

New TML VP elected

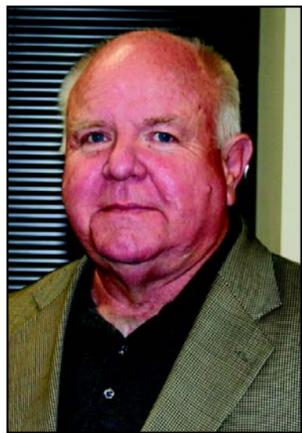
Tommy Pedigo, mayor of Sparta, has been elected vice president of the Tennessee Municipal League's Board of Directors.

Pedigo, an already seated board member, replaces Royce Davenport, who lost his re-election bid in November. The first opportunity to address the vacancy was in March during a regularly scheduled board meeting.

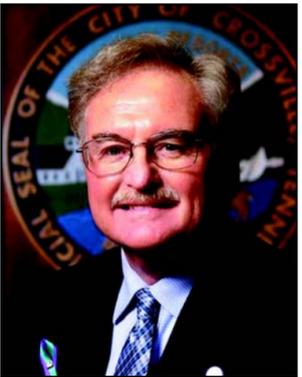
TML elects three vice presidents, one representing each grand division of Tennessee. Because Davenport, former mayor of McMinnville, represented Middle Tennessee, his replacement must also come from the same grand division, according to the League's by-laws. TML's vice presidents are traditionally in line to succeed the president.

Born and raised in Sparta, Pedigo was elected to the Sparta Board of Mayor and Aldermen in 2000, and served two years as alderman. Two years later, he was elected mayor. Since his election to the Sparta board in 2000, Pedigo has been involved in the Tennessee Municipal League, attended its functions, served on policy committees, and served two terms on the TML Board. Most recently, he served as TML's District 4 Director.

The alternate director, Crossville Mayor J.H. Graham, III, will now step in as the new District 4 Director. He will serve out Pedigo's remaining term until 2010, at which



Pedigo



Graham

time new elections will be held in even numbered districts. TML's eight district directors, representing their section of the state, are nominated and elected during district caucuses held each year during TML's Annual Conference. They may each serve two, two-year terms.

Stimulus package means big changes for COBRA

BY BONNIE CURRAN
MTAS HR Consultant

Employers across the country are scrambling to implement changes that resulted from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), which went into effect March 1, 2009, as part of the economic stimulus package.

The act contains significant changes to COBRA coverage for workers who were involuntarily terminated between September 2008 and Dec. 31, 2009, and requires employers to offer COBRA at a 35 percent reduced rate.

Here is a snapshot of the new changes:

- The federal government will subsidize 65 percent of the cost of COBRA premiums for eligible individuals.
- Eligible individuals who were terminated from employment involuntarily since September

2008 will have a second opportunity to elect COBRA at the new rates (even though the initial election period has expired).

- The subsidy program is scheduled to end Dec. 31, 2009.
- Assistance is scheduled to be capped at nine months per individual and is available to those without another source of group health insurance.

Although the government is subsidizing the cost of COBRA premiums, the employer is expected to pay the 65 percent portion of the premium and will be reimbursed by the federal government through a federal tax refund or credit.

Employers must send out notices by April 18, 2009. Former employees and beneficiaries will have 60 days to respond to the notice.

Look for an MTAS publication on this soon. You also may contact Bonnie Curran at bonnie.curran@tennessee.edu and Richard Stokes at richard.stokes@tennessee.edu.

Census Bureau launches address canvassing step

The U.S. Census Bureau launched a massive operation on March 30 to verify and update more than 145 million addresses as it prepares to conduct the 2010 Census.

Nationwide, more than 140,000 census workers will participate in the address canvassing operation, a critically important first step in assuring that every housing unit receives a census questionnaire in March 2010. All information is kept confidential. The countdown to the 2010 Census is officially one year out on April 1.

"A complete and accurate address list is the cornerstone of a successful census," said Tom Mesenbourg, acting director of the U.S. Census Bureau. "Building on the achievements of the 2000 Census, we have been testing and preparing for the 2010 count all decade, and we're ready to fulfill our constitutional mandate to count everyone living in the United States."

Address canvassing should conclude by mid-July. The operation will use new hand-held computers equipped with GPS to increase geographic accuracy. The ability to capture GPS coordinates for most of the nation's housing units will greatly reduce the number of geographic coding errors caused by using paper



New hand-held computers equipped with GPS will increase geographic accuracy.

maps in previous counts.

"The primary goal of the census is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place," Mesenbourg said. "Because the census is used for reapportioning seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and the distribution of more than \$300 billion in federal dollars every year to state and local governments, it's essential to get this first step right."

Over the last several years, the Census Bureau has been actively working on updating its geographic See **CENSUS** on Page 5

Annual Conference Going Green

The nation's energy crisis continues to challenge our country with the threat of climate change, rising energy prices, and the depletion of natural resources. Increased civic energy aimed at greening America's cities, has inspired the Tennessee Municipal League to focus on green solutions as part of TML's 2009 Annual Conference.

Slated for June 14-16 in Chattanooga, the conference will provide a wealth of information on how to launch or enhance green initiatives in your local communities. Attendees will hear from a group of targeted experts in the field of alternative energy including solar, wind and alternative fuels; green buildings and energy efficiency; sustainability plans and community design; and the green economy and creating green jobs.

Scheduled presenters include Elizabeth Eason, chair of the U.S. Green Building Council East Tennessee Chapter and member of Gov. Bredesen's Energy Policy Task Force; Gil Melear-Hough, Tennessee director of renewable programs

for the Southern Alliance of Clean Energy; and Melissa Voss Lapsa, Energy and Transportation Science Division of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

In addition, a panel presentation of cities best practices will feature information from cities that are already taking action to save money; promote new jobs; reduce waste; and support new technology. (See the backpage for more information on what cities are doing to lead the way in energy conservation.)

In the exhibit hall, city officials can shop the Green Marketplace from vendors who showcase environmentally smart materials, specialize in green engineering, and demonstrate options for energy efficiency buildings, clean energy vehicles, and alternative fuels.

Other conference workshops will focus on the economy and budgeting during tough economic times, foreclosures and a new Neighborhood Stabilization Program, immigration issues in Tennessee, results from a statewide health care survey, communicating



through Web 2.0 tools, and designing for the future through regional planning.

As an added highlight, the Capitol Steps will perform. The nationally acclaimed group began more than 25 years ago making bipartisan fun of the nation's political landscape. Since then, they have recorded 28 albums, and have been featured on NBC, CBS, and ABC.

Conference registration is available online at www.TML1.org

Tennessee to receive \$42.2 million for local energy efficiency improvements

Block Grants to support jobs, cut energy bills, and increase energy independence

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) includes \$3.2 billion in funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program.

This new program provides federal grants to cities, counties and states for innovative practices designed to achieve greater energy efficiency and lower energy usage.

This program was created in 2007 but has never been funded. Obama's recovery plan appropriated \$3.2 billion for this block grant program.

The EECBG Program is administered by the Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

The funds are to be used to reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and for improvements in energy efficiency.

Specifically, they may be used

for the following:

- Development of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy and Technical Consultant Services to assist in the development of such a strategy.
- Residential and Commercial Building Energy Audits.
- Financial Incentive Programs and Mechanisms for energy efficiency improvements such as energy savings performance contracting, on-bill financing, and revolving loan funds.
- Grants to nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies for the purpose of performing Energy Efficiency Retrofits.
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs for Buildings and Facilities.
- Development and Implementation of Transportation Programs to conserve energy.
- Building Codes and Inspections to promote building energy efficiency.
- Energy Distribution Technologies that significantly increase

See **ENERGY** on Page 5

Funding for city governments in Tennessee includes:

Bartlett	\$193,600
Brentwood	\$164,500
Chattanooga	\$1,864,300
Clarksville	\$1,114,900
Cleveland	\$186,300
Collierville	\$164,400
Franklin	\$593,700
Germantown	\$169,600
Hendersonville	190,500
Jackson	\$670,700
Johnson City	\$661,800
Kingsport	\$219,100
Knoxville	\$2,012,700
Memphis	\$6,767,200
Murfreesboro	\$961,100
Nashville	\$6,225,400
Smyrna	\$164,800

These monies are direct allocations and belong to the city provided the city makes an application by June 25.

