



Congress passes highway, transit reauthorization bill

Pres. Obama expected to sign legislation

BY LESLIE WOLLACK
Nation's Cities Weekly

Last month, both the House and Senate adopted the conference agreement on MAP-21, the federal surface transportation reauthorization bill, which originally expired on Sept. 30, 2009 and had nine short term extensions. The House voted 373-52 and the Senate voted 74-19 to approve a compromise bill that appeared impossible on several occasions. The legislation now goes to the president for his signature.

NLC President Ted Ellis applauded the action of Congress. "After nine short-term extensions, passing the two-year transportation bill is an important next step in getting resources to our cities and towns for the transportation programs that keep our communities moving and support local economic vitality," said Ellis. He continued, "We appreciate the hard work of our national transportation leaders in recognizing that transportation investment means jobs in our communities and provides the vital link for people to get to their jobs, school and doctor appointments."

Conferees extended the length of the original Senate bill to 27 months, providing a slight increase in funding through Sept. 30, 2014, with a slight increase in funding. The final agreement was reached after the House dropped its insistence on including the Keystone pipeline and regulation of coal ash in the bill and the Senate compromises on provisions funding transportation alternatives known as transportation enhancements and efforts to speed project delivery.

Under the bill, highway programs will be funded at \$39.699 billion in FY13 and \$40.256 in FY14 and transit programs at \$10.584 in

FY13 and \$10.701 in FY14.

Several NLC supported provisions were included in the final agreement, including direct funding for the off-system bridge program, which has funneled \$650 million annually to local bridges not on the federal-aid system, and is expected to help support 80,000 deficient off-system bridges. Conferees rejected proposed changes to the Metropolitan Planning program which would have changed the process for local involvement and eliminated many growing regions. NLC supported the conferees decision to reject the proposed changes and maintain the current threshold of 50,000 in population. The final agreement gives rural regions new authority in the planning process to work with their state transportation departments.

Lawmakers compromised on some controversial provisions to streamline environmental reviews that hold up federally funded projects, including a broadening of the definition of categorical exemptions and raising the funding threshold for triggering federal environmental review of projects.

The transportation enhancement program is reduced substantially, though metro areas over 200,000 will receive a sub allocation for project selection with 50 percent of the funding. State transportation departments can choose to not spend the rest of their allocation on transportation enhancement programs, a move opposed by NLC and a disappointment when so many communities are seeking to fund bicycle and pedestrian walkways. The very successful Safe Routes to School program was eliminated as a separate program but eligible for funding from other programs.

The TIFIA credit and loan program was increased to \$750 million in FY13 and \$1 billion in FY14 with a special set-aside for rural funding.

The federal transit program See **TRANSIT** on Page 7

Key parts of Arizona immigration law struck down by Supreme Court

BY MAGGIE CLARK
Staff Writer, *Stateline.org*

Ruling on Arizona's controversial immigrant crackdown law, SB 1070, the Supreme Court issued a 5-3 decision that identified immigration policy as chiefly a federal responsibility and preempted three key provisions of the law. "Arizona may have understandable frustrations with the problems caused by illegal immigration..." wrote Justice Anthony Kennedy, "but the State may not pursue policies that undermine federal law."

While the decision was met with satisfaction by pro-immigrant groups, the court left in place one of the law's most controversial portions, section 2B, which allows law enforcement officers to check a person's immigration status with the federal government during a lawful police stop. During oral argument in April, attorneys for both sides gave drastically different representations of how long a status check could take — Arizona's lawyer Paul Clement argued a check could take as little as 10 minutes while U.S. Solicitor General Donald Verrilli said it could be upwards of an hour. Because SB 1070 has not gone into effect, Justice Kennedy wrote, there is "a basic uncertainty about what the law means and how it will be enforced." The majority opinion left the court open to more litigation on the constitutionality of section 2B. The National Immigration Law Center and the American Civil Liberties Union plan to file a new petition for an injunction against section 2B in the next few days.

Mixed reactions

The court's ruling left all sides claiming victory. Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer called the decision "a victory for the rule of law." Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley and Georgia

Gov. Nathan Deal, both of whom signed into law bills similar to Arizona's, issued statements saying that the court left the core of Arizona's law intact and affirmed that states can enforce immigration laws.

On the other side, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder praised "the Supreme Court's decision to strike down major provisions of Arizona's S.B. 1070 on federal preemption grounds." The Police Executive Research Forum, an organization representing law enforcement in the nation's largest cities, counties and states, was "encouraged" to see the Court "signal a cautious approach to any state legislation that requires local police to take on immigration enforcement roles." Immigrant advocates such as the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Immigration Law Center, which have filed suits in Arizona and other states with immigration enforcement laws, said they were pleased with the outcome, but vowed to fight on against section 2B.

While the ruling is the most definitive statement yet on state immigration enforcement, not much will change in Arizona immediately. Gov. Jan Brewer signed an executive order earlier this month directing law enforcement officers to undergo specific training in how to implement SB 1070 without racial profiling, and in understanding which types of identity documents are acceptable to prove lawful presence. That training will not be completed for at least 30 days. Arizona's peace officer standards and training board is currently reviewing the decision to determine if any new training needs to be implemented.

Currently, five other states have immigration enforcement laws in various stages of legal challenge. See **ARIZONA** on Page 7

Hard hitting workshop addresses surge of synthetic drugs across TN

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

The glittery neon packages with cool names like Blue Silk and Vanilla Sky, sparkle seductively like penny candy on a bright summer's day. But the synthetic drug high sweeping Tennessee and the nation is far from sweet, say law enforcement, health workers, and even the drug users themselves. For all three entities, it's more like a decent into hell, followed by a bare-fisted fight with the devil.

Police officers in Bristol try furtively to communicate with 26-year-old Freddy Sharp. It's 19 degrees that day, but Sharp is drenched in sweat as his heart and blood pressure race uncontrollably. Wild-eyed, pale, the gaunt, vampirish Sharp appears on police video writhing insanely, hallucinating, singing to himself as he's strapped to a gurney by paramedics. Struggling to form a sentence, his face contorts in agony. A long-time drug addict, this is Sharp's second time in the hospital ICU unit after ingesting "bath salts."

The video tells the same story in Florida; a visibly impaired young man cowers in the back seat of a patrol car whimpering and laughing. All at once, he goes quiet, as the extreme paranoia associated with the drug sweeps over him, separating him from everyone trying to help. Officers ask him his name, but he can't answer. Suddenly he screams, then laughs ma-



Amendments to Tennessee's synthetic drug laws creates felonies for manufacturing and distributing the drugs and prohibits the drugs' controlled substance-like effect on the central nervous system.

nially.

"Does he seem like he's having a good time?" Sullivan County District Attorney Barry Staubus asks a hushed crowd at the TML Annual Conference in Knoxville.

An increase in Emergency Room admissions and the bizarre behavior was becoming far too common for Northeast Tennessee law enforcement officials and hospital workers. Struggling with limited knowledge and resources, they were up against a synthetic drug epidemic

other communities knew little about or could understand. Staubus describes the horror before new Tennessee Synthetic Drug legislation was passed.

"After July of last year, I started talking with vice officers, EMS folks and medical personnel, who told me how there were individuals who were taking a drug that was far worse than meth. It was the worst drug they had seen in their careers," he added.

See **SYNTHETIC** on Page 6

No revelations in recent Attorney General opinion addressing Open Meetings Act

BY JOSH JONES
MTAS Legal Consultant

Recently, the Tennessee Attorney General published Opinion No. 12-60 in response to an inquiry as to whether two or more members of a local governing body can dine together and casually discuss governmental business without violating the Open Meetings Act (the Act).

The answer, as is all too often the case, was it depends. Without reaching any novel conclusions, the opinion recapitulates the major provisions of the Act and offers anecdotal fact patters from relevant case law to demonstrate applicability. Following is a summary of the major points expressed in the opinion.

When assessing a potential open meetings violation one must look to the totality of the circumstances as these suits are extremely fact determinative. A violation of the Act occurs where two or more members of a governing body delib-

erate toward a decision on a public matter outside of a public meeting. So, when two or more members of a local governing body are dining together and the topic of conversation drifts to public business the members must refrain from "deliberating" to avoid a violation. While "deliberation" is not defined in the Act, the courts have relied on common usage definitions.

The Tennessee Court of Appeals in *Neese v. Paris Special Sch. Dist.* relied on Black's Law Dictionary which defines deliberation as: "to examine and consult in order to form an opinion. . . . [T]o weigh arguments for and against a proposed course of action."

Recognizing the difficulty in determining what exactly rises to the level of deliberation the opinion offers a number of real life examples.

In the context of their own factual circumstances the following activities have been found by Tennessee courts not to be violations of the

Act: a member soliciting votes for public office; members making a site visit related to a municipal environmental report; and members listening to employee grievances after a public meeting. The opinion also provides examples of electronic communications by members demonstrating the medium of conversation is irrelevant as it relates to the Act. A violation can occur by email, phone or text if deliberation takes place.

Members of a local governing body can eat, drink and socialize together so long as no deliberation takes place. However, even where no open meetings violation occurs, negative public perception can cause damage to a public official's reputation and to the faith of the public in their government. This alone is reason enough for local elected officials to be mindful of their interactions with fellow board members and how those interactions appear to their constituents.

Tennessee Drug Card saves city residents money on prescriptions

The Tennessee Municipal League is pleased to partner with United Networks of America to offer the Tennessee Drug Card program.

Under the program, local city officials are afforded an opportunity to provide a Tennessee Drug Card to city residents at no cost. This free card may be used by the uninsured and underinsured in Tennessee's cities and towns to purchase prescription drugs at a significant discount.

Membership to the Tennessee Drug Card program has no requirements. Unlike insurance programs, there is no income, age, pre-existing condition, deductible, or waiting period restrictions.

In addition, the card may be used to achieve significant savings on diabetic supplies, subscription eyeglasses, hearing aids as well as Lasik eye surgery and teeth whitening procedures.

The Tennessee Drug Card may be used in hundreds of retail and drug stores throughout the state.

To receive a pre-activated card or for more information visit www.tennesseedrugguard.com.



- ★ **Free For Everyone.** All residents are eligible to get pharmacy discounts through this program. The program can be used to supplement most health insurance plans including Health Savings Accounts (HSA) and High Deductible Plans. It can also be used as a Medicare Part D supplement by providing discounts on non-covered drugs.
- ★ **No Restrictions.** There are no enrollment forms, no age or income requirements, no waiting periods, no eligibility required, no exclusions, covers pre-existing conditions, no claim forms to file, no annual or lifetime limits.
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- ★ **Accepted Everywhere.** The Discount Prescription Card is pre-activated and accepted at over 56,000 pharmacies around the country including most major chains.
- ★ **Confidential.** No personal information is required to get a card. No personal information is collected on processed prescriptions.

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

BRENTWOOD

Brentwood received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the current budget from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting and represents a significant achievement. A certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation was presented to the city's Finance Director, Carson L. Swinford.

CHATTANOOGA

The state will provide \$2.3 million to help pay for an extension of the Tennessee Riverwalk from Ross's Landing to St. Elmo and the foot of Lookout Mountain. The money will be used to link the downtown riverwalk at Ross' Landing to the existing bike route on South Broad Street and the Lookout Mountain trail system, specifically, Phase III of the 20-mile system. More than 13 miles of the award-winning riverwalk are already complete, beginning at TVA's Chickamauga Dam and stretching to downtown Chattanooga along 10 miles of the Tennessee River. The park features public art, wildlife, scenic vistas, recreation shelters, fishing piers, boat ramps, and open spaces. The \$2.3 million, which comes through federal enhancement funds, adds to almost \$10 million already collected for the extension. There are two extensions in the works.

CHATTANOOGA

A manufacturing plant that traces its roots back 75 years is shutting down. The Cannon Equipment factory, once known as Cumberland Corp. and maker of material handling equipment, is closing in early August with 71 people losing their jobs. The Minnesota-based company credits the shut down to restructuring. Cannon said it plans to focus its carts and machinery business in Minnesota.

CHATTANOOGA

Advanced Technical Ceramics Company representatives announced plans to expand its facility. The company will invest \$2.25 million and create 25 manufacturing jobs. AdTech Ceramics designs and manufactures technical ceramics for military, medical and industrial microelectronics.

