

108th TN General Assembly is gaveled into session

The 108th Tennessee General Assembly is underway in Nashville. State lawmakers have convened for another historic legislative session, with Republicans holding an unprecedented supermajority in both chambers, 26 to 7 in the Senate and 70-28-1 (one independent) in the House.

The 108th General Assembly also represents one of the largest freshman classes in years. In the House, 23 new freshmen took the oath of office, while the Senate welcomed eight new members – two of the eight new senators previously served in the House (Joey Hensley and Frank Niceley).

Both bodies also elected speakers and speaker pro tempore. In the Senate, Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey was re-elected to his fourth term as speaker of the Senate. Sen. Bo Watson was re-elected to his second term as speaker pro tempore. In the House, Rep. Beth Harwell was elected to her second term as House speaker. Rep. Curtis Johnson was elected to serve his first term as speaker pro tempore.

As stipulated by the Tennessee Constitution, the General Assembly convenes in the state Capitol in Nashville on the second Tuesday in January. During those first organizational days, state lawmakers are given the oath of office, elect officers of each house, elect the state's constitutional officers, and organize the business of the 2013-2014 legislative sessions.

House adopts rule changes

In one of their first orders of business, the House of Representatives adopted changes in the rules that limits the number of bills that



Photo by Victoria South

Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey gaveling in Senate session of the 108th Tennessee General Assembly. Ramsey was reelected to his fourth term as Speaker of the Senate.

each member can file. Each House member will be limited to 15 bills per year, or a total of 30 for the 108th General Assembly. Previously, the Tennessee General Assembly averaged more than 4,000 while surrounding states considered roughly 2,500.

Other changes include restructuring the committee system, which leaders say will aid in a more efficient operation by better balancing the workload of each committee.

"These changes will help the House of Representatives operate more efficiently, saving taxpayer dollars in the long run," said Major-



Photo by Carole Graves

House Speaker Beth Harwell convenes state lawmakers in the House. Harwell was elected to her second term as speaker.

ity Leader Gerald McCormick.

The General Assembly now stands in recess until Jan. 28. Among some of the issues expected to be addressed during the 2013 session include another reduction in the state's food tax, making adjustments to the Hall Income tax, allowing the sale of wine in supermarkets, ex-

panding the places where guns can be legally carried, and control over approval of charter schools.

Gov. Bill Haslam is also scheduled to present his annual State of the State Address on Jan. 28, which traditionally include key components of his legislative agenda and budget items for the upcoming year.



TML Legislative Conference scheduled for March 4 - 5

Make plans now to attend the Tennessee Municipal League's Annual Legislative Conference, slated for March 4 - 5 at the DoubleTree Hotel Downtown Nashville.

The two-day conference provides an excellent forum for city officials to interact with their legislators and to be updated on the many legislative issues currently being addressed by the 108th Tennessee General Assembly.

City officials are also encouraged to use their time in Nashville to attend Monday evening floor

sessions and to schedule time to visit with their legislators.

The voice of Tennessee's municipal governments must be heard in the legislative process, and the TML Legislative Conference is a key opportunity to communicate that message.

To register on line, go to www.TML1.org. Contact the TML offices at 615-255-6416 for more information. Deadline for hotel registration is Feb. 15. To reserve a room and to receive the group rate, contact the DoubleTree at (615) 244-8200

State's Constitutional officers reelected

By unanimous voice votes, the Tennessee General Assembly re-elected all three of the state's Constitutional officers. Secretary of State Tre Hargett was re-elected to a four-year term. Treasurer David H. Lillard, Jr. and Comptroller Justin P. Wilson were each re-elected to two-year terms in office.

Under Tennessee's Constitution, the state's constitutional officers are elected jointly by the state Senate and House of Representatives. The Treasurer and Comptroller serve two-year terms, while the Secretary of State serves four-year terms.

Secretary of State Hargett, Comptroller Wilson and Treasurer Lillard took their oaths of office for



Tre Hargett



Justin Wilson



David Lillard

their new terms immediately following the legislature's vote.

All three constitutional officers were initially elected to their respective offices in January 2009.

The constitutional officers oversee a variety of functions in state government. The secretary is responsible for keeping records of

the official acts and proceedings of the governor, and all acts and resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.

The Treasurer manages the state's investments and oversees the state pension fund. The Comptroller is responsible for auditing state government agencies and local governments throughout Tennessee.

Congress passes fiscal cliff bill; cities still at risk

BY CAROLYN COLEMAN
National League of Cities

Following a tense day of deliberations by the House Republicans, the House passed The American Tax Relief Act of 2012 aimed at averting the fiscal cliff of automatic tax hikes and spending cuts that threatened to throw the economy back into a recession. The House vote came after the Senate cleared the measure at 2:00 a.m. on New Year's Day and clears the way for the bill to be sent to President Obama who said he would sign it. Vice President Joe Biden and Republican Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell hammered out the agreement after weeks of negotiations by others failed.