Stimulus funds bringing summer jobs to state's disadvantaged teens

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

Conditions will be sunny again in more ways than one this summer for youth between the ages of 14 and 24. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) will allocate \$25 million for the Summer Youth Jobs Program in Tennessee where 11,639 positions will be available for the disadvantaged.

Young people who are low income, and have one or more of the following barriers are eligible for assistance: deficient in basic literacy skills, school dropout, homeless, runaway or foster child; pregnant or parenting, offender, or an individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program.

Worksites are plentiful, including state parks, driver's license centers, city and county governments and some non-profit organizations. Participants will be paid \$6.55 per hour.

"Employers simply sign their time sheets," said Commissioner James Neeley, Tennessee Labor and Workforce Development. "We send the employees and pay the kids directly."

On average, the program would spend \$2,000 per job over the course of eight weeks beginning June 6 and ending August 7.

According to a report by the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Labor, Health, Human Services and Education in Washington, D.C., the nation's teens, ages 16-19, have experienced declining employ-



Youths often have a friend in local governments offering summer employment to teens when possible. Youth with Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield's Summer Youth Program clean up graffiti in the city.

ment rates since the mid summer of 2006. Their annual average employment rate (E/P ratio) declined in 2007 to a new record low for the post-World War II period, and they have failed to capture any substantive share of net new job growth across the nation since 2003.

The declines through 2007 are widespread across age, gender, race-ethnic, educational attainment, household income, and geographic subgroups, however, largest are the youngest teens, 16-17.

Studies show that youth who

participate in work-based learning activities during high school are more likely to see the relevance of school work to career success and acquire stronger employability skills. And among economically disadvantaged youth, national research suggests that some work in high school can help promote school persistence and graduation.

Anyone interested in the Summer Jobs Program may call 800-255-5872. For more information on TNTeens2Work, visit www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/youth/.

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

BRISTOL

Exide Technologies will cut 567 jobs – about 70 percent of its Bristol work force – from the battery manufacturing and distribution plant on May 1. Before the job cuts, Exide's battery plant was the city's third largest employer, with more than 800 workers. About 20 employees were laid off at the plant in early February, according to officials, reducing production and cutting back on the number of employees at the Bristol location is due to the slumping economy.

BROWNSVILLE

The governor's proposed 2009-10 budget allocates more than \$27 million to buy land for the Haywood County megasite. Gov. Phil Bredesen said the megasite is now the No. 1 major industrial development site in the state. "If we have a customer, we will do what it takes to develop that site," Bredesen said. "It is a good site, and we have had some serious inquiries." The Tennessee Valley Authority designated more than 1,700 acres in Haywood County off Interstate 40's Exit 42 as a prime spot for major industrial development in July 2006. If approved by the legislature, the state will supply \$27.3 million in bonds to purchase the land. Bredesen said he hoped to be able to provide additional funding for infrastructure over the next several years.

CHATTANOOGA

A \$237,542 federal transit grant will help link people in Southeast Tennessee's rural counties with medical facilities and nationwide transportation hubs in Chattanooga. Bledsoe, Grundy and Rhea counties are getting new buses to take people to Chattanooga and back for \$10, the Southeast Tennessee Human Resources agency reports. A new reserve bus will be stationed in Dunlap as the agency strives for a larger role in public transportation. The state Department of Transportation administers the Intercity Bus Demonstration Program grant as part of about \$1.3 million allotted annually to continue expanding SETHRA's services.

CLARKSVILLE

National Environmental Education Week in Tennessee is April 12-18, and the Project WET Tennessee program at Austin Peay State University successfully requested a proclamation signed by Gov. Bredesen to commemorate the week. The proclamation supports environmental education in K-12 schools and non-formal settings such as nature centers, zoos, aquariums and museums. The 2009 theme for National Environmental Education Week is "Be Water Wise." The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates the average person in the U.S. uses about 100 gallons of water a day.

DYERSBURG

The PolyOne plant announced a permanent layoff affecting 30 of its local employees. The move is a part of the company's global restructuring in January where 15 Dyersburg positions were eliminated. After losing 45 positions, company spokespersons say there are still more than 70 full-time employees in the Dyersburg plant.

FRANKLIN

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has awarded the city of Franklin the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. Five counties and 11 other cities in Ten-

nessee were also given this award. In order to receive the budget award, the city had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as: a policy document; a financial plan; an operations guide; and a communications device. Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories to receive the award.

FRANKLIN

Editors of *Business Week* named Franklin one of the top 50 U.S. small cities for entrepreneurs to launch a business. Using 11 factors such as affordability, quality of life, and available talent pool, the magazine tasked San Francisco-based ZoomProspector, a site selection analysis firm, to examine cities with populations between 20,000 and 200,000 across America to find the best ones for entrepreneurs. Franklin is the only city in Tennessee to make the list.

GATLINBURG

Knoxville is in the home stretch of the state Department of Transportation's SmartFIX 40 project through downtown and officials say it will be done on time. The completion date is June 30. The Tennessee Department of Transportation opted to shut down a nearly mile-long section of the highway and finish the project swiftly. The \$190 million project would have taken two to three years to complete without closing the interstate.

GATLINBURG / TOWNSEND

Officials of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park have closed all caves over concern about a disease affecting bats. The National Park Service said the malady known as White-nose Syndrome has killed an estimated 400,000 bats in the Northeast. Smokies biologist Bill Stiver said the disease hasn't been found in Tennessee or North Carolina, but closing the caves will help protect native populations of bats against it. The disease is believed to be transmitted from bat to bat, but the fungus could be carried into a cave by a person who visits from an infected area.

HALLS

Students in Lauderdale County gathered for a special assembly to congratulate 18 Halls High students for winning top prize in the Tennessee Department of Transportation's first ever Project Orange Video Contest. The teens' 25 second winning video entitled "Halls High Safety Video: Between the Barrels Video Contest" was chosen from among 76 video entries by students across the state. The video shows the tragedy that can unfold when a group of teenagers makes a bad decision while traveling through a work zone. The video aired on television stations across the state to spotlight the importance of safe driving in work zones during Work Zone Awareness Week.

LEXINGTON

Summit-Brantley Innovations, LLC, has announced plans for a Lexington plant. The facility will add 38 new jobs to the area and represents an investment of \$1.7 million. SBBI, an innovative building components manufacturer, specializes in trusses, floor systems, pre-engineered wall and floor panelization and other components. SBBI is a venture of The Vista Group, LLC/Brantley Developments, LLC, a dynamic real estate development company and general contractor based in Jackson serving the Mid South region. The plant will be located at Elliott Power

Drive.

MANCHESTER

A Manchester auto supplier won a \$147 million contract to build interior door panels for a new midsize sedan that Volkswagen plans to assemble in Chattanooga, the latest tangible sign of spin-off gains due to the German automaker's announced move to East Tennessee. The contract calls for M-Tek Inc. to supply the door panels for the new VW vehicles to be built there. The \$1 billion facility is due to open in early 2011. A statement from Tennessee economic development officials and VW said the contract will mean continued employment for about 60 to 70 M-Tek employees, including a 20-employee, final assembly operation planned at the Chattanooga VW plant that is expected to start production at the Enterprise South Industrial Park in early 2011.

MEMPHIS

Memphis' housing market is one of the most stable in the country in regards to holding value, according to PMI Mortgage Insurance Co.'s first quarter U.S. Market Risk Index. In its report, the Calif.-based insurance company used its U.S. Market Risk Index, which ranks the nation's 50 largest metropolitan statistical areas. PMI Mortgage Insurance compares home price appreciation, employment, affordability, excess housing supply, interest rates and foreclosure activity to determine the probability of a housing market's values decreasing in two years. There is only a 2.8 percent chance that home prices in Memphis will be lower in two years, according to the report.