CHATTANOOGA

Chattanooga State Community College will start a new program in conjunction with Volkswagen Group of America Chattanooga Operations for the fall of 2012. The Car Mechatronics Program is designed to produce multi-skilled car technicians trained to work on all aspects of the body, mechanical and electrical/electronic systems in Volkswagen automobiles, according to a news release. The nine-semester program will be housed at the Volkswagen Academy and students will cover everything from basic metalworking and electrical systems to hydraulics and technical drawings.

CLEVELAND

The Southern Railway Depot is ready to begin its second life as a transportation hub for Cleveland

Urban Area Transportation System. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held recently to mark the transition from rail to bus service. The depot will still function as a transportation hub though its purpose will serve the Cleveland Urban Area Transit System instead of the railroad.

COLLEGEDALE

Collegedale is still a small town: Just eight square miles and 8,200 residents, according to the most recent U.S. census. But with its population spiking 27 percent since 2000, it's the fastest-growing city in Hamilton County and one of the quickest-growing in the state. But its 2,000-person growth recorded over 10 years doesn't even take into account the activity in the city since the Volkswagen plant and Amazon facilities at nearby Enterprise South industrial park became fully operational. The city literally found itself at a crossroads — adjacent to Enterprise South and the growing number of employers in the vicinity, making it a nearby and attractive place for those employees to live. The most recent sign of growth is beginning to take shape: a \$19 million, 278-unit luxury apartment complex called Integra Hills that is expected to be complete in early 2013, after a \$100 million development of a retirement community, Greenbriar Cove. The city is zoned for some of the best schools in town and has one of the lowest property tax rates in the county. It also has its own municipal airport. Recently, voters approved a controversial liquor-by-the-drink referendum allowing restaurants to serve alcohol, and just last month overturned a ban that erased any distance specifications between churches and businesses that sell alcohol.

COLLIERVILLE

The town was awarded a \$756,846 transportation enhancement for Phase I of the Center Connect Project, including the creation of a gateway entrance corridor from US 72/SR 86 to Collierville's historic downtown area and connects several existing greenways. Phase I covers the intersection of Center Street and South Rowlett to the intersection of South Street. The project features shared lanes for bicyclists, new crosswalks, landscaping, and sidewalks. Flowering trees and shrubs will also be planted in the area, and new park benches and bicycle racks will be installed.

KNOXVILLE

Republic Plastics held a ribbon-cutting for an expansion of its second Knoxville facility in the Forks of the River Industrial Park, which is expected to add 100 jobs. The company is already planning a second expansion that will add about 100 more jobs in 2013. Altogether, the size of the 98,000-square-foot, \$3.55 million building will nearly double. Republic Plastics makes polystyrene foam food-service containers such as plates, bowls, trays and the folding containers used for fast-food burgers and restaurant takeout boxes. Its specialty is store brand products that can be sold at a lower price than name brand items.

LYNCHBURG

Thanks to state legislation that permits sampling tours at distilleries —

it's no longer true that you can't get a little taste of Lynchburg liquor at the end of The Jack Daniel Distillery tour. As part of a pilot program, the distillery now offers two types of tours. The standard free tour continues to be offered. But now, visitors have the option to sign up for a "tasting tour" at a cost of \$10. The tasting tour is slightly longer, including some stops not on the regular public tour and is first-come, first-served for visitors who sign up at the center.

MEMPHIS

Memphians could be bicycling and strolling across a specially designed boardwalk over the Mississippi River within about two years, now that federal officials have approved a critical piece of funding for the project. The city has been awarded a \$14.94 million Transportation Improvement Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant. The money from the federal Department of Transportation will cover roughly half the cost of a \$29.8 million public-private initiative called the Main Street to Main Street Multi-Modal Connector Project. The centerpiece of the plan is a pathway or boardwalk to be built along one of the cantilevered former carriageways on the 96-year-old Harahan Bridge, which is still used by trains. The project also includes extensive improvements and repairs to the Main Street corridor and trail connections linking the Harahan to downtown West Memphis. Officials have also lined up commitments for the other \$14.85 million needed for the project. Those pledges include \$2 million from the Downtown Memphis Commission's Center City Revenue Financing Corp.; \$2 million from a tax increment financing district; \$6 million from the Memphis Division of Public Works; \$2 million from the Tennessee Department of Transportation; \$1 million from Shelby County, \$850,000 from West Memphis and \$1 million in private contributions.

MEMPHIS

The National Civil Rights Museum says it plans to allow the public access to the spot where Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in 1968. The change will come in November when the main portion of the museum will close for a major renovation project until the first quarter of 2014. During that time, visitors will be allowed on the balcony to view the room where King stayed while in Memphis. While the room will not be accessible from the inside, people can view it from the outside by way of the balcony. A tunnel with information about the civil rights movement will lead to the steps of the balcony.

MEMPHIS

Want to report a pothole or problem property to the city? Now there's an "app" for that. Mayor A. C. Wharton unveiled a smartphone application, or app, that allows residents and the city to interact electronically. The free app features one-touch dialing to a host of city divisions and services. It will offer alerts from the city, including police and fire. Memphis-based Geospace developed the application for the city for free.

MT. JULIET

The YMCA is planning an expansion of services in the community. A new facility, complete with two indoor pools, is planned, with a completion date dependent on fundraising efforts. The facility will



Gov. Bill Haslam, center, with Mayor Tom Beehan, Ed Westcott and many other area residents recreate Westcott's famous 'War's End' photo taken in Jackson Square after the announcement of the end of World War II. The city has won a \$798,687 grant for revitalizing the city's original Townsite.

cost \$12 million to \$13 million to build Phase I, which would add expanded sports programming, a recreational and lap pool. Phase II would include a gymnasium and more activities. The new facility would be an extension of an existing center currently serving 900 member households.

NASHVILLE

ABC's new TV series about the music scene will receive up to \$7.5 million through Tennessee's incentive program for the film industry. The Department of Economic and Community Development announced that it had approved a grant for "Nashville," an hourlong musical drama co-produced by ABC Studios, Lionsgate and Gaylord Entertainment. The show, which debuts in the fall, is currently in pre-production. Principal photography is set to begin in mid-July. State officials estimate the show will employ 350 people in various crew positions. The grant is designed to reimburse producers for costs incurred within the state as they buy goods or services from Tennessee vendors or residents.

NASHVILLE

A sports testing lab named after Olympic legend Wilma Rudolph recently celebrated its grand opening. The 70,000-square-foot facility, to be operated by Nashville-based Aegis Sciences Corp., will have forensics, life sciences and research and development labs. More than 200 jobs will be created by the business. Rudolph, of Clarksville, overcame polio to win three gold medals at the 1960 Olympics in Rome while running for Tennessee A&I—now Tennessee State University. She died in 1994 in Nashville. The lab's lobby will feature a life-sized bronze statue of Rudolph by Memphis artist Brian Law.

NASHVILLE

The National Folk Festival, set to happen this September, has been cancelled. Festival organizers hope to regroup for 2013. The festival moves from city to city in three-year stints. Nashville beat out dozens of competitors when it won rights to host the festival from 2011 to 2013. But barely a month after that announcement, the city flooded. Organizers say the result was a huge setback for planning and fundraising and that far fewer people showed up than expected due to the weather. When it wasn't raining, it was savagely hot. Organizers say they are

looking at booking a different weekend for the festival, perhaps closer to fall. In the meantime, there's still debt left over from last year.

OAK RIDGE

The city was awarded a check for \$798,687 during a special celebration in historic Jackson Square. The city received the Tennessee Department of Transportation Enhancement grant to help revitalize the original townsite. The check is for Phase I of redevelopment of the site. Mayor Tom Beehan called the presentation "rededicating this location in the history of Oak Ridge." The grant is made possible through a federally funded program administered by TDOT. A variety of activities such as the restoration of historic facilities, bike and pedestrian trails, landscaping and other non-traditional transportation projects are eligible for grant funds under the federal program.

SHELBYVILLE

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) will be chipping in for half of the costs for an expensive utility relocation. Following a series of meetings with TDOT officials, city manager Jay Johnson told the city council that an amendment to their original contract with TDOT would result in the state paying 50 percent of the costs of the utility relocation for the ongoing State Industrial Access program on Railroad Avenue. Estimated costs of the relocation is currently at \$382,352, with the state chipping in around \$191,000 for their half. Extensive renovations have been planned to improve truck access to the city's industrial area. Last month, the city received approval for design modification for the original plans to lower the cost estimates of relocating the utilities. The new roadway will now have two 11-foot lanes with 2-foot paved shoulders, along with roadside drainage improvements. The roadway improvements will be 100 percent funded by TDOT, at an estimated budget of \$770,000.

SHELBYVILLE

Economy Pen and Pencil Co./Jo-Bee, a family-owned business for more than 65 years, will be closing its doors within the next 60 days. About 30 jobs will be leaving Shelbyville as a result. Supplier firm Evans Manufacturing of Garden Grove, Calif., recently announced the purchase of the firm, a collection of Jo-Bee products and machinery.

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Aging population presents new challenges for cities

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

Computers may supply a wealth of information, but the wisdom of America's elders isn't going away anytime soon, and that can be good news for people of all ages. According to The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), Americans are enjoying longer, healthier, more fulfilling lives. Generally healthier, wealthier, better educated and more actively engaged than previous generations, there are more than 35 million Americans age 65 or above—a ten-fold increase since 1900. Expect that number to reach 71.5 million in the next 25 years, placing new demands, opportunities and challenges square on the shoulders of Tennessee's communities.

"People say 70 is the new 50, so what is an older adult?" asked n4a

According to n4a, cities are discovering that older adults, especially larger populations, require a completely new comprehensive, approach to service delivery organization and management. While planning items such as land use, housing, parks & recreation, health and transportation, need a complete overhaul.

According to Markwood, the ubiquitous nature of what defines today's senior citizens begs for a holistic approach in planning and development, meeting people's needs throughout various stages of life. "A quality transportation system should accommodate my 90-year-old step dad, but also my 18-year-old daughter," she advises.

Other factors for communities to consider are an increase in racial diversity; marketing for the needs of the mature consumer, and targeting the needs of caregivers, as well as providing education and tax breaks

bone density, agility and general function. n4a suggests communities provide a range of fitness programs to assist older adults to safely and effectively exercise to improve their overall health and well-being. Additionally, communities can ensure that their parks and recreational facilities include walking trails, benches and fitness facilities that would accommodate and attract older citizens.

"Studies have shown that older adults overwhelmingly prefer to 'age in place' in their existing homes and communities, but modifications might be needed to their homes to facilitate that option," Markwood notes. For example, older people may need to move to another residence that is more accessible, affordable or more appropriate in size to accommodate their changing needs.

Starting by assessing land use plans, zoning ordinances and building codes, communities can play a critical role in promoting the development of home modification programs and the development of a range of housing options that meet the needs of an aging population. Markwood notes that options include: active living communities, affordable assisted living facilities, group homes and co-housing, along with in-home monitoring technology.

"Zoning changes can be made to allow different types of housing units within existing neighborhoods," she explained. "There's also been a regeneration of downtown housing where more services for older adults are available."

The needs of older adults are often interrelated, n4a reminds local governments. For example, just the provision of housing is not sufficient, if residents lack transportation to get to medical offices, the pharmacy or grocery store. Improvements to roadway design such as large print road signs, grooved lane dividers, dedicated left turn lanes and extended walk times at pedestrian crosswalks can accommodate older drivers as well as pedestrians. And in their planning designs, officials need to take under consideration that senior developments should be as close as possible to transportation links and/or a walkable distance from daily needs like medical services or shopping.

