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Thursday, February 15, 2018

Athens, Tennessee

STATE & LOCAL NEWS

◆ TVA MOVES TO AVOID "STICKER SHOCK"

TVA says it is moving to a new pricing system aimed at averting "sticker shock" during periods of extreme heat or cold weather. TVA says January was brutal in the Tennessee Valley with temperatures dropping into the teens and single digits. As a result, many consumers were surprised with unusually high power bills. TVA's vice president of Pricing and Contracts, Cass Larson, says the agency is working on a wholesale rate charge that will provide a better balance of what consumers pay. He says in months with naturally low bills, like spring and fall, bills may be slightly higher. But, in the coldest winter and the hottest summer months, bills will be noticeably lower.

◆ CORKER PONDERING RUNNING AGAIN

Senator Bob Corker is publicly moving closer to reconsidering his decision to retire. A spokesman now says the senator is "listening closely" to Tennesseans who have told him they're concerned that former Democratic Gov. Phil Bredesen could win the seat. Corker spokesman Micah Johnson sent an e-mail to the Chattanooga Times Free Press stating, "In recent days people across Tennessee have reached out to Senator Corker with concerns about the outcome of this election because they believe it could determine control of the Senate and the future of our agenda." Johnson added that Corker "has been encouraged to reconsider his decision and is listening closely."

National & World News

◆ A gunman opened fire at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida on Wednesday, killing at least 15 people and sending students running for their lives. At least 14 victims were taken to hospitals. The suspect was taken into custody.

◆ Shots were fired Wednesday morning as an unauthorized vehicle tried to enter the secure campus of the National Security Agency's (NSA) headquarters in Fort Meade, Maryland. Weapons were discharged in the course of the incident, which remains under investigation. Several people were transported to a hospital, but preliminary reports indicate their injuries were not from gunfire. The injuries were apparently vehicle related.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ Former News Channel 9 news anchor Calvin Sneed will be the guest speaker this coming Sunday at the annual Gospel Jubilee Singing at Greater Deliverance Ministries on Clearwater Road. Choirs and musicians from several churches will sing. The annual program benefits Burke's Gospel Jubilee program heard Sunday mornings on WYXI Radio. The singing begins at 3 p.m.

✓ The McMinn County Amateur Radio Club will start a Technician class on Thursdays from 6:30 to 9 p.m. beginning February 22nd. The class will last about six weeks and will meet at the Baptist Center, 350 Congress Parkway N., Athens. Call 506-2235 for information. This is the class also needed by any RC modeler who flies a FPV Drone.



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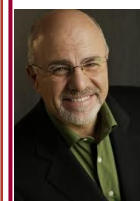
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Thursday, February 15, 2018 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

♦ **Alda Bryan Stewart**, age 88, of Athens, died Tuesday at Morning Pointe Assisted Living. She was a former registrar of the McMinn County Election Commission. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from noon to 2 p.m.

♦ **Marianne Kirchbauer Thomas**, age 87, of Decatur, died Tuesday at NHC of Athens. She was a native of Germany and a long-time resident of McMinn and Meigs counties. She was the Activities Director for McMinn Memorial Nursing Home for 35 years. Funeral services will be 7 p.m. Friday at Smith Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks rose sharply after reversing early losses. In economic news, the Consumer Price Index rose 0.5 percent in January, which was stronger than expected.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 253 points or 1% to 24,893. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 36 points or 1.4% to 2,700, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 130 points or 1.9% to 7,144.

In the bond market, Treasuries mostly declined as yields rose again. The U.S. 10-year yield jumped to a new four-year high after the Consumer Price Index data release. In commodity markets, the spot price of gold rose \$21.93 to \$1,351.56, and the price of crude oil rose \$1.49 to \$60.68.

Athens School SRO Is On the Job

The Athens City Schools new School Resource Officer is now on the job. He is Officer Hunter Cardin of the Athens Police Department. He will be serving all of the city schools. Officer Cardin spent time with students earlier this week during lunch at Athens City Middle School. (Photo from ACS via Twitter)



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