MEMPHIS

FedEx Corp. has laid off 1,000 employees to meet job cuts the package delivery company announced were coming after third-quarter earnings dropped 75 percent. Half of the laid off workers were employed in Memphis, where the corporation and its largest operating unit, FedEx Express, are headquartered. Before the cuts, FedEx Corp. had about 33,000 employees in the Memphis area. The moves were part of an effort to reduce company expenses by \$1 billion a year.

NASHVILLE

Home furnishings retailer Springs Global is laying off 41 people at its West Nashville bath rug plant. Springs Global sells sheets, comforters, shower curtains and other furnishings to retailers across the country.

OAK RIDGE

About \$755 million in federal money intended to speed environmental cleanup work and create jobs will go to Oak Ridge for contamination left from the Manhattan Project. The money is part of \$6 billion in funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Disposal of highly contaminated uranium processing buildings and faster cleanup of the major sources of mercury releases to the East Fork Poplar River is included in the focus. Officials say they expect 1,500 jobs will be created with more than 300 would-be contractors arriving at "Industry Day," a workshop set up specifically to help companies learn about stimulus-related opportunities in Oak Ridge.

VONORE

An EPA air quality monitor will soon be installed at Vonore Middle School, or in an area between it and Vonore Elementary School. It comes after an investigation found the schools could be in what the EPA calls a "toxic hot spot." The EPA will test for toxic chemicals known to cause cancer or respiratory and neurological problems.



The city of Kingston closes a loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund for \$1.9 million to be used for sewer improvements. Pictured are Eleanor Neal, city recorder; Mayor Troy Beets and Joe Muscatello, TMBF representative.



PEOPLE

BY TML STAFF REPORTS

Senate Speaker Pro Tempore **Jamie Woodson** has been named "Legislator of the Year" by the United Way of Tennessee for championing 211, the statewide phone number that connects Tennesseans with community services and volunteer opportunities. United Ways in Tennessee provided nearly \$100 million in funding last year to more than 1,300 agencies and programs.



Woodson

Huntingdon Mayor **Dale Kelley** has ascended to the position of president of the West Tennessee Mayor's Association. Having served in both vice president positions, Kelley will serve one year as president of the organization.



Kelley

Mayor **Ron Littlefield** captured the race for mayor of Chattanooga, with 57 percent of the vote to gain another four-year term. Incumbents



Littlefield

Carol Berz, Linda Bennett, and Manny Rico held off their opponents to win another term on the council. Sally Robinson, Jack Benson and Russell Gilbert were unopposed.

In Collegedale, **Debbie Baker, Tim Johnson** and **Katie A. Lamb** won their aldermen seats.

Sen. Anna Belle Clement O'Brien, known to many as the first lady of Tennessee politics, received the distinguished 2009 Humanitarian Leadership Award. U.S. Sen. and former Gov. Lamar Alexander, along with former Gov. Ned Ray McWherter, hosted a reception in her honor April 6 at the Tennessee State Museum. Although O'Brien was not the first woman elected to the Tennessee General Assembly, she was the first woman to serve as a committee chairwoman.

First lady Andrea Conte and more than 200 people met recently at Nashville's Centennial Park for the first of a six-walk series for



Conte

Andrea Walks V. Conte began the Andrea Walks series in 2004 to raise awareness about child sexual abuse. Walks this spring will also be in Anderson, Cannon, Lincoln, Scott and Rutherford counties.

Crossville Park makes ISA National Complex of the Year

Crossville Centennial Park was honored with an award from the Independent Softball Association (ISA) as ISA National Complex of the Year. Crossville competed against more than 60 ballparks in the state. Each state chooses a Complex of the Year, then ISA narrows and selects a winner and presents the award. This distinction is the first time an award from ISA has been given in Tennessee. Factors taken into consideration by ISA:

- Are local leagues ISA sanctioned?
- Number of teams sanctioned in local leagues.
- Does the park go above and beyond to partner with local leagues and tournaments?
- Is the park kept up to date and well maintained?
- Is there an adequate number of fields available?
- Is the park staff accommodating?
- Director comments about facility and staff.



Accepting the National Award are from left: Park employees Ira (Bud) Reppert, Tammie French, Tony Davis Sr., Department Director Steve Hill, Mayor J.H. Graham, III and Park Superintendent Rick Houston. The plaque is presented by ISA Director Tim Coley.

As recipient of the national award, Centennial Park will be highlighted in an upcoming issue of *Softball Magazine*.

ISA presents a total of seven National Awards each year, and Tennessee captured four of them. Two of Crossville's tournament directors were presented awards as well. Joe Caldwell is Youth Director of the Year and Mark Ogletree was presented the Rising Star Directors Award. The Tennessee State Director Tim Coley was also awarded as the National Director of the Year.

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MTAS: The eyes of experience, a helping hand

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

During the 30's and 40's, an influx of federal dollars to huge projects like the Tennessee Valley Authority or World War II military contracts had a tremendous impact on cities and towns in postwar Tennessee. More than three million farmers left the fields for the exploding industrial and economic transformation sweeping across the South, while World War II veterans bought homes in previously undeveloped areas. This flood of residents forced municipal governments to adapt to new demands, implement reforms, and address the needs of new constituents. In the face of this unprecedented growth, municipalities needed quality advice about properly governing their citizens and the Tennessee Municipal League needed help keeping up with the demands of ever increasing municipal growth.— Rob Parkinson, former MTAS intern

When municipal government pioneer Luther Gulick spoke at the Tennessee Municipal League's (TML) 1948 annual convention, he was on a mission. He envisioned a day when cities in need of advice and assistance could call on "a well qualified, experienced man" who could see with his own eyes what the problem was in its local setting and help find and install a solution; showing the responsible officials of the town or city how to proceed."



remained under the watchful eye of its founder, Herb Bingham throughout its formative years. Minus divisiveness and rivalry, TML and the new agency bonded in purpose, growing strong as effective partners in the pursuit for municipal advancement.

By the end of 1950, MTAS had hired a staff of six and TML launched its inaugural issue of *Tennessee Town & City* (TT&C) edited by Pan Dodd Wheeler, 28, a well traveled and educated artist and MTAS's first publications officer.

Two other co-workers of Wheeler's would become MTAS legends. Murphy Snoderly, an engineering and public works consultant, made a huge impact on public works projects across the state 30 years prior to joining the organization. Every year, an individual selected as best public works employee in the state by the Tennessee Chapter of American Public Works Association has received an award in Snoderly's honor.

Covington, Ky. native Vic Hobday, initially hired as a municipal consultant, would become



Herb Bingham, TML executive director; Sue Dixon, TML secretary; Jennie Moscovitz, former MTAS secretary; and Bob Lovelace, MTAS fringe area consultant; outside the Nashville office in the early 1950s.

MTAS trademark for the past 60 years.

"MTAS has been effective in serving Tennessee's municipalities because of our professional staff and the relationships they have built with cities over a long period of time," said Sharon Rollins, MTAS consulting program manager. A degreed engineer, Rollins envisions the relationship as an equation: Professionalism = expertise + confidentiality + trust + focus + objectivity. The sum of the equation is friendship, what makes MTAS consultants more than a name on a piece of paper to city officials. The testimonies tell the story.

"I'm an old timer with MTAS and have been a member of TML since 1986. Everyone loves Ralph Cross. He's like a big teddy bear, always nice and polite. Our chart of accounts was all messed up, out of date, out of order. We couldn't track anything. It took awhile to complete and the work he did was outstanding."

"I have certainly enjoyed the level of expertise at MTAS. They have always been there to lend a helping hand. I've seen a lot of fine, highly professional people at MTAS come and go. Ralph, he's got a good sense of humor for a number's man."
— Mayor Dan Speer, Pulaski

"He has been an invaluable contact. There is no way our fire department could have accomplished what we did without Gary West. He puts such a personal touch in all he does. He came out and visited us and made important suggestions. I had tried everything in grant writing. I was completing my 4th application, had called senators, congressmen. We were denied every time. Gary helped us raise our ISO rating from a 6 to a 4. He still helps us. He should be on speed dial."
— Ruthie Fadnek, Kingston firefighter.

