

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

State & Local News

COUNCIL GETS MONTHLY REPORTS

The Athens City Council held their monthly meeting Tuesday night and heard from the Athens Police and Fire Chiefs.

Police Chief Cliff Couch reported there were 50 thefts in April, 14 assaults, 11 burglaries, 6 motor vehicle thefts, 1 robbery, and 1 sex offense. There were 89 traffic accidents in April, with 18 injuries. Officers issued 203 citations for moving violations.

Fire Chief Jim Dyer reported that firefighters responded to 60 calls in April. There were four building fires, two vehicle fires, three grass or brush fires, 14 traffic accidents with injuries, and several false alarms. Damages from fires in April totaled \$82,300.

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Christ Legacy Academy will conduct their second graduation this year. On Thursday night, May 17th, at 7 p.m., Class Night will take place at Clearwater Baptist Church. Graduation will be held Friday at 6 p.m. also at the church.

 \checkmark The guest on the new Women at the Well radio show, "Hope From the Well," this week will be Jessica Estes, a graduate who is now in the transition program. She will be talking about an upcoming missions trip to Guatemala. "Hope From the well" is heard at 8:15 a.m. each Thursday on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5 or ONLINE

National & World News

• United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley denies that the violence on the Israeli border in Gaza on Monday had anything to do with the U.S. opening up its new embassy in Jerusalem. Haley placed the blame for the violence, in which at least 60 people were killed, squarely on Hamas terrorists, backed by Iran. • Former Palestinian Leader, Yasser Arafat, proclaimed in 1988 that May 14th was considered Palestine Independence Day. That's the date in 1948 that the British gave up control of Palestine and modern day Israel was formed, causing annual protests. • North Korea has threatened to cancel its upcoming summit between leader Kim Jong Un and President Trump over South Korea-U.S. military drills. North Korea has also canceled highlevel talks with South Korea.

MORE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ The Athens Travelers monthly Cruise In will be held this Saturday beginning at 4 p.m. in the parking lot of Michael's Casual Dining on North Congress Parkway.

✓ The McMinn County Living Heritage Museum will have a class in Homemade Stitching Cards this Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The instructor is Cindy Mishtal. Call 745-0329 to register.

 \checkmark A portion of Keith Lane will be closed from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. today, May 16th, between Athens City Middle School and City Park School for the Rachel's Challenge celebration.





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Obituaries

A Lineman After 40 Years

• **Derrick Jaxon Grillo**, 20-day-old infant son of Ryan and Sharon Grillo of Athens, died May 10th at UT Medical Center. A private service will be conducted by the family at a later date. Serenity Funeral Home is in charge.

TODAY IN HISTORY - MAY 16TH

1770 - Marie Antoinette, age 14, married the future King Louis XVI of France, who was 15.

1868 - The U.S. Senate failed by one vote to convict President Andrew Johnson as it took its first ballot on one of 11 articles of impeachment against him. He was acquitted of all charges.

2001 - Former FBI agent Robert Hanssen was indicted on charges of spying for Moscow. He later pleaded guilty to 15 counts of espionage and was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

2002 - The remains of kidnapped Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl were unearthed in Pakistan.

TUESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks closed lower as economic data had investors speculating about future Federal Reserve rate hikes. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 193 points or 0.8% to 24,706. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 18 points or 0.7% to 2,711, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was down 60 points or 0.8% to 7,352.

It's taken him 40 years, but Dickie Slack is Athens Utilities Board's newest journeyman lineman. Slack earned the certification after a demanding five-year apprenticeship of field training and exercises and hundreds of hours of classroom work and study on the technical aspects of high-voltage distribution systems. Slack began his career at AUB as a meter reader when he was just 18 years old. He was the oldest candidate ever to enter into

AUB's lineman apprentice program. Slack has been an AUB employee for 40 years, 20 of those as a line truck operator for the power division. He was 56 when he entered the utility's apprenticeship program. That meant heading to "lineman boot camp" where candidates undergo a regimen of demanding



challenges, including climbing 90-foot wood power poles and practicing pole-top skills and rescues. Last year, Slack made a score of 99.8 on the final exam at the Bellefonte Training Center in Alabama. Slack and his wife of 34 years, Jamie, have two grown daughters and a five-month-old grandson.

