

Former Gov. McWherter dies

BY CAROLE GRAVES
TML Communications Director

Former Tennessee Gov. Ned Ray McWherter died April 4, after a battle against cancer. He was 80.

McWherter was elected the 46th governor of Tennessee in 1986 and served two terms.

Prior to his election as governor, McWherter served 18 years in the state House of Representatives elected in 1968. A Dresden resident, he ran to represent a rural district in the northwest corner of the state. After only two terms, his colleagues elected him Speaker, serving a record seven terms. For the next 14 years he was the dominant force in the House.

During his tenure at the state Capitol, he helped pass many pieces of landmark legislation including the 21st Century Schools education reform program, now known as the BEP, to more fairly distribute and increase school funding across the state. He replaced Medicaid with TennCare, a pioneering program and regarded as a national model for expanding health insurance to the poor. He helped pass a comprehensive road program, launching an aggressive plan of constructing four-lane highways to every county seat. He also ushered in a \$300 million corrections program that included construction of prisons across the state.

He has been described as an "Old South" politician, a quintessential good ole boy who was known for his plain talk and forever "easing along." He has been lauded for his bipartisan approach and his masterful consensus building.

He was considered to be a true



Ned McWherter (1930 - 2011)

friend to local governments, making sure that whenever the state enacted any tax increases that local governments received their share, including a portion of a gas tax increase in 1986 and a sales tax increase in 1993.

After leaving the governor's office in 1995, he remained in politics working as an unofficial adviser to former President Bill Clinton, whose friendship was forged when Clinton was governor of Arkansas. He often campaigned for Democratic candidates, including future Gov. Phil Bredesen, Vice President Al Gore during his 2000 bid for president, and his son Mike during his own run for governor in 2010.

Aside from his son, McWherter is survived by his daughter-in-law Mary Jane; two grandchildren; a stepdaughter; and two step-grandchildren.

See **MCWHERTER** on Page 5

Making sense of the 2010 Census and what it means for state shared revenues

BY KEVIN KRUSHENSKI
TML Research Analyst

Every 10 years the U.S. Census Bureau determines the population of the United States. Nearly everyone understands the importance of these numbers as they are used for determining reapportionment and redistricting at the federal, state and local levels. However, the census numbers are of added importance to cities as the census numbers are also used to determine eligibility for a number of federally-funded direct and/or competitive grant programs and by the state to distribute shared revenues that are allocated on a per capita basis.

The 2010 decennial census shows that the state's population now numbers slightly more than 6.3 million. This represents an increase in the state's population of 656,822, or 11.5 percent, over the last 10 years. The census also shows that the population of the state's cities and towns increase by 440,765; accounting for about 67

percent of the total increase in the state's population over the decade.

The largest percentage increase in municipal population occurred in Middle Tennessee, 68 percent, followed by East Tennessee, 17 percent, and West Tennessee, 15 percent.

The populations of the cities and towns located in the counties immediately contiguous to Shelby, Davidson, Knox and Hamilton Counties grew, on average, at a rate of 35 percent over the last decade. These cities and towns accounted for about 46 percent of the growth in the state's municipal population or about 30.7 percent of the growth in the state's population.

All told, 228 cities and towns experienced an increase of 456,808 in their collective populations, while 119 municipalities collectively lost 16,043 in population.

Nashville realized the largest increase in actual population; increasing by 55,698. Nashville was followed by Murfreesboro, which realized an increase of 39,939. Together, these two cities realized an increase

in population of 95,637 or about 22 percent of the total increase in the state's municipal population.

Oakland and Arlington saw the largest percentage increase in population with growth of 418 percent and 348 percent, respectively. There were eight cities or towns whose population grew by more than 140 percent.

For population information concerning any municipality, please refer to the 2010 Census section on TML's website www.TML1.org

State Shared Revenues

With the release of the 2010 decennial census and the updated municipal populations, cities and towns are wondering how the new population figures will affect the distribution of state-shared revenues and when cities can expect to see this change reflected in the distributions received from the state?

State shared revenues are funds collected by the state, dis-

See **CENSUS** on Page 6

Agenda for higher education linked to state's economic development

BY CAROLE GRAVES

Calling it a landmark opportunity for education in Tennessee, Dr. Richard Rhoda, executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC), recently briefed city officials on the Complete College Tennessee Act of 2010.

His remarks came during the TML Legislative Conference held in March – a little more than a year from when the Act was first enacted. He said that over the last 12 months THEC, the University of Tennessee (UT), and the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) have completed the planning stage and are well into the implementation stage now.

"The Complete College Tennessee Act is unique, not just for Tennessee but on the national scale. No other state has enacted higher education reform legislation of this magnitude, at least within the last number of decades," he said.

At the center of these reforms is the need for more Tennesseans to be better educated and trained, while also acknowledging the state's diminished fiscal capacity to support higher education. One of the key components of the act is a new funding formula that rewards schools for their graduation rates.

"It dictates development of new higher education funding formula that is driven by concrete outcomes and replaces the formula that was largely enrollment driven," he explained. "The outcomes include number of graduates, research funding, and graduation rates at the universities, and student remediation, job placements, student transfers, and associate degrees at the community colleges."

"State support for higher education has been reduced dramatically as a result of the recession," Rhoda continued. "Appropriations have de-



Photo by Victoria South

Dr. Richard Rhoda, executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, recently briefed city officials on the Complete College Tennessee Act of 2010.

created 25 percent over the last three years, and the likelihood of increased support of any significance in the near future is remote."

The Act, initiated by the Bredesen administration during the 2010 special session on education reforms, was also designed to enhance cooperation between colleges and universities in the Tennessee Board of Regents and University of Tennessee systems. It contains a set of measures to improve student success, including: common courses and course numbering among institutions to ease the transfer of students, clearly identified curriculum designed to transfer from community colleges to universities, dual ad-

missions at a community college and university simultaneously, and elimination of remedial and developmental courses at universities.

"It speaks to reorienting the community colleges more as a unified system," said Rhoda.

The Act also calls for enhancing the research function of UT Knoxville, largely by strengthening its relationship with the Oak Ridge National Lab, and with the Memphis Research Consortium -- a collaboration of the University of Memphis, UT Health Science Center, and St. Jude Hospital.

Rhoda said that by improving the educational attainment levels of

See **EDUCATION** on Page 9

EPA conducts Phase II stormwater survey

BY JOHN CHLARSON
MTAS Public Works Consultant

MTAS has been working with the Tennessee Stormwater Association, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on a survey of the NPDES Phase II Stormwater Permit holders in Tennessee to determine a baseline of attitudes toward those systems participating in the qualified local program option (QLP).

The survey will be repeated over a three-year period, a total of three times, to determine if there has been a change in opinions toward the QLP option. An MS4 that is a QLP will have sole jurisdiction over construction permits and activities in its juris-

diction, while still having access to enforcement support from TDEC.

The EPA is committed to expanding the use of the QLP option. Voluntary participation anywhere in the U.S. is lacking. Participation in the QLP option is mandatory in some states.

EPA and TDEC are trying, through an outreach with MTAS, to find incentives and rewards for participating in the QLP option. An effective QLP is expected to offer multiple benefits including:

- the creation of a streamlined and more efficient process for managing construction stormwater activities by eliminating duplication of the effort between MS4s and TDEC;
- the lessening of confusion and burden on construction site op-

erators by providing one set of requirements to follow; and

- ultimately, the improvement of water quality protection due to increased program efficiency.

If these surveys show that the outreach program in Tennessee is effective, the EPA plans to use Tennessee as a national model. The program materials that TDEC and MTAS develop will be used by the EPA to assist other states with developing and implementing the QLP option in their states, ultimately improving water quality across the United States.

For more information on the QLP option, contact Chlarson at john.chlarson@tennessee.edu or (731) 425-4785.



2011 TML Annual Conference fast approaching; make plans to attend!

The TML Annual Conference is fast approaching and city officials in Murfreesboro and members of the TML staff are working hard to make sure the 2011 Annual Conference is another memorable event.

Scheduled for June 11 - 14 at the Murfreesboro Conference Center, the conference will feature dynamic speakers and informative workshops.

With a theme of *Rising to the Challenge*, many of the conference workshops and speakers will focus on helping community leaders plan for the difficult challenges ahead.

Dr. Scott Paine, professor of government affairs at the University of Tampa, will lead a two-part workshop on public leadership entitled *Rethinking Leadership; Reclaiming Public Trust*. Scheduled for Monday, June 13, the workshop will examine a wide-range of political, social, and technological changes that have taken place in the last half-century that have altered the stage on which contemporary public leadership must be enacted. He paints a compelling picture of a political world that now challenges the talents of the most skilled leaders. By following some of his recommendations, community leaders can help restore the public confidence and trust necessary for a thriving American democracy in the 21st Century.

Also on Monday, Dr. Brian Polansky will offer a workshop on leadership and communications entitled *What Great Leaders Say*. Polansky believes that the pressure on municipal leaders to communicate with their constituencies has never been greater or more challenging. Financial shortfalls, combined with an increasingly critical public and media, require leaders to have a strong understanding and command of communications skills. Participants will learn specific techniques that enhance their leadership abilities and personal effectiveness; identify the critical verbal skills of leading others; present proven strategies for



Scott Paine



Brian Polansky

developing trust and collaboration; and provide tools to effectively motivate commitment and cooperation in others.

Other workshop topics will include Retail Retention & Economic Development, Entrepreneurship for Rural Communities, Civility in Government, Employee Benefits & Public Pensions, Fuel Stabilization, Sign Reflectivity Regulations, and City Best Practices.

New this year are several added networking opportunities including a special fun-filled evening on Sat-

See **CONFERENCE** on Page 3

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

BRENTWOOD

Williamson County has been named the healthiest county in Tennessee by a new annual study. The County Health Rankings report, issued by The University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, ranks counties using factors ranging from length of life to clinical care and socioeconomic factors.

CHATTANOOGA

Chattanooga has installed its first public charging station for electric vehicles. The station at the downtown Doubletree Hotel was unveiled recently. Use of the station is free and provides electric vehicles a nearly full charge in four to six hours. Such stations are going up in 18 cities and major metropolitan areas in six states and the District of Columbia. The national EVProject will eventually place 100 public units in Chattanooga plus about another 100 residential units. The project is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy through a federal stimulus grant of \$114.8 million.

DYERSBURG

The Water/Sewer Department has found a way to control spending by recycling. Employees are returning good used parts and placing them in the department's inventory. On inclement days the sandblasting machine is used to blast and refurbish the parts. First, they are cleaned manually of dirt and debris and then put in the sandblaster to remove corrosion. The city saved \$4,859.37 in replacement value on parts that were put back in stock during the demolition of an unused apartment building. Also, scrap cast iron and brass parts were sold to a local auto parts and metals dealer for a total of \$2,612.11.