"MTAS staff have come and gone just as city officials and staffs come and go," said Rollins. "Yet the

relationship continues."

Nothing was more evident, than Vic Hobday's journey. As 1951 signaled Shaw's exit, Hobday picked up the baton for nearly 30 years. His name became synonymous with MTAS. No one other than Herb Bingham became as closely associated with MTAS' evolution as Vic Hobday.

"Both men were very impressive," said Baugues. "Shaw was pleasant and down to earth, well educated, while Hobday was retired military. He always did things by the book."

"Mr. Hobday had a philosophy about hiring people that were good. He just turned them loose and gave them a chance to apply themselves," said Ken Joines, former MTAS finance consultant. "They would visit the cities and people would get to know them and ask for them. They had job security at MTAS through word of mouth."

Officials had been filing about 30 requests per month throughout the 1950s, and by 1951, 67 municipalities had asked MTAS to help with specific problems, including everything from budgeting, preparing reports and consulting, to the most popular request, codifying ordinances.

According to Hobday, a major obstacle facing the state's cities was that their laws and ordinances were outdated and in disarray. Many were handwritten in old ledger books, with some ordinances running some 50-100 pages. Cities often were unfamiliar with their ordinances entirely or surprised at what ordinances were or were not there in the books. MTAS eventually had to hire more staff to handle the massive number of codification issues.

To keep up with increased record keeping, MTAS, hired Ann Lowe in 1956. "I loved being a part of MTAS. Throughout the years, their helpful mission has not changed," Lowe said, now retired.

"I took my typing test on a Royal typewriter. We had a small library and I typed statistical bid data, both sewer and water and codes in col-



Gerald Shaw, MTAS' first executive director



Cross

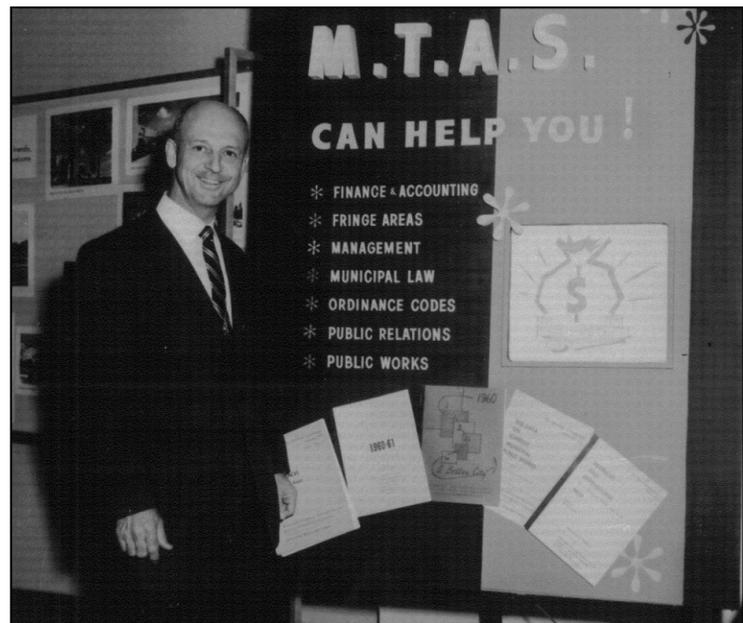


West

umns four spaces apart using onion skin paper and carbon. We had more city officials come visit MTAS than now. Now, with the progression of communications capabilities, they just e-mail."

As the number of calls and types of requests kept growing and diversifying, cities and towns again experienced growing pains. New technologies, equipment and processes loomed upon the horizon and municipal staff would need training to streamline their processes. As always, MTAS would rise to the challenge.

This article is part of a continuing series recognizing MTAS' 60th anniversary.



Long time MTAS Director Vic Hobday is the only person other than Herb Bingham as closely associated with MTAS' evolution.

Gulick's idea struck a chord with 29-year-old Herb Bingham, TML's young, spirited director, who shared the same vision hoping to forge a wave of connectivity between the burgeoning cities with a magazine highlighting Tennessee's municipalities, *Tennessee Town & City*. Bingham carried the proposal to the state legislature, and on April 15, 1949, the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) was born.

Known by many as "the father of modern municipal government," Gulick's keynote address, "Technical Advice and Municipal Progress" laid a foundation of trust that's existed for 60 years between the state's municipalities and the caring, knowledgeable men and women of MTAS.

Set up and partially funded by the University of Tennessee, MTAS

MTAS' longest serving executive director to date.

Porter C. Greenwood, municipal law consultant, and clerk typist, Mary Elizabeth Bush, now known as Alcoa Planning Commission Member Mary Baugues, rounded out the small but talented cast operating under the capable leadership of Executive Director Gerald Shaw.

"We were limited in our number of staff, but so were the cities," said Baugues. "We began receiving requests from small cities that didn't have the ability to help themselves."

On any given day, Snoderly, Greenwood, Wheeler, and Shaw might be on the road, visiting all of Tennessee's then 230 cities striving to acquaint officials with the agency and its services. Throughout this process, the four created another MTAS tradition, setting the bar in professionalism and courtesy, an

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STATE BRIEFS



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

The American Society of Civil Engineers' Tennessee Section released its first infrastructure report and Tennessee's roads and bridges got a "B". The 2009 Tennessee Infrastructure Report Card evaluates nine areas of infrastructure: aviation, bridges, navigable waterways, parks, rail, roads, schools, transit and water/wastewater. According to the group, Tennessee's overall infrastructure grade is a C, higher than the national infrastructure grade of a D assigned by ASCE in the 2009 Report Card for America's Infrastructure.

In the face of looming legislative pressures for cleaner energy, The Tennessee Valley Authority agreed to buy more than a nuclear reactor's worth of electricity from renewable energy sources. TVA directors agreed to buy enough wind and other renewable power generation in the next couple of years to more than power a city the size of Chattanooga. TVA Senior Vice President Van Wardlaw said up to 2,000 megawatts of renewable energy — which also includes solar, biomass and hydro — could be bought from other producers if the price is right and delivery from other states may be arranged.

Grocers in Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama are pulling pistachio nuts and pistachio products off their shelves as another salmonella contamination scare begins to sweep the nation. "The contamination involves multiple strains of salmonella," according to a statement from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, which announced an investigation of central California-based Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella Inc., the nation's second-largest pistachio processor. Like the peanut recall earlier this year, the pistachio contamination is likely to affect many products, including ice cream,



Nearly 55 million older Americans enrolled in certain government programs will get a one-time, \$250 payment from stimulus funds in a move that will inject \$13 billion into the economy. The funds will be available for those who receive Social Security or Social Supplemental Income benefits, or are beneficiaries of Veterans Affairs or the Railroad Retirement Board. Funds from Social Security or SSI will be delivered through those agencies. The VA and railroad board will be responsible for paying individuals under their respective programs. Those enrolled in more than one of these programs should expect only one \$250 payment. The funds will be shipped out in May.

Ninth graders whose schools are within a block of a fast-food outlet are more likely to be obese than students whose schools are a quarter of a mile or more away, according to a study of millions of schoolchildren by economists at the University of California and Columbia University. The study by the National Bureau of Economic Research, marks an effort by economists to determine whether close geographic proximity to fast food plays a causal role in obesity. The sample population was large, spanned almost a decade and included such detailed geographic information that researchers were able to observe obesity rates among ninth graders in the same school in the years before and after a new fast food outlet opened nearby.

A closely watched economic forecast from the UCLA Anderson School of Management predicts the U.S. economy is not likely to begin a recovery until next year. The forecast, released on a quarterly basis, calls for real gross domestic product to decline 6.8 percent in the first quarter of 2009, 4.5 percent in the second quarter, and another 1.7 percent in the third quarter, but in 2010, the report predicts an average GDP quarterly growth of 2.7 percent and an average of 4.1 percent in 2011. Recovery in the labor market is expected to be slower than in the broader economy, with 7.5 million jobs lost through the entire recession as the unemployment rate spikes to 10.5 percent in the middle of 2010.

cakes and other foods containing the nuts. Because the pistachios were used as ingredients in a variety of foods, it is likely this recall will impact many products and may lead to additional pistachio product recalls.