Among other items, the measure protects the Bush-era tax rates for individuals and families earning less than \$400,000, extends jobless benefits for two million Americans looking for a job and delays for two months automatic spending cuts to domestic and defense programs that

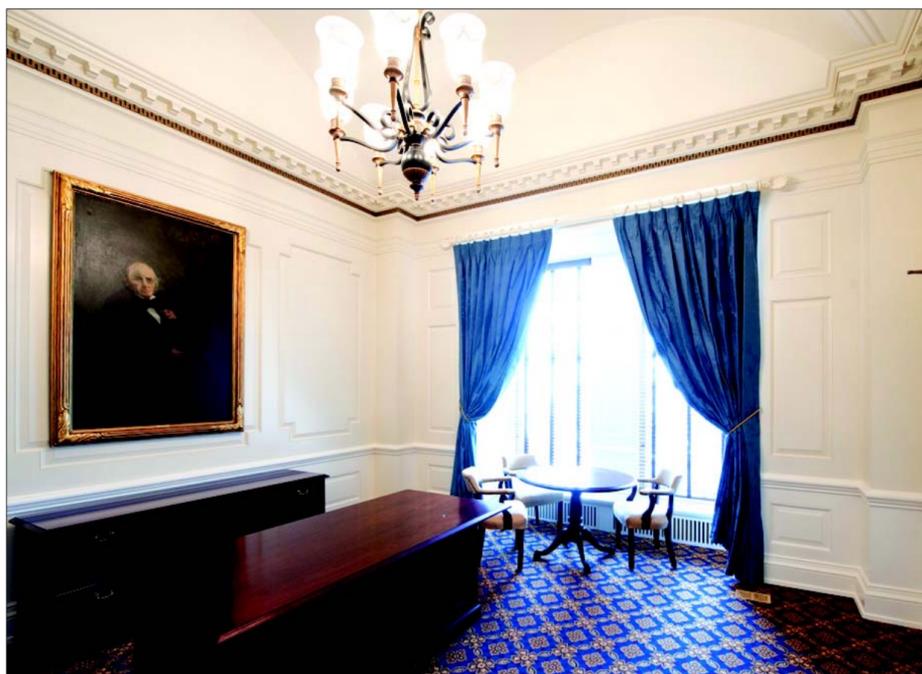
were set to go into effect on January 2, 2013. [For a summary of the legislation, click here.]

In a rare appearance of bipartisanship, the Senate passed the measure overwhelmingly by a vote of 89 - 8 with three Democrats and five Republicans voting against the bill. The House passed the measure by a vote of 257-167 with 85 Republicans and 172 Democrats voting yes.

In response to the votes, NLC President Marie Lopez Rogers said, "While today's agreement protects middle income families from tax increases and preserves benefits for two million unemployed Americans, which we fully support, we are disappointed that the automatic spending cuts to important federal programs that our cities and families rely upon continue to be an option to resolving the nation's fiscal challenges.

"Over the last several years," she continued, "these programs, which support infrastructure, job training, housing, and education investments, have already been subject to significant cuts." See **FISCAL CLIFF** on Page 6

Renovation project revives Capitol of yesteryear



The state worked with the Wilton and Axminster carpet company in England to help match and replace some of the Capitol's historic carpeting, which dates to the Victorian era. See the story on the Capitol Renovation Project on Page 3.

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

BLOUNTVILLE

Sprint officials celebrated the grand opening of its new call center Dec. 14 in Sullivan County. The company announced in November 2011 plans to relocate the center operations from Bristol, Va. The move represents the creation of 600 new jobs to Tennessee.

CLARKSVILLE

Hemlock Semiconductor is laying off 300 of 400 employees at its \$1.2 billion plant, just a few months before it was to begin production of polysilicone for the solar power industry. Company officials said the layoffs, which also includes 100 employees at the Michigan plant, is in response to a significant oversupply in the polysilicone industry and the threat of protective tariffs on its product sold into China. If these market conditions persist, the layoffs could be permanent. From the outset, Hemlock Semiconductor rolled out a training program for production operators, who would represent the backbone of the manufacturing work force and the largest share of the 500 full-time positions at the Clarksville site. Austin Peay developed a chemical engineering associate degree program, and the state provided \$6.4 million for the APSU building, which houses intricate equipment similar to what is used in the industry. In March 2012, officials had forecast that the plant would begin operations in the fall of 2012, a date that was later postponed. In just the first phase, the plant was to generate some 10,000 to 12,000 tons of polycrystalline silicon per year.

COLLIERVILLE

With the help of nearly 20 volunteers and ideal weather conditions during most of the growing season, a record 6,027 pounds of food from the Collierville Victory Garden were donated to needy families in the city, the food pantry and the Memphis Food Bank. Over the last few years, the food donation amount has steadily risen. In 2011, approximately 4,600 pounds of food were delivered and in 2010 about 3,700 pounds. Currently the garden is stocked mostly with garlic and onions, and in the early spring, gardeners and volunteers will plant rows of radishes, carrots and sweet peas. By mid-spring, potatoes, various kinds of cabbage and sweet corn will be

planted. During the fall growing season, collard and turnip greens and cabbage are some of the most popular foods. In the summer it's tomatoes, corn and sweet potatoes. Growers say maximizing the garden's total usable space and the use of compost as fertilizer also helped yield more abundant crops. In addition to donating fresh vegetables, flowers grown at the victory garden are cut and delivered to nearby hospice and nursing homes.