FRANKLIN

Franklin-based Mars Petcare is planning for a new 500,000-square-foot campus in Williamson County's Thompson's Station. The campus would include five buildings on more than 54 acres located south of State Route 840 on Columbia Pike. Reports in October said that the privately held company was pursuing a major expansion that would add manufacturing and research func-

tions to its current corporate presence. Mars spokespersons said those new operations are to be part of the company's expanded campus. Mars Petcare, the parent company of brands like Pedigree and Whiskas, currently occupies about 142,000 square feet in two Franklin locations.

JACKSON

Tennessee Mental Health Commissioner Douglas Varney says Jackson is leading the way in mental health and substance abuse prevention efforts. Varney toured the Criminal Justice Complex and Madison County Jail to view some of the issues local authorities have to deal with in the courts and jails. Local officials said Jackson's Mental Health Court helps keep the mentally ill out of jail and on the proper medication. The area also has placed more efforts on getting officers to complete Crisis Intervention Team training.

JACKSON

Diamond Foods Inc. has signed an agreement to take over Procter & Gamble Co.'s Pringles business, which includes a factory in Jackson. Procter & Gamble has said the plant is not shutting down and the employees will be offered jobs by Diamond.

JONESBOROUGH

After decades, Jonesborough's deserted Chester Inn will soon be brought back to life as a museum telling the history of Tennessee's oldest town. The Heritage Alliance and the Tennessee Historic Commission have been working together for several years to get the museum up and running. While the exhibits haven't been finalized, the museum will include the story of William Chester, who built the once renowned inn; two of the city's educational anchors — the Graded School and the Warner Institute; the town's transportation and architectural history and much more. Because space is limited, the museum will rely heavily on photographs to tell the story of the town's past. The largest photographic display will actually be outside the museum for those walking or driving past. The new museum will be an extension of the histories told in the Jonesborough/Washington County History Museum, located in the Visitors Center.

KINGSPORT

An Irish company is negotiating with local economic development leaders to bring a new plant and up to 450 jobs to the area. The company has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to bring a new manufacturing operation to the former Magneti Marelli building near Tri-Cities Regional Airport. If all goes as planned, 90 percent of the company's production work in Kingsport will be auto related in the first year. The company supplies parts for various automakers, including BMW and Volkswagen. It also manufactures small wind turbines, a growing green energy technology.

LAVERGNE

Borders has reversed a decision to close its distribution center in LaVergne, sparing about 300 jobs. In January — one month before the struggling Michigan-based bookseller filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection — Borders announced it would close the location later this summer. Employees were informed that the center will instead stay open for the foreseeable future.

MEMPHIS

Major reductions in regional and connecting flights by Delta Air Lines Inc. at Memphis International Airport will be a hard hit on an airport known for its regional routes. Citing increased fuel costs, Delta dropped 2 percent of its worldwide capacity, cutting the capacity of its flights at Memphis International, a number based on the number of seats, by 8-10 percent. This translates to a 20 percent reduction in flight activity at the airport.

MEMPHIS

A Wisconsin brewing company plans to buy a tornado-stricken bottling plant in Memphis, a \$41 million venture that will employ 500 people. City Brewing Co. plans to purchase the Hardy Bottling facility for \$30 million and will invest another \$11 million to update the plant and restart beer production. The company hopes to begin beer production at the Memphis facility in July, if all the proper licenses are approved. As a contract beverage producer, City Brewing makes and packages beer, tea and energy drinks for large beverage companies. The Memphis fa-



After decades of lying empty, Jonesborough's Chester Inn will be brought back to life as a museum helping to tell the history of Tennessee's oldest town. The museum will serve as an extension of the histories told in the Jonesborough/Washington County History Museum, located in the Visitors Center.

cility will be renamed Blues City Brewery.

MURFREESBORO

CNN recently aired "Unwelcome: The Muslims Next Door," a one-hour documentary about the debate inside and outside the courtroom both for and against plans by local Muslims to build a mosque and community center just south of the city limits. "We focused on both sides," said CNN's Soledad O'Brien, who traveled to Murfreesboro to conduct interviews as anchor for the "In America" documentary series. The Islamic Center of Murfreesboro's plans to build the mosque has drawn debate from multiple sides since site plans for the 53,000-square-foot community center were approved by the Rutherford County Regional Planning Commission in May 2010.

NASHVILLE

The Metro Transit Authority is launching an on-demand bus service in the Antioch area, a suburb of Nashville. The new bus link service allows customers to dial a phone number and schedule a pick-up.

PIGEONFORGE

Leaders and residents in Pigeon Forge celebrated the city's 50th anniversary recently with featured speaker, former Pigeon Forge city attorney and now Justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court Gary R. Wade. The city, incorporated in 1961, has grown to a tourist destination with more than 10 million annual visitors. "Our sister cities planned to build an airport through the middle of Pigeon Forge," said Veta King, city historian. To fight that plan, Pigeon Forge decided to incorporate.

MTAS Consultant named Assistant Commissioner

Commerce and Insurance Commissioner Julie Mix McPeak has appointed Gary West as assistant commissioner of fire prevention for the state of Tennessee.

West has served as a fire management consultant for the UT Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) since 2005. He is certified in more than a dozen specialty areas ranging from code analyst to zoning inspector.

As the assistant commissioner, he will oversee the Division of Fire Prevention, which includes the state's building and safety codes enforcement operations, arson and explosives investigations, and training for volunteer and career firefighters and codes officials through the state's new Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy.

"Gary West has been a great consultant for MTAS and for the cities and towns of Tennessee, and I've been very impressed with his hard work, his professionalism and his leadership," said MTAS Executive Director Steve Thompson.



Gary West

Among many important projects at MTAS, West spearheaded a fire mortality project with Dr. David H. Folz, UT professor of political science. "His keen interest in and passion for advancing fire protection with the aim of reducing fire fatalities and injuries in Tennessee proved to be contagious," said Folz.

Prior to his work with MTAS, he served as the city of Gatlinburg's fire chief.

Knoxville bids adieu to Chief Sterling Owen

Gov. Bill Haslam made a special stop in Knoxville to join others in wishing his friend and colleague Chief Sterling Owen a happy retirement. Owen, who retired March 26, was appointed as chief of police during Haslam's term as Knoxville's mayor. The city held Owen's retirement party at the Knoxville Civic Coliseum where hundreds showed up for the celebration.

A former FBI agent, Owen moved to Knoxville in 1981 to investigate the Butcher bank fraud cases. He has been chief of the 558-member Knoxville Police Department since September 2004.

Before that, Owen served as the first chairman of the city's Police Advisory and Review Committee when it was created in 1998. Chief Owen's successor will be Chief Deputy David Roush.



Knoxville Police Chief Sterling Owen accepts 2010 TML Achievement Award for Excellence in Police Services.



PEOPLE

BY TML STAFF REPORTS

Clinton's long-time parks and recreation department head now has a second, full-time job - city manager. **Roger Houck**, 46, will serve as city manager and director



Houck

of parks and recreation. Houck has been a city employee for 24 years and was named parks and recreation director on Jan. 1, 1990.

Gail Cook has been hired as Clinton's new finance director. She replaces James Cotton, Jr., who had been serving as the interim finance director since October 2010.



Cook

Cook was the longtime Anderson County budget director, serving from 1999 to 2008, and is currently employed by the University of Tennessee's Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) as a finance and accounting consultant.

Retired Dyersburg Police Chief **Bobby Williamson** has been appointed by Gov. Haslam to the Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Commission. The POST Commission sets standards, qualifications and training for police officers and departments throughout the state of Tennessee. The commission meets monthly at the Law Enforcement Training Academy in Donelson, Tenn.

Jason R. Scott, engineering technician and Stormwater Matters program coordinator for the Town of Farragut, has earned the Certified Storm-



Scott

water Manager (CSM) designation from the American Public Works Association. The CSM is intended for experts in the public and private sectors who coordinate and implement storm-water management programs for city, county, state, provincial and federal agencies. These individuals assist in administering drainage, flood control and water quality programs.

East Tennessee State University President **Paul Stanton Jr.** plans to retire next year on Jan. 14, 2012, the 15-year anniversary of his becoming ETSU president. Upon the approval of the Tennessee Board of Regents, he hopes to be named president emeritus and perhaps assume a fundraising role at the university. When he retires next year, Stanton will have spent 27 years at ETSU, as a faculty member, department chair, dean, vice president and then president.



Stanton

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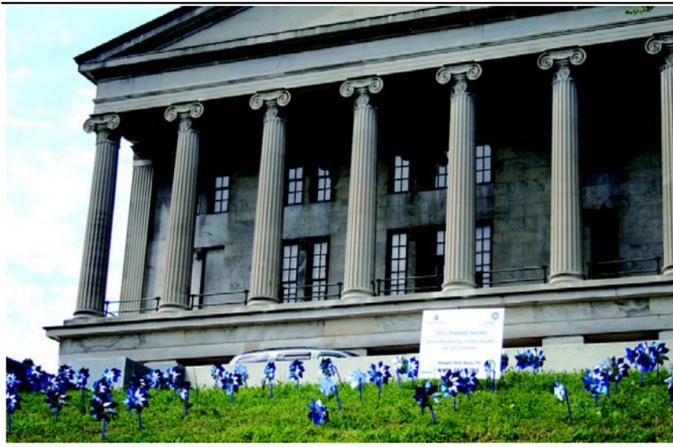


Photo by Victoria South

First Lady helps plant Pinwheels for Prevention Garden at State Capitol

First Lady Crissy Haslam joined Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee in the planting of a pinwheel garden at the Capitol to help launch Child Abuse Prevention Month. Pinwheels have become a focal point of the annual awareness campaign, which is held in April of each year. "This is a great opportunity to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect, and create strong communities to support children and families," Mrs. Haslam said. "The pinwheel is reflective of the bright futures all children deserve." In addition to the blue pinwheel garden, the capitol will be lit with blue lights in observance of child abuse prevention, representing the 95,000 infants to be born in Tennessee this year. "Looking forward," Mrs. Haslam said to attendees and prevention partners at the capitol, "the pinwheels will also represent the children whose lives are made better because of the mission that gathered us all here."

KaBOOM! to offer \$2.1 million grants to municipalities

BY NLC STAFF

In an effort to combat the Play Deficit among children, KaBOOM! and Dr Pepper Snapple group will award 103 grants totaling \$2.1 million during the next three years as part of the Playful City USA program. The Playful City USA grants are part of Let's Play — a community partnership led by Dr Pepper Snapple Group to get kids active nationwide.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, only one in five American children lives within walking distance of a park or playground, resulting in a play deficit among children. This play deficit is having disastrous consequences for kids physically, as well as mentally and socially. Children desperately need a place to play every day in order to be active and healthy.