The Tennessee Valley Authority will use an independent university research group to guide health monitoring of residents and verify cleanup of contaminated areas from a massive coal ash spill. "TVA is developing a plan to respond to individual health concerns, including a process for determining whether there are health effects that may be related to ash released," TVA President and CEO Tom Kilgore told a U.S. House Transportation subcommittee in Washington.

The Southeast drought that caused lake levels to drop and forced homeowners to stop watering their lawns for two years has ended, according to state and federal experts. Three major storms in the past month dumped more than 5 inches of rain over parts of Georgia and more than 10 inches in much of Alabama with more storms expected to dump an additional 5 inches of rain in the region in the next few days. The drought persists in South Florida. And in Georgia, low groundwater and reservoir levels mean that the state is still in danger, said the state climatologist.

Tennessee schools will receive almost \$118.5 million in stimulus funds for special education, according to figures released by the state Department of Education. Districts within Davidson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson and Wilson counties are to get about \$24.9 million, ranging from about \$380,000 for the Lebanon Special School District to the \$10.7 million slated for Metro Nashville Public Schools. Because this batch of stimulus money is targeted for the Individuals with Disabilities Act, ensuring services to students with disabilities, it can't be used for general operations. The money is half of the special-education funding that school systems will receive.

The Tennessee Housing Development Agency will begin a program that helps those who are cash-

poor to take advantage of the federal tax credit for first-time homebuyers, up to \$8,000. Buyers can get a second mortgage from THDA for a down payment and closing costs, up to 3.5 percent of the purchase price. It is a no-interest loan, and repayment will be deferred until June 1, 2010. That gives buyers time to file their 2009 tax returns, claim the \$8,000 credit and use the tax refund to pay off the second mortgage.

The Tennessee Department of Transportation has inked an agreement with the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation to retroactively tackle wetland restoration issues. Under the agencies' memorandum of agreement, the state's road agency has established a \$5.7 million fund to be run by TDEC for the sole purpose of creating or restoring wetland sites stemming from TDOT's road construction between 1990 and 2006.

One out of every three Tennesseans younger than 65 didn't have health insurance at some point during the past two years, according to a Families USA report. The report says some 1.7 Tennesseans, or 32.4 percent, were uninsured for some period of time during 2007 and 2008. Most uninsured Tennesseans, 74.7 percent, are members of families working full or part time. One out of five uninsured Tennessee families had a combined income of at least \$70,400. That's twice the federal poverty level for a family of three.

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture has made two very important changes to help beekeepers. They can now register their colonies online and sign-up to participate in the UT Beemaster Program. Both changes will help sustain Tennessee's honeybee population. Bee pollination is estimated to contribute as much as \$118 million in additional value to Tennessee crops, according to state Agriculture Commissioner Ken Givens.

The state appears to be fast-tracking the project to build a new bridge over the Cumberland River between Sumner and Wilson counties. According to the Ten-



Photo by Bob Richards TDEC

Undocumented sites that were part of the Trail of Tears and the Green McAdoo School in Clinton are two Tennessee-related projects included in a massive public lands bill that passed Congress and is expected to be signed by President Barack Obama. Pictured: First Lady Andrea Conte and Bill Jones, Tennessee Chapter Trail of Tears (TOT) president visit a TOT site in Van Buren County.

nessee Department of Transportation, a new four-lane suspension bridge with wide shoulders would be built east of the current structure on Highway 109. The bridge will be built before work begins on widening 109 from north of Interstate 40 to the 109 Bypass in Gallatin.

Two Tennessee-related projects are included in a massive public lands bill that passed Congress and is expected to be signed by President Barack Obama. The legislation directs the Secretary of the Interior to study whether to designate the Green McAdoo School in Clinton as part of the National Park System. The bill would also require further documentation of sites in Tennessee that were part of the Trail of Tears which forced the move of Cherokee Indians. Rep. Zach Wamp, R-Chattanooga, was the primary sponsor of both provisions.

The state is providing funding for the start up of FIMR teams in Davidson, Hamilton and Shelby counties, as well as a 10-county region in East Tennessee, in an effort to increase fetal and infant survival rates among Tennessee babies. Overall, Tennessee's infant mortality rate is ranked 45th compared to other states. FIMR teams explore environmental, social, economic and medical facts to determine the exact cause of death of children less than one year old, including during the mother's pregnancy. The FIMR initiative is particularly crucial in Shelby County, where infant mortality rates are significantly higher than in the rest of

the state. Based on data from 2007, the overall state infant mortality rate is 8.3 while Shelby County's rate is 12.7.

State employees who smoke - or who have a smoking spouse - will begin paying an extra \$50 per month for health insurance next year, according to state Finance Commissioner Dave Goetz. The State Insurance Committee, which Goetz chairs, voted to begin charging the extra premium to smokers effective Jan. 1. Those who quit smoking later can get a refund for up to six months of the extra premium charges. The move applies to all people covered by state-supported health insurance, including higher education employees and state legislators. According to the state, 274,345 people are covered by the state health insurance plan.

The Tennessee Supreme Court will adopt three rules aimed at encouraging lawyers to provide free services to Tennesseans who need legal assistance but can't afford it. The changes will encourage but not require lawyers to provide 50 pro bono hours of work each year; enable lawyers to provide limited scope legal assistance to people without formally becoming their attorney-of-record, and enable lawyers to earn one hour of continuing legal education credit for every five hours of pro bono services they provide. The initiative comes at the urging of the Tennessee Bar Association, Legal Services and other legal groups in Tennessee.

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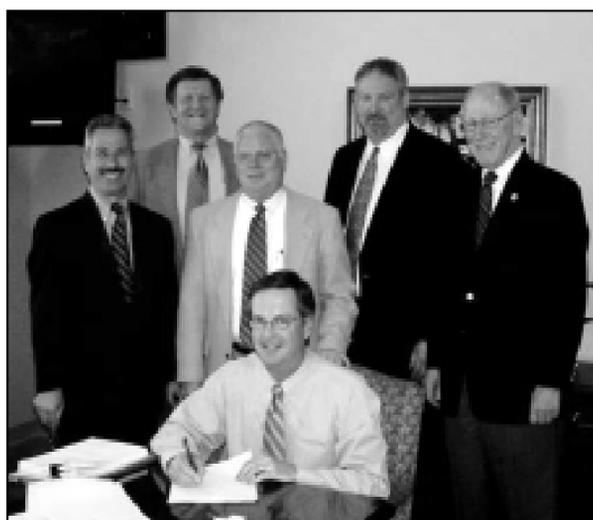
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The town of Nolensville closes a \$21,000 loan.



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CITY ADMINISTRATOR

SPRINGDALE, OH. The city is seeking applicants for the position of City Administrator. The current City Administrator is retiring after more than 24 years of service in the position. The Mayor appoints all executive department heads, including the City Administrator. The City Administrator is the full-time administrative officer of the city, responsible to and under the immediate direct supervision of the Mayor and responsible for supervising the administration of all executive departments. A bachelor's degree in public or business administration or a related field and at least five years of increasingly responsible management experience are required. A graduate degree in a related field and an ICMA credential are preferred. Salary DOQ. For more information, visit www.managementpartners.com. Send resumes ASAP to Mike Casey at mcasey@managementpartners.com. Email is preferred, or Management Partners, Inc., 1730 Madison Rd, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206 or fax 513-861-3480. Telephone: 513-861-5400. EOE M/F/D/V