DANDRIDGE

A plan is underway to prepare a certified industrial megasite that could be marketed to automakers or other large manufacturers. Officials are hoping to assemble some 1,800 acres of land near the intersection of Interstates 40 and 81. Some private property owners in the zone targeted for redevelopment received letters notifying them of a meeting to discuss the proposal. The goal is to follow in the footsteps of certified megasites such as the Enterprise South industrial park in Chattanooga, which in 2008 was chosen by Volkswagen for a new auto assembly plant. According to economic development officials for the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, if a major manufacturer landed in the county, it could provide 2,000 direct jobs and 6,000 to 8,000 indirect jobs in the first phase. The site is located north of where the two interstates converge, and west of I-81.

DAYTON

International Automotive Components representatives announced plans to grow the company's Dayton operations. The growth, which includes a substantial investment in manufacturing equipment, represents \$7.7 million and the creation of approximately 50 manufacturing jobs. IAC is a leading global supplier of automotive components and systems, including door and trim systems, instrument panels, consoles and cockpits, flooring and acoustics systems and headliner and overhead systems, as well as complementary exterior components.

DECHERD

Nissan Directors presented Dechard Mayor Robin Smith with the keys to a new Nissan Truck, which will be added to the city's fleet to be used by the Street and Sanitation Department. The Nissan Titan Crew Cab 4x4 will carry tools and help service

other city departments. The plant has become the city's largest employer, covering 1.2 million square feet and home to the largest forging press in the state. This year, the plant will build electric motors for the all-electric Nissan LEAF, which is assembled at Nissan's plant in Smyrna.

KNOXVILLE

Tomcat USA plans to open a manufacturing facility in Knox County's Forks of the River Industrial Park. The announcement represents an investment of \$2 million and the creation of 50 jobs. The company is a member of the Milos Group, which manufactures engineered structural trussing systems, and distributes CM Chain Hoists primarily for use in the entertainment industry.

LEWISBURG

Imperial Food Services (IFS) will locate a manufacturing plant in Marshall County representing an investment of \$3 million by the company and 48 new jobs. The decision to locate in Lewisburg was made as the company looks for new ways to reach into more commercial markets. Construction on the new facility is scheduled for the winter with an anticipated summer opening. IFS intends to fill production, maintenance, warehouse, export and office positions.

LEWISBERG

Teledyne Electronic Manufacturing Services will expand its manufacturing facility to accommodate a new product line. The company manufactures and services products for the aerospace, computer, governmental, industrial, medical and telecommunications markets. It has supplied electronics to the defense and aerospace industries for more than 30 years.

LOUDON

Ceramica Del Conca will build a 320,000-square-foot manufacturing facility at the Sugarlimb Industrial Park. Founded in 1979, the Italian ceramic floor tile manufacturer represents a \$70 million investment creating 178 new manufacturing jobs. The company uses high-tech manufacturing processes and its porcelain ceramic tiles are exported worldwide for use in both residential and commercial facilities.

MEMPHIS

International Paper Co. is planning to build a \$90.2 million, 235,000-square-foot tower in East Memphis, adding 101 employees. International Paper plans to lease and fully occupy the new, 10-story tower, identified as Tower IV.



Nissan directors presented Dechard Mayor Robin Smith with the keys to a new Nissan Truck as an addition to the city's fleet. The Titan Crew Cab 4 X 4 will primarily be used by Dechard's Street and Sanitation department.



Attending a ribbon cutting at the new CN rail site in Union City are: ECD Regional Director, Northwest TN, Blake Swaggart; Mi-Jack executive vice president of operations Frank Calomino; Greenfield Products plant manager Bobby King; Jack Lanigan Jr.; LANCO vice president of production Joseph Belcastro; Union City Industrial Development Board Chairman Bedford Dunavant; City Manager Kathy Dillon; Obion County Chamber of Commerce member relations Coordinator Katie Keathley; Obion County Joint Economic Development Corporation economic development Director Lindsay Frilling; and local chamber President Tim Shanks.

MEMPHIS

US Foods celebrated the opening of its expanded Memphis distribution facility, a \$30.8 million project nearly two years in the making. US Foods more than doubled the size of its local distribution operation to about 385,000 square feet. The facility is located at 5900 E. Holmes Road in Southeast Memphis. The company has added more than 150 workers with the expansion, more than originally projected.

NASHVILLE

Nashville has been selected as one of five U.S. cities to receive a grant to help low-income residents reduce debt and build assets through free, one-on-one financial counseling incorporated into existing services. Mayor Karl Dean and United Way of Metro Nashville are partners in the grant funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies and Living Cities' *Cities for Financial Empowerment* (CFE) Fund. The three-year grant will serve an estimated 5,000 Nashvillians at Financial Empowerment Centers, which will be run by United Way of Metropolitan Nashville. Financial counselors will teach clients how to open safe and affordable checking accounts, establish a credit score, maintain a positive balance, decrease debt and maintain savings. The centers will open in March 2013.

NASHVILLE

The city has surged on *Nashville Business Journal* affiliate *On Numbers*' monthly ranking of economic vitality across the country. Nashville ranks No. 18 on the index for December, up from No. 28 in November and No. 33 in October. *On Numbers* analyzes 18 statistical indicators each month, providing a snapshot of conditions in the 102 major metropolitan areas with populations above 500,000. Among the factors are private-sector job growth, unemployment, earnings, housing-price appreciation and construction and retail activity.