KaBOOM! created the Playful City USA program in 2007 to help local governments ensure their children have the time and space they need to play and to be active and healthy. The program rewards cities and towns that make play a priority and use innovative initiatives to get children playing outdoors more.

"Cities receiving Playful City USA recognition have always enjoyed the benefits of identifying and sharing best practices, inclusion in the national discussion about the importance of play and local praise for their dedication to children," said KaBOOM! CEO and co-founder Darell Hammond. "In these difficult economic times, KaBOOM! is thrilled to offer grants to Playful City USA communities to help them create even more play opportunities for their children and help KaBOOM! save play."

Despite budget deficits, Playful City USA communities continue to dramatically increase play opportunities for children, using innovative best practices.

Cities including Orlando, St. Petersburg, Fla., and Tucson, Ariz., have significantly increased the

quantity of playspaces by developing joint-use agreements with local school districts to open school recreation facilities to the public during non-school hours.

Upon becoming a Playful City USA community, Dothan, Ala., committed to using a community-build process for the construction of all future parks and playgrounds in the city. The community-build process engages citizens and organizations, while relying on volunteers for construction, which significantly lowers the cost of building playgrounds.

St. Petersburg and Tucson were among the 12 communities featured in Play Matters, a KaBOOM! report designed to help cities build awareness and political capital while developing a policy on play. The complete report is available for free at www.kaboom.org/playmatters.

The new Playful City USA grants will go toward supporting two of these best practices communities across the country.

A total of 103 grants worth \$2.1 million are available to Playful City USA recognized cities and towns between 2011-13. Grants range in values of \$30,000, \$20,000 and \$15,000 and will be awarded to existing Playful City USA communities as well as communities receiving Playful City USA recognition for the first time.

The \$30,000 and \$15,000 grants are available for projects relating to joint-use agreements and the \$20,000 grants will be awarded to cities using the community playground build process. Cities also are eligible to receive multiple grants during the three-year period. Dr Pepper Snapple Group, a member of the leadership circle within the KaBOOM! National Partner Program, is providing the funding for the grants.

In 2010, 118 communities in 36 different states earned Playful City USA recognition, ranging in size from Atlanta and San Francisco to Shirley, Mass., and Ottawa, Kan.

Charleston officials bid new industries welcome

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

It's not every day that a tiny community in Tennessee becomes the manufacturing envy of the nation, but big dreams are coming true for Charleston, where the city, along with Cleveland and Bradley County, is welcoming a string of celebrity industries like Amazon.com, GE, Olin, Whirlpool and Wacker Chemie as neighbors. Charleston Mayor Walter Goode said he's excited to extend all of the incoming industries a heartfelt welcome from the community.

"I am so happy they are coming here. This is the best thing since Bowater in 1954," said Goode, following the April 8 ground breaking celebration of Wacker Chemical Corp., the second-largest producer of hyperpure polysilicon in the world. The Munich company is building a \$1 billion polysilicon production facility at Charleston's Hiwassee Industrial Park in northern Bradley County, its first solar cell plant outside Germany.

Bowater, Inc., now called AbitibiBowater, is a pulp and paper giant in Calhoun just across the

Hiwassee River from Charleston, and now one of the largest newsprint mills in North America, producing 750,000 metric tons of newsprint and specialty paper per year.

Adjacent to the Wacker site, a new Olin Corporation factory will act as a supplier of chlorine to Wacker as well as to other major customers throughout the region. The Charleston plant recently invested \$160 million in new technology to expand the production of potassium hydroxide, while ending their use of mercury cell technology in 2012.

Similar in size to its planned one-million square foot distribution/fulfillment center, to be built on Volkswagen Drive, in the Enterprise South Industrial park in nearby



Officials broke ground April 8 at the 550-acre site that will become the new Wacker Chemie AG plant, near Hiwassee Industrial Park, adjacent to Olin Chemical in Charleston. Wacker Chemie is the second-largest producer of hyperpure polysilicon in the world.

Hamilton County, Amazon.com is planning to invest \$49 million in a one-million square foot distribution center on a parcel of land that sits on I-75 at the Charleston Exit, adjacent to an existing distribution center operated by none other than General Electric.

Amazon.com projects full-time employment of approximately 226 people to work with larger products and the possibility of an additional 600 to 800 seasonal jobs.

Just recently, Whirlpool Corp. sealed its decision to remain in Cleveland permanently with a new \$120 million, 1.4 million square-foot manufacturing facility and distribution center. The plant celebrated its groundbreaking on Veteran's Day. The facility will add about 130 new jobs to its existing workforce of 1,500.

Global industry and economic possibilities could be a lot to digest for a small city that registered around 630 population in the 2000 census. But Police Chief Hank Hayden sums Charleston's success up to being neighborly. "I saw about 10 cars and a group of people at the firehall one weekend. I approached and it was Wacker officials just looking around and taking pictures," he said "They shook my hand and I was tickled to death to meet them!"



This year KaBOOM! and its partners will help 200 deserving communities to fund & build playgrounds. Pictured above is Anderson Park in Bristol, Tn., built last year.

These communities are making a commitment to play and physical activity by developing unique local action plans to increase the quantity and quality of play in their community. In doing so, some of the most innovative ideas and cost-effective programs are being developed in Playful City USA communities — proving that parks and play are more important than ever.

Communities wishing to receive grants and apply for Playful City USA status must meet five core commitments of the program:

- Create a local play commission task force
- Design an annual action plan for play
- Conduct a playspace audit of all publicly accessible play areas
- Identify current spending on capital projects and maintenance of playspaces
- Proclaim and celebrate an annual "KaBOOM! Play Day"

Details: Cities and towns can apply to become a Playful City USA community by completing the application available at www.kaboom.org/playfulcityusa. The application deadline is June 1.

TML Annual Conference June 11-14

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urday night to welcome you to the conference. Scheduled from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Embassy Suites, the Murfree Carlo Night will benefit the Boys and Girls Club of Middle Tennessee and will feature games, refreshments, and both a silent and live auction. On Sunday, the city of Murfreesboro is hosting a golf tournament at the Old Fort Golf Course. The tournament will include 18-holes of golf, prizes, refreshments and more.

The conference will kick off Sunday, June 12, with registration, vendor presentations, district meetings, and the opening general session followed by the host city reception. An awards breakfast on Tuesday will conclude the conference.

To register, go to TML's website to download a registration form, www.TML1.org.

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

 SATURDAY, JUNE 11 	
7 - 10 pm	Murfree Carlo Night
 SUNDAY, JUNE 12 	
9 am - 5 pm	Exhibit Hall / Registration
11-11:45 am	Vendor Workshop 1
12 noon	Lunch
1 - 1:45 pm	Vendor Workshop 2
2 - 2:45 pm	District Meetings
3 - 4:15 pm	Opening Session
4:30 - 5:30 pm	Concurrent Workshops
6:30 - 8:30 pm	Host City Reception
 MONDAY, JUNE 13 	
9 - 11:15 am	Mobile Workshop: Murfreesboro
9 - 10 am	Public Works Facility
10:15 - 11:15 am	Concurrent Workshops
11:30 - 12:15 am	Concurrent Workshops
12:30 - 2 pm	Annual Business Meeting
2:15 - 3:15 pm	Lunch
3:30 - 4:30 pm	Concurrent Workshops
4:30 - 5:30 pm	Concurrent Workshops
6:30 - 11pm	Pool Party
 TUESDAY, JUNE 14 	
8 - 10 am	Annual Awards Breakfast

Good Risk Management is just Good Management



Municipal parks and playgrounds can contribute to a community's overall quality of life. But they can also pose some safety hazards. Each year, emergency rooms treat more than 200,000 children ages 14 and under for playground-related injuries.

Through a comprehensive training program offered by the TML Risk Management Pool, city leaders are taught hazard identification and risk management methods.



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STATE BRIEFS



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

Unemployment benefits ending

Some 28,000 Tennesseans will lose their unemployment benefits of \$275 per week earlier than they thought because the state no longer qualifies for federal stimulus funds designed to help the long-term unemployed make ends meet. The extra benefits will be cut off as of April 16. At issue is 20 weeks of extended federal benefits that had been made available since June 2009 to Tennesseans without work for long periods, as well as to thousands of others in the same leaky boat in other high unemployment states. But because Tennessee's unemployment rate has stabilized — several counties have seen their rates improve by a percentage point or more in the past 12 months — the extra weeks of jobless pay are about to go up in smoke.

State receives \$8.3M for GM

Tennessee has received a federal award of \$8.3 million to assist General Motors workers affected by layoffs in the automotive industry. The award from the U.S. Department of Labor will help former GM employees in Spring Hill and these supplier companies: Johnson Controls, MAPA Spontex, Penske Logistics and Premier Manufacturing Services. Gov. Bill Haslam said the goal of the grant is to provide workers with the necessary training to get new jobs.

TDOT railroad safety campaign

TDOT is launching a new safety campaign aimed at keeping drivers and others safe at railroad crossings. From now until 2013, 16 billboards and 94 large digital posters will be displayed across the state near railroad crossings with a lot of traffic. In the last two years, there have been 95 vehicle-train collisions in Tennessee, killing 5 people and injuring 26 others. One person has died in a collision with a train this year. TDOT said nearly two-thirds of all collisions occur during daylight hours. According to TDOT Commissioner John Schroer, "More than 700 fatalities occurred in the U.S. last year as a result of vehicle-train collisions.... Those statistics are

proof we need to intensify our efforts to educate the public about taking unnecessary risks at railroad crossings." TDOT said the average train weighs 12 million pounds. And that's something to keep in mind before trying to beat the train.

TN ranks laziest of states

The South is home to eight of the 10 "laziest" states in the U.S., with Tennessee being the laziest of all, according to a new list published by online news site MainStreet.com. The list was compiled from a report done by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that lists "behavioral indicators" relating to fitness. The indicators range from how often residents exercise to the number of parks and playgrounds located in a particular area. The most important statistic on the list is the "proportion of adults who achieve at least 150 minutes a week of rigorous physical activity." Tennessee topped MainStreet's list with the lowest percentage of adults, 51.8 percent, reporting that they exercise at least two and a half hours per week.

TN income grows 3.8 percent

Tennessee's income grew 3.8 percent from 2009 to 2010, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. The national average was 3 percent growth in personal income. However, wages remain below pre-recession peaks in most job categories. State personal income estimates include three major components - earnings, property income and personal current transfer receipts. All three components rose nationally and in Tennessee last year. "In 2009 only transfers grew as lower employment reduced earnings and lower interest rates and profits reduced property income (dividends, interest, and rent)."

2,200 inmates could be released

Roughly 2,200 inmates across Tennessee could be eligible for release earlier than expected. The state Department of Corrections is offering a 60-day sentence credit to some inmates through a program that's intended to relieve overcrowding and help save the state about \$6 million. But crime survivors worry society will ultimately pay the price.