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

SPRING HILL. The city is seeking an experienced city administrator with extensive knowledge and experience in municipal finance, public works, utility management, community and economic development, retail development, public safety and public relations. The applicant must have strong planning and administrative skills and experience in municipal budgeting in a similar sized city. The new administrator should be capable of developing a strategic plan with a vision for the future. The administrator must instill teamwork within the organization and effectively motivate the staff in the attainment of city goals and objectives. The administrator must have strong conflict resolution skills, be energetic and accessible. The candidate must be an effective communicator with the ability to manage complex projects and issues. The candidate must be a problem solver with the ability to think ahead and effectively communicate with the city council, staff, and the general public. The candidate must be able to effectively plan and execute in a political environment. Minimum qualifications are a bachelor's degree in business or public administration with eight (8) years of municipal experience in a similar sized city. A master's degree in business or public administration is preferred. EOE. Resumes will be received through April 15, 2009. Municipal Technical Advisory Service, 226 Capitol Boulevard, Suite 606, Nashville, Tennessee 37219-1804. E-mail: ron.darden@tennessee.edu

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

CLARKSVILLE. The City has an opening for a Director of Finance and Revenue. The position will be responsible for oversight of the fiscal affairs of the City of Clarksville and will serve as the primary authority and spokesperson for the City on all financial matters. Duties include but are not limited to: advising the Mayor, City Council, and department heads on all fiscal matters; providing oversight and directions for preparation of the annual budget for all funds, including appropriations to external agencies; directing the execution of the city's financial reporting; formulating and implementing fiscal policies and procedures to ensure proper internal controls; and reviewing and approving hiring, promotion, and reclassification of finance personnel. Work is performed in an of-

fice environment with the maximum degree of initiative and prudent judgment. Minimum job qualifications include but are not limited to: A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, Business, or a related field plus 10 years of progressively responsible accounting experience, with five years at the management level; Certified Public Accountant Certification, Certified Public Finance Officer (Government Finance Officers Association) and/or Certified Government Financial Manager (Association of Government Accountants) preferred; compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Officer Certification and Education Act of 2007 within eighteen months of hire; knowledge of leadership and managerial principles; governmental accounting principles and practices; project management principles; applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, codes, rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and standards; fund accounting systems and principles; internal control practices; financial analysis principles and methods; generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP); research methods and techniques; policy and procedure development and implementation practices; skill in monitoring and evaluating the work of subordinate staff; preparing and analyzing complex financial reports and financial information; handling multiple tasks simultaneously; collaborating with external agencies, and communicating with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc., sufficiently to exchange or convey information. The Director of Finance will perform duties under the direction of the City Council and the Mayor. The salary range for this position is \$66,126 - \$103,200, and starting salary will be based on experience and overall job qualifications. A complete job description is available upon request from the Human Resources Department. Qualified candidates should send resume/cover letter no later than Friday, May 8, 2009, to: Ms. Jackie Perkins, City of Clarksville- Human Resources, 1 Public Square Suite 200, Clarksville, TN 37040, (931) 645-7451 Jackie.perkins@cityofclarksville.com

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

SPARTA. The city is accepting employment applications for the position of Public Works Director. Application forms and job descriptions can be obtained at Sparta City Hall, 6 Liberty Square, Mon. through Fri., 7:30 AM until 4:30 PM. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. For more information, call 931-836-3248 or email llspivey@citlink.net. It is the policy of the City of Sparta not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability in its hiring and employment practices, or in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services and activities.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS MUNICIPAL PLANNING SERVICES

The Town of Kingston Springs is requesting proposals for the provision of professional, contractual planning services on a part-time basis. Proposals will be accepted at City Hall beginning March 30, 2009 and ending on May 15, 2009. Services are to be provided beginning July 1, 2009. Applicants must minimally have a bachelor's degree in planning, Masters' Degree preferred. Five years of experience preferred, government experience a plus. Specifications for the RFP are available on the website at www.kingstonsprings.net or at City Hall or by calling 615-952-2110, ext. 15 during business hours, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Mon. through Fri. City Hall is located at 396 Spring Street, Kingston Springs, Tenn. The mailing address is P.O. Box 256, Kingston Springs, TN 37082, Laurie Cooper, City Manager.

State energy plan includes minimum residential building code requirement

Recommendations from a state-wide energy task force has been introduced as legislation as part of Gov. Phil Bredesen's plan to make Tennessee a national leader in energy efficiency and clean energy technology.

The Tennessee Clean Energy Future Act of 2009 - sponsored by Sens. Jim Kyle, Randy McNally, Andy Berke and Ken Yager, and Reps. Les Winningham, Joe McCord, Jim Hackworth and Phillip Johnson - is a wide-ranging bill tackling several major recommendations by the Governor's energy task force. Last summer and fall, Bredesen traveled the state with the 16-member panel to craft a comprehensive new energy policy for Tennessee. The group's work can be viewed at www.tn.gov/energy.

"This bill promotes energy savings for state government and consumers across Tennessee, it encourages the development of clean energy technology jobs, and it happens to be the right thing to do for energy and the environment," Bredesen said.

Key components of the legislation - set to be filed an amendment rewriting Senate Bill 2300 and House Bill 2318 - include:

- Requiring state government to "lead by example" with improved energy management of its buildings and passenger motor vehicle fleet;
- Encouraging job creation in the clean energy technology sector by making qualified businesses eligible for Tennessee's existing emerging industry tax credit; and
- Promoting energy efficiency in newly constructed homes with a limited statewide residential



Gov. Bredesen and a bipartisan group of legislators, joined by members of the Governor's Task Force on Energy Policy, unveiled new legislation designed to make Tennessee a national leader in energy efficiency and clean energy technology.

building code and expanding eligibility for federal funds used to "weatherize" existing homes in low-income areas.

In addition to the Clean Energy Future Act, Bredesen in February proposed a new solar research institute at the University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge National Laboratory to complement major solar-industry investments in the state.

Funding for the solar institute - and related items including clean energy workforce development initiatives, electric vehicle infrastructure, and public energy-efficiency awareness programs - will be included in an amendment to the proposed 2009-10 state budget. Those measures are expected to be funded using existing state dollars that are restricted to energy-related purposes or new federal funds included in President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

"Together, these legislative and budget measures represent a comprehensive series of clean energy

improvements and investments," Bredesen said. "As a state known for its energy innovation and blessed with an abundance of natural resources, Tennessee can and should be a leader in setting the national clean energy agenda."

The Tennessee Clean Energy Future Act of 2009 (SB 2300/HB 2318) major components:

- Launches a five-year accelerated program to improve energy efficiency in state buildings.
- Requires Energy Star equipment and appliances in state agencies.
- Mandates more energy-efficient cars in the state's passenger motor vehicle fleet.
- Designates the clean energy technology sector as eligible for Tennessee's emerging industry tax credit.
- Establishes a limited statewide residential building code.
- Expands eligibility for federal funds used to weatherize existing homes in low-income areas.

Tennessee to receive \$42.2 million for local energy efficiency improvements

ENERGY from Page 1

energy efficiency, including distributed resources, combined heat and power, and district heating and cooling systems.

- Material Conservation Programs including source reduction, recycling, and recycled content procurement programs that lead to increases in energy efficiency.
- Reduction and Capture of Methane and Greenhouse Gases generated by landfills or similar waste-related sources.
- Energy efficient Traffic Signals and Street Lighting.
- Renewable Energy Technologies

on Government Buildings.

- Any Other Appropriate Activity that meets the purposes of the program and is approved by DOE.

Funding is not limited to government-owned, operated facilities but may also be used in the community at large.

The majority of these monies are to be directly allocated to the 10 largest cities and counties as well as any city with a population in excess of 35,000 or county with a population in excess of 200,000. These allocations belong to the city provided the city makes an application

by June 25. In order to apply, a city must first be enrolled in FedConnect. This process takes about a month so cities should get started with the enrollment immediately.

If your city is not eligible for a direct allocation, you may still be eligible for some of the nearly \$14 million allocated to the state.

Visit the TML website to download the necessary documents to make application for allocations, www.TML1.org.

General program and grant information can be found on the U.S. DOE website, www.eecbg.energy.gov.

Census Bureau launches first step for 2010 count

CENSUS from Page 1

databases and master address files. From implementing the Local Update of Census Address program where more than 11,500 tribal, state and local governments participated in a review of the Census Bureau's address list for their area, to increasing the precision of the GPS mapping, many advances have been made to compile the most comprehensive listing of addresses in the nation.