OAK RIDGE

A new pocket guide to the city of Oak Ridge and its connections to the Manhattan Project will give visitors a tour of the once secret city. The guide, which is now for sale at several locations around the city, is 35 pages and includes a detailed driving tour of heritage sites within the community, along with facts and historical photos from the World War II era. Martin McBride wrote the Oak Ridge Heritage tour guide with assistance from longtime city residents. The city became home to a secret federal research lab that helped to build the atomic bomb. More than 100,000 workers built and operated three large nuclear facilities.

PARIS

Paris is featured as an ideal retire-

ment city in the *Where to Retire* magazine's January/February 2013 edition. The five-page article "Outdoor Wonderland in Kentucky Lake Area," includes Paris as one of three ideal cities in the Kentucky Lake region of Tennessee and Kentucky. The area is cited as a "thriving recreation area and retirement haven." In addition to the scenery of the lake area and myriad of recreational opportunities, other positive notes for the Kentucky Lake area include low taxes and small-town values.

PINEY FLATS

Bell Helicopter Inc. will add a second manufacturing plant. The \$10.1 million investment is expected to create 125 new jobs. The expanded operations will take place in a 150,000-square-foot-building Bell bought near its current facility. Bell Executive Vice President Eric Cardinali said the growing demand for commercial helicopters was outpacing production capacity at the company's current plant.

SMYRNA

Nissan North America Inc. has officially opened its Smyrna battery plant, fueling production of its all-electric Leaf and setting the stage for as many as 1,000 additional manufacturing jobs largely in Tennessee. The Franklin-based division of the global auto manufacturer announced that the plant — adjacent to its Smyrna vehicle assembly plant — has started production. Nissan is the largest lithium-ion automotive battery plant in the U.S., and will contribute to production of the 2013 Leaf, also slated for Smyrna.

SOUTH PITTSBURG

America's oldest skillet maker is forging ahead with plans for one of its biggest expansions of its South Pittsburg plant in more than two decades. Lodge Manufacturing Co. announced it will replace its melt center, add a sand system and molding machine and add up to 25 jobs. Despite the recession — or perhaps because of it — demand has grown in the past five years for Lodge's cast-iron skillets and other cookware. Lodge now employs about 220 people at its foundry and four distribution and sales outlets. Lodge remains the last major U.S. maker of cast-iron cookware.

UNION CITY

A new CN rail line into the Northwest Tennessee Industrial Park will help companies in the region expand their market potential. The Greenfield Products plant has completed construction on a new, 75,000-square-foot laydown yard and are promoting the plant as a "transload facility." Other businesses will also be able to load and deliver items onto the local CN line, which connects to other rail lines in the region.

STATE BRIEFS



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

TDOT receives \$10 M grant

The Tennessee Department of Transportation has been awarded a \$10 million federal grant to assist a number of transit agencies across the state. The "State of Good Repair Grant" will be used to replace transit vehicles that have exceeded their useful life based on years in service or mileage. TDOT collaborated with 15 transit agencies to get the grant from the Federal Transit Administration.

Increase in motorcycle fatalities

The number of motorcyclists killed in Tennessee reached 133 in 2012 — higher than the 114 killed in 2011, according to the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security. Nationwide, motorcycle deaths have increased in 13 of the last 14 years.

State recovers more than half million in overpaid benefits

Tennessee has recovered more than half a million in overpaid unemployment benefits and overdue taxes since joining the federal Treasury Offset Program in July. The \$540,000 recovered so far will help lower employers' unemployment insurance tax payments, the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development said. The program allows states to intercept tax refunds, military pay and other federal payments to those who received more state unemployment benefits than they were eligible for or owed unemployment taxes.

State ranked tops in prescription drug use, deaths

Tennessee is ranked in the top one

percent of states that sell prescription pain medication. It's also in the nation's top 10 for overdose deaths. An overall increase in patients being treated for chronic pain in Tennessee has physicians calling for new ways to monitor the dispensing of opiates and controlled substances. The state joined Virginia in establishing a controlled substance monitoring database in 2006, but loopholes allow abusers the means to "doctor shop" or get prescriptions at another clinic or office for the same or similar pain medication. In that time, 1,059 Tennesseans died of prescription drug overdoses, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Prescription Safety Act of 2012, signed into law this spring by Gov. Bill Haslam, requires all licensed physicians in Tennessee to have their offices registered by Jan. 1 and shrinks the reporting time doctors have for plugging in specific pain pill data per patient, from 30 days to seven. Another facet of the law will require doctors to reference the database once they begin a new line of treatment with the patient beginning in April 2013.

Comptroller study finds database does little to control meth

Drug dealers who make methamphetamine have little trouble skirting legal obstacles in Tennessee. A new comptroller's study looks at a database lawmakers created two years ago, meant to block criminals from buying multiple boxes of pseudoephedrine — the cold drug that's a key ingredient to making meth. This past fall police were still finding about 150 meth labs around the state each month. The study says dealers may recruit others to help gather supplies, use fake IDs or cook smaller batches of the drug more

often. The comptroller's study also found better results for states requiring a prescription to get pseudoephedrine.

Legal wrangling continues for TV providers, state

A legal tax battle continues between satellite TV providers and the state when Dish Network sued the state for nearly \$2.3 million. Dish and competitor DirectTV have been wrapped in a decade-long lawsuit with the state after the Tennessee General Assembly passed legislation that gave cable providers a tax exemption on the first \$15 of each subscriber's bill. The satellite providers claim that law amounts to unlawful protectionism of the cable industry and violates the Commerce Clause.