Tenure bill approved

The state legislature has approved Gov. Haslam's plans to rewrite Tennessee's teacher tenure laws, handing the governor his first victory on his education reforms. The state House voted 65-32 to approve Haslam's proposal to lengthen the waiting period for teacher tenure by two years and to create a procedure for taking away tenure from low-performing teachers. The vote comes as Haslam's other main proposal — to lift the state's cap on the number of charter schools — is advancing through the legislature.

Mass layoffs headed downward

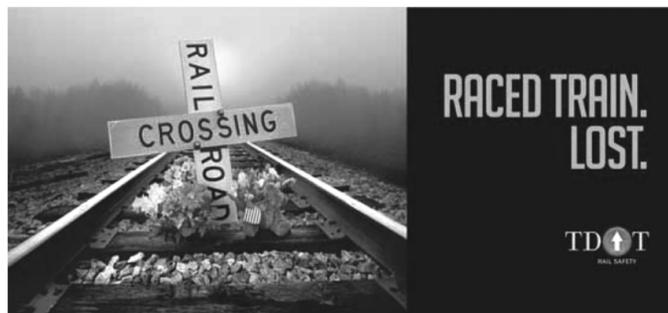
Mass layoffs in Tennessee reversed course and headed back down in February after a one-month uptick, according to a report issued by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Tennessee experienced 11 mass layoffs, defined as a layoff of 50 or more employees by a single company, in February. That compares to 26 in January, 19 in December and 15 in February 2010. For the month, 632 people made initial claims for unemployment insurance, compared with 2,143 in the prior month and 1,033 a year ago. In February, U.S. employers initiated 1,024 mass layoff actions involving 85,585 workers, seasonally adjusted. That was down from 1,183 mass layoffs in February 2010. Manufacturing accounted for 22 percent of all mass layoffs events nationally, down from 24 percent a year.

Ticks pose health concern

Tick-related illnesses have more than doubled in Tennessee since 2005. There were almost 400 cases last year, most of them Rocky Mountain spotted fever. Ticks are raising new concerns as new types of ticks and new tick-borne infections are emerging. Ticks that were previously rare in Tennessee, such as Gulf Coast and deer ticks have now been found to be much more widespread, possibly because of climate change. Both are associated with tick-borne infections. Ticks typically get active as soon as the weather becomes warm in the spring. Infection reports peak in June and July, but some are getting tick bites already, possibly as suburban growth pushes into tick habitats. Treatment is most successful within five days of symptoms. That's why anyone who feels ill and has been around ticks needs to go to a physician and start treatment, even before blood tests show an infection.

Report gauges "green jobs" wave

The extent to which green jobs can help restructure Tennessee's economy will be addressed in a state report "Growing Green: The Potential for Green Job Growth in Tennessee" being released in two months identifying the number of green jobs that already have been created and how many will be created in the next year. A state report last year said at least 6,000 direct jobs would be created by a handful of major clean-energy investments. They include Hemlock and another polysilicon manufacturer, Wacker Chemie AG; Volkswagen's billion-dollar facility to build cars with high fuel efficiency; Nissan's lithium-ion battery and Leaf electric car production; a



TDOT's new safety campaign aims to keep drivers and others safe at railroad crossings. In the last two years, there have been 95 vehicle-train collisions in Tennessee, killing 5 people and injuring 26 others.

\$200 million electric car charging station network; and various solar generation and research initiatives. Two years ago, another state report forecast that 40,000 jobs could be created from \$1.9 billion being invested in energy efficiency and renewable energy. Those funds included federal stimulus money for such things as weatherizing homes and making public housing more energy efficient.

Citizens favor malpractice caps

More than 60 percent of Tennesseans support caps on malpractice lawsuits, according to a new poll. The survey, conducted by Catalyst Healthcare Research and commissioned by the Tennessee Medical Association, found that 61 percent of respondents said they favor a bill to cap jury awards for non-economic damages. For those 65 and older, that support rises to 72 percent — the highest percentage among all age groups. The survey polled 600 people. "This survey is a fair snapshot of adults in our state and it shows most of our citizens understand how high jury awards — or the threat of them — affect rising health care costs and their access to their doctor," said TMA President-elect Dr. Michael Minch. Currently, the legislature is pondering the Tennessee Civil Justice Act of 2011, which would make a number of changes to the state's tort laws, including a \$750,000 limit on jury awards dam-

ages in medical malpractice cases.

TN ranks 8th in bridge maintenance

Federal data from Transportation for America shows that Tennessee ranks eighth best in maintaining its bridges. The organization said Tennessee has a "fix-it-first" commitment to ensure that existing bridges are maintained before new ones are built. The report cites TDOT's aggressive program for identifying problems in bridges before those maintenance problems become serious. However, many bridges in the state are rapidly nearing the end of their design life.

Proposal zaps overgrown lawns

Thousands of property owners across the state allow their yards and lawns to run wild, growing high grass and weeds that become neighborhood eyesores and sometimes threats to public health. Governments struggle to collect liens assessed against such properties. Other kinds of liens often take precedence, and city officials have to wait for a house to be sold before they can collect the money they've assessed against the owner. Legislation introduced by Rep. Janis Sontany and Sen. Joe Haynes would give liens for overgrown properties a priority over everything but property taxes, and they would be due at the same time as those taxes, ensuring that cities could collect them annually.

NATIONAL BRIEFS



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

The U.S. Postal Service will eliminate 7,500 administrative jobs and offer voluntary early retirement to employees with 20 years or more of service. The announcement follows a decision made in January to eliminate the Southeast Area Office of the U.S. Postal Service, and its 120 jobs on Humphreys Boulevard in Memphis. How the additional streamlining will affect local postal employment won't be clearly known until March 2012. The Postal Service employs about 1,800 people in Memphis. Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe said the move will result in \$750 million in annual savings, once fully implemented. The Postal Service says the closing of an

additional seven district offices will not affect customer service, mail delivery, operations or ZIP codes.

Farmers in states from Florida to Indiana are pressuring—and in some cases persuading—state politicians to rethink proposed legislation that would authorize crackdowns on illegal immigration. They argue that the legislation will drive Mexican workers out of their states, and that there aren't enough American workers willing to pick crops. They want legislation at the federal level, which wouldn't favor one state over another. At least 25 states are weighing proposals to crack down on illegal immigration and employers who hire them, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Making Great Cities Even Better



The city of LaFollette closed a \$1.5 million loan with the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund to be used for public works projects. Pictured are: Terry Sweat, finance director; Mayor Michael Starfield; and Joy Ellison, city clerk.

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The following is an excerpt of a 1986 article in *Tennessee Town in City* when then Speaker of House Ned Ray McWherter was running for governor.

McWherter says he'd be a first day governor

"Just give me a cup of coffee and four vanilla wafers and I'll be ready to go to work." - Ned McWherter

BY GAEL STAHL

One of the self images Ned McWherter is very comfortable with is in the saddle of a horse walking through stubbled fields on his farm in duck hunting season. Another is the Ned McWherter who began on a shoe manufacturer's assembly line and worked so hard he eventually owned the company, plus beer and oil distributorships, a nursing home, a trucking firm and other "small" businesses.

The rags to riches story goes further. He was elected to the state House of Representatives in 1968 and as Speaker since 1972 he has gaveled himself into perhaps the most influential politician in state government in the last 14 years, known more for his fairness and powerful persuasiveness than for broad, new initiatives.

Resisting the traditional Tennessee conservative beat of sacrificing general progress for the lowest state taxes in the nation, he has voted for all the major tax increases during most of that long period of unprecedented growth and immigration, and was instrumental in seeing that local government received shares of

the state's tax effort.

"Over my 14 years as Speaker, the legislature's distribution formula has funded local governments every time we've had revenue increases in Tennessee," McWherter said.

"The road program turned out okay," he continued. "I did not want to leave the Chamber as Speaker knowing that I failed to give Tennessee and local governments a program they needed. I gave it my best and passed it."

Ned McWherter, now a millionaire, proudly remembers dropping out of college to help his sharecropper parents, and his incessant self-education in management techniques that allowed him leeway to take part in the legislature.

He lives nearly as modestly as when he lived in the family frame house during his youth, does his own stock brokering, shrugs off non-productive tax shelters, pays cash rather than deducting interest, and prides himself on doing his fair share.

He was born in 1930 in Palmersville, now a resident of Dresden. He said he got into politics so that "the business community could have a representative in government."



In 1993, the Tennessee Municipal League worked with the McWherter Administration to make the half-cent increase in sales tax permanent.



Gov. Ned McWherter with Sen. Leonard Dunavant.

Legendary former Gov. Ned Ray McWherter remembered (1930 - 2011)

"When I became governor, Ned McWherter said, 'I'm going to help him, because if he succeeds, our state succeeds.' He was true to his word. That bipartisan spirit symbolized Ned's entire career. He was one of our state's finest public servants and a close friend. I will greatly miss him." - U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander

"I join my fellow Tennesseans in mourning the loss of one of our state's finest and most beloved public servants. Ned was always upbeat, looking for the best in people and situations. He was incredibly kind to me when I came in as commissioner of finance. I never forgot that and continued to seek his counsel throughout my career, as recently as the past few weeks. He was a great friend to me, and I will miss him." - U.S. Senator Bob Corker

"Ned was a giant of Tennessee politics in every sense of the word. 'We Miss Ned' bumper stickers are still seen around Nashville because he was one of the best governors in history." - U.S. Rep. Jim Cooper

"Governor McWherter was the most influential and loved Democratic politician from Tennessee during my lifetime. Governor McWherter crossed racial and economic lines to communicate and work with people to get things accomplished." - U.S. Rep. Steve Cohen

"This is a sad day for Tennessee. Governor McWherter was a true statesman who cared about this state and its citizens. He had a long and distinguished career in the legislative and executive branches as well as in business. I will always be grateful for his personal kindness to me and the wise advice he gave me during my first months in office. Crissy's and my thoughts and prayers go out to Mike and the entire McWherter family during this difficult time." - Gov. Bill Haslam

