

THE BLUE PAGES...



Tre Hargett, Secretary of State

September 2010 - Vol.1, No. 7

From the Desk of the Secretary...

The summer has flown by, schools are back in session and college football season has arrived!

This summer we were very busy in the Department of State, and we continue to be busy as we prepare for the November elections. In the midst of our election preparations, we are also compiling our budget for the 2011-12 fiscal year. In preparing our budget, the Department of State remains committed to meeting the financial challenges we face by learning how to deliver our services more cost effectively without compromising quality.

I am proud of our dedicated employees who are working so diligently in these uncertain times. I am particularly pleased with the team spirit with which everyone has welcomed the opportunity to create a more customer-centered environment for Tennesseans.

Toward this end, I had a rewarding and insightful experience last month participating in the Henry Toll Fellowship Program. I was honored to be selected as one of 40 state government leaders from across the country to participate in this weeklong leadership development program conducted by the Council of State Governments.

As a result of the interaction with other state leaders, I gained valuable insight into how they are coping with the problems facing state governments across our great nation. It was enlightening to trade notes with the other state leaders and now more than ever I am grateful for the conservative fiscal management style Tennessee's leaders have chosen.

Another valuable component of the program was its emphasis on improving practical skills. I believe these skills will help me better articulate

continues on page 2

INSIDE THIS EDITION

Scholarship Fund Benefits From Tennessee Electronic Library	page 2
State Library and Archives Receives Percy Priest Papers	page 3
Group Hosting Charity Races Faces \$10,000 Penalty	page 4
Reminder: Vote	page 5
Tennessee Trivia: State Horse	page 5

continued from page 1

and execute my vision of a more customer-centered Department of State so that ultimately we can be a model for other states. I benefited greatly from the interaction I had with my colleagues from across our nation and I am grateful for having been given the privilege of participating in the Toll Fellows program.

As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve you and our fellow Tennesseans.



SCHOLARSHIP FUND BENEFITS FROM TENNESSEE ELECTRONIC LIBRARY

The Goodlark Educational Foundation was able to offer more than \$10,000 in extra funding for college scholarships because the Tennessee Electronic Library saved the Dickson, Tennessee-based group money it would have otherwise spent on education-related expenses.

The Tennessee Electronic Library, which is part of the Tennessee State Library and Archives division of the Department of State, is a collection of more than 40 databases that offer free online access to more than 400,000 essays, videos, electronic books, podcasts, newspapers, magazines and journal articles as well as other primary source materials.

It is a resource for teachers, students, genealogists, other researchers and ordinary Tennesseans.

In the past, Goodlark has purchased practice tests and other materials to help local high school students prepare for college entrance tests such as the SAT and ACT. This year, however, Goodlark instead directed the five high schools in its area to a link on the Tennessee Electronic Library's web

site where online course materials are available for free.

Taking that step freed up extra money for Goodlark to apply toward college scholarships, said Richard Arnold, a Goodlark board member who is also director of the Department of State's Publications Division.

"We were able to award five or six additional scholarships because of the Tennessee Electronic Library," Arnold said. "It is a great resource and I encourage everybody to use it."

"People sometimes forget that their library provides free services like these test prep courses," State Librarian and Archivist Chuck Sherrill said. "Why spend hard-earned money on something that your public library already makes available to you? Exploring your library and all that it has to offer can help you save money."



Did you know...the Tennessee Electronic Library, which was launched in 1999, is searched more than 1.2 million times a month?

STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES RECEIVES PERCY PRIEST PAPERS

People who live in the Nashville area are familiar with J. Percy Priest Lake and Dam, but they may not know much about the man for whom they are named.

Soon, though, people from all over the state will have an opportunity to learn more about the life and accomplishments of this influential Tennessean. The Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA), a division of the Tennessee Department of State, provides public access to state records and collections of private manuscripts. Beginning next year, TSLA will offer a new collection that will provide insight about who J. Percy Priest was.

Last month, archivists from State Library and Archives met with Ms. Harriet Priest, daughter of James Percy Priest (1900-1956), and Ms. Rebecca Stubbs, who recently wrote the biography, *J. Percy Priest and His Amazing Race*. Ms. Priest donated her father's papers and Ms. Stubbs contributed her own research files to the TSLA collections.

Percy Priest was a U.S. representative for the Fifth Congressional District of Tennessee, which encompasses the Nashville area, from 1941 until his death in 1956. Congressman Priest was a major figure in the post-World War II Congress and contributed to several pieces of important legislation. He worked tirelessly to bring public energy to Tennessee through organizations like the Tennessee Valley Authority and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which decided to name the lake and dam in Nashville after him. Congressman Priest was also a key spokesman on public health issues, sponsoring the bill which established the National Institute of Mental Health.

Congressman Priest was also an avid journalist who enjoyed a long career with *The Tennessean*

newspaper in Nashville. Many of his newspaper articles, photographs and columns will be included in the collection as well as documents from his political life. These documents include letters from well-known dignitaries such as Lyndon B. Johnson, Frank Clement, Richard Nixon, Adlai Stevenson, Strom Thurmond, Harry S. Truman and Billy Graham.