State launches fraud website

The state has launched a secure website that allows the public to anonymously report suspected cases of fraud, waste and abuse of public funds. Online users may electronically alert the state comptroller's office about suspected government misuse of public funds by visiting <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/shared/safwa.asp>

TN ranks 12th in construction job growth

Tennessee ranks 12th in the nation for growth in construction jobs over the past 12 months, according to an analysis of Labor Department data by the Associated General Contractors of America. In Tennessee, 117,000 people worked in construction in November, up 3.4 percent from the 113,200 who worked in the segment in November 2011.

Capitol renovation project restores architectural gems

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

If beauty is skin deep, then purveyors of Tennessee history are bound to enjoy what was once hidden behind the walls of the state Capitol following a 6-month, \$15.7 million renovation project to modernize the building's aging infrastructure.

In early May, following the close of the legislative session, Gov. Haslam, and other staff members stationed in the 150-year-old icon, were spirited away into nearby offices at the Tennessee Tower, the building's extensive artwork collection boxed and warehoused at the state museum, and rows of desks covered by plastic drop cloths, in preparation for the most ambitious project the pre-Civil War structure has seen in four decades.

The planned repairs were mechanically extensive, ranging from replacing heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems installed in the

about the renovations being done for many years," said state General Services Commissioner Steve Cates. "The construction document was completed prior to our coming into office, and the typical window for this type of project is two months longer than we had."

Extended hours and weekends became part of the work process. Engineers knew refurbishing the Capitol would be challenging, but as workers sliced through the layers of false ceilings and plaster, the project took on the aura of an archeological dig, complete with splendid discoveries.

Deep within the building's lower level, the building's original brick groin vaults—roman type arches—were unveiled to be admired by a new generation, and high vaulted ceilings, once hidden under mounds of plaster in the small clerk's office beside the House of Representatives chamber, would be unfettered by dropped ceilings.

"Now, you can see the original

ager, concurs. In a media tour of the building in May, he told local news sources: "The Capitol Commission, whenever we do a renovation of this type, wants us to attempt to restore it back to the original construction. A lot of the renovations that have been done since the 1850s have incorporated different periods...so the attempt is to move it back to the original 1850s design."

The effort is also reflected in the extensive restoration and replacement of the building's historic Wilton and Axminster carpeting, which dates back to the Victorian era.

"It was an incredible amount of detailed work matching the dye," Cates explains. "There was only one manufacturer in the U.S. that has the license for Axminster and Wilton carpet. We actually went to the plant in Pennsylvania to watch it coming off the line to ensure that it matched the original carpet."

With the U.S. company unable to produce all the carpet in the project's time frame, the state also turned to the original Axminster Carpet Company in England to have more carpet transported to the work site by sea. Those efforts were hampered by Hurricane Sandy, a devastating Category 2 storm that hit near Atlantic City, New Jersey, Oct. 29.

"When the hurricane hit, we had to go back out to the ocean and stay for many days," said Cates. "The New York port wasn't open. So, finally we unloaded in New Jersey and had to truck it down here."

The result is astounding, according to Kelly Smith, General Services assistant communications commissioner. "You can stand in the House Chambers and the connecting offices and see that it is pretty much identical," she said.

"One thing you worry about in a structure like this, is penetrating floor systems, having them crumble out with rubble everywhere and losing part of the structure," notes Cates. "We removed a lot of the lay-in ceilings to inspect those areas and pick the right spots for penetration."

Other challenges included only a few, eight-inch troughs in which to



General Services Commissioner Steve Cates leads a media tour of the recent state Capitol renovation project, which was completed in December.

Photo by Shelley Mays

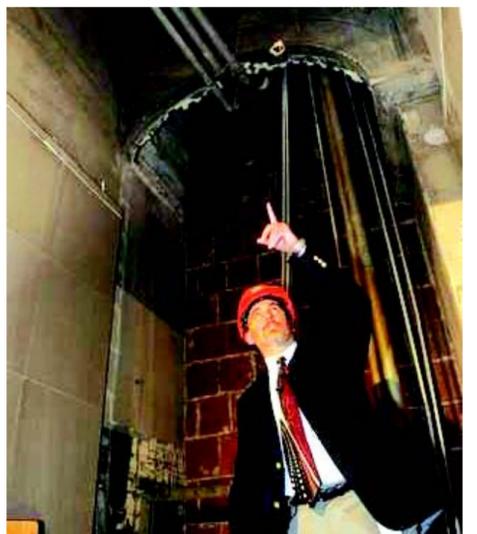
run ductwork for the building's new 300-ton air conditioner, requiring alternate methods for circulating air within the building.

"We always thought we were one failure away from losing the ability to cool the Capitol," said Cates. "We had to replace primary air handling units that were very old and replacement parts didn't exist anymore. And we had to remove a lot of old pipes and ducts to be able to have a place to install the new system."

"The architectural renovations will be most interesting for the general public, but for people who work at the Capitol, I think it's going to be a much more comfortable working environment," Smith said. "I think a lot of the members of the General Assembly are glad that we tried to keep the historical integrity of the building intact."

Representative Steve McDaniel, whose interest lies in southern historic preservation, agrees.

"We love the Capitol and the history that has taken place here. The



Peter Heimback Jr., executive director of the state's real estate asset management and project manager, points out original design features discovered at the state Capitol during a \$15.7 million renovation project.