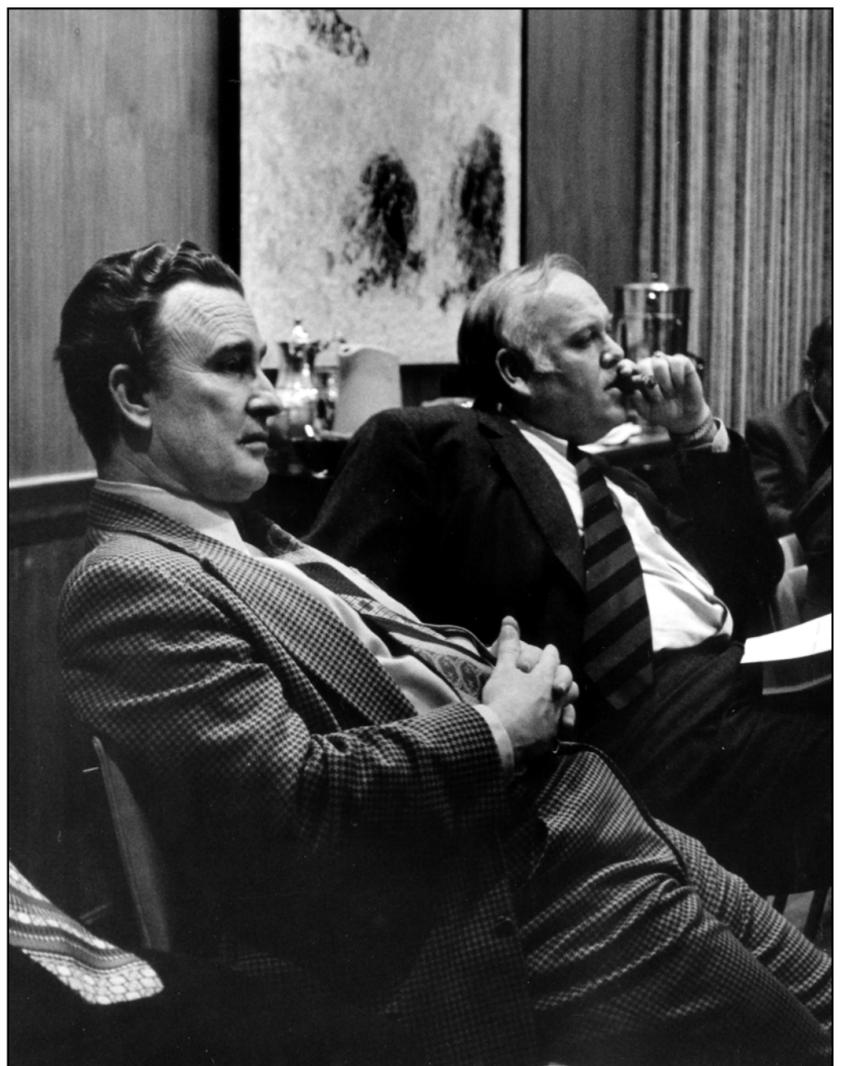
"Few men have meant as much to as many Tennesseans as Gov. Ned Ray McWherter. This state has lost a true statesman and a true original." — Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey

"Tennessee lost a true statesman with the passing of Governor McWherter. He understood the role of the legislative body, and he carried it out to the fullest. He will be missed, and my heart goes out to his family during this difficult time." - House Speaker Beth Harwell

"I served as his majority leader when he was speaker, served as his speaker when he was governor. He was a mentor to me throughout my legislative career. ... I tried to mold the way I handled myself in the Legislature after the way he had taught me." — Rep. Jimmy Naifeh

"Not only was he my speaker, he was my friend. The one thing I admire about Ned is that he was always able to get both sides of the aisle together." — Rep. Lois DeBerry

"Ned McWherter was our House speaker. He was our governor. And, he was our friend. He taught us how to bring new business, better education and prosperity to our state while taking care of those Tennesseans who many times went without. Most of all, he taught us what it was about to be a Democrat while working with our friends on the other side of the aisle. He was a governor of and for the people." - TN House Democratic Caucus



Pictured at a 1973 dinner of the Tennessee Municipal League are Senate Speaker John Wilder and House Speaker Ned McWherter. TML called on the leadership in both chambers to modify Gov. Winfield Dunn's budget that ignored local government concerns.



Two Tennessee legends Country Music Star Johnny Cash with Gov. McWherter

U.S. Census Numbers At-A-Glance

Municipalities with Population Growth Over 25% (2000-2010)

Municipality	Grand Division	2010 Census	2000 Census	Population Growth (2000-2010)	% Growth
Oakland	West	6,623	1,279	5,344	417.8%
Arlington	West	11,517	2,569	8,948	348.3%
Spring Hill	Middle	29,036	7,715	21,321	276.4%
Medina	West	3,479	969	2,510	259.0%
Hartsville/Trousdale County	Middle	7,870	2,865	5,005	174.7%
Atoka	West	8,387	3,235	5,152	159.3%
Piperton	West	1,445	589	856	145.3%
Cumberland Gap	East	494	204	290	142.2%
Mount Juliet	Middle	23,671	12,366	11,305	91.4%
Nolensville	Middle	5,861	3,099	2,762	89.1%
Silerton	West	111	60	51	85.0%
Townsend	East	448	244	204	83.6%
Tiptonville	West	4,464	2,439	2,025	83.0%
Lakeland	West	12,430	6,862	5,568	81.1%
Rossville	West	664	380	284	74.7%
La Vergne	Middle	32,588	18,687	13,901	74.4%
Ridgeway	Middle	1,874	1,083	791	73.0%
Thompson's Station	Middle	2,194	1,283	911	71.0%
Brighton	West	2,735	1,719	1,016	59.1%
Brentwood	Middle	37,060	23,445	13,615	58.1%
Murfreesboro	Middle	108,755	68,816	39,939	58.0%
Smyrna	Middle	39,974	25,569	14,405	56.3%
Chapel Hill	Middle	1,445	943	502	53.2%
Harrogate	East	4,389	2,865	1,524	53.2%
White Bluff	Middle	3,206	2,142	1,064	49.7%
Franklin	Middle	62,487	41,842	20,645	49.3%
Mason	West	1,609	1,089	520	47.8%
Whiteville	West	4,638	3,148	1,490	47.3%
Orlinda	Middle	859	594	265	44.6%
White House	Middle	10,255	7,220	3,035	42.0%
Pleasant View	Middle	4,149	2,934	1,215	41.4%
Coopertown	Middle	4,278	3,027	1,251	41.3%
Collierville	West	43,965	31,872	12,093	37.9%
Clarksburg	West	393	285	108	37.9%
Parker's Crossroads	West	330	241	89	36.9%
McLemoresville	West	352	259	93	35.9%
Portland	Middle	11,480	8,458	3,022	35.7%
Maynardville	East	2,413	1,782	631	35.4%
Dandridge	East	2,812	2,078	734	35.3%
Mosheim	East	2,362	1,749	613	35.0%
Bartlett	West	54,613	40,543	14,070	34.7%
Fairview	Middle	7,720	5,800	1,920	33.1%
Tusculum	East	2,663	2,004	659	32.9%
Moscow	West	556	422	134	31.8%
Baneberry	East	482	366	116	31.7%
Gallatin	Middle	30,278	23,230	7,048	30.3%
Greenbrier	Middle	6,433	4,940	1,493	30.2%
Eagleville	Middle	604	464	140	30.2%
Gibson	West	396	305	91	29.8%
Lebanon	Middle	26,190	20,235	5,955	29.4%
Clarksville	Middle	132,929	103,455	29,474	28.5%
Bell Buckle	Middle	500	391	109	27.9%
Woodland Mills	West	378	296	82	27.7%
Vanleer	Middle	395	310	85	27.4%
Cookeville	Middle	30,435	23,923	6,512	27.2%
Huntsville	East	1,248	981	267	27.2%
Collegedale	East	8,282	6,514	1,768	27.1%
Parrottsville	East	263	207	56	27.1%
Vonore	East	1,474	1,162	312	26.9%
Lenoir City	East	8,642	6,819	1,823	26.7%
Hendersonville	Middle	51,372	40,620	10,752	26.5%
Shelbyville	Middle	20,335	16,105	4,230	26.3%
Sevierville	East	14,807	11,757	3,050	25.9%
Munford	West	5,927	4,708	1,219	25.9%

CENSUS from Page 1
tributed to city and county governments, and assist local government in the provision of such vital services as fire and police protection, schools and libraries, clean drinking water, streets and roads, and environmentally safe sewer systems.

Tennessee employs four basic methods for distributing state-shared revenues: situs or origin-based distributions; population or per capita-based distributions; land area of county for highway funding; and equal shares. The majority of state-shared revenues are distributed on the basis of population data.

The concept of shared responsibility for services and shared funding arrangements can be traced back to the 1834 Tennessee Constitution. Direct revenue sharing has a history dating back to 1883 when the state poll tax was enacted. The current system of centralized taxation and revenue sharing has developed over the last 80 plus years. Of the current regimen, the gas tax has the longest history, with sharing beginning in 1923.

Some of the major reasons for revenue sharing include efficiency in taxation, partial payment of state-imposed mandates, maintaining the state and local fiscal partnership, and providing funds for essential services delivered by local governments, which operate with limited taxing authority.

There are a number of taxes levied by the state that are shared with municipalities; including: gasoline and diesel fuel taxes, Hall income tax, beer tax, TVA impact tax, sales and use tax, mixed drink, special petroleum, excise, corporate excise, and alcoholic beverage taxes. Of these all but the Hall, corporate excise, and mixed drink revenues are distributed on a per capita basis.

Effective Date

Now that the US Census Bureau has released the 2010 federal decennial census population for municipalities, cities are inquiring as to when the new numbers become effective. The short answer is that the numbers became effective on the day they were released by the census bureau. However, for purposes of calculating the per capita distribution of state-shared revenues to municipalities, the new population figures will not take effect until July 1, 2011 – the first day of the new fiscal year.

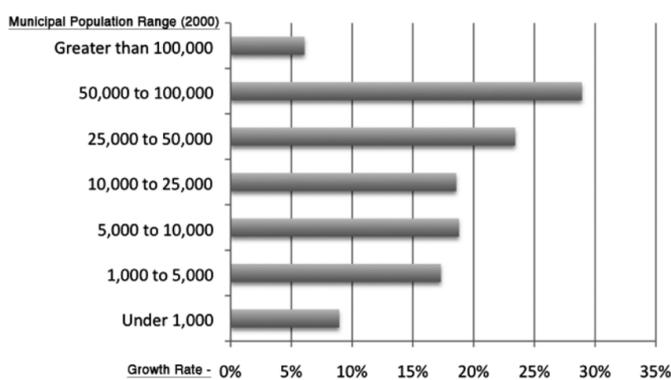
On July 1, 2011, the Office of Local Government Planning within the Department of Economic and Community Development will release the certified municipal population for 2010. The Department of Revenue will utilize the numbers provided by the Office to calculate the per capita distribution for state-shared revenues. This calculation will be based upon the total fiscal year 2010-2011 revenues that are to be shared with municipalities, as provided in statute, and the 2010 decennial census municipal populations, as certified by the Office of Local Government Planning.

Accordingly, there will be an approximate five-month delay between the release of the final decennial counts by the U.S. census bureau and the date on which any change in population is reflected in the distribution of state-shared revenues received by a city. While there have been questions about this delay, parties responsible for the process and involved in the calculations argue the delay is necessary and prudent.

