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Today's News...This Morning

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Athens, Tennessee

Thursday-March 20, 2014

State & Local News

◆ COMPLAINTS AGAINST BEBB DISMISSED

The Tennessee Board of Professional Responsibility has dismissed an ethics complaint filed by several state lawmakers against 10th Judicial District Attorney General Steve Bebb. The Board is the disciplinary agency for attorneys in Tennessee. The lawmakers filed complaints against Bebb after a House special oversight committee reviewed evidence compiled from a TBI report and from interviews with witnesses. The complaints alleged, among other things, that Bebb submitted false expense reports while driving a state vehicle and maintained a policy of not prosecuting police officers involved in wrongdoing.

◆ STATE RESPONDS TO SAME-SEX RULING

Tennessee's Attorney General has filed for a stay and a notice of appeal in a federal judge's recent ruling in a same-sex marriage case. The judge ruled last week that Tennessee must recognize the out-of-state marriages of three same-sex couples, who have filed a suit challenging the state's constitutional amendment banning recognition of such marriages. A spokeswoman for the Tennessee Attorney General's office says they will take all necessary steps to defend Tennessee's law against recognizing same-sex unions.

More State & Local News

The man who was arrested four years ago when he tried to make a citizens arrest on the chairman of the Monroe County Grand Jury now faces charges in McMinn County. Retired Navy Lt. Commander Walter Fitzpatrick was arrested at the McMinn County Courthouse on Tuesday when he attempted to ask the Grand Jury to investigate his allegations against Grand Jury foreman Jeff Cunningham, Criminal Court Judges Carroll Ross and Amy Reedy, District Attorney Steve Bebb, Sheriff Joe Guy and several other officials. Fitzgerald alleges the officials are guilty of official misconduct, coercion of a witness, tampering with evidence, and civil rights violations. When he tried to speak to the Grand Jury, he was arrested and charged with aggravated perjury, stalking, harassment and extortion. He was booked into the McMinn County Justice Center on \$50,000 bond.

National & International News

◆ A bone-marrow donor has been found for a 10-month-old Spanish child suffering from juvenile myelomonocytic leukemia. Next month, Baby Mateo, as he is known, will undergo an operation expected to cure his disease.

Pandora Bracelet Event **G** Cookbook Author, Christy Jordan

Buy \$100 and receive a free Pandora bracelet. In the shop, signing books from 11-3
Thurs., March 20th - Mon., March 24th Tuesday, March 25th

Greeks Bearing Gifts
Downtown on the Square 745-2642

Point of Grace
in Concert with
Our Three Tenors - April 4



Athens City Middle School
For Tickets Call:
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RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT

WESTERN SIZZLIN'
Thursday (All Day) 8 oz. Sizzlin' Top Sirloin with Choice of Side Item, Bakery, & Dessert Bars, \$7.99 **Today:** 10 oz. New York Strip with Choice of Side Item, Rolls, Bakery, & Dessert Bars, \$11.99. **1804 Decatur Pike 745-2626**

Bojangles'
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"A Peek at Spring" Sale!
10-15% OFF New Spring Styles

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507-9006 athensoutdoorstore.com
Tues.-Fri. 10a-6pm; Sat. 10am-4pm

2410 S. Congress Pkwy.

Register Now for the Youth Co-Ed T-Ball League
Ages 4-5, 6-7

1st practice - week of March 24th
Games begin Mon., April 7th Practice times at discretion of coaches. Games & practices will be at the Y on Mon./Tues. p.m. Members \$25/child; Non-Member \$50/child. Discounts for multiple children upon request. Contact Lane Davis at 745-4904 or lane@athensmcminnymca.com



TODAY we will be at Valley Farmers CO-OP, Congress Parkway, Athens from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. "To-Go" Call 829-4126

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PAGE TWO

Morning Fax™

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WEATHER
Thursday - Sunny. Highs in the lower to mid 60's.
Thurs. night - Clear. Lows in the upper 30's.
Friday - Sunny. Highs in the upper 60's to lower 70's.
 More Weather & Zoom Radar at: www.wysi.com

Thursday-March 20, 2014

Athens, Tennessee

The THP Is "In the Air"

The Tennessee Highway Patrol's Aviation Unit recently trained for emergency rescue missions in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

The training exercises, which took place in the Cades Cove area of the park, focused on air rescue and evacuation practices. The THP is the only state agency that operates helicopters in its aviation section.



One of those is a Bell Huey, which is equipped with a motorized hoist used for lowering troopers and retrieving victims.

◆ **COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:**

- ✓ The McMinn/Meigs Ag Round Table meets at 7 a.m. today at Shoney's. Blan Dougherty will present a program on soil fertility.
- ✓ Get your Ham License! Classes for the Technician License will begin March 27th and will meet each Thursday through May 1st from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Baptist Center, 350 N. Congress Parkway, in Athens. The book costs \$22 and there is a \$10 exam fee when you pass your license test. To sign up, call Mike Farmer at 506-2235.

Obituaries

Johnnie C. McCollister, age 88, of Niota died Monday in NHC of Athens. He was a farmer and cattle trader and was a veteran of the U.S. Army. Funeral services were held Wednesday night at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. Interment will be at 11 a.m. Thursday in Pond Hill Cemetery.

Melba Sparks Million, age 76, of Athens died Tuesday at Parkwest Medical Center. She was a press operator at Thomas & Betts until her retirement. Funeral services will be at 8 p.m. Friday at Smith Funeral Home, with visitation from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

J.E. Firestone, age 93, of Delano died Tuesday at Etowah Health Care Center. He had been the pastor of several churches in McMinn, Polk, and Bradley counties. Funeral services will be at 8 p.m. Friday at Bordwine Funeral Home, with visitation from 5 to 8 p.m.

Omer Gerald Ingram, age 79, of Englewood died Tuesday at his home. Arrangements will be announced by Serenity Funeral Home.

Jordan Allen Hair, infant son of Brandi Hale and Cody Hair of Athens, died last Friday at U.T. Medical Center. Graveside services will be at 4:30 p.m. Thursday at Cambria Cemetery. Ziegler Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Wednesday's Market Report: The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 114.02 at 16,222.17. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 11.48 at 1,860.77, and the NASDAQ Composite Index was down 25.71 at 4,307.60.

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TODAY IN HISTORY – MARCH 20th

1852 - Harriet Beecher Stowe's anti-slavery novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," was published. It became an instant success, selling 300,000 copies in its first year. It has been translated into twenty languages and performed as a play the world over. It was even spotlighted in the Broadway musical and film, "The King and I".

1865 - A plan by John Wilkes Booth to abduct President Abraham Lincoln was foiled when Lincoln changed plans and failed to appear at the Soldier's Home near Washington, D.C. Booth would later assassinate the President while Lincoln was attending a performance at Ford's Theatre in the nation's capital.

1937 - Singer-songwriter Jerry Reed was born.

1946 - Ranger Doug of the cowboy group "Riders in the Sky" was born.

1986 - The Dow Jones industrial average topped the 1800 mark for the first time in history.

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