Workers used scaffolding to reach the Capitol's high chandeliers for cleaning because the building's hoist system, designed to raise and lower the fixtures, had fallen into disrepair.

1950s, to replacing the building's entire fire alarm system. Aged plumbing had reached the point of affecting the building's water quality and the hoist system—the winches needed to raise and lower the Capitol's high chandeliers in order to clean them—had fallen into disrepair. Better lighting and a modern security system would be added as well.

"There's been a conversation

structure of the capitol in two large areas," Cates said. "They had been covered up for years with a ceiling nobody knew was there. Once we had those ceilings down, we were in the position to redesign our redistribution systems for heating and cooling ducts, so we could leave them exposed."

Peter L. Heimback Jr., executive director of the state's real estate asset management and project man-

UT MBA students eye Downtown Crossville makeover

BY VICTORIA SOUTH

The "Golf Capitol of Tennessee" has decided to maximize its resources. Banking on fresh eyes and youthful perspectives, the city of Crossville, the county seat of Cumberland County, is edging toward a modern makeover through a quality partnership with the University of Tennessee's full-time MBA program.

This past spring, five MBA students, enrolled in the Innovation in Practice course, and supported by the Anderson Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, began working with the non-profit Downtown Crossville Inc. (DCI) to develop plans to revamp the city's aging downtown district.

The scope of the project includes:

- Building an enhanced retail and commercial business destination;
- Generating increased sales tax revenues from residents and tourists; and
- Maintaining and preserving the local charm and historic aspects of Crossville.

Situated along the Cumberland Plateau, Crossville, population 10,796, is located at the intersection of two major federal highways: U.S. Route 70, which traverses Tennessee from east to west, and U.S. Route 127, which traverses Tennessee from north to south. Interstate 40, which runs roughly parallel to US-70, passes through the northern part of the city.

Home to 12 quality golf courses, a regional medical center, Roane State Community College, a state park, and a significant number of active retirees, the area receives up to a half-million visitors a year. However, much of the region's current growth and development has centered outside of Crossville's immediate downtown district.

"Our group started working on this project five years ago, said Tonya Hinch, DCI director of Economic Restructuring. "We've been clever in pitching ourselves as the golf capitol of Tennessee, but the

challenge of golf is that it's weather dependant, so we also need to bring people in. A vibrant downtown can do that."

Hinch, along with partners Frances Carson, DCI president, and Sally Oglesby, Crossville city clerk, are no strangers to economic challenges. Formed in 1994, DCI's first major order of business was saving the city's 1938-era Palace Theater from demolition. Today, the beautifully remodeled art-deco theater is a community hub for musical performances, business meetings and other types of gatherings.

"The MBA study has been an incredible value to our community," Hinch continued. "You know how they say you can't see the forest for the trees? These young people look at projects and resources through a completely different lens than we older people do. And what they did was open our eyes to think bigger and differently. They were able to bring a level of current-ness that just blew us away!"

The students, Project Manager David Mann, Kelvin Fernandes, Jeremy Fournier, Chris Inklebarger and Bret Schumacher guided by faculty advisor Austin Lance, devoted more than 460 consulting hours to the seven-week project, which kicked off with a tour of Crossville's downtown district, followed by interviews with elected officials, business leaders, developers, retirees and other community stakeholders.

On-line research aided students in benchmarking similar sized cities with hip, thriving downtown areas, such as Abingdon, Va.; Commerce, Ga.; and Hendersonville, N.C.

"We have a perception of our community, but they were looking at it as outsiders," Hinch explains. "Their analysis of our competitors opened our eyes to thinking outside our current box."

The students presented their research to Crossville's city council, where the suggestions received positive feedback from city officials as well as citizens. "This community wants more restaurants, stores and

coffee shops," Hinch surmised. "It's not your typical retirement community. They're out volunteering and doing things."

Student recommendations include:

- Securing more restaurants, bars, hotels, and bed & breakfast type establishments to create jobs and generate business for nearby retail establishments, while producing more tax revenues. Downtown Crossville currently has no lodging facility or conference center and only one restaurant.
- Leveraging the Cumberland Medical Center as a recruiting tool that links with the Downtown area, attracting businesses and residents to live and work downtown. Currently, few of the facility's staff, patients and families frequent downtown due to lack of amenities.
- Capitalize on grants and tax incentives for renovating Crossville's existing buildings. Many of downtown's buildings are candidates for the National Register of Historic Places; therefore, eligible for 20-percent Investment Tax Credit. Tax Increment Financing would allow the city to reinvest the increased property-tax revenues—resulting from rising property values—into continued downtown redevelopment projects.
- Pursue multi-purpose development such as business/residential in buildings lining Main Street, which occupies less space and produces higher tax revenues than big-box establishments.
- Integrate Roane State Community College and its students into the downtown community. Nearly 700 students not only represent potential customers, but future occupants of downtown student housing.
- Collaborate with the Cumberland Business Incubator, which could recruit entrepreneurs to the downtown area.

The suggestions come at a time when the city is working toward infrastructure improvements that would support future downtown development. Water lines in down-

town Crossville, for example, are more than 90 years old.

According to the DCI website, the infrastructure project consists of replacement and upgrades to the five major infrastructure systems; storm drainage, traffic signalization, water mains, asphalt street pavement, and pedestrian walkways as Phase 1 of the project.