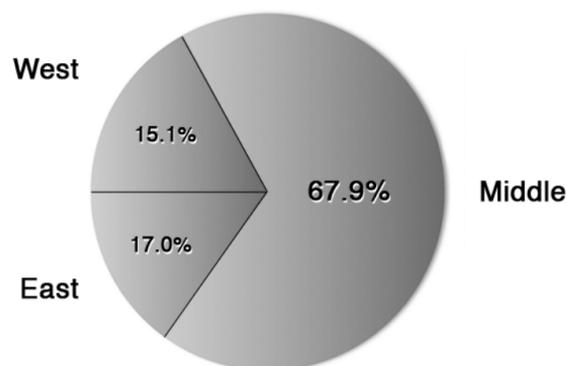
First, and perhaps most importantly in light of the recent economic and current fiscal posture of many municipalities in the state, the delay means there will not be any immediate change in revenues that might adversely impact a municipality; avoiding adding to the existing fiscal challenges cities must navigate. Moreover, the delay gives cities time to carefully analyze their population to determine how it might alter their revenue projections for the upcoming fiscal year. Many experts recommend that any city that experienced a decrease growth in population as well as any city that experienced nominal or marginal growth should give special consideration to the revised population when putting together their fiscal year 2012 budget.

Second, the delay allows any city that feels its population, as reported in the decennial census, is incorrect to begin the process to correct the error. Some errors can be corrected prior to July 1, 2011, while other errors will not be corrected until July 1, 2012. The timing of any corrections depends upon the nature of the error.

Growth Rates by Municipal Population Range (2000-2010)



Share of Municipal Growth by Grand Division (2000-2010)



U.S. Census Numbers At-A-Glance

East Tennessee's Top 15 Population Growth Municipalities (By %)

Municipality	2010 Census	2000 Census	Population Growth (2000-2010)	% Growth
Cumberland Gap	494	204	290	142.2%
Townsend	448	244	204	83.6%
Harrogate	4,389	2,865	1,524	53.2%
Maynardville	2,413	1,782	631	35.4%
Dandridge	2,812	2,078	734	35.3%
Mosheim	2,362	1,749	613	35.0%
Tusculum	2,663	2,004	659	32.9%
Baneberry	482	366	116	31.7%
Huntsville	1,248	981	267	27.2%
Collegedale	8,282	6,514	1,768	27.1%
Parrottsville	263	207	56	27.1%
Vonore	1,474	1,162	312	26.9%
Lenoir City	8,642	6,819	1,823	26.7%
Sevierville	14,807	11,757	3,050	25.9%
Philadelphia	656	533	123	23.1%

Middle Tennessee's Top 15 Population Growth Municipalities (By %)

Municipality	2010 Census	2000 Census	Population Growth (2000-2010)	% Growth
Spring Hill	29,036	7,715	21,321	276.4%
Hartsville/Trousdale County	7,870	2,865	5,005	174.7%
Mount Juliet	23,671	12,366	11,305	91.4%
Nolensville	5,861	3,099	2,762	89.1%
La Vergne	32,588	18,687	13,901	74.4%
Ridgetop	1,874	1,083	791	73.0%
Thompson's Station	2,194	1,283	911	71.0%
Brentwood	37,060	23,445	13,615	58.1%
Murfreesboro	108,755	68,816	39,939	58.0%
Smyrna	39,974	25,569	14,405	56.3%
Chapel Hill	1,445	943	502	53.2%
White Bluff	3,206	2,142	1,064	49.7%
Franklin	62,487	41,842	20,645	49.3%
Orlinda	859	594	265	44.6%
White House	10,255	7,220	3,035	42.0%

West Tennessee's Top 15 Population Growth Municipalities (By %)

Municipality	2010 Census	2000 Census	Population Growth (2000-2010)	% Growth
Oakland	6,623	1,279	5,344	417.8%
Arlington	11,517	2,569	8,948	348.3%
Medina	3,479	969	2,510	259.0%
Atoka	8,387	3,235	5,152	159.3%
Piperton	1,445	589	856	145.3%
Silerton	111	60	51	85.0%
Tiptonville	4,464	2,439	2,025	83.0%
Lakeland	12,430	6,862	5,568	81.1%
Rossville	664	380	284	74.7%
Brighton	2,735	1,719	1,016	59.1%
Mason	1,609	1,089	520	47.8%
Whiteville	4,638	3,148	1,490	47.3%
Collierville	43,965	31,872	12,093	37.9%
Clarksburg	393	285	108	37.9%
Parker's Crossroads	330	241	89	36.9%

Distribution of state shared revenues

With the release of the 2010 decennial census and the updated municipal populations, cities and towns are wondering how the new population figures will affect the distribution of state-shared revenues and when cities can expect to see this change reflected in the distributions received from the state?

For purposes of calculating the per capita distribution of state-shared revenues to municipalities, the new population figures will not take effect until July 1, 2011 – the first day of the new fiscal year.

Tennessee Data - 2010 Census

- The state's population now numbers slightly more than 6.3 million.
- This represents an increase in the state's population of 656,822, or 11.5 percent, over the last 10 years.
- The population of the state's cities and towns increase by 440,765; accounting for about 67 percent of the total increase in the state's population over the decade.
- The largest percentage increase in municipal population occurred in Middle Tennessee, 68 percent, followed by East Tennessee, 17 percent, and West Tennessee, 15 percent.
- The populations of the cities and towns located in the counties immediately contiguous to Shelby, Davidson, Knox and Hamilton Counties grew, on average, at a rate of 35 percent over the last decade. These cities and towns accounted for about 46 percent of the growth in the state's municipal population or about 30.7 percent of the growth in the state's population.

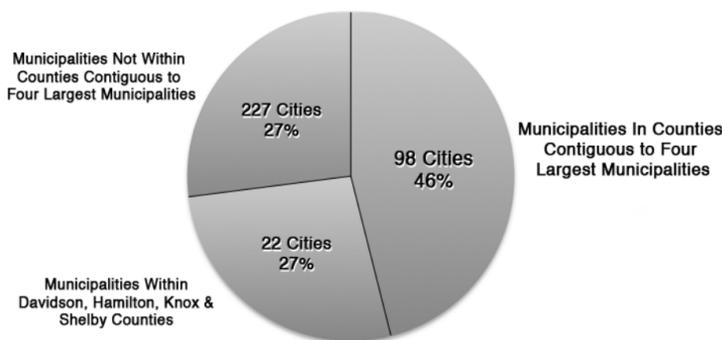
• All told, 228 cities and towns experienced an increase of 456,808 in their collective populations, while 119 municipalities collectively lost 16,043 in population.

• Oakland and Arlington saw the largest percentage increase in population with growth of 418 percent and 348 percent, respectively.

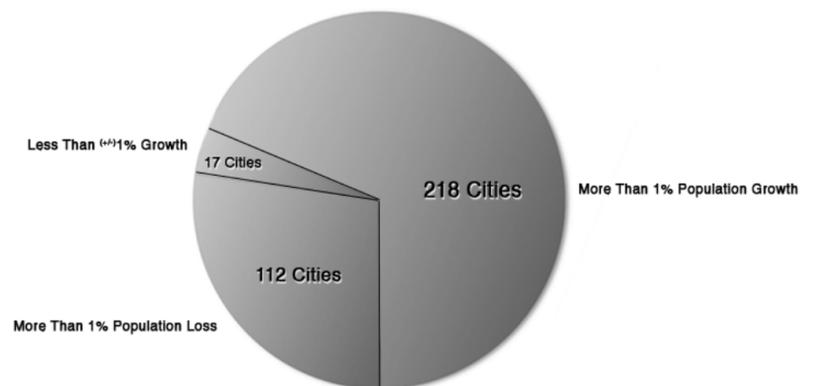
• There were eight cities or towns whose population grew by more than 140 percent.

For a pdf version of these charts got to the 2010 Census section on TML's website. www.TML1.org.

Percentage Share of Total Municipal Growth (2000-2010)



Number of Municipalities That Lost vs. Gained Population



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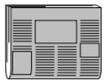
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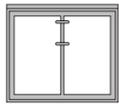
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT ASSISTANT III

The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Administrative Support Assistant III in our Nashville office. This position serves as general office manager and administrative assistant to consultants based in the Knoxville, Nashville and Johnson City offices. Orders office supplies and maintains inventory of equipment and its condition. Coordinates facility and service needs. Key detailed information into learning management system, GML (Lotus Notes database). Excellent customer service skills are required as well as the ability to plan and process projects and handle inquiries. Position requires expertise in Micro-soft Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook). This position requires at least two years of college education or additional office experience evidencing writing and analytical skills. A high level of cognitive or intuitive skills are necessary to fully understand, design and implement successful solutions to municipal problems. Position is open until filled. Please send application and resume to: UT OHRM; 600 Henley Street, Suite 221; Knoxville, TN 37996. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

CITY RECORDER

MUNFORD. The city is seeking qualified candidates for the position of City Recorder. This position is responsible for the maintenance of official public records; preparing and reviewing agenda documents and recording/transcribing meeting minutes, ordinances, resolutions and public notices; and administration support of the city's seven-member Board of Mayor and Aldermen. The position reports directly to the mayor. Candidates must possess the ability to be bonded, become certified as a recorder by the State of Tennessee and as a Municipal Finance Officer by the State of Tennessee. Five to seven years of progressively responsible managerial positions in accounting and financial management is preferred. Benefits include: group medical, dental, life and long-term disability insurance.

COMING UP



Through May 15: American Enka and the Modern Labor Movement A new feature exhibition at the Museum of East Tennessee History, 601 South Gay Street, Knoxville. The exhibit follows the violent 1950 strike at the American Enka plant in Hamblen County. Features firsthand accounts and photos, telling the story from the perspective of the strikers and that of the workers seeking to replace them. Hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.; Sun. 1-5 p.m. Sundays are Family Day with free admission for everyone.

April 14-16: Cleveland State Community College's 4th Annual Multicultural Fair. Guest speakers will be Herman Boone and ABC News' John Quinones. A "parade of nations" April 16, will open the fair, to be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the courtyard outside the L. Quentin Lane Gymnasium. The fair is free and open to the public. Free ethnic food will be served from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Boone will speak April 14 at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium and Quinones, April 15 at 7 pm. Admission for both speakers is free, but tickets are required. Tickets will be available until April 13 at the Cleveland State switchboard in the administrative building from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and until 4:30 p.m. on Fridays..

June 1-3: Transforming Local Government Annual Conference: How Bold can Government Be? Held in Clearwater, Florida. Case study sessions include: collaboration and partnerships; public-private partnerships; regionalism, shared service delivery; management strategies for continuous improvement; streamlined operations, organization models, measuring performance; public involvement - engaging citizens; communication techniques; and skills for today's leaders. For more information and to register, visit the conference website www.tlgconference.org.

ances; paid holidays, vacation and sick leave; and Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System plan. Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. For details of the job description, candidates are asked to go to www.munford.com/government/employment. All interested candidates should submit a letter of interest, current resume with three personal and three professional references to Mayor Dwayne Cole, 1397 Munford Avenue, Munford, TN 38058 by end of business day on April 15, 2011, or by email to dcoble@munford.com. EOE.