The address canvassing operation will be conducted out of 151 local census offices across the U.S., with most offices beginning on April 6. In most cases, census workers will knock on doors to verify addresses

and inquire about additional living quarters on the premises. This is the first census to include group quarters (such as dormitories, group homes, prisons and homeless shelters) in the address canvassing operation, which should improve both the accuracy and coverage of the final count.

There will be one final opportunity to add new home construction in early 2010 prior to the mailing of the census questionnaires.

Census workers can be identified by the official Census Bureau badge they carry. During the address canvassing operation, census workers may ask to verify a housing structure's address and whether there are additional living quarters

on the property.

2010 Census workers will never ask for bank or social security information. All census information collected, including addresses, are confidential and protected by law. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with the FBI, the IRS, CIA, Welfare, Immigration, or any other government agency. No court of law or law enforcement agency can find out respondents' answers. All Census Bureau employees — including temporary employees — take an oath for life to keep census information confidential. Any violation of that oath is punishable by a fine of up to \$250,000 and five years in prison.

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TML Associate Profile: Collier Engineering

Specializing in Local Government Projects



Values from the Past, Experience for Today, Preparing us for the Future

Collier Engineering has provided engineering consulting services to local governments since 1981. During that time, the company's management has consistently met our clients' expectations regarding the quality, timeliness, and cost-effectiveness of our solutions, services, and deliverables across a wide array of project types. Our corporate longevity and growing list of repeat clients are testimony to the fact that Collier can successfully prioritize, manage, and execute multiple projects for a variety of clients.

Specializing in Local Government Projects

Collier is qualified to perform the following engineering consulting services for local governments:

- Design, surveying, estimation, inspection services, traffic count analysis, and rehabilitation for transportation assets such as bridges, roadways, intersections, sidewalks, etc.
- GIS and IT-related projects ranging from data stewardship tasks through the deployment and operation of enterprise-wide computerized maintenance management systems (CMMS) for infrastructure assets.
- Civil construction project management with expertise in State-

Aid Program assistance, stimulus funded, and TDOT Office of Local Programs projects.

- Grant Application for Federal Bridge and Roadway projects.
- Provide asphalt mix design and testing services that comply with TDOT standards and specifications, including client-specific quality control plans.

Bridge Design

Collier Engineering Company, Inc. provides services in the area of bridge design for new bridges, upgrades to existing bridges, culverts and retaining walls, including all hydraulic analysis and construction quantities. We have completed numerous projects from locally funded, TDOT Bridge Grant funded, and the Federal Aid BRZ Program for many of our clients.

GIS/IT Experience

Collier staff has extensive back-

ground assisting local governments with computerized mapping solutions including professional experience deploying and maintaining civic asset management solutions from ESRI, CartêGraph Systems, and Azteca Systems. Our experience includes GIS data creation and management for smarter roadway preservation, fleet routing efficiency, and property map maintenance.

Meet our Staff at booth #230 at the Annual TML Conference June 14-16 in Chattanooga. Contact Collier Engineering for more information about pavement management techniques, best practices for pavement preservation, or to discuss your civil engineering needs. Chad can be reached at 615.331.1441 or chad.collier@collierengineering.com. Visit our website at www.collierengineering.com.

Municipal Administration Program May Schedule

Economic Development

Have you ever wondered what families, organizations and businesses are looking for in order to move to your community? Do you want to know how to make your town or city more marketable to those who are looking to move to your city? Is your town or city presenting the image you really want to present? This session will address these issues and provide answers to many more.

This class is recommended for all elected officials, appointed officials and municipal employees in Tennessee cities.

Instructor

Bill Hammon, assistant city manager, Alcoa.

Time

Public administration courses begin at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 12:30 p.m.

Dates and locations

May 1	Knoxville
May 4	Johnson City
May 5	Collegedale
May 7	Franklin
May 12	Bartlett
May 13	Jackson

Training Facilities

Bartlett Bartlett Performing Arts and Conference Center, 3663 Appling Road
Collegedale Collegedale City Hall, 4910 Swinyar Drive
Franklin Williamson County Exposition Center, 4215 Long Lane
Jackson West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Public Service, 605 Airways Boulevard
Johnson City Johnson City Public Library, 100 West Millard St.



Knoxville University of Tennessee Conference Center, 600 Henley Street

To register for this municipal administration program class, please visit the MTAS web site at www.mtas.tennessee.edu or contact Elaine Morrisey at Elaine.morrisey@tennessee.edu or 865.974.0411. For program information, contact Izzetta Slade, MTAS Training Program manager, at 865.974.9855 or e-mail Izzetta.slade@tennessee.edu.

Fees are \$25 per person per class for municipal employees and \$55 per person per class for all other participants.

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TENNESSEE FESTIVALS

May 1-3- 38th Annual TACA Tennessee Craft Fair

Nashville, Centennial Park. Artists will be on site and crafts available for purchase from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fri. and Sat. and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Sun. Parking and admission are free and open to the public. Children and parents are encouraged to visit the Publix Kid's Tent for interesting craft projects for kids of all ages. For more information, visit www.tennesseecrafts.org.

May 3-9 - West Tennessee Strawberry Festival

Humboldt. Family festival, carnival, Christian concert, parades, fireworks, beauty pageants, recipe contest, BBQ contest. For more information, call 731-784-1842

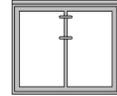
May 9- White County Renaissance Festival

Sparta. Live chess match, plays, vendors, food, games, and more. Renaissance attire encouraged. For more information, call 931-235-4113

May 9-Polk Salad Festival

Harriman. Free entertainment, bluegrass and gospel music, food and craft vendors, "Miss Polk Salad" Pageant, "Mother of the Day" contest. Send a letter stating why your mother should win. Prizes and gift certificates will be given to the winner. For more information, contact Rocky Top General Store at 865-882-8867.

COMING UP



May 15 The Tennessee Animal Resource Center (ARC) Second Annual Spay It Forward Tennessee Conference at the Cheekwood Botanical Garden & Museum in Nashville from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The first Spay & Neuter training and professional development conference in Tennessee for the Animal Welfare Community inviting those working in the field and concerned citizens who can help make a difference in Tennessee's overpopulation pet problem. For more information, visit www.animalresourcectr.org. To register and/or view the itinerary for this conference, visit the website at www.spayitforwardtn.org.

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Tennessee cities "going green"

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program, recently funded as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, provides grants to cities, counties, and states for innovative practices designed to achieve greater energy efficiency and lower energy usage. Funded initiatives could include: building and home energy conservation programs; energy audits; fuel conservation programs; building retrofits to increase energy efficiency; smart growth planning and zoning; and alternative energy programs.

Some cities in Tennessee are already taking action to save money; promote new jobs; reduce waste; and support new technology.

Some examples of cities leading the way:

Alcoa and Maryville

Government entities in Blount County are doing their part through a joint city-county effort to bring alternative fuel choices to their area. The county's first public biodiesel pump opened in Alcoa in April 2004. City fleets from Alcoa and Maryville, as well as the Blount County Highway Department, have been filling up with B20 fuel for the past five years, saving on fuel mileage per gallon as well as reducing vehicle emissions.



City fleets from Alcoa and Maryville have been filling up with B20 fuel for the past five years.

Chattanooga

From electric buses to greenways, to development of the waterfront, Chattanooga has been at the forefront of sustainable development since the 1990s. The city's commitment to environmental efforts has continued with each new administration. Mayor Ron Littlefield pledged his commitment to lowering carbon emissions and lessening the impact on global climate change by signing the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement in 2006. Littlefield appointed a Chattanooga Green Committee to recommend ways for the city to reduce its carbon footprint and become more sustainable. A new initiative called "green spaces" has opened its doors to the city's design and construction industry. The three-year project will provide resources on environmentally responsible building and design and also give incentive funding to cover costs for LEED certification and other green building practices. Green spaces has set a goal to have 20 LEED-certified buildings downtown by 2011. Many are already in the works.