Phase 2 of the project provides for pedestrian facilities, amenities, landscaping and scenic/environmental beautification. The upgrades will include decorative pedestrian lighting, landscape and irrigation system, a public announcement/music system and a power receptacle system for downtown events.

"The biggest issue we have is infrastructure," Hinch explains. "Eighty percent of the project is just hardcore water pipes, catch basins and drainage. We know the infrastructure will eventually fail," she added.

Hinch's comments were recently echoed by downtown property and business owners at a council meeting. The concerned citizens discussed issues ranging from businesses with basement flooding along with other severe drainage problems to sidewalk issues and poor water quality.

Reports from Community Development Partners, a project consulting partner with the city, cited that the projected two and a half year project's figures are closer to \$10.4 million than the estimated \$9.5 million, and that grant funding, received more than two years ago, starting with a \$1 million grant from TDOT, would be in jeopardy, if the project doesn't get underway soon. "The clock is ticking," warned a firm executive.

Following the meeting, Hinch said she is optimistic that the city will be able to keep the grant funding through an extension, while also



Suggestions for Crossville's downtown, designed by University of Tennessee MBA students, include leveraging Cumberland Medical Center's potential as a recruiting tool to attract new business owners and residents to the city's downtown area.

applying for additional grants.

"The city has received \$4.5 million in grant funding from different sources to cover, not just a downtown enhancement, but some of the water pipes and drainage and the repaving of the roads," she said. "Those are not usually things you get grant money for, but we've been able to do it." The city has invested \$790,868.50 toward the project so far.

"We are still going through the engineering work with TDOT and the Department of Environment and Conservation," Hinch adds. "We believe we will have all the governmental approval for our plans by spring and the city will bid it out." According to Hinch, property owners will also be able to take advantage of the project. "If they want to replace some water pipes in their store or other improvements they can do that at a reduced cost," she said.

As for the MBA students, Hinch notes they had the answer by the first reading. But during their research, learned there were even more things to do. "Everybody learned something from this," she said.

To view the UT MBA study in its entirety, visit the Downtown Crossville Inc. website at <http://www.downtowncrossvilleinc.net/Pages/default.aspx>

City bicycle transit programs promote healthier lifestyles

BY JAN COMPTON
TDEC

As the busy holiday rush comes to an end and normal routines resume, the focus often turns toward physical health, weight loss and New Year's resolutions. Whether to skip that extra helping of potatoes, to opt for a fad diet or to join the gym are just a few examples of decisions we make during this time and throughout the year that can affect our health and overall quality of life.

According to the recently published United Health Foundation's 23rd annual America's Health Rankings report, Tennessee has made improvements in some areas but still ranks 48th in sedentary lifestyle, 35th for obesity and 44th among all states for the closely related prevalence of diabetes. However, communities across Tennessee are addressing this problem by promoting and educating citizens about healthier lifestyle choices, including bicycling. In fact, bicycles are becoming increasingly popular as both a means of alternative transportation and improved health in the state.

Nashville and Chattanooga are taking action to encourage active lifestyles through new bicycle transit systems. These not only promote better health but may also help mitigate traffic congestion, protect the environment, decrease dependence on foreign oil and create additional parking availability in the busy downtown areas. This new transportation option will certainly be helpful during popular festivals, concerts and special events.

The city of Chattanooga, in partnership with Alta Bicycle Share, officially launched Bike Chattanooga Bicycle Transit System in July 2012. This was the first large scale bicycle transit system in the Southeast and was developed through a partnership between the city of Chattanooga and the Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Authority (CARTA). The system consists of 300 bicycles in a network of 30 stations throughout the downtown and into the North Shore area. Alta Bicycle Share and its parent company, Alta Planning + Design, have been leaders in creating bicycle and pedestrian friendly infrastructure. The city also worked with Public Bike System Company (PBSC) Urban Solutions to assist with development of an upgraded operating system with the latest technology as a pilot project to be used in New York, Chicago and San Francisco. This partnership will ensure Chattanooga's bike system is equipped with the latest version of hardware and software. The project

was made possible through a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant administered by the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

The bike share program is easy to use and has several options available, including signing up online or by visiting any of the local solar-powered kiosks. There are also options for an annual membership pass (\$75 or \$30 for students) or 24-hour access pass (\$6). Full customer service is available 24 hours per day / 7 days per week / 365 days per year. Membership includes use of a key which will unlock a bike at any of the stations. When the green light appears, the user just moves the bike from the rack and then continues with plans for the day. Upon return, the bike slides easily back into the rack until the green light appears indicating the bike is locked and the transaction is complete.

Since July, participants in the Chattanooga program have logged 11,500 trips and traveled more than 11,000 miles. This calculates to more than one million calories burned and more than 7,000 pounds of carbon dioxide offset by a combination of both annual members and others taking advantage of the 24 hour access pass. Measured increases in website traffic and popular social media outlets such as Twitter and Facebook attest to the program's popularity.