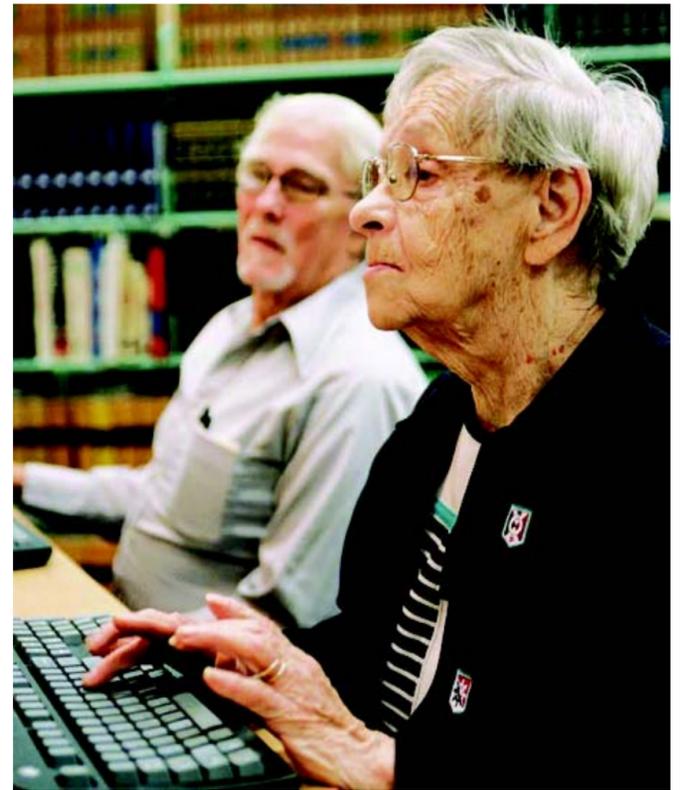
"At one point or another, we will all need mobility management," Markwood said. "Examine how you can blend options and encourage volunteer driving programs as well."

"It is a silent need that a lot of individuals feel shame in sharing...because who wants to admit...that you have no means to travel?" notes the publication "Transportation: The Silent Need," the results of a national survey of Area Agencies on Aging conducted by the National Center on Senior Transportation.

"Rural American seniors have a hard time getting where they want to go (and) it will only get worse and cause death and exacerbate chronic conditions as seniors 'give up' seeing doctors for preventative measures and just go when there is an emergency or too late," the publication says. The Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) receive funding from the Older Americans Act to support their local community or region and leverage additional funding to support senior transportation services. The survey lists various sources of transportation funding along with modes of transportation utilized frequently by senior citizens.

In Tennessee, the city of Lebanon has marked the start of new construction on Middle Tennessee's first transit-oriented development. Hamilton Springs will be a traditional neighborhood "village" of residences and businesses with a Music City Star commuter train at its center. The first phase of the construction begins this summer.

"Transit-ready developments are a quality-of-life issue for people of all ages and are the way of the future," said Gallatin Mayor Jo Ann Graves. Gallatin has also announced the go ahead to begin construction of a first of its kind community. Similar in concept to Hamilton Springs, property owners are preparing to develop the land before the mass transit line around which it hinges has even been established. The Greensboro North mixed-use community will be developed to take advantage of the Metropolitan Planning Organization's regional transportation plan, which calls for a proposed Northeast Corridor transit line. Located on approximately 150 acres of land in Gallatin along both



Cities can provide a wealth of public education courses, from computer literacy to health and consumer safety that can place older citizens on the road to greater independence.



The rise in older workers will require communities to provide special job training or retraining, modified work schedules and other job accommodations. Communities may develop or partner with others who offer job training and retraining programs and lifelong learning opportunities that assist older adults to remain in the workforce. Additionally, communities should promote employment options — such as part- and flex-time work options — to attract and retain an aging workforce.

chief executive officer, Sandy Markwood, of attendees at the recent TML Annual Conference. "The sheer numbers of them has resulted in a new definition," she said. "There's a new interest in aging, a new attitude."

Communities that capitalize on the diverse assets of older adults, may find ways to stabilize the costs

for older citizens.

In the project's first phase, "Maturing of America," n4a's partners surveyed 10,000 local governments to:

- determine their "aging readiness" to provide programs, policies and services that address the needs of older adults and their caregivers;
- ensure that their communities are



One of the most significant challenges for older Americans is transportation services. In door-to-door programs, drivers or escorts provide assistance to help passengers enter and exit the vehicles. Door-through-door programs help passengers from the vehicle through the doors of their residences or destinations.

of governing and providing services, create new opportunities for economic growth, and provide a better quality of life for residents of all ages, according to a project spearheaded by n4a, in partnership with the International City/County Management Association, National Association of Counties, National League of Cities, and Partners for Livable Communities, and funded by a grant from MetLife Foundation.

The resulting publication "The Maturing of America — Getting Communities on Track for an Aging Population," stresses that although Baby Boomers, those born between 1948 and 1964, are rapidly approaching retirement age, (the first turned age 60 in 2006) statistics show that only 46 percent, less than half, of America's communities, have even begun planning for the needs of aging populations.

"Communities need to take a fresh look at their existing policies, programs and services to see if they address the needs of an aging population," Markwood said.

"livable" for persons of all ages; and • harness the talent, wisdom and experience of older adults to contribute to the community at large.

"We need to look at today — what we're doing today — and then where we're going to be in the future and stage ourselves for the future," said Roger Blakeley, Johnson City Parks and Recreation director. The department is currently posting an online survey of 24 questions for the community to answer about what developments citizens would like to see take place in the city's recreational future. Citing the recreational needs of retiring baby boomers as on par with that of the city's young children participating in sports and arts programs, Blakeley explained to local news sources that "a lot of things have changed since anybody asked the community what their opinions were about parks and recreation."

Research shows older adults stand to benefit significantly with sufficient daily exercise, greatly increasing overall muscle strength,

sides of GreenLea Boulevard, south of the CSX Railroad and adjacent to Volunteer State Community College, Greensboro North will be one of 13 stations on the Northeast Corridor transit line.

Other popular modes of senior transportation services, according to the AAA survey include:

- Fixed route and paratransit—bus and rail services along established routes with set schedules and no reservations required. Paratransit providers use smaller vehicles such as minivans or small buses to provide accessible service for persons with disabilities, offering curb-to-curb or door-to-door service. These options may offer re-

satile, although access to affordable health care and preventive services is still a growing concern among older adults who have a greater risk of suffering from acute and chronic diseases. Cities can help provide information about disease prevention, support services, rehabilitation as well as 24/7 nursing care. "Once people get to be 85, they will need some assistance at home," said Markwood.

In 2010, the follow-up survey, "The Maturing of America—Communities Moving Forward for an Aging Population" or "Maturing of America II," aimed to assess what progress had been made in the original three survey areas. While re-



Rural American seniors have a hard time getting where they want to go, according to the National Center on Senior Transportation. Express bus service within walking distance serves as a good option.

duced fares to senior citizens or operate on a donation basis.

- Demand/Response—generally refers to any transportation service that dispatches vehicles by phone requests from seniors and their caregivers. Vehicles may carry more than one passenger picked up from different points of entry and dropped off at separate destinations.

• Door-to-door, door-through-door and escorted/assisted transportation—older individuals or people with disabilities who need more assistance than is typically available through curb-to-curb service. In door-to-door programs, drivers or escorts provide assistance to help passengers enter and exit the vehicles. Door-through-door programs help passengers from the vehicle through the doors of their residences or destinations, and may include the service of an escort or assistant to stay with the passenger at the destination.

With the fastest growing segment of America's aging population over the age of 85, these individuals will most likely need the support of family, friends and the community to remain living independently. Statistics provided by n4a indicate that, as opposed to previous generations, only five percent of older people enter nursing homes for long periods of time.

Today's options are more ver-

sponses varied, the challenges most often cited were financial/funding shortages, transportation and housing. This lineup contrasts with the top three identified challenges in 2005, which were: housing, financial issues and various health issues.

There was also a dramatic jump in communities reporting specialized training for public safety and emergency staff in dealing with older adults. In the 2005 survey, 24 percent of local governments reported that such specialized training was available. In 2010, that percentage rose to 59 percent—a 35 percentage point increase.

"We don't always want to address public safety, but only one in 25 scams against older people are reported," Markwood said. Education and training programs provided by communities, can help older adults learn how to protect themselves against financial fraud and predatory lending. "And not all older people are well off," Markwood continues. Communities can also assist older citizens by providing tax assistance and relief to those most in financial need."

To view the complete "Maturing of America" reports along with "Transportation the Silent Need" and other area reports on aging, visit the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging website at <http://www.n4a.org/>.

STATE BRIEFS



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

US report cites \$2 billion added to state's economy

A U.S. Department of the Interior report says the agency's activities in Tennessee contributed more than \$2 billion to the state's economy last year and supported nearly 17,000 jobs in fields ranging from energy and mineral development to tourism and outdoor recreation. The report also highlights the impact of the department's role in land and water management, wildlife management and scientific research and innovation. According to the report, nearly 9 million people visited national parks and wildlife refuges located in Tennessee last year, supporting 8,242 jobs, while the energy and mineral development sectors overseen by the department supported 7,700 jobs.

TN ranked 16th for business by CNBC

Tennessee as one of the best states in the nation for businesses, but CNBC disagreed. In an independent study, the news outlet ranked the Volunteer State 16th in the country. While Tennessee couldn't snag a best-in-the-nation title in any of the 10 categories CNBC calculated, the state managed to rank second for "cost of living," unchanged from last year's study. Tennessee improved its position in other categories, like ranking fourth for "infrastructure and transportation" and sixth for "business friendliness." However, it dropped down a peg and ranked forty-eighth in the country for "quality of life." Although the study's been published, Tennessee is still vying to show the results up through a CNBC Top States Twitter Battle contest. The state with the most tweets calling it the best state in the nation for business wins.

Statewide test scores improve

Proficiency levels are up in all but one of 24 of the latest assessment tests of elementary and middle students, Gov. Bill Haslam announced. The governor credited the state's recent emphasis on improving education standards for the improved test results of students in grades three through eight. Data released for the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program did not include district-by-district results. Eighth-grade reading was the only subject that did not show gains this year. About 47 percent of students scored at proficient or advanced levels in math, up from 41 percent a year earlier, an improvement that means 55,000 more students statewide achieved the desired level. Just 34.6 percent had proficiency in 2010, the first year of results after proficiency standards were raised during former Gov. Phil Bredesen's administration. In science, 60.5 percent tested at a proficient level compared with 54.9 percent last year and 51.9 percent in 2010.

State enforces scrap metal law

Owners of local scrap metal businesses say they will benefit from new regulations stating that all scrap metal dealers and any locations the dealers use must be registered by the state's Department of Commerce and Insurance's Scrap Metals Registration Program. The law, in existence since 2008, says everyone who deals scrap metal in the state must have a government-issued license for their business and regularly pay their fees. Dealers say enforcement of the law, beginning July 1, will help prevent thefts from scrap yards. Scrap metal dealers previously were allowed to have only one registration, regardless of the number of yards operated under one dealer. The law also gives Tennessee's commissioner of commerce and insurance the right to investigate unregistered scrap metal activity and the unauthorized sale of metals. Pen-

alties will include a fine up to \$1,000 per violation, as well as the suspension or revocation of a dealer's scrap metal license.

Feds to issue insurance checks

The federal government says Tennesseans are due more than 28 million dollars in refunds from their health insurers. Some will get checks, but most will see their refund in other ways. A provision in the federal healthcare law requires insurance companies to spend at least 80 percent of the money they get in premiums on patient care. If they spend less than that, they're supposed to issue refunds. If you're in an employee-based plan, that money goes to your company. They can decide to give all or part of it to you. Or the company could use it to lower your premium. But if you buy insurance on your own, you should be seeing a check from the insurance company. The state's largest insurance company, BlueCross BlueShield, met the government's requirement employer-based plans. But, BlueCross will be issuing about eight million in refunds to people who buy insurance directly. There's no exact number of how many Tennesseans will get refunds, because there are so many insurance companies and plans. However, the federal government says checks must be in the mail before the end of August.

State receives \$18M emergency health care grant

Tennessee has received an \$18 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to prepare for health care emergencies. Tennessee's portion comes from a total of \$971 million awarded by HHS. The funding awards include a total of approximately \$352 million awarded for the Hospital Preparedness Program cooperative agreement. Of that, \$7.04 million has been awarded in Tennessee. Of the more than \$619 million awarded the Public Health Emergency Preparedness cooperative agreement, \$11.4 million has been awarded in Tennessee.

Gang activity rises in small towns

Gang-related crimes rose nearly 25 percent across Tennessee in 2011, but much of the illegal activity is happening away from big cities. Since 2005, cities with fewer than 50,000 residents saw gang crime more than triple. Gangs are becoming problems in places such as Springfield, a town of about 16,000 people 30 miles north of Nashville. In the past two months in Springfield, three suspected gang members were arrested in the armed holdup of a bank and a 20-year-old man was found dead with a bullet wound to the back of his head near a youth center. Rural towns often have small and sometimes ill-equipped police departments, which can make the communities vulnerable and attractive to young criminals trying to dodge larger cities with more sophisticated gang units," said Springfield Police Chief David Thompson.

