, passed away on Tuesday, October 6. In keeping with Bonnie's wishes, there will not be a traditional funeral or memorial service. She believed the best way to celebrate and honor her life was privately, by holding onto and sharing the special memories they shared with her. [Bordwine Funeral Home](#) of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Donald Lee Wattenbarger, 93, of Athens, passed away on Thursday, October 8. He was a member of North Athens Baptist Church. He served in the U.S. Air Force and the Athens National Guard as Chief Warrant Officer until his retirement. Graveside service will be held on Monday, October 12 at 2:00 pm, at McMinn Memory Gardens with military honors provided. The family will receive friends from 12:00-1:30 pm, Monday at Smith Funeral Home prior to the graveside. [Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens](#) is honored to serve the family of Donald Lee Wattenbarger.

Margaret Poston, 94, of Etowah, passed away on Saturday, October 10. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, October 15, 2026, at McMinn Memory Gardens [Bordwine Funeral Home](#) of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.

Helen McCaslin Webb, 97, of Englewood, passed away on Friday, October 9. She ran Dixie Hosiery Mills in Englewood. Funeral service will be held Tuesday, October 13 at 5:00 p.m. in the chapel of Bordwine Funeral Home. Family will receive friends from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday prior to the service. Family and friends will assemble at McMinn Memory Gardens, Wednesday, October 14 for the 11:00 a.m. committal service. [Bordwine Funeral Home](#) of Etowah is in charge of arrangements.



Etowah Utilities is seeking to fill a full time position for a **Tree Crew Leader** or a **Tree Trimmer**. For more information about the positions and to submit an application and resume please visit our website at www.etowahutilities.com. Application deadline is **Friday, October 23, 2026**.

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