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Today's News... This Morning

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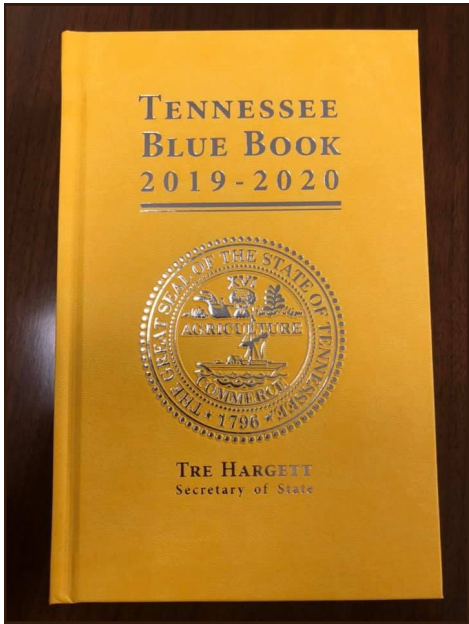
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(Phone: 746-1390 Fax: 744-1390 e-mail: wysi@bellsouth.net)

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Athens, Tennessee

New TN Blue Books are Yellow

The new 2019-2020 Tennessee Blue Books are now available. These books are Tennessee's official historical reference. This commemorative edition is yellow to honor the 100th anniversary of the pivotal role Tennessee played in the ratification of the 19th Amendment that granted women the right to vote. Yellow is the symbolic color of the national women's suffrage movement. The 2019-2020 Blue Book, published by the Secretary of State's office, is available free of charge to any Tennessee resident through members of the General Assembly or by calling 615-741-2650.



TBI Reports Troubling Drug Trend

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation says for the first time since the TBI crime laboratories began keeping detailed statistics, methamphetamine surpassed marijuana as the most-submitted drug in the state in 2019. TBI's crime labs in Memphis, Nashville, and Knoxville received a total of 9,795 submissions of marijuana in 2019 and 12,072 submissions of meth. Methamphetamine submissions have trended significantly upward in recent years, increasing from 3,748 in 2015. That has occurred at the same time the state has seen a sharp decline in the number of meth labs over the past decade. The TBI says that indicates an influx in imported methamphetamine. TBI Director David Rausch says drug addiction continues to be a major issue in Tennessee, and he believes the sharp increase in meth has a connection to the opioid epidemic in Tennessee.

BILL WOULD LEGALIZE MARIJUANA POSSESSION
A Knoxville lawmaker, Democrat Rep. Rick Staples, has introduced a bill in the state legislature that would decriminalize marijuana possession statewide and allow voters to decide if they wish to legalize marijuana in their county. Staples' bill would change Tennessee's controlled substance laws to decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana statewide. It would also authorize counties to hold referendum elections to allow marijuana growing, manufacturing, delivery, and retail sales within their boundaries.

CHRIST'S LEGACY ACADEMY
Kindergarten Registration
January 23 6-7:30pm
More Info. call 649-0040 or visit
christlegacyacademy.org



WEATHER FORECAST
Wednesday - Cloudy & warm. Possible t'storms. High 69.
Wednesday night - Cloudy & mild. Possible t'storms. Low 49.
Thursday - Cooler with variable cloudiness. High 54.
Thursday night- Mostly cloudy. Low 34.
More Weather at: wysi.com

RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT
WESTERN SIZZLIN' STEAK & MORE RESTAURANT
Western Sizzlin' Steak House-1804 Decatur Pike
11am-4pm: Grilled Chicken & Salad + Side-Bakery-Dessert-Rolls ~ \$9.99.
PHILLY CHEESE STEAK Monday-Thurs. +Side-Bakery-Dessert-Rolls (All Day) ~ \$5.99.