Crossville

Crossville has begun the process of becoming a "cool city." As a cool city, Crossville has pledged to take the necessary steps to reduce oil dependency and global warming pollution. In addition, Mayor Graham is one of a handful of Tennessee mayors who have signed the USCM Climate Protection Agreement. In March 2008, graduate planning students with the University of Tennessee Knoxville convened a citywide task group to identify ways to become more energy efficient. The mayor has also requested in the city budget funds to further implement a climate action planning process. The three top goals Crossville is working toward are (1) greening the city's vehicle fleets with hybrid and other cleaner cars, (2) modernizing city buildings with money-saving energy-efficiency technology, and (3) investing in clean and safe renewable energy. Mayor Graham is also a member of a newly-created organization – the Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council, a non-profit organization chartered to promote renewable energy opportunities for rural economic development in Tennessee.

Franklin

Franklin has developed an Alternative Fuel & Energy Action Plan for its municipal services. The plan outlines steps to be taken by city departments and employees and works in conjunction with the goals being set forth by the Sustainability Task Force. The Task Force was created in 2008 with an overall goal of Franklin becoming a top 25 "Green City" or a regional leader in sustainability. Specific action items include: increasing the use of renewable energy to meet 10 percent of the city's peak electrical load within seven years; decrease waste to the landfill; implement activities to educate the public on the city's sustainability efforts using the city's web site and local PEG channel; conduct workshops; add a variety of alternative fuel vehicles within the city's fleet; and develop policies for aggressive water conservation efforts. One green project currently underway, is the city's new police headquarters, which is a LEED certified building. The building is scheduled to be completed November 2009.



Johnson City recently constructed a green house allowing the city to grow its own plants at a significant savings. The project also encourages planting throughout the city.

and the Household Waste and Spring Cleanup days allowing them to dispose of waste items properly at central locations, while the city enjoys significant savings by growing their own plants and shrubbery in the municipal greenhouse. As the first city in Northeast Tennessee to convert its fleet to biodiesel, Johnson City is also adding more hybrids to their city fleet, with electric buses utilized for its public transportation program.

Knoxville

Knoxville was one of a dozen cities that the DOE selected to participate in the 2008 Solar America Cities program. The program is part of the DOE's Solar America Initiative that aims to make solar-generated electricity cost competitive by 2015. The selection includes a \$200,000 DOE grant to the city and another \$250,000 worth of technical assistance from DOE. Through the solar program, Knoxville's plans to install a 4.8 kW solar power generation system in the new LEED-certified downtown transit center; integrate solar hot water systems in some of the homes the city's Community Development Department and its non-profit partners develop; initiate various outreach programs targeted



at businesses and individuals interested in solar power; establish high quality solar installation certification courses to strengthen the local workforce; and create technical training programs for city, county and KUB code officials and inspectors. In addition to the city's commitment to solar energy, the city is also involved in several other energy saving programs, including a comprehensive plan aimed at significantly reducing energy and water consumption and costs at city facilities, participation in TVA's green power switch program with a goal of making the entire downtown area green one block at a time, and replacement of the city's traffic signals with energy efficient LED

Nashville

Mayor Karl Dean is also signatory to the USCM Climate Protection Agreement. The Mayor's Green Ribbon Committee on Environmental Sustainability was created to assure that Nashville continues to be a livable city with clean air, clean water, and open spaces. Work on the green house gas inventory began in February 2009. The inventory will measure green house gas emissions produced in all of Davidson County, and will be the first comprehensive study of its type to be done in Nashville. In addition, Mayor Dean signed a Metro Council Ordinance establishing a "Green Building Permit" process and "Green Certificates of Occupancy." This ordinance, along with the legislation passed last year establishing sustainable design standards for Metro Government buildings, illustrates Nashville's movement to green building. Metro's "Green Street" program — new legislation sponsored by Metro Council — will allow Metro Water Services to include green infrastructure projects in its annual capital budget request. "Green Streets" uses natural techniques such as planters and tree boxes on public right of ways to help manage stormwater problems and improve water quality. Other green initiatives include: vehicle emissions testing program; green parking - premium parking spaces marked "G" and painted green for employees who carpool or drive a high-efficiency vehicle to work; a neighborhood design plan that addresses land use, transportation, and community design at the neighborhood level; and recycling with 13 recycling drop off sites, USD curbside recycling, and three convenience centers.

Johnson City

For more than 15 years, Johnson City has been at the forefront of numerous environmental services and award winning programs including Project of the Year by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award for their "Gas to Energy" partnership program which removes 8,344 tons of methane gas and 20,617 tons of carbon dioxide from the environment each year. The city is also investigating alternative energy resources and is studying the use of wind power to generate electricity for municipal facilities. Johnson City began their quest for a cleaner environment in 1990, implementing the first curbside recycling program in the state. Coupled with a yard-waste recycling service, Johnson City diverted 21,535 tons of waste from their municipal landfill in the time span of one year. The landfill, Iris Glen, has been an environmentally sound model for 15 years, in both construction and technology. Citizens are enjoying the convenience of the e-waste recycling program



In Chattanooga, residents are encouraged to take the Mayor's environmental pledge:

Five simple things that each of us can do, starting today. Whether we live in an apartment or home, these small choices can help create a healthier, cleaner, and safer environment for everyone.

ENERGY

I PLEDGE to replace 4 lightbulbs with compact fluorescent lightbulbs
TO eliminate 1 ton of carbon dioxide emissions over the life of the CFL's.
CHATTANOOGA can save enough kilowatt hours to power the electric shuttle the distance to the moon and back 925 times.

WATER

I PLEDGE to turn off the water when brushing my teeth
TO save 3.8 gallons of water a day.
CHATTANOOGA can conserve enough water to fill the freshwater and saltwater tanks of the Tennessee Aquarium, every day.

AIR

I PLEDGE to replace at least one car trip a month with walking, bicycling, carpooling, or public transit.
TO decrease carbon dioxide emissions by 1,000 pounds.
CHATTANOOGA can eliminate more than 230,000 tons of carbon dioxide, the equivalent to removing 4,600 cars from the road every year.

LAND

I PLEDGE to plant and care for at least one tree, this year
TO save at least 13 pounds of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere annually.
CHATTANOOGA eliminate as much carbon dioxide as the trees on 2,712 acres of undeveloped land, every year.

WASTE

I PLEDGE to reduce my use of plastic shopping bags, by substituting reusable bags instead.
TO save up to 150 plastic bags a year from being made.
CHATTANOOGA can reduce our use of oil by 300,000 gallons, every year.

Small actions add up, when we act together for Chattanooga's greener good.

Oak Ridge offers rewards for recycling



In Oak Ridge, residents and city leaders are celebrating the launch of an exciting new recycling rewards program.

RecycleBank motivates people to recycle by quickly and easily measuring the amount of material each home recycles and then converting that activity into RecycleBank Points. Reward points can be used at hundreds of local and national rewards partners. The premise is simple; more recycling equals more points and these points help to conserve monetary resources for Oak Ridge residents.

RecycleBank, a New York based company, pioneered this new concept by making it "user-friendly" by using a new single-stream method. Oak Ridge residents place all of their recyclable materials into a single container, which eliminates any confusion about separating materials and decreases

the amount of time spent sorting, thus boosting recycling efforts.

This program also complemented the city's recent move to expand curbside recycling with their waste contractor, Waste Connections. Waste Connections began offering single stream recycling last October.

RecycleBank residents can use their RecycleBank Points toward discounts with dozens of featured partners like Sears, Home Depot, Kraft and CVS Pharmacy. National retailers are not the only ones who recognize the potential of this program and support recycling. Local businesses are encouraged to join RecycleBank and in Oak Ridge, more than 30 businesses have signed up to participate in the RecycleBank Reward Program.

For more information about Oak Ridge's RecycleBank program, please visit www.cortn.org.

The LEED Green Building Rating System™ promotes a measurable, whole-building, performance-driven approach to sustainability:

- site development
- materials selection
- energy efficiency
- good indoor environmental quality
- water savings

Green construction practices make significant difference in heating and cooling buildings. Electric bills, for example, are expected to be 30 percent less than conventionally-built new structures.

LEED certification is awarded by the US Green Building Council, based on the number of credits achieved.