REBECCA HARRIS STUBBS, AUTHOR OF A RECENT BIOGRAPHY OF J. PERCY PRIEST, (LEFT) AND HARRIET PRIEST, MR. PRIEST'S DAUGHTER, (RIGHT) RECENTLY MET WITH STATE LIBRARIAN AND ARCHIVIST CHUCK SHERRILL TO PRESENT MR. PRIEST'S PAPERS TO THE STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES.

The manuscripts of this distinguished Tennessean will join more than 2,000 other manuscript collections available at TSLA.

Congressman Priest's papers promise to generate a high level of public interest. These papers - as well as documents from hundreds of other Tennesseans - are an excellent resource for scholarly research or personal interest. They are available by visiting the Tennessee State Library and Archives building, which is located at 403 Seventh Avenue North in downtown Nashville.

"I am pleased that the State Library and Archives is able to add another important set of papers to its extensive collection," Secretary Hargett said. "The State Library and Archives is a treasure trove of information for people who are interested in

continues on page 4

continued from page 3

learning more about the history of this great state.”

“TSLA archivists are always interested in hearing from families with collections of papers of interest, such as these provided by Harriet Priest,” said State Librarian and Archivist Chuck Sherrill. “Preserving them is an important part of the State Library and Archives' mission.”

For more information on how to donate

manuscripts and historical materials to the Tennessee State Library and Archives, please contact Cathi Carmack by phone at 615-253-3468 or e-mail at cathi.carmack@tn.gov. For books and bound materials, contact Ashley Bowers at 615-253-3462 or ashley.bowers@tn.gov. More information about donations can also be found online at: <http://tn.gov/tsla/donations.htm>.

GROUP HOSTING CHARITY RACES FACES \$10,000 PENALTY

“IT IS ALWAYS A GOOD IDEA TO CHECK WITH THE DIVISION OF CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS AND GAMING BEFORE DONATING TO AN UNFAMILIAR GROUP OR DONATING THROUGH A THIRD-PARTY COMPANY,” SAID SECRETARY HARGETT.

Challenge Nation, a Washington D.C.-based company, is facing \$10,000 in civil penalties for soliciting contributions on behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee without the group’s knowledge or consent.

Challenge Nation sponsors “urban adventure races” – which essentially are scavenger hunts – in cities across the country. Challenge Nation had a race in Nashville September 12. In promotional material for the event, Challenge Nation stated that Big Brothers Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee would receive a portion of the proceeds from the event.

The Department of State’s Division of Charitable Solicitations and Gaming conducted an investigation of Challenge Nation with the assistance of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee and concluded that Big Brothers Big Sisters had not authorized Challenge Nation to use its name nor did Challenge Nation have a written agreement with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee to engage in a commercial co-venture.

The division determined that Challenge Nation committed two violations of the Tennessee Charitable Solicitations Act and assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty for each offense.

“It is always a good idea to check with the Division of Charitable Solicitations and Gaming before donating to an unfamiliar group or donating through a third-party company,” said Secretary Hargett. “I would hate to see a company use a charity’s name to swindle money from Tennesseans, as it would make people think twice about giving money to charities that are legitimate and deserving.”

Todd Kelley, the director of the Division of Charitable Solicitations and Gaming said “this action should be a reminder to anyone who seeks to raise money for a charity that they must have that organization’s authorization prior to doing so. Further, if a for-profit company wants to partner with a charity to conduct a commercial co-venture, the law requires that there be a written agreement between the two organizations.”

Information about charitable organizations registered to solicit contributions in Tennessee is available at: <http://www.state.tn.us/sos/charity>.

To report potentially fraudulent or misleading activities by a charitable organization, contact the Secretary of State’s Division of Charitable Solicitations and Gaming at (615) 741-2555 or local law enforcement authorities.

REMINDER:



People who have not yet registered but wish to vote in the November 2 state and federal elections have until October 4 to register. Please contact your county's election commission headquarters. Contact information for county election commissions is available at: http://tnsos.org/elections/election_commissions.php

TENNESSEE TRIVIA: STATE HORSE



TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

The Tennessee Walking Horse was named the official state horse by Public Chapter 596 of the 101st General Assembly in 2000. The Tennessee Walking Horse is bred mainly from Standardbred, Morgan, Thoroughbred and American Saddlebred stock. The three easy-riding gaits of this breed - the flat-foot walk, the running walk and the canter - are all natural, inherited characteristics, making this breed one of the smoothest riding horses in the world. This breed was a practical utility horse in the beginning and evolved into a pleasure horse with its gentle ride. Tennessee Walking Horses generally range from 14.3 to 17 hands high and weigh 900 to 1,200 pounds. The Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration is held annually in Shelbyville, Bedford County. For more information go to: <http://www.twhnc.com/>

To receive future issues of THE BLUE PAGES... electronically, sign up online:

<http://tn.gov/sos/subscribe>

Blake Fontenay, Constitutional Officers' Communications Director
615-253-2668

Secretary of State
Tre Hargett
Kara McMahan, Executive Secretary
615-741-2819

Administrative Procedures
615-741-7008

Business Services
615-741-2286

Charitable Solicitations & Gaming
615-741-2555

Elections
615-741-7956

Library and Archives
615-741-7996

Public Policy
615-741-2819

Publications
615-741-2650

www.tn.gov/sos

[Follow SOS on Twitter](#)



Pursuant to its policy of non-discrimination, the Department of State does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability or military service in its policies, or in the admission or access to, or treatment of employment in, its programs, services or activities.