New trail showcases West TN

Tourism officials are launching a self-guided driving trail that connects farmland and small towns in nine West Tennessee counties. The Cotton Junction Trail, launched by the state departments of Tourism Development and Transportation, starts in Memphis and heads east and north along 320 miles of roads through Carroll, Crockett, Fayette, Gibson, Haywood, Madison, Shelby, Tipton and Weakley counties. The trail is the 16th in the Discover Tennessee Trails & Byways program.

iPads installed at driver's stations

The Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security spent almost \$80,000 on installing 72 iPad kiosks inside 26 driver service centers across the state, in a bid to speed

up the time it takes to renew or replace your driving license. The iPads kiosks are called ASSETS (automatic self-service electronic terminals) and are primarily located in the state's urban areas. The terminals allow drivers to fill out forms electronically, before paying with a debit or credit card. After completing the transaction, users should receive the new license within a few minutes, while the kiosks do also allow for drivers to change their designated address or pay reinstatement fees.

Study highlights number of uninsured deaths

In 2010, 633 people died in Tennessee because they did not have health insurance, according to a new study released by health care consumer advocate Families USA. In the five years from 2005-2010, 3,483 Tennesseans died because they lacked health insurance, the study said. The number of uninsured Tennesseans rose from 482,353 in 2005 to 604,222 in 2011, according to the University of Tennessee Center for Business and Economic Research. Oftentimes, uninsured patients will put off their treatments, which can make health problems worse and make treating them more difficult. Across the nation, 26,100 people died in 2010 without access to health insurance, a figure higher than the 20,350 who died without coverage in 2005. From 2005-2010, a total of 134,120 died in the U.S. because they lacked health coverage, according to the study.

Tire grants protect environment

The state has awarded 41 grants to help Tennessee communities recycle tires and keep them out of landfills. The waste tire recycling grants total more than \$2.8 million in fiscal year 2013-14, and the grants are supported from the Solid Waste Management Fund, which receives revenue from a pre-disposal fee on the purchase of new tires. Tennessee recycles an estimated 55,000 tons of tires per year, diverting waste tires from landfills and sending them to beneficial end-use facilities. Beneficial end-use methods include utilizing tire-derived aggregate in civil engineering projects, crumb rubber for asphalt paving and molded rubber products. The majority of Tennessee's waste tires are used as tire-derived fuel. The General Assembly authorized waste tire grants in the Solid Waste Management Act of 1991. The grants assist counties with the processing and transportation of tires to beneficial end-use facilities. Counties are reimbursed \$1 per eligible tire and are required to provide at least one waste tire collection site. Counties may charge an additional fee if the grant is not adequate to cover costs. The fund is administered by the Department of Environment and Conservation, and \$1.25 from the \$1.35 pre-disposal fee collected is used to supplement the counties' costs for waste tire recycling and services. Tire-derived fuel, or TDF, conserves fossil fuels and provides a waste-to-energy disposal method. For more information, visit <http://www.tn.gov/environment/swm/tires/>

Outstanding court fee law in effect

People with outstanding court-related taxes and fees are at risk of losing their drivers' license now that a 2011 law is being enforced. The law requires court clerk's offices across the state to send information about those cases delinquent for one year to the Department of Safety. The state will suspend driving privileges until all the fees are paid. An entire year had to pass and the account remain unpaid before clerk's offices could start sending the information to Nashville. The law applies to anyone who was assessed court costs and fines on or after July 1, 2011. In the past, judges and the clerk's office have told defendants that as long as they are making regular monthly payments, they won't get in trouble for not getting costs and fines paid by a certain deadline.



The TN Department of Safety and Homeland Security has installed 72 iPad kiosks, called ASSETS (automatic self-service electronic terminals) inside 26 driver service centers across the state, in a bid to speed up the time it takes to renew or replace your driving license.

Total June tax collections well above budgeted estimates

Finance and Administration Commissioner Mark Emkes reported that overall June revenues were \$1.2 billion, which is \$125.4 million more than the state budgeted. It marks the 11th consecutive month this year in which total collections have exceeded the budgeted estimate. Sales tax collections in June exceeded the budgeted estimate by 4.7 percent, and corporate tax collections continue to outpace estimates, exceeding June expectations by 35.5 percent.

"The positive growth trend we are now enjoying is encouraging, however, the latest national jobs report point to an economy that is still anemic and recovering slowly," Emkes said. "For the remainder of this year, we will continue to closely monitor collections and expenditures."

On an accrual basis, June is the eleventh month in the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

The general fund was over collected by \$127.9 million, and the four other funds were under collected by \$2.5 million.

Sales tax collections were \$26.6 million more than the estimate for June. The June growth rate was 6.24 percent. For 11 months revenues are over collected by \$227.2 million. The year-to-date growth rate for eleven months was positive 6.90 percent.

Franchise and excise taxes combined were \$98.1 million above the budgeted estimate of \$276.3 million. The growth rate for June was 32.39 percent. For 11 months revenues are over collected by \$308.9 million and the year-to-date growth rate was 22.73 percent.

Privilege tax collections were \$5.5 million above the June esti-

mate. For 11 months collections are \$7.9 million above the budgeted estimate.

Business tax collections were \$2.6 million less than the June estimate. Year-to-date collections for eleven months are \$14.9 million below the budgeted estimate.

Inheritance and estate tax collections were \$7.2 million above the June estimate. For 11 months collections are \$48.0 million above the budgeted estimate.

Tobacco tax collections were \$6.0 million below the budgeted estimate of \$28.8 million. For eleven months revenues are under collected by \$16.0 million.

Gasoline and motor fuel collections for June were under collected by \$4.2 million. For eleven months revenues are under collected by \$8.4 million.

All other taxes for June were over collected by a net of \$800,000. Year-to-date collections for eleven months were \$553.9 million more than the budgeted estimate. The general fund was over collected by \$540.3 million and the four other funds were over collected by \$13.6 million. The FY 2012 revised budget assumed an over collection of \$209.6 million in General Fund Taxes. Therefore, the amount over collected above and beyond what's already in the budget is \$330.7 million (\$540.3 million minus \$209.6 million).

The budgeted revenue estimates for 2011-2012 are based on the State Funding Board's consensus recommendation of April 15, 2011, and adopted by the first session of the 107th General Assembly in May. They are available on the state's website at <http://www.tn.gov/finance/bud/budget.shtml>.

State Historical Commission calls for grant applicants

The Tennessee Historical Commission is accepting grant applications for historic preservation projects for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. These grants, which are federally funded, will be available after Oct. 1, 2012. The precise amount of funds available in Tennessee will not be known until Congress has passed the FY 2012-2013 budget. However, it is expected to be approximately \$400,000. Funding decisions will be made when the exact amount of the federal allocation is known, which could be as late as spring 2013.

The selection process will emphasize projects conducting architectural, archaeological and historic site surveys; projects designed to identify and to record historic districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects built before 1960 that are significant to Tennessee's history. Surveys may be for a specific geographic area or for sites associated with themes or events significant in the state's history, such as the development of railroads in the 19th century or the development of motor

tourism in the 20th century.

Priorities for funding survey projects will include areas that are experiencing rapid growth and development or other threats to cultural resources, areas where there are serious gaps in knowledge regarding cultural resources and thematic surveys based upon existing historic study units produced by the State Historic Preservation Office.

Assistance is also available for other types of historic preservation projects. These projects may include preservation planning studies for towns, neighborhoods and historic districts; preparation of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places; planning or pre-development work necessary to undertake restoration of an historic property; and restoration of historic properties. (For restoration or restoration pre-planning, properties must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.) Applications for projects to prepare nominations are a priority and are especially encouraged.

The grants will pay for up to 60 percent of the costs of approved project work. Recipients must provide the remaining 40 percent of the costs as matching funds.

Completed applications must be postmarked by Sept. 1, 2012. Grant applications are available at: Tennessee Historical Commission, 2941 Lebanon Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0442 or can be downloaded from the Historical Commission's website at www.tn.gov/environment/hist/federal/preservation_grants.shtml.

For more information about the Tennessee Historical Commission, call 615-532-1550 or visit www.tn.gov/environment/hist/.

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PEOPLE



Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Commissioner **John Schroer** has been appointed to serve as Chairman of the American Association of State Highways and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Standing Committee on Finance and Administration. The committee is responsible for addressing a wide range of issues including general administrative practices, civil rights, financial management, and transportation finance policy, uniform accounting procedures, human resource management, information systems, legal affairs, public affairs, and internal/external audit.



Schroer

Bob Wormsley of Caryville was selected as chair of the Tennessee Arts Commission. Appointed to the Commission in 2008, Wormsley is president/CEO of the Local Government Insurance Pool and served as executive director of the Tennessee County Services Association (TCSA) from 1993-2003. He continues to serve in the role of consultant. Other new officers are **Gale Jones Carson** of Memphis, vice chair; and **Rhea Condra** of Gallatin, secretary. The appointments became effective July 1. The officers will serve for Fiscal Year 2013 (July 1, 2012–June 30, 2013). Commission members are appointed by the Governor for five year terms.



Wormsley

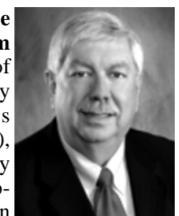


Jones



Condra

Oak Ridge Mayor Tom Beehan, chair of The Energy Communities Alliance (ECA), testified recently before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Energy and Natural Resources Committee, United States Senate, in support of a bill to establish the Manhattan Project National Historical Park in Oak Ridge, Los Alamos, New Mexico and Hanford, WA. The establishment of a three-unit National Historical Park was recommended by the National Park Service Special Resource Study. Mayor Beehan stressed all three communities are united in support for the passage of the bill adding, "this legislation is about giving current and future generations a better understanding of this indisputable turning point in world history. ECA is the non-profit organization of local governments which host, or are adjacent to DOE sites. To watch a broadcast, visit



Beehan

<http://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/live-webcast>.

Nashville Democrats nominated **Brenda Wynn** for county clerk, making the U.S. Rep. Jim Cooper aide a heavy favorite to capture the seat in Davidson County come November. Wynn, director of community outreach in Cooper's congressional office, collected 27 votes from the Davidson County Democratic Party's Executive Committee, as the candidate to replace John Arriola, who resigned last month. The Metro Council is set to appoint an interim county clerk in August to serve until the outcome of November's election. The party's vote functioned in lieu of a primary, as Arriola's resignation occurred too late to add county clerk candidates to August's party primaries.



Wynn

Patrick J. Flood, P.E., is the new director of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Division of Solid Waste and Hazardous Management. With more than 20 years' experience in the solid and hazardous waste industry, Flood currently serves as project manager and waste services practice leader of the design engineering firm AECOM's southern region, where he has worked since 1991. He is also responsible for managing the company's Oak Ridge office. Flood is a registered Professional Engineer in twelve states, including Tennessee, and is active in a number of professional organizations, including the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers, the Solid Waste Association of North America, and the NCEES Civil Engineering Exam Writing Committee. He also serves as president-elect of the Tennessee Chapter of the Energy, Technology, and Environmental Business Association.

Joseph Bishop, Columbia's police chief has been appointed to a post in the Tennessee Department of Correction. A 32-year veteran of law enforcement, Bishop, will become director of the Office of Investigations and Compliance, overseeing the department's law enforcement, special operations and compliance units. He has been police chief in Columbia since 2008 and is former deputy chief with the Metro Nashville Police Department where he spent 27 years on the force.

The Town of Greeneville selected **Amy (Overbay) Rose** for the new position of Public Relations Specialist. Her duties will include writing press releases, preparing town publications, communicating with the public, creating visual presentations, and planning town events. Rose has worked for the past 14 years for Jones Media Inc., including 12 years for *The Greeneville Sun*.



Rose

Clean Tennessee Energy Grants awarded to local communities

More than \$2.3 million has been awarded to fund energy efficiency projects for local governments and municipalities, utilities, other organizations and private entities across Tennessee. The Clean Tennessee Energy Grants were awarded to 17 recipients for projects designed to reduce air emissions, improve energy efficiency and create cost savings. The announcement marks the first time these grants have been made available. The grant program provides financial assistance to state and local government agencies, utility districts, and private business/organizations in Tennessee to purchase, install and construct energy projects.

