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Thursday, August 23, 2018

Athens, Tennessee

State & Local News

◆ ATHENS POLICE & FIRE REPORTS

The Athens City Council heard the reports on activity for July by the police and fire departments at its Tuesday evening meeting. - Police Chief Cliff Couch reported there were 39 thefts in July, 21 assaults, 20 burglaries, and six motor vehicle thefts. Police issued citations for 184 moving violations. There were 79 traffic accidents in July, with 12 injuries. Through July there had been 585 traffic accidents compared to 504 for the same period last year. There had been 104 injuries through July this year, up sharply from 73 injuries for the same period last year. There are currently four vacancies on the Athens police department.

- Fire Chief Brandon Ainsworth reported that firefighters responded to 83 calls in July. Thirteen were to vehicle accidents, five were trash fires, two were to residential fires, and there were 30 false alarms. Losses for the month totaled \$65,900.

◆ LOCAL POWER RATES TO FALL

Athens Utilities Board reports electricity rates for September will drop by about 2.5% compared to current August power rates. The drop is based on a lower TVA fuel charge. AUB's Wayne Scarborough says the fuel cost is lower based on TVA's ability to generate more power using cheap hydro sources--a result of increased rainfall in the Tennessee Valley--and low-cost natural gas, which TVA uses at several generating units to make electric power.

National & World News

◆ White House press secretary Sarah Sanders insisted Wednesday that President Trump has done "nothing wrong" relating to statements made by Michael Cohen, his former personal lawyer, about illegal campaign contributions. Trump stated that the payments were not made with campaign funds.

◆ Cristhian Rivera, the alleged killer of Mollie Tibbetts, made a court appearance on Wednesday but did not enter a plea. Rivera is an undocumented immigrant from Mexico, and had worked for four years at Yarrabee Farms and had passed the government's background check. Yarrabee said they had no idea he was an undocumented immigrant. Bond was set for \$5 million, cash only, and an immigration hold was also filed on Rivera.

◆ COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

✓ St. Paul's Episcopal Church women are having their annual barbecue chicken dinner today from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dinner includes 1/2 chicken, potato salad, baked beans & dessert and is "take out only". The cost is \$10. For pre-orders call 423-333-0216 or 423-745-2224.

✓ Grace and Mercy Ministries will have its YTRI Triathlon this Saturday from 5 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Several streets will be occupied by cyclists, runners, and spectators, including Knoxville Ave., Woodward Ave., Guille St., Forrest Ave., Ingleside Ave., E. Madison Ave., Slack Road, Jackson St., Railroad Ave., and Tellico Ave.



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Thursday, August 23, 2018 Morning Fax®...Today's News This Morning Page 2 Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

- ♦ **Allen Levi Jones**, age 57, of Athens, died Tuesday at Starr Regional Medical Center. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Ziegler Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 7 p.m.
- ♦ **Mary Elizabeth Gravitt Swafford**, age 92, of Athens, died Sunday at her residence. She was a former employee of Bowater Paper Co., working in the cafeteria. Funeral services will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home, with visitation from 4 to 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET REPORT: U.S. stocks were mixed as controversies surrounding President Trump weighed on the market. The energy sector was the best performer, while the telecom sector led the market lower. In economic news, existing home sales fell 0.7% in July, marking the fourth consecutive quarter of declines. U.S. Treasury yields fell, pushing bond prices higher.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 89 points or 0.3% to 25,734. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 1 points or 0.0% to 2,862, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was up 30 points or 0.4% to 7,889.

The 30-year Treasury yield closed lower at 2.98% and the 10-year Treasury yield finished lower at 2.82%.

Ribbon Cut for Johnson's

A ribbon cutting was held recently for the Grand Re-Opening of Johnson's Home Furnishings. Pictured left to right, front row: Lisa Harrison, Heather Trew, Taylor Barselou, McMinn County Mayor John Gentry, Brian Key (Johnson's Manager), Emmette Johnson, Jr., (Owner), Lucas and Sullivan Key (Grandsons), Sharon Johnson (Owner), Micki Johnson Key (Daughter), Rella Campbell (Receptionist), Athens City Manager C. Seth Sumner, Rob Preston (Chamber President/CEO), Dana Ferguson. Middle Row: Chris Liner, Connie Woodcock, Lisa Dotson, John Martin (Warehouse), Lynne Campbell (Design Consultant), Shane Sewell, Becky Wattenbarger, Keith Price, Moises Contreras, Nancy Contreras. Back Row: Patti Greek, Skylar Dean, Mark Cochran, James Cherry, Bo Perkinson, Luke Shepherd, Chris Adams. (Photo by Kay Simmons)



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