PUBLIC SAFETY COORD

OAK HILL. The city is accepting resumes for a part-time position as Public Safety Coordinator. The position coordinates policing activities for the city as provided by Metro Police West Precinct and the Secondary Employment Division. Law enforcement experience is desired, and the applicant must live within Nashville or its surrounding counties. Due to the minimal number of hours needed to perform this job, it is anticipated that the successful applicant may either be a retired law enforcement officer or an active law enforcement officer seeking secondary employment. Interested parties should submit a resume on or before April 25, 2011. For salary information and a more defined job description, contact the City Manager, Kevin Helms. All contact information is available at www.oakhilltn.us

POLICE CHIEF

DRESDEN. The city is accepting applications for Chief of Police. This position is responsible for the planning, organizing and directing of all activities of the Police Department. Applicants should meet the following qualifications: Graduation from an accredited high school or equivalent, preferably graduation from a college or university with major course experience in police administration or related field; Have at least five year's (5) experience in law enforcement with administrative experience and be P.O.S.T. certified. Salary is dependent upon qualifications. A job description and application may be obtained at Dresden City Hall. Applications should be submitted by Noon on Monday, May 2, 2011 to the following address: City of Dresden, Attn: City Recorder, 117 West Main St., Dresden, TN 38225.

POLICE CHIEF

WAYNESBORO. The city is accepting applications for the position of Police Chief. Applicants must be POST Certified, have an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice or related field, and have a minimum of 5 years in Police Administrative Position or equivalent. Resumes should be submitted detailing applicants experience and training to Waynesboro City Hall or by email to jhickman@cityofwaynesboro.org by April 29, 2011. Benefits include Health Insurance, Dental Insurance, Paid Vacation and Holidays, Retirement Plan and Deferred Compensation Plan. The City reserves the right to reject all applications. EOE.

IPS launches internship program for college students; interested cities to contact MTAS

Local government internships will be available this summer through a partnership between the University of Tennessee (UT) Institute for Public Service (IPS), UT Knoxville, UT Chattanooga, East Tennessee State University, the University of



The application process for the prospective graduate interns requires submission of a cover letter and resume from the student. Prospective interns will interview with a panel that will include representatives from the campus, an

Memphis and Tennessee State University. IPS and its partners currently are seeking prospective community partners and placements for these graduate student interns.

Although the program can easily accommodate any city or county with funding for an intern, it is anticipated that more cities will be interested in hosting interns than there are internships available. This will be a competitive selection process for interns and interested cities and counties.

IPS, through the consultants of the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) and the County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS), is asking that cities and counties indicate interest in hosting internships by providing a letter of interest that includes:

- potential work or projects for graduate student interns;
- specific discipline or field of study (if any);
- name of a staff member that will work with the MTAS or CTAS consultant for placement and mentoring; any local condition or issue that may be particularly attractive to an intern; and
- any ability of the city or county to share in the internship expenses.

Interns will be placed based on the total experience or value to the student and to the program. Letters of interest from communities or associations interested in hosting graduate interns will be accepted until the internships are assigned, starting immediately for the upcoming summer semesters.

area MTAS/CTAS consultant and from the community providing placement.

The intern experience helps develop the next generation of local government leaders with exposure for the students to service in communities. Internships also provide a venue of support to local governments in Tennessee from the academic and research resources of the universities through these students.

Letters of interest should be mailed to:

Steve Thompson
Executive Director
UT MTAS
120 Conference Center Building
Knoxville, TN 37996-4105
or e-mailed to:
steve.thompson@tennessee.edu

Municipal Administration Program May Schedule

Healthcare Legislation Update

In March 2010, the President signed sweeping health care legislation into law. Health care reform affects all Tennessee cities, counties, and private employers of all sizes. This Municipal Administration Program session will cover the implications of the health care legislation and subsequent clarifications to the law as it relates to Tennessee municipalities. Note: Municipalities that participate in the state of Tennessee health plans should be aware that the law does affect them.

Time
All classes begin at 9 a.m. and end at 11 pm local time.
Instructors
MTAS Training Consultants

Dates and locations

May 3	Johnson City
May 5	Knoxville
May 17	Athens
May 19	Franklin
May 24	Jackson

Training Facilities

Athens, Athens Conference Center, 2405 Decatur Pike
Franklin, City Hall Training room, 109 3rd Ave. South
Jackson, West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Public Service, 605 Airways
Johnson City, The Carnegie, 1216 W. State of Franklin Rd.
Knoxville, Farragut Town Hall, 11408 Municipal Center Dr.



The registration fee for MAP courses for Tennessee city officials is \$25 each. A fee of \$55 is charged for non-city officials. Registration is required. Seating is limited at all sites, so please register in advance. Submit payment with your registration.

MTAS will need to receive payment in order to confirm your attendance for the class. For more information, contact Kurt Frederick at 615-253-6385 or Elaine Morrisey at 865-974-0411.

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Local leaders to lead Earth Day discussions

BY CORINNE KINSNER AND CHRISTINA CERNANSKY
Nations Cities Weekly

While great strides have been made in the advancement of sustainability, the approaching commemoration of Earth Day this April provides an opportunity to remember that local actions and involvement are necessary catalysts for implementing change. Local leaders are on the front lines of sustainability — addressing the impacts of climate change, creating green job opportunities, finding energy savings and promoting a healthier environment.

To advance sustainability on the local policy-making level, the non-profit organization Earth Day Network and its partners invite local officials worldwide to join the fourth annual Global Day of Conversation. The event provides a platform for leaders to promote community conversations on the challenges and opportunities related to sustainability.

Inspired by Earth Day, April 22, these discussions can be held any

time during the month of April in conjunction with other Earth Day activities or at town hall meetings, libraries, schools or community centers. These conversations will help constituents and other participants achieve a deeper, shared understanding of how to best address the complex challenges and opportunities involved in building a sustainable future. Through these dialogues, leaders will share environmental best practices, educate and learn from the public and highlight the prominence of city governments in the global sustainability dialogue.

Previous conversations have focused on energy efficiency, conservation, water reduction, transportation, environmental education and clean energy jobs, and have served as launching pads for innovative sustainability strategies.

Using the event platform and gaining constituent input, local leaders can develop their own policy innovations. In 2011, at least 500 local leaders around the world will convene a discussion in their community for the Global Day of Conversation. Following these events,

Earth Day Network will compile success stories and best practices and disseminate a report to local governments worldwide.

By engaging their communities in discussions about sustainability, local leaders can help constituents and other stakeholders reach common ground, share experiences, voice new ideas and plan a sustainable future. Ultimately, this day will elevate the collective voice of local governments in the national and international environmental dialogue. Earth Day is an occasion to celebrate the environment and encourage residents, businesses and all sectors of the community to commit to building a sustainable and green economy — beginning with an inclusive conversation.

For more information regarding how to host an event in your community, visit the Earth Day Network website at <http://www.earthday.org/campaign/global-day-conversation>. For questions, contact Christina Cernansky, Director of Advocacy at Earth Day Network, Cernansky@earthday.org or call 202- 518-0044.



April 16: Cleveland
Treads and Threads Antique Automobile Show

Held at the new First Street Park at the corner of Parker St and First St NE from 9 am to 1 pm. Original and modified vehicles twenty-five years and older with a \$5 entry fee— no judging. Proceeds go to the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation. Bring old quilts. The Cherokee Blossom Quilt Guild can approximate the year it was made. For more information, call Denise Bivens at 423-479-8031 or 423-715-2617.

April 15-16: Somerville
All American Music Show

Held at 7 pm at the Fair Theater, 114 East Market Street. Features "The Volunteer Country Band" and Mr. Ray Motley. Proceeds benefit The American Cancer Society Relay-for-Life. For tickets, contact Pam Clift, Somerville Bank & Trust Co, 901-465-9864, Ray Motley, event coordinator, 901-262-9113, or Judy Sides, Somerville City Hall, 901-465-7301.

April 25-30: Paris
Annual "World's Biggest Fish Fry"

Enjoy all the festival activities, dance, rides, musical entertainment, carnival, arts & crafts, junior fishing rodeo, catfish race, hushpuppy eating contest and much more. Fish fry on April 27-30. For more information, visit the festival website www.worldsbiggestfishfry.com or call 731-644-1143.

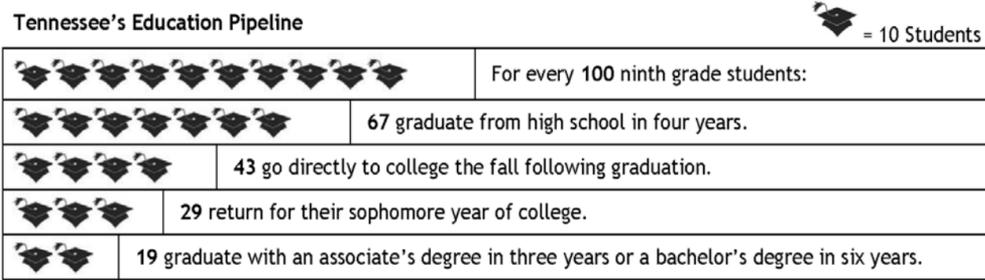
April 29-30 : Columbia
Ladies Weekend at the Athenaeum

The Athenaeum Rectory, located at 808 Athenaeum Street, an extraordinary school for girls from 1852 to 1904. Explore period dress and activities. Ladies of all ages welcome. For cost and further information, call 931-381-4822.

April 27 – 29: TCMA 2011 Spring Conference.

Held at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs Hotel, 700 Cool Springs Blvd. For reservations, call 888-403-6772. On-line reservations may be made at www.marriott.com/bnacs.

Higher education plan links funding to outcomes



At the center of these reforms is the need to increase college graduation rates.

EDUCATION from Page 1

Tennesseans, it will ultimately support, strengthen, and sustain economic growth, and why city officials should support and initiate measures in their communities that drive increases in the educational attainment of their citizens.

"This is about jobs in your counties, cities, and towns. It is about better educated citizens, with more and better options and opportunities," Rhoda said. "We need to have many more adults with meaningful skills and credentials that will enable them to live better than they currently can."

According to data released by

the Board of Regents, Tennessee lags in completion of bachelor's degrees, 40th in the nation, and for associate degrees, the state is ranked 45th. On average, only 46 percent of full-time students at four-year schools graduate within six years, and only 12 percent of full-time community college students attain associated degrees within three years.

"I would say that all of us currently in our positions in higher education truly appreciate the gravity of this moment," Rhoda said. "We see the Complete College Act as a vehicle to make a significant, long-term difference in the way higher

education functions in Tennessee. And it is a once-in-a-career opportunity to be part of a major reform."