Eligible categories of the Clean Tennessee Energy Grant Program include:

- Cleaner Alternative Energy – biomass, geothermal, solar, wind;
- Energy Conservation – lighting, HVAC improvements, improved fuel efficiency, insulation, idling minimization; and
- Air Quality Improvement – reduction in greenhouse gases, sulfur dioxide, volatile organic compounds, oxides of nitrogen, hazardous air pollutants

Funding for the projects comes from an April 2011 Clean Air Act settlement with the Tennessee Valley Authority. Under the Consent Decree, Tennessee will receive \$26.4 million over five years to fund clean air programs in the state (at approximately \$5.25 million per year). In addition to the \$2.3 million in Clean Energy Grants, \$3 million was announced earlier this year for energy efficiency projects in state government.

Grant recipients were selected through a scoring process of projects that met the selection criteria and expressed the greatest need. **Municipal grant recipients include:**

- Oak Ridge (\$46,164): To renovate the currently unusable National Guard Armory building acquired by Girls Inc. Renovation plans include replacement of the roof with a reflective Energy Star thermoplastic polyolefin roof system and R-24 insulation on both the flat and the gabled roof. These renovations will position Girls Inc. to complete the energy efficiency components of the project which includes installation of a 50 kW direct current solar array, high efficiency HVAC and lighting, and energy efficient window treatments.
- Athens (\$250,000): To construct three grid-tied solar power-producing systems and one small office system. The three solar systems combined will produce 137,117 kWh in clean energy each year, which will be sold to the Tennessee Valley Authority. Power sales are expected to produce nearly \$30,000 per year in income. The city will use this income as earmarked funds for future energy savings initiatives.
- Brentwood (\$52,250): To implement an energy-saving and emissions-reducing project at the Brentwood Public Library, consisting of replacing two 14-year-old, inefficient boilers that require a high volume of combustion air to be delivered to the boiler room. The



Covington Mayor David Gordon accepts his city's Clean Energy Grant check from TDEC Commissioner Bob Martineau and Sen. Mark Norris

project will result in emissions reductions, including annually reducing CO2 by 71.2 tons, NOx by 28 pounds and SO2 by 60 pounds. Over the expected minimum 15-year lifetime of the new equipment, long-term cost savings are estimated to be \$225,605, reflecting long term energy savings of 17.6 million cubic feet of natural gas and 13,140 kWh of electricity.

- Covington (\$250,000): To enact a Waste Biomass Gasification to Energy Project that will create electricity and utilize the city's wood waste and biosolids as fuel. The complete system will use landfill-bound waste to provide a continuous stream of domestically produced energy that is clean, carbon neutral and renewable; it will convert approximately 12 tons per day of the wood and sludge waste collected by the city into electricity.
- Chattanooga and Moccasin Bend Wastewater (\$200,000): To install varying frequency drive units on the four UNOX Oxygenation Tank Mixers utilized by the Moccasin Bend Wastewater Treatment Plant. The oxygenation tanks process water and operate at fixed speeds. These installations will allow the motors flexibility to operate at varying speeds hence increasing efficiency by using only the power and energy necessary to meet specific demand; the projected annual savings is \$325,609, and will result in a rapid payback in less than two years.
- Johnson City (\$150,000): For a wastewater treatment plant aeration system project. The aeration system

is a major user of electricity at the wastewater treatment plant, and the funds will be used to replace aeration system diffusers, provide a variable frequency drive on one blower, provide dissolved oxygen based controls, and replace all existing metal halide area lighting fixtures at the plant with LED lighting fixtures.

- Kingsport (\$50,000): To purchase two Nissan LEAF Electric Vehicles along with the purchase and installation of two EV charging stations and promotion of an EV/alternative fuels public campaign.
- Lenoir City (\$100,000): To install a 250 kW LED lighting to Hydrogen Power system, a biomass-fueled renewable energy technology, as part of the LCUB net-zero wastewater treatment project.
- Morristown (\$27,506): To install an 11.73 kW solar PV project on the rooftop of the 144 West Main Street building in Historic Downtown Morristown. The project will use aesthetic and innovative solar technology that can be installed within the design requirements of the local Historic Zoning Commission and will add to the historic building's complete renovation.
- Nashville (\$123,711): To replace outdated HVAC units throughout the Omohundro Water Treatment Plant. The project will replace 13 HVAC units throughout the site that range from 16 to 20 years old, with a SEER rating of 10 or less, with new energy efficient HVAC units with SEER ratings of 16 or greater and will replace the old duct with pressure sealed duct.

New ECD website provides grant, incentive information

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development announced the launch of its transparency website, OpenECD.tn.gov.

The website is designed to be a user-friendly site where the public can easily access public information and documents pertaining to ECD grants and incentives.

"Our department wants to provide the public with as much information as possible," Bill Hagerty,

ECD commissioner, said. "These documents have always been available to the public, but we wanted to make them more easily accessible to the public, and we have accomplished that with OpenECD.tn.gov."

OpenECD.tn.gov will be updated quarterly. The public can sign up to receive email alerts notifying the recipient when information has been added and/or updated.

Visit OpenECD.tn.gov for more information.

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TML conference workshop addresses synthetic drug epidemic and new laws to help combat problem

SYNTHETIC from Page 1

The man-made drugs, dubbed "bath salts," a name that evokes images of candlelit soaks in comfy warm water, are in no way related to the epsom salt/baking soda variety that eases tired, aching muscles in the bath. The small vial of synthetic drug crystals costs anywhere from \$25 to \$100, and the results are far from relaxing.

"The people were psychotic, combative and paranoid," Staubus said. "It would take four or five patrolmen just to subdue them." Chemically unregulated, synthetic drugs are manufactured in China as well as domestically, having as part of their composition a legal stimulant 4-Methylenedioxypropylvalerol or Mephedrone. These stimulants are in a class of drug related to the parent compound cathinone, found naturally in the plant Khat. When snorted, smoked, swallowed, or otherwise ingested, the drug is said to produce a high comparable to methamphetamine or cocaine.

"We found out it is highly addictive," Staubus continues. In Bristol, Freddy Sharp has suffered mental issues and other health problems from his experience. He appeared recently on the news program CNN encouraging law enforcement to show his video to other young people. It cost around \$50,000 for his admission to the Medical Center, but the cost in human life is staggering.

"One thing I found when talking to medical personnel and people who experienced this drug first hand, is there's an overwhelming desire to kill yourself," said Staubus. "They say they hated the experience. It was horrific, but at the same time they feel like they must have it. At some point the user says I can't stand this cycle of wanting it, but not wanting it." Staubus recalls the young man in Florida, who was arrested in January. By November, he had leaped to his death.

"People may have some pleasant experiences, but if they do the drug enough, they'll end up in the hospital," Staubus said. "Freddy says this drug is the devil."

Because of the legal status and easy availability, synthetic drugs attracted a wide range of users, Staubus discovered. "We found that not only was it attracting traditional drug cultures—people thinking they wouldn't have to worry about buying from a confidential informant, getting busted or incarcerated—but

also kids faced with peer pressure that the drugs were cool and safe."

The battle against synthetic drugs began in 2010 when small packages of "K2," a leafy substance masquerading as incense, started being sold at gas stations and tobacco shops. In spite of the labeling, which often says "not for human consumption," the products were smoked, producing a high similar to marijuana. The active chemical in K2 is thought to have been four compounds, JWH-018, JWH-073, HU-210 or HU-211, which were lab-created synthetic versions of marijuana. "Synthetic marijuana has nothing to do with marijuana," said Staubus. "They take leaves and spray it with a chemical process, and a number of drugs and call it marijuana because it has leaves."

Police and medical workers, find that no way to determine the product's content can prove perilous for users. "Whether I was in Kingsport, Bristol, the schools, hospitals, civic groups, people were telling me the same thing," said Staubus. "They knew someone who took this drug and ended up in the hospital or died. When you're a public official and prosecutor, that really touches your heart. I felt so powerless."

According to Staubus, investigators were up against vendors who understood the letter of the law significantly. "The people selling the stuff were cunning enough to change the chemical composition ever so slightly, where it still gave the same high and the same characteristics," he said. "Instead of chemical ABC and D they would have ABC and E. We would send the drugs to the TBI crime lab who would say 'it doesn't meet the definition of law.'"

The legislature's synthetic drug law, passed the year before, did little to ease the epidemic, according to Staubus. "It was only a misdemeanor to have it and it also defined the drugs by their chemical composition," he said. "Possession wasn't a crime, and if you sold them, it was only a misdemeanor."

After the drug became widely known as bath salts, Staubus said dealers stopped calling it by that name and began calling it a variety of different names: window cleaner, potpourri, plant food, etc. "They add 'not for human consumption' to avoid federal regulations," he said.

"Our young people today are enamored with technology," he continues. "They think, 'this is a man-



Synthetic drugs marketed under various names, such as "bath salts" or "potpourri" are not to be confused with actual products. Real epsom salts, commonly used in warm bathwater to ease aching muscles, cost around \$5 for a large box at most retail stores, while a small container of synthetic drugs, marketed as "bath salts," can cost anywhere from \$25 to \$100.

made drug. It's made by chemists, its got to be safe.' But one person might buy a dose of it and be ok. Another may have major organ or brain damage, while another may end up in the morgue."

After the West Virginia Legislature passed House Bill 2505 adding synthetic cannabinoids and hallucinogens and stimulants to the Schedule I list of controlled substances in the state, Virginia dealers picked up shop and moved over to Sullivan County, Staubus explained. "They would open up these places and say 'come on in.' You could go to Kingsport or Bristol, Tenn., and see people lined up outside the store. I would see women with babies in car seats going in. Dealers were making up to \$10,000 a day."

The chaos hit local hospitals hard. "Doctors and nurses in intensive care units said people on the drug would disrupt the entire ER," Staubus continued. "They'd have to stop everything and tie them to a gurney because they were a danger to themselves and others and there was no known treatment without the exact chemical composition for bath salts."

Instead of the normal 98.6, body temperatures would exelerate from 105 to 108, said Staubus. "Medical staff would induce them into a coma, put a tube down their throat so they could breathe, and put them in intensive care until their body temp came back and they could address the problem," he said. Com-

bative, depressed, many would wind up in mental health hospitals, the current alternative for over-taxed medical facilities.

"I spoke with one of the experts at Woodridge Hospital, which is one of our premier facilities in Washington Co.," notes Staubus. "One fourth of their admissions are due to synthetic drugs."

As he compiled statistics, Staubus began asking local law enforcement agencies to run how many arrests or stops they had involving synthetic drugs or bath salts.

"The Sullivan County Sheriff's office had run a previous report where they had four in a particular month," he said. "Twelve months later, in February of this year, it went up to 54 calls." As District Attorney, Staubus also received every autopsy report. From January to March synthetic drug related deaths went from zero to eight in Sullivan County alone. But concerted efforts throughout the region by everyone from local, state and federal law enforcement to citizens, schools, health workers and elected officials finally resulted in a victorious push to strengthen Tennessee's synthetic drug laws.

"People from all walks of life came together because we wanted a felony conviction," Staubus said. Forums were held, there were discussions at high schools, phone calls were made, and ordinances were passed. "For people who sold it, we wanted to put them in jail and take their business license. But not for people who possessed it. We wanted treatment for them," he explained.

The result was amended legislation as reflected in three bills, HB 2286, HB3175, and HB2645, creating felonies for manufacturing and distributing synthetic drugs and prohibiting the drugs' controlled substance-like effect on the central nervous system. A key amendment declares synthetic drug sellers a public nuisance while raising their fines and closing their businesses.

"We wanted to get away from just defining it from its chemical composition because they could make any number of changes, Staubus said. "We looked at the factors surrounding the sale, how the sale was conducted, and what the people who sold it represented the drug as; how they packaged and marketed it and the fact that they only took cash for it. We looked at whether it was a derivative of what's illegal or an analogue."

Just recently 11 Nashville-area convenience stores were padlocked in a series of raids targeting synthetic drugs. Metro Police Chief Steve Anderson, flanked by Tennessee Bureau of Investigation Director Mark Gwyn, U.S. Attorney Jerry Martin and Nashville District Attorney General Torry Johnson, said the coordinated raids are the first of their kind in Tennessee, taking advantage of the new law passed in May. At least eight people were arrested in the raids. And Gwyn said more is in store across the state. "These products have no place whatsoever in Nashville or Tennessee," said Chief Anderson.