Bojangles'
Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits
January Specials >> 2 Sausage Biscuits \$2 • 2 Pc Dinner (1 leg, 1 thigh, 1 fixin + 1 Biscuit) \$3.99 • 20 Pc Box + 10 biscuits \$20.99 • 5 Meals for \$5 ea. • 3 Supreme or 3 Homestyle + Biscuit \$3.99 ea • 32 oz Tea \$1
IT'S BO TIME BOJANGLES S. Congress Parkway 744-5292

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• WEDNESDAY - ETOWAH -11:00 - 1:00
• FRIDAY - SWEETWATER -10:30 - 2:00

2019 BEST OF THE BEST

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Week in Review 4-7 pm

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Wednesday, January 15, 2020

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Athens, Tennessee

Obituaries

- ♦ **David Allen Surprise, Sr.**, age 71, of Sweetwater, died January 4th. He served in the Marines during the Vietnam era. A service honoring his military service will take place on Saturday, Jan. 18th, at 2 p.m. at the Athens VFW Post at 706 North Congress Parkway. Companion Funeral Home of Athens is in charge.
- ♦ **Martha Virginia LaFaye Mitchell Dill**, age 92, died Monday. She was born in Haleyville, AL, but lived in Athens from 1973 to 2013 then moved to Birmingham to live with her daughter Lynn. A funeral service will be at 12 noon on Friday at First Baptist Church of Athens with visitation from 10:30 to noon at the church prior to the service. Smith Funeral & Cremation Services of Athens is in charge.

COMMUNITY NEWS YOU CAN USE:

- ✓ CapStar Bank will host a free Estate Planning Seminar tomorrow, January 16th, at 6 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Etowah. The seminar is open to the public and will be led by local attorney and CapStar Board member Jeff Cunningham and Knoxville attorney Sonny Schow. Space is limited to the first 60 registrants. Call Nicole Gibbs at 649-1417 to register.
- ✓ Athens Utilities Board reports that 24% of all power outages in their service area in the past 12 months were caused by squirrels. If you live in an area with lots of beautiful roadside trees, you may experience more animal-related outages than other areas.
- ✓ The guest on "Hope from the Well" this week is Kelley Frenchco-Gordon. "Hope from the Well" is presented by Women at the Well each Thursday at 8:15 a.m. on WYXI Radio, FM 94.5 and AM-1390 and [ONLINE](#)

Warm Neighbors Gifts

The employees of Athens Utilities Board adopted three projects for the holidays in a program AUB calls Warm Neighbors Gifts. The project included gift baskets for local veterans, a pajama drive for kids who needed a warm set of PJs, and a Christmas card project where local kids colored locally designed cards for actively deployed military. A core women's group of AUB employees started the Gifts program two years ago. The group hosted a chili luncheon for all AUB employees on Veterans Day to raise money to fund the gift purchases. The gift baskets included certificates for free haircuts, warm blankets, toboggans, gloves, socks, coffee, hot chocolate, and a \$20 Food City gift card. AUB employees also provided 100 pairs of new pajamas to the Athens City Schools for underprivileged children. The AUB employees involved in the project are shown above: (L-R) Jordan Collins, Sonya Cate (who retired at the end of December), and Ashleigh Kirby.



TODAY IN HISTORY - JANUARY 15th

- 1559** - England's Queen Elizabeth I was crowned in Westminster Abbey.
- 1892** - James A. Naismith, the inventor of basketball, published his original 13 rules for the game in the YMCA Training School newspaper in Springfield, Massachusetts.
- 1929** - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was born in Atlanta. His lifelong goal was to bring about social, political and economic equality for blacks. In the quest for his ideals, he became one of the greatest civil rights leaders of the 20th century. A Baptist minister (as were his father and grandfather before him), he preached 'nonviolent resistance' to achieve full civil rights for all. Dr. King was assassinated at the age of 39 by a hidden rifleman, in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4, 1968.
- 1936** - The first all glass, windowless building was completed in Toledo, Ohio as the home of the Owens-Illinois Glass Company Laboratory.
- 1943** - The world's largest office building was completed, just outside of Washington, DC, in Arlington, VA., known as the Pentagon, the headquarters of the United States Defense effort.
- 1967** - The Green Bay Packers of the National Football League defeated the Kansas City Chiefs of the American Football League 35-10 in the first Super Bowl.
- 1973**- President Richard M. Nixon announced the suspension of all U.S. offensive action in North Vietnam, citing progress in peace negotiations.
- 2001** - Wikipedia, a web-based encyclopedia was launched by Jimmy Wales and Larry Sanger.
- 2009** - US Airways Capt Chelsey Sullenberger guided a jetliner disabled by a bird strike just after takeoff from New York's LaGuardia Airport, to a safe landing in the Hudson River. All 155 people aboard survived.