Rhoda said that the ultimate success of the Complete College Tennessee Act will be determined by the extent to which its provisions are embraced at the towns, cities, and counties.

"We look to you, the members of the Municipal League for guidance, support, and local initiatives that drive increases in the educational attainment of your citizens."

For more information about the Complete College Act, go to www.state.tn.us/thecc/complete_college_tn/complete_college_tn

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The city of Murfreesboro closes a \$103 million loan, the largest in TMBF history.

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

Remedy for disaster: cities stepping up emergency plans

BY VICTORIA SOUTH

TML Communications Coordinator

In the wake of the massive destruction in Japan and record flooding in Tennessee, an advanced call to citizen preparedness for both natural and man-made disasters is taking center stage across the state and the nation with regional drills, preparedness programs and unlikely stars emerging in the process.

A group of court employees are geared to mobilize the Memphis federal court system in the event of an earthquake or other widespread disaster, and emergency courses in Johnson City are filling up fast with senior citizens who really want to help their loved ones and community.

"Many people think as long as they have a small supply of water and a few can goods, they're pre-

pared," said Anna Smith, Tennessee Citizens Corp Program coordinator. "It's much more involved and cities need to get the message out there." According to Smith, several communities are heavily involved with the Corps' Citizen Emergency Response Training Program (CERT) including: Memphis/Shelby County, Clarksville/Montgomery County, Knoxville and Johnson City.



Photo courtesy of CERT

gram this year in response to last year's massive floods across Middle Tennessee. Two-day rain totals last May were greater than 19 inches in some places and the Cumberland River crested at 51.86 feet in Nashville, a level not seen since 1937.

The city's CERT class, which now has a waiting list, is filling up with an unusual demographic, elderly citizens in the 65-70 year range. "We have a large retirement community in Washington County with people from different walks of life who've had these programs in their hometowns for years," Bruckman said. "Now, we're getting a whole new base of volunteers."

The curriculum covers disasters indigenous to the area, such as floods or tornados, but also includes situations uncommon to the state, a tsunami or volcano eruption. After

completing the nine sessions, participants will take part in a full-scale mock disaster. "We have a training facility at the fire department to create a collapsed building or whatever situation we'd like to arrange," said Bruckman. "Participants look for electrical and utility hazards, utilize fire, search and rescue techniques and how to help someone in need. They learn everything from how to use fire extinguishers properly to employing the psychology of disaster to help survivors."

"We also emphasize that citizens take responsibility for their own lives," adds Bruckman. "It may be three to four days in a large disaster before we can get into areas, especially if there's a lot of debris or damaged roads. A person without this type of training might not even attempt it."

CERT graduates are encouraged to support emergency response agencies in the future by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects within the community. "I've been here since '95 and volunteerism has taken a downward plunge," Bruckman reveals. "The Sullivan County Fire Association received a grant and have been doing promotions for volunteers and they've been successful, but overall, it's still not what it used to be."

As part of the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ), which runs from West Memphis through Southern Illinois, the warning to prepare for disaster is a concept many West Tennesseans, particularly Memphis and Shelby Countians, are familiar with. The area experienced record earthquakes in 1811-1812, where the magnitude reportedly caused

sections of the Mississippi River to momentarily run backward and reverberations were experienced as far away as Boston and Washington D.C.

A 2003 U.S. geological study predicts a seven to 10 percent chance of another major event occurring within the next 50 years, and in its wake, devastating injuries. Tom Charlier in the article "The Big Quake: How Ready Are We?" notes scientists estimate a 7.7 magnitude earthquake in the Memphis and Mid-South region could kill as many as 4,300 people and injure 65,000, destroying up to 179,000 homes along with major bridges and utilities. "The consequences today would be catastrophic," Charlier writes. "There would be long-term reconstruction afterward and city governments would have to make many major decisions."

Adhering to the lessons learned in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Memphis officials are developing plans to keep federal courts running—literally—should an earthquake or other type of disaster strike the city. "We retooled our concept to be mobile where we can go anywhere and create a court within 72 hours," said Tom Gould, U.S. District Court clerk for the Western District of Tennessee. Gould experienced flood and recovery efforts in New Jersey and race riots in Cincinnati, but the chaos of Katrina still burns fresh in his mind. "None of us have gone through what the hurricane brought on New Orleans. There was a disappearance of law and order," he said. "The Super Dome and the bull pens created to hold prisoners and the sheer number of people that needed to be dealt with and no court system was overwhelming."

Reminiscent of the hit 80s television series "The A-Team," the court's plan took four years to develop. It centers around two heavy duty, specialized trucks built to drive through deep water and across rugged terrain. The trucks are free army surplus vehicles Gould's office acquired in 2007. "These trucks go 35 mph, but in eight hours we could get 250 miles from here," said Gould. "We could have a court up and running in four to five hours after arrival and have a full capacity system, down to internet and access to Washington."

The vehicles are parked in separate locations, one at the Shelby County fire station in the southeast section of the county, and the other at another court office in Jackson. A variety of staff members, from IT and audio visual specialists to intake people, those who handle bonds for arrestees, comprise "the team" selected to carry out the court's mission.

In the event of a disaster, the employees will load the portable equipment and computer servers/laptops, currently stored at various locations around Shelby County, including their own homes, into the trucks and drive the vehicles to a safe place to establish an emergency court. Fuel-powered generators on the trucks would feed electricity to the equipment. Team members were selected according to a variety of factors, said Gould.

"We selected individuals based on their personal skills, a bit of knowledge about their home envi-



Photo by Japanese Red Cross Society

In light of recent events in Japan, a 9.0 magnitude earthquake followed by a devastating tsunami, the Great Central "Shakeout" drill set for April 28, is being emphasized in western Tennessee because of the significant earthquake threat near Memphis.

ronment, whether there are children, or other dependents, where they live, whether it's too far away." The beauty of the plan, according to Gould, is that it works, even if there isn't a widespread problem.

"If the building itself was in turmoil, I could just go to another site, set up court and while we're running with the mobile system, real estate agents or court personnel could be scouting for a more permanent site. To me the flexibility of mobility gives so many options to go as far as we need to go, wherever there is a need for court, whether it be northern Mississippi or Nashville or across the river in Arkansas."

Each year, at the typical nuclear reactor in the U.S., there's a one in 74,176 chance of an earthquake strong enough to cause damage to the reactor's core, which could expose the public to radiation. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has calculated the odds of an earthquake causing catastrophic failure to

Shakeout," coordinated by the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium, the U.S. Geological Survey and dozens of other partners and is geared toward schools, businesses, government agencies, as well as nonprofits and other organizations. "We all must get better prepared for major earthquakes, and also practice how to protect ourselves when they happen. The purpose of the ShakeOut is to help people and organizations do both," said the organization's website.

For more information and to participate, visit www.shakeout.org/centralus/tennessee/

On May 16, the Bicentennial anniversary of the New Madrid quakes of 1811-1812, FEMA will conduct a drill centered on the scenario of a catastrophic earthquake in the New Madrid Seismic Zone. National Level Exercise or NLE 2011, will encompass four FEMA regions and eight states: Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Missis-



Memphis officials are making plans to keep federal courts mobile and running if an earthquake, terrorist attack or other disaster damages the downtown courthouse.

a nuclear plant in the U.S. The odds taken into consideration include two main factors: the chance of a serious quake, and the strength of design of the plant. Ranked 4th on the Top 10 List with a one in 19,608 risk is Sequoyah 1 and 2 in Soddy-Daisy. The old estimate was one in 102,041. The increase in risk is now 420 percent.

On April 28, The Tennessee "Shakeout," a Drop, Cover and Hold-On drill, will occur at 10:15 am. Supported by the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), the drill is part of a larger exercise, "The Great Central U.S.

Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee. It is a linked event to the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut.

Experiencing what could only be described as pre-trial butterflies; Gould says he and his staff will be performing a full scale implementation of the Memphis court disaster plan the day of NLE 2011, right down to holding court. "It will be an interesting day. We'll either learn that we were good at what we planned or if not, what we did wrong," he said. "But I'd rather learn on May 16 in a test, than try to figure it out during the real thing."

The State offers Tennesseans storms-related tips

Review policy, contact your insurer and check contractors before hiring

Spring storms, especially tornadoes, can damage our homes. The Department of Commerce and Insurance (TDCI) would like to offer storm-affected consumers some tips for interacting with insurance companies and selecting contractors:

- As soon as possible after an event affects your home, contact your insurance carrier or your agent. Locate a copy of your policy and read through it.
- Make a thorough inventory for your adjuster of all of the items missing from or damaged in your home.
- Take pictures, if possible, of all damage – inside and outside, from several angles – to get full documentation before any repairs are made.

- Secure and protect your property against further rain or other damage as much as possible without making permanent repairs, so that the adjuster can see and document the full extent of the damage.
- Keep receipts for expenses of protecting your property from further damage.
- Follow the claims-filing procedure set forth in your policy. If there is a dispute, follow the company's dispute process.
- Many larger companies have quick-response teams that come into areas of heavy damage to process large numbers of claims as quickly as possible. Others will not send someone out unless you call them. Call your company to be sure.
- Call TDCI with insurance issues at 800-342-4029 or its Consumer Affairs

division hotline for non-insurance issues at 800-342-8385.

- Tennessee's Board for Licensing Contractors has found that unscrupulous, unlicensed contractors like to take advantage of homeowners anxious to rebuild after disasters. Be sure to hire only licensed contractors and check them out with the Board. Consumers may verify a license status by calling 800-544-7693, or may check TDCI's website for various trades at <http://verify.tn.gov>.

The Department of Commerce and Insurance works to protect consumers while ensuring fair competition for industries and professionals who do business in Tennessee. For more information, visit www.tn.gov/commerce/

EMERGENCY RESOURCES

- To learn more about Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) and the Citizens Corps, visit the website www.citizencorps.gov/cert

- The Center for Earthquake Research (CERI). CERI serves the University of Memphis and the public by providing authoritative scientific education and information. Visit the website at www.ceri.memphis.edu/index.shtml

- Learn more about how to prepare your family, home and business for all types of emergencies. Visit ready.gov or call 1-800-BE-READY

- For more information about the National Level Exercise (NLE 2011) in May, visit the website www.cdem.net/home/nle11.

- More than one million people are expected to participate in the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut to be held at 10:15 a.m. on April 28. For more information or to sign up to participate, visit www.shakeout.org/centralus/tennessee/

- The 28th annual National Flood Conference will be held in New Orleans, LA, on May 1-4 at the: Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Two Poydras Street. For information on registration, speakers, workshop schedule and descriptions, visit the conference website www.nfipiservice.com/nfc2011/nfc2011.html.

- Mayor Karl Dean and community leaders will host a ceremony commemorating the one-year anniversary of Nashville's devastating floods on May 2. The 11 a.m. event is on the Shelby Street Pedestrian Bridge