The new law allows municipalities to target homes and businesses that sell synthetic drugs as a nuisance. Instead of arresting individual store clerks who are easily replaced, municipalities can now sue to close entire businesses, temporarily at first and permanently if a judge agrees that the businesses



Barry Staubus

Tennessee's amended synthetic drug laws

- HB 2286 substituted for SB 2280, makes it an offense to knowingly manufacture, deliver, sell or possess with the intent to sell, deliver or manufacture an imitation controlled substance. In addition, the bill makes it a Class A misdemeanor to possess or casually exchange a synthetic drug. Similarly, it would be a Class A misdemeanor to represent, advertise, infer or intend that any substance is a derivative of, or substantially similar to, a controlled substance or has a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system substantially similar to or greater than a controlled substance.

- HB 3175— substitutes the language controlled substance OR controlled substance analogue." A controlled substance analogue (synthetic drug) is defined as any substance the chemical structure of which is a derivative of, or substantially similar to, the chemical structure of a controlled substance or any substance that has a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system substantially similar to or greater than the effect of a controlled substance.

In determining whether a substance is a controlled substance analogue, factors considered include:

- The difference in the price at which the substance is sold, and the price at which the substance it is purported to be, is normally sold. (For example, a large box of Epsom salts regularly sells for around \$5 as opposed to synthetic drug bath salts, which can cost \$25 to \$100 for a small vial.)
- The packaging of the substance and its appearance in overall dosage form;
- Oral or written statements or representations concerning the substance;
- The method by which the substance is distributed and the manner in which it is sold to the public;
- The substance is a risk to public health

- Violators of subsection (a) of HB 2286 will be subject to penalties of a Class E felony and in addition to incarceration, shall be imposed a fine of not less than \$2,000 to \$5,000. Additionally, the building and premises of any business in or upon which a violation is committed by an employee, agent or owner of such business is declared to be a public nuisance and will be subject to abatement.

continue to be a nuisance. Nuisance lawsuits have historically been used to shut down drug dens and prostitution houses. Owners of the padlocked businesses will have a chance to appear in court and fight the closure of their stores.

In the future, Staubus said he is training officers to understand the new law. "I can guarantee there'll be something these people who sell this stuff will come up with and we'll have to tweak the laws again," he said. "But we worked together as a community to create a plan and solution that culminated into new law. And since we passed the law, the number of hospitalizations and calls have dropped and many of the businesses have shut down."

Eventually, Staubus predicts, the selling of synthetic drugs will travel underground. "But if we can stop one child from going into a head shop, all of our work was worth it."

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NATIONAL BRIEFS

The American job machine has jammed. Again. The economy added 80,000 jobs in June, the government said, erasing any doubt that the United States is in a summer slump for the third year in a row. It was the third consecutive month of weak job growth. From April through June, the economy produced an average of just 75,000 jobs a month, the weakest quarter since July through September 2010. The unemployment rate stayed at 8.2 percent. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 124 points. Industrial and materials companies, which depend on , were among the stocks that fell the most. The price of oil fell \$2.77 per barrel to \$84.45. Money flowed instead into U.S. Treasury's, which investors perceive as safer than when the economy is weakening. The yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note fell to 1.54 percent, from 1.59 percent. At first, economists blamed the weather for warping the numbers. An unusually warm winter allowed construction companies and other employers to hire earlier in the year than usual, effectively stealing jobs from the spring. Counting federal, state and local jobs, governments have cut 637,000 jobs since 2008. They have cut 49,000 since March. However, some analysts said that the Labor Department report, while disappointing, was not weak enough to lock in further action by the Fed at its next meeting July 31 and Aug. 1.

Recent data indicate that the housing market has started to recovery more than five years after the bubble burst. Greater interest from buyers is boosting builders' confidence. In May, builders requested the highest number of permits to build homes and apartments in three and a half years. The supply of homes for sale remains extremely low, which has helped stabilize prices. The inventory of previously occupied homes is back down to levels last seen in 2006. And there were 145,000 new homes for sale in May. That's only slightly higher than in April, which was the lowest supply on records dating back to 1963. Home prices rose in nearly all major U.S. cities in April from March. The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller home price index shows increases in 19 of the 20 cities tracked. And national prices rose 1.3 percent in April from March, the first increase in seven months. The month-to-month prices aren't adjusted for seasonal factors. Still, prices in half of the cities are up over the past 12 months. Sales of new and previously occupied homes are up over the past year, in part because mortgage rates have plunged to the lowest levels on record. The S&P monthly index measures prices compared with those in January 2000 and creates a three-month average.

In April, the Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in**Parts of immigration law struck down****ARIZONA from Page 1**

While all five laws share a similar intent, each law has different provisions. For instance, Indiana and Georgia prohibit foreign nationals from using consular ID cards as valid forms of identification. Alabama criminalizes contracts or business transactions conducted with undocumented people and requires school officials to determine the immigration status of their students. Georgia and South Carolina prohibit knowingly doing anything to aid someone in the U.S. illegally.

These provisions and others are currently involved in multiple lawsuits in federal court, challenged by the U.S. Department of Justice and various civil rights groups. It is likely that the judges in those cases will call for new briefs in light of the Arizona ruling; they could also call for new oral arguments.

As states take note of the ruling and its effects on their policies, Sheri Steisel, senior federal affairs counsel at the National Conference of State Legislatures, notes that Arizona's legislation stems in part from the federal government's failure to act in the immigration policy arena. Regardless of their ideological stance, says Steisel, legislators' "shared frustration is with the federal government's failure to act on immigration reform. The federal government has left states with the costs and consequences of a lack of federal policymaking in this area...The reason why we have states acting in this area is because Congress has not."

The ruling in *US v. Arizona* specifically addressed whether four of

the sections of Arizona's SB 1070 were preempted by federal law. The majority's opinion on the four sections of Arizona's law is summarized below.

Preempted:

Section 3 of Arizona's law created a new state crime of failing to carry an alien registration document to prove legal status. The majority found that federal law preempts this provision because Congress has "left no room for states to regulate" this area, given that it has created a comprehensive federal registration scheme. Alabama and South Carolina have similar provisions in their immigration enforcement laws.

Section 5C of Arizona's law made it a separate state crime for an illegal immigrant to seek or perform work. Justice Kennedy ruled that this provision conflicts with federal regulatory law because in the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, Congress decided it would be inappropriate to impose criminal penalties on immigrants seeking work and instead placed criminal responsibility on the employer. The new state crime, Kennedy wrote, "is an obstacle to the regulatory system Congress chose." Alabama and South Carolina both have this provision in their immigration enforcement laws.

Section 6 of the law authorizes state and local officers to arrest, without a warrant, anyone they believe has committed a public offense that makes them removable from the United States. Kennedy wrote that this provision gives local officers greater arrest authority in enforcing immigration law than Congress in-

Journalism released a survey report of 38 news executives that found most predicted more daily newspapers would print less frequently in the next five years, with some cutting back to just once a week. Such a trend concerns public officials. *Governing Magazine* found that more than two-thirds of those polled by its online community *Governing Exchange* think the cutbacks will either have some or a significant negative impact on how their community stays informed. Nearly 24 percent expect little impact, with digital coverage, online bloggers and TV news picking up the slack. Today, almost three-quarters of all adults (72 percent) follow local news closely and depend on newspapers as the source they rely on, according to Pew. Nearly 42 percent of government executives believe the public sector should step in by publishing electronic newsletters, using social media and holding live and virtual forums to keep communities informed about government services and news. But more than 37 percent of the respondents said government should not take an active role, and instead let the market develop new and supposedly profitable ways to sell news and information to citizens. Another 13 percent believe bloggers and citizen journalists will fill the void. The survey was conducted a sample of 123 senior government officials and administrators.

Congress approves highway bill**TRANSIT from Page 1**

keeps its basic structure with some reforms. Areas under 200,000 can continue to use their formula funds for operating assistance. A separate bus program is maintained, funded at a somewhat lower level and changed to a formula program. A Senate provision providing flexibility to areas over 200,000 to use funds for transit operating expenses in times of high unemployment was not included in the final bill.

The New Starts program streamlines the approval process to accelerate project delivery. The Elderly and Disabled and New Freedom programs are consolidated and the rural formula program is maintained with a slight increase in funding.

The final agreement also included the RESTORE Act which provides 80 percent of the Clean Water Act penalty fines from the Gulf oil spill to the five affected Gulf Coast states.

The conference agreement did not include NLC supported provisions to maintain parity for federal transit benefits equal to benefits for employee parking and did not include the provision to remove water and waste water facilities from the state cap on private activity bonds. "We are pleased that Congress continues to recognize the national partnership so critical to a national interconnected transportation system and values the important role of local officials in making transportation decisions that impact our communities, NLC President Elis said.

"There is more work to be done to provide federal support for the increasing need for transportation alternatives in our communities and sustainable solutions that protect our communities now and in the future," he noted.

Ellis called on Congress to begin planning for the future of our transportation system. "We look forward to working with Congressional leaders to find new sources of revenue to fund future transportation programs and maintain our national transportation network."

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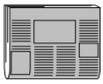
The city of Dyersburg closed a \$4.5 million loan to use on various municipal projects.



The town of Cumberland Gap closed a \$5,000 Highway Safety Grant Anticipation Note.

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BUILDING OFFICIAL

COLLIERVILLE. This is highly responsible administrative and professional work in planning and directing the activities of the town's Development Department, Construction Codes Division. The Building Official is primary staff in charge of the Town's Building Permit Intake, Plan Review, Building Inspection and Zoning Code Enforcement functions (a 12person staff in the Building - Codes Division). The town recently adopted the 2012 ICC family of codes and enforces numerous local ordinances. The position is appointed by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen reporting to the Development Director on a day-to-day basis. Requires graduation from an accredited four year college or university with major course work in Architecture, Engineering or a closely related field, (Masters Degree preferred) and 8 years of experience in building and codes enforcement at a professional level (at least two of which shall have been in a supervisory capacity), or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Must be certified as a Building Official through a recognized certification program within 1 year of hire. Valid driver's license at the time of hire is required. Must be able to attend meetings outside regular business hours. Salary: \$75,000.00(+/-) annually (Depending on Qualifications) plus full benefits package. Applications may be obtained at the Human Resources Department, 500 Poplar View Parkway, Collierville, Tennessee, 38017, M-F, 8 am to 5 pm. Applicants must fill out the official Town of Collierville application to be considered for this position. Applications and resumes are subject to disclosure. This position will remain open until July 27, 2012. EOE

CITY MANAGER

RED BANK. The city is accepting resumes for the position of City Manager. Minimum qualifications include a bachelor's degree and experience in municipal management, public administration, business administration or comparable experience. Must possess written and verbal communication skills, computer proficiency, management skills and grant administration experience. Responsibilities include: budgets, personnel, oversight of day to day operations, managerial reports, compliance with federal, state and local regulations and other various duties as described in the Red Bank Municipal Code and Charter. Salary is dependant upon qualifications. Deadline for resume submittal is July 27, 2012. Send resume and salary requirements to: Red Bank City Hall, c/o Ruth Rothen, 3117 Dayton Blvd., Chattanooga, TN 37415 or e-mail to r.rothen@redbanktn.gov. EOE.

FINANCE DIRECTOR/RECORDER

SIGNAL MOUNTAIN. The town is seeking applications for the position of Finance Director. The successful candidate must have a bachelor's degree in business administration, accounting or finance. MBA, CPA or CMFO designation is desirable. A minimum of three years of increasingly responsible experience in government finance; or any combination of education, training and experience providing the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the essential functions. Salary: DOQ plus excellent benefits. A complete job description and application are available at Town Hall or visit www.signalmountaintn.gov. Submit application, cover letter, and resume to: Honna Rogers, Town Manager, 1111 Ridgeway Ave, Signal Mountain, TN 37377. Position open until filled. The Town of Signal Mountain is an EEOC employer.