The Nashville B-cycle bike share program, an expansion of the existing Green Bikes program, was launched in December by Nashville Mayor Karl Dean. Nashville B-cycle includes 190 bikes at 20 automated kiosks within a three-mile radius of downtown. The B-cycle operation is similar to Chattanooga's program and is being used with success in many other large cities, including Charlotte, Houston and Denver. The program will be managed by the Nashville Downtown Partnership and is funded through the Communities Putting Prevention to Work federal grant. Daily, weekly or monthly passes are available from \$5 to \$15, or annual memberships can be purchased for \$50. "Nashville B-cycle is one more way that we can make Nashville a more bike-friendly city and inspire people to embrace healthy, active living," Dean said. Nashville was recently designated a Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists and has a new map called The Groove, which is unique in that it identifies bike routes that are the most comfortable for all levels of riders. From health-related public infrastructure to health-focused community

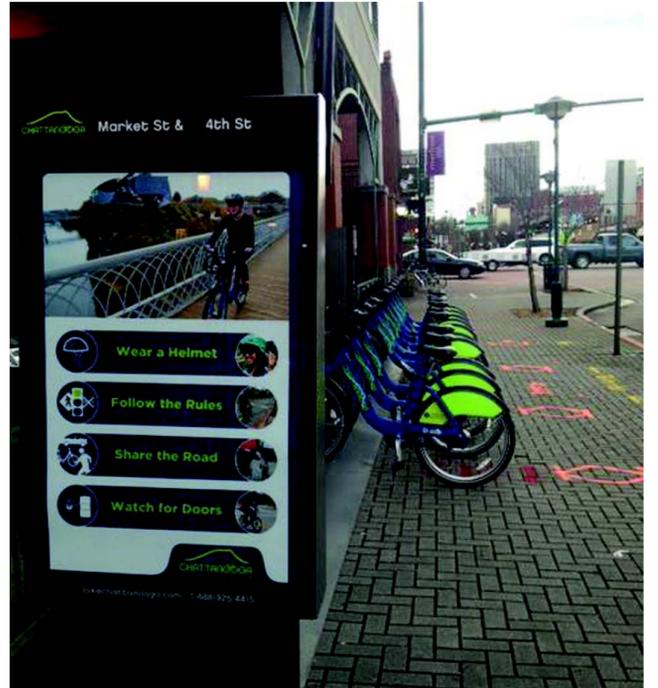
events, the mayor and city leaders are investing in giving Nashville residents more sustainable options.

The University of Tennessee launched the nation's first fully automated electric bike sharing system as a pilot project in September 2011 on the Knoxville campus. The CycleUshare electric bike (e-bike) sharing pilot program is the focus of a research study by UT Civil and Engineering assistant professor Chris Cherry, along with researchers Stacy Worley and David Smith from Biosystems Engineering. It consists of 14 e-bikes and six bicycles with two stations: one at Presidential Court and powered by electricity, the second at the Agriculture Campus and powered exclusively by solar energy. Approximately one hundred students, faculty and staff involved in the pilot study simply swipe their university ID cards to check out, use and return the bikes to the station. The electric bike is powered by a lithium-ion battery that only engages the motor when pedaling becomes difficult for the rider, which is likely when going uphill or during acceleration. This feature makes bicycling feasible for those that would otherwise not consider it due to limited physical strength or ability.

Memphis is also moving toward becoming a more bike-friendly city as it was selected in April 2012 as one of only six cities in the nation to participate in the Green Lane Project. In 2007, Forbes ranked Memphis as both the most sedentary and the most obese city in the country. The Green Lane Project is a great opportunity for Memphis to improve that status and to help citizens move more efficiently, safely and with less energy. The Project will facilitate a partnership between the six cities selected (Memphis, Austin, Chicago, Portland, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.) and provide them with strategic and technical assistance, while expanding and widely sharing the national knowledge base. Much more than just a typical bike lane, these are next generation bikeways which are dedicated spaces for people on bikes in the roadway. They are protected from motor vehicles by some type of barrier such as curbs, planters, posts or parked cars. Since the summer of 2010, Memphis has built more than 70 miles of on-street bike facilities. One of the high profile projects is the Overton Broad Connector which will connect many of the on-street facilities to trails, and Shelby Farms Park, a future hub for the bicycle network. Memphis advanced from being one of the worst cities for riding, according to Bicycling Magazine's annual Best Bike City Rankings in 2008, to being



Nashville and Chattanooga are taking action to encourage active lifestyles through new bicycle transit systems.



Bike share programs are easy to use and have several options available.

named the "most improved" bike city in 2012.

It is proven that increased activity will help reduce many health problems associated with sedentary lifestyles. When making new resolutions or choices that affect your quality of life, consider increasing bi-

cycle use. With bike programs offering improved facilities, increased opportunities and growing popularity, now may be the time to make good on that resolution, and together we can continue to improve the health rankings for Tennessee.

Former U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales to address city attorneys

Former U. S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales will speak at a seminar sponsored by the Tennessee Municipal Attorneys Association on Thursday, Feb. 21. Judge Gonzales will speak on "Immigration Issues for State and Local Governments." The seminar will be held in Brentwood in the Brentwood Library on Concord Road.

Judge Gonzales served as the first Hispanic U. S. Attorney General. Preceding that, he served as White House counsel under George W. Bush and as an associate justice of the Texas Supreme Court. Judge Gonzales now practices with Waller, Lansden, Dortch & Davis in Nashville and teaches at Belmont Law School.

In addition to Judge Gonzales on the Thursday afternoon program, an internationally recognized expert on ordinance and legislative drafting will speak. David Marcello, Executive Director