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

CHEATHAM COUNTY. The Joint Economic and Community Development Board of Cheatham County is accepting applications for the position of Director of Economic and Community Development. This full-time position reports to the county mayor and is responsible for the recruitment of new businesses to the county, as well as assisting existing industries with expansion projects. The full job description and application, along with instructions for applying can be found at: www.cheathamconnect.com. EOE

POLICE CHIEF

GOODLETTSVILLE. The city is seeking an experienced Law Enforcement Professional to lead its full-service law enforcement agency into the future. The city is seeking a proven, dedicated, responsive, and experienced individual for its new Chief of Police. The successful candidate will possess a minimum of a bachelor's degree with a major in Criminal Justice, Public Administration, or a related field and fifteen years of progressively responsible experience in the field of law enforcement and at least eight years as a chief, assistant chief or high ranking command position; or any combination of education, training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the essential functions of

the job. A related master's degree would be a plus. The Chief is responsible for planning, organizing, and administering a comprehensive program to provide leadership and direction to the Police Department's operations and departmental staff. The Police Department's General Fund operating budget is \$3.8 million, with 52 full-time employees and 37 sworn officers. The starting salary will be market competitive in a range of \$76,431 to \$95,539, depending on the experience and qualifications, plus an above average comprehensive benefits package. For a full search brochure, visit the website www.cityofgoodlettsville.com/chiefsearch. The email address is chiefsearch@cityofgoodlettsville.org. All interested applicants should submit a resume with salary history and cover letter along with five personal and five professional references to: Police Chief Search, 105 South Main Street, Goodlettsville, TN 37072, no later than 4:30 p.m. on Aug. 24, 2012.

Part-Time Public Works Staff.

NOLENSVILLE. The town is seeking part-time public works employees. Five hours per day work schedule, with a total of 25 hours per week. See employment link at www.nolensvilletn.gov for detail job description. Submit resume of work experience and references to: Town of Nolensville, P.O. Box 547, Nolensville, TN 37135, email to ton_lancaster@hotmail.com, fax to 776-3632 or deliver to Cindy Lancaster at Nolensville Town Hall, 7218 Nolensville Road, Nolensville, TN 37135. Applications will be received through July 27, 2012.

Eight Development Districts receive \$318,000 in grants

More than \$318,000 in grants have been awarded to support solid waste management activities in communities across Tennessee. The Tennessee General Assembly established development districts in 1966 to do general and comprehensive planning and conduct development and administration activities for local governments, and eight of the state's nine development districts will receive grants totaling \$318,578 in fiscal year 2012-2013.

Tennessee's development districts assist the state's solid waste planning regions in compiling information about landfills, source reduction, composting and recycling for the state's Annual Progress Report. The report is a planning and reporting tool required by the Solid Waste Management Act of 1991, which was the first comprehensive solid waste planning legislation in Tennessee history. The data is used to determine each region's progress toward Tennessee's goal to achieve 25 percent waste reduction in Class I landfill solid waste.

Local governments also receive technical assistance from development districts in designing, implementing, upgrading and maintaining solid waste programs, systems and facilities, including landfills, convenience

centers and recycling centers.

Grant amounts are determined on an annual basis and awarded based on available funding and the scope of work undertaken by each district. Development District Grants were authorized by the Solid Waste Management Act of 1991 and are supported from the Tennessee Solid Waste Management Fund that is administered by the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The Tennessee Solid Waste Management Fund receives its revenues from a tipping fee surcharge on each ton of solid waste disposed of in Class I landfills and from a pre-disposal fee on new tires sold in the state.

The grant recipients include:

- East TN Development District—\$36,860
- First TN Development District—\$41,190
- Greater Nashville Regional Council—\$42,629
- Northwest TN Development District—\$43,735
- Southwest TN Development District—\$28,350
- Upper Cumberland Development District—\$38,970
- South Central TN Development District—\$41,100
- Southeast TN Development District—\$45,744



July 21: Cleveland

White Oak Mountain Festival
Bluegrassers from across the Southeast will flock to Tri-State Exhibition Center. Headlined by The Rigney Family Band and five dynamite bands. Gates open at 11 am. Music begins at noon. Tickets are sold at the White Oak Mountain Bluegrass Festival website at www.whiteoakbluegrass.com as well as at the gate. Primitive camping available on the grounds with limited number of RV hookups.

July 26-28: Rutledge

Grainger County Tomato Festival
Mater Madness 5K Run Sat. at 7:30 am, festival opens at 9am, free admission and parking, food, fun, crafts and demonstrations, live music, gospel stage, dancing, kids activities, antique engines, Civil War encampment, National Guard, fresh tomatoes and produce for sale. For more information, visit www.graingercountytomatofestival.com/schedule.html

Aug. 7: La Vergne

National Night Out Against Crime
Held from 5:30 - 8:30 pm at Veterans Memorial Park. The city's emergency responders including police, fire, EMTs, Rescue Squad, and Box 100 will be on-hand to talk about their programs and equipment. Meet the SWAT team and tour the fire trucks and other emergency vehicles. Free food: hamburgers, hot dogs, and sno-cones. The night ends with the famous tug-o-war between police and fire personnel over a mud pit.

Aug 10 - 11: McMinnville

Smokin' in BBQ Festival
Held at 500 Garfield St. Food, entertainment, children's Play Zone, swimming pool, sports events and vendors. For more information, call 931-473-6611.

Aug. 17-25: Lebanon

Wilson County Fair
Three-time recipient of the "Champion of Champions" award and voted "Best Fair in the State" by *Tennessee Electric Magazine*. For times, events and information, visit <http://www.wilsoncountyfair.net>.

Sept. 3: Harrogate

Annual Labor Day Celebration
Held at Harrogate City Park beginning at 3 pm. Kids' games, live bands, food, crafts and business fair. Spectacular fireworks display at 9 p.m. Rain date will be Sept. 8. For more information, call Harrogate City Hall at 423-869-0211.

Sept. 14-16: La Vergne

Old Timers Festival
Carnival, festival food, artisans, and free entertainment throughout the weekend along with a parade on Sat. at 10 am. For more information, visit www.oldtimersfestival.com and www.lavergnetn.gov.



July 19-21: National League of Cities Summer Policy Forum in Nashville at the Lowes Vanderbilt Hotel, 2100 West End Ave. Brings together NLC's seven Policy and Advocacy Committees to develop policy positions for consideration during the Annual Business Meeting at NLC's Congress of Cities in November. Features individual steering committee meetings along with joint plenary sessions. For registration, visit <http://www.loewshotels.com/en/Vanderbilt-Hotel/GroupPages/NLC>

Sept. 19-21: Tennessee City Management Association Fall Conference. Held at The Hilton, in downtown Knoxville. For more information, go to www.tncma.org.

Oct. 18-19: Mark your calendars for the 59th Annual Governor's Conference on Economic and Community Development. Held at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel. Information on Tennessee's economic development process, job creation programs, community development and revitalization, site selection do's and don'ts, technology trends, marketing and more.

MTAS August MAP Class Schedule

Municipal Legislative Update

This course will provide a summary of legislation with municipal impact passed by the Tennessee General Assembly during the 2012 session. Public acts touching every aspect of municipal operations will be discussed.

Of particular concern to cities this year were bills related to non-conforming uses, planning, zoning, sign regulation, taxes, firearms, code enforcement, synthetic drugs, stormwater and many other issues. The course will offer participants the opportunity to ask questions about any new legislation.

Who should attend?

All (elected and appointed) municipal officials who are responsible for implementation and monitoring of state legislation.

Instructors

This course will be conducted by MTAS legal consultants

Time

All classes are held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Dates and locations

Aug. 16 — Jackson
Aug. 23 — Knoxville
Sept. 6 — Franklin

Training Facilities

Franklin, Franklin Ag Expo, 4215 Long Lane
Jackson, West Tennessee Research and Education Center, Seminar Room 150, 605 Airways Boulevard
Knoxville, University of Tennessee Conference Center, 600 Henley Street, 4th floor.



The course is CMFO continuing credit hour eligible: (Financial) The cost of this course is \$50.

To better meet the needs of our customers, MTAS has changed to an online registration system and will accept registration and payment by credit/debit card through your Solution Point account.

If you need assistance with registration or payment, call 865-974-0411.



TML welcomes new exhibitors at Annual Conference in Knoxville



American Fidelity Assurance



Aries Energy



Beijo Bags



Engineering Forensics Group Inc.



Everlast Lighting



ForeverLawn of Tennessee, LLC



HSA Bank



Humane Society of TN Valley



Knoxville PlanET



Knoxville Solid Waste



Knoxville Tourism & Sports Corp.



Lee Company



nCourt



PHG Energy



Playground Preferred



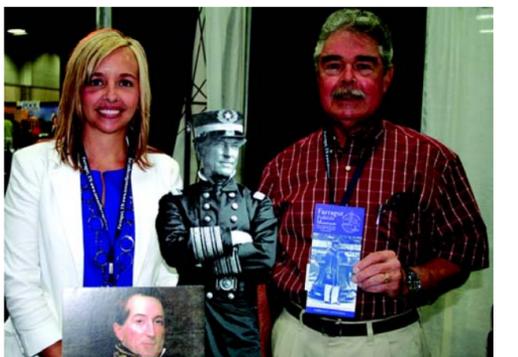
Rural Metro



Strategic Resource Mgt.



Tennessee Drug Card



Town of Farragut



Trust Company



United Systems & Software Inc.



Waste Connections, Inc--UT Truck

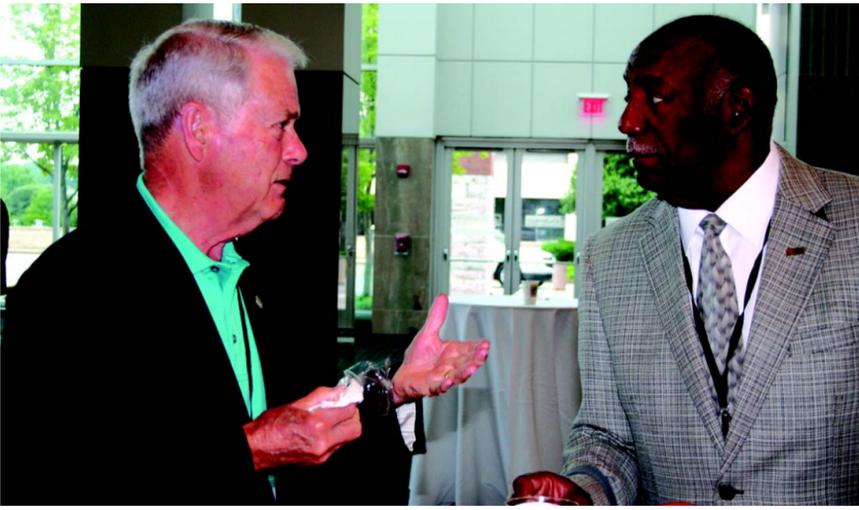


Vendor Registry

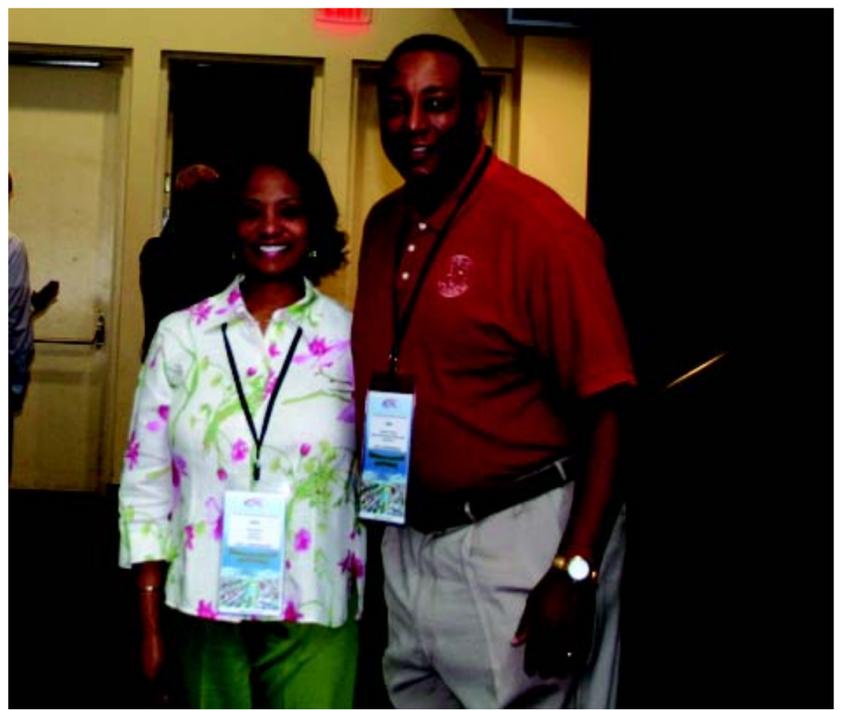


Wright Fire & Forensics, LLC

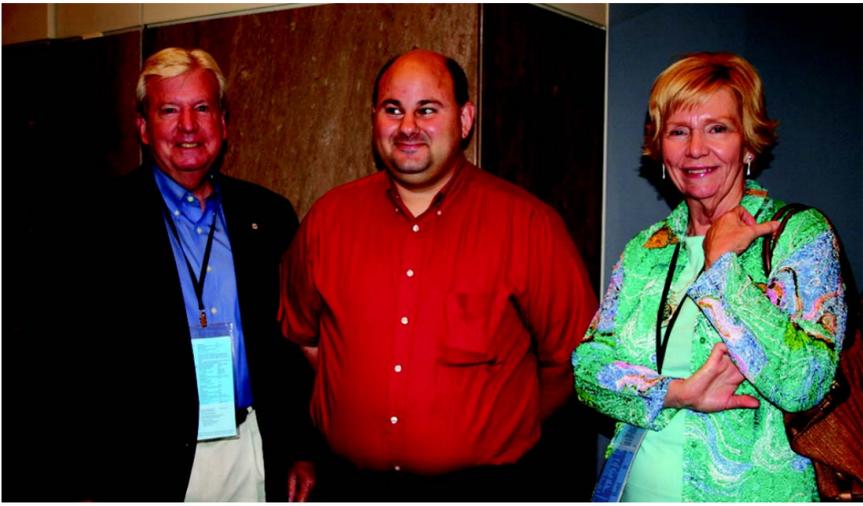
TML 2012 Conference in Knoxville charts the course for progress



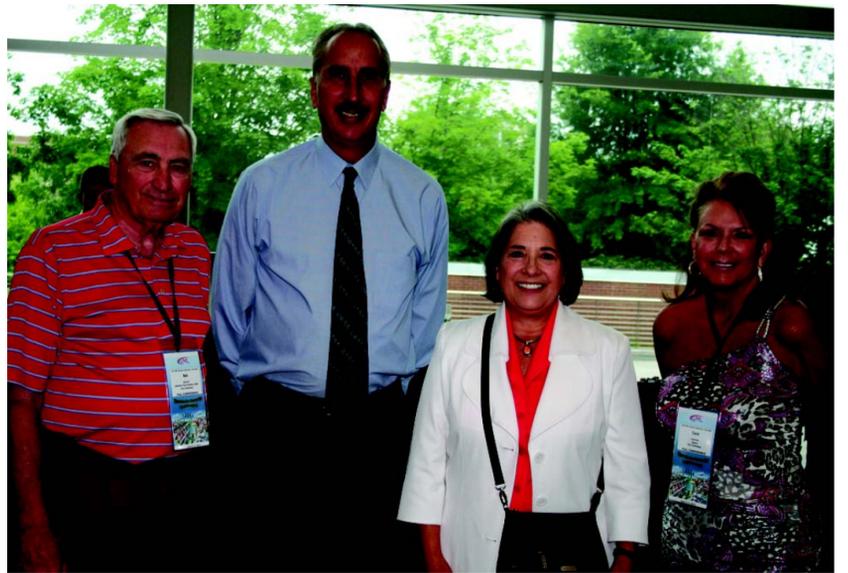
Covington Aldermen William Ed Timberlake and Shelvie Rose



Paris Mayor Sam Tharpe and Gale Tharpe



Athens Mayor Hal Buttram, Public Works Director Shawn Lindsey, and Councilmember Ann Davis



Dyersburg Alderman Bob Kirk, Conference Keynote Speaker Rick Baker, Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero and Carol Kirk



Kingsport Mayor Dennis Phillips, Assistant to City Manager Chris McCart and City Attorney Mike Billingsley



Clinton Police Chief Rick Scarbrough, City Manager Roger Houck, Fire Chief Archie Brummitt, Councilman Larry Gann, Public Works Director Lynn Murphy and Senior Staff Administrator Bill Riggs



Sparta Alderman Hoyt Jones, Angela Scarlett and East Ridge Councilman Denny Manning



Bartlett Mayor Keith McDonald and Chief Administrative Officer Mark Brown



Pictured to the left: Kingston City Manager James Pinkerton, Wanda Pinkerton and Jan Sugarman

TML 2012 Conference in Knoxville charts the course for progress



McKenzie Mayor Jill Holland and Councilmember Dianna Lankford



Paris Vice Mayor Gayle Griffith, MTAS Management Consultant Dana Deem, Murfreesboro City Manager Rob Lyons and Murfreesboro Asst. City Manager Jim Crumley



Memphis Councilman Myron Lowery and Mary Lowery



Calvin Clifton, Littlejohn Engineering, and Greeneville City Administrator Todd Smith



Carol Green and Bettye Seivers



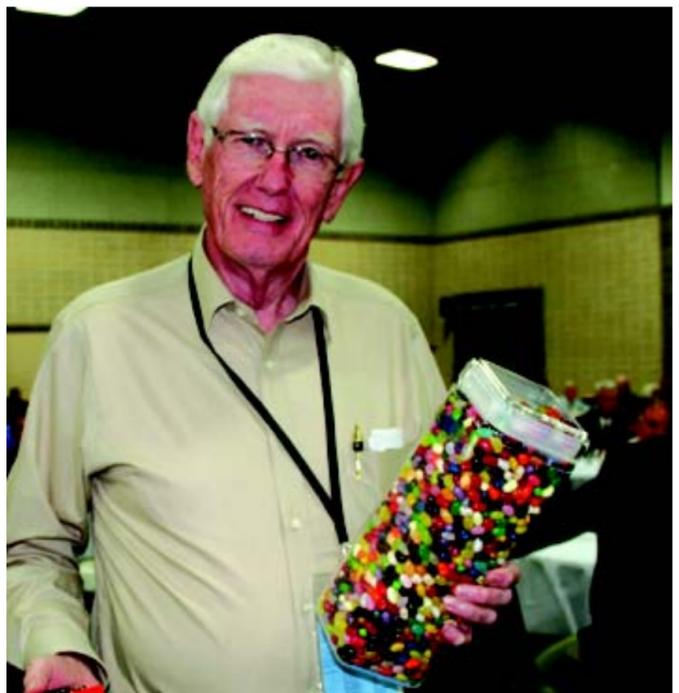
Crossville City Clerk Sally Oglesby, Dr. Patti Neill, and Crossville Mayor J.H. Graham III



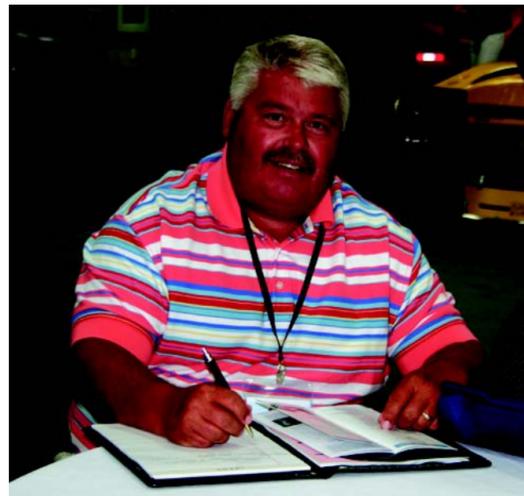
Cleveland Asst. City Manager Melinda Carroll and Community Development Director Jonathan Jobe



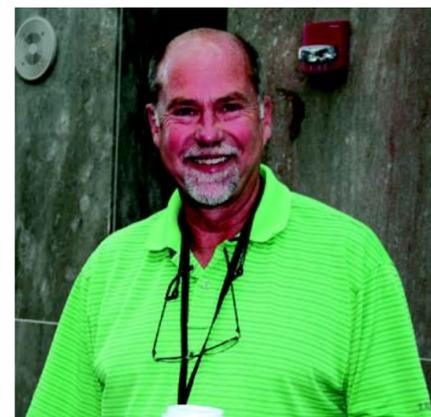
Carthage Mayor Sabra Hodge



Fayetteville Mayor John Ed Underwood snags a vendor door prize.



Dayton Vice Mayor Bobby Doss



Alcoa City Manager Mark Johnson



Trenton Alderman Ricky Jackson, Rachel Walker, Dianne Overall and Alderman Jim Overall



Somerville Alderman Mike White, Mayor Robert D. Turner and Alderman Keith Flaniken

Charles G. "Bones" Seivers celebrates 50 years of public service

The year was 1962. It was the year of the Cuban Missile Crisis. John Glenn became the first American to orbit the earth. Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons released their first album, featuring their hit song "Sherry." The first James Bond film came to theatres and the epic tale "Lawrence of Arabia" dominated the box office.

Meanwhile, in the town of Clinton, TN, one man's journey into public service was beginning. Charles G. "Bones" Seivers was about to embark on 50 years of public service.

A native of Clinton, TN, he first entered public office in 1962, when he ran for an open alderman seat. Seivers continuously served the citizens of Clinton as an elected official for 13 years. He served four two-year terms as alderman; and in 1970, he was elected mayor.

During Seivers' mayoral term, a committee of citizens, former mayors, and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen determined that the city needed a full-time administrator. Seivers was appointed to that position in 1972. He left his career as process supervisor at Union Carbide to take on the job of the city's first full-time administrator.

A remarkable networker who is steadfastly dedicated to advancing the community's interests, Seivers became involved with the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) immediately following his first municipal election in 1962.

The Tennessee Municipal League made history in 1979 when it founded America's first statewide municipal liability pool. Seivers served as one of the founding members on the TML Insurance Pool Board of Trustees, now known as the TML Risk Management Pool.

Recognizing the need for municipalities to obtain low-cost financing for capital improvement needs, in August 1985, a special committee appointed by TML President Ted Crozier, voted to recommend to the League's Board of Directors that a new loan program for cities should be started under the TML umbrella. Seivers served as chairman of the board for the first eight years of its existence. Upon his retirement from the town of Clinton in 1993, he continued to serve municipalities as President and CEO of TMBF. In 1995, TMBF was asked by the Tennessee County Services to structure a similar program for counties, resulting in the formation of the Tennessee County Services Loan Program (TCSLP). Now, after more than 25 years, TMBF and TCSLP have loaned 1,000 loans totaling \$3.4 billion and having saved cities and counties \$400 million in interests costs alone.

In 1992, after 30 years of service to city governments, TML presented Charles G. "Bones" Seivers with one of the highest honors, the Beverly C. Briley Award. Other accomplishments include:

- President, TML Board of Directors (1990)
- Helped establish the National League of Cities Small Cities Advisory Council
- Clinton Community Center dedicated to Charles G. Seivers (1978)
- Highway dedicated Charles G. Seivers Boulevard, Clinton, TN (1987)
- Award recipient, National Public Service award from Pres. Ronald Regan (1988)
- Award recipient, TML Overall Community Improvement Award (1972)
- Award recipient, TML Award for Most Effective Use of Federal Programs (1976)
- Award recipient, TML Superior Municipal Achievement Award (1985)



At an early TML board meeting are: Herb Bingham, TML executive director; Seivers, and Tri-Cities Airport Manager William Hart (1972)



Seivers with Smyrna Mayor Sam Ridley



Seivers, TML president, and U.S. Sen Jim Sasser at NLC's Congressional Conference in Washington, D.C. (1990)



Metro Nashville Vice Mayor Jay West, Seivers, and Metro Nashville Mayor Phil Bredesen at a TML Legislative Conference. (1996)



Seivers and U.S. Sen. Al Gore at a TML reception in Washington, D.C. (1985)



After 30 years of service to city governments, TML presented Seivers with one of the highest honors, the Beverly C. Briley Award.(1992)



Above: Seivers and Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey at a TML Legislative Conference. (2008)



At a TML Conference, Cleveland Mayor Tom Rowland, Alamo Mayor Tommy Green, Murfreesboro Councilmember David Edwards, Murfreesboro Councilmember Doug Young, Dyersburg Alderman Bob Kirk, TMBF CFO Wade Morrell, and Seivers. (2009)



At left: Seivers with his family during the dedication of the Charles G. Seivers Boulevard. (1987)

***Congratulations
Bones
for your
extraordinary
contributions over
the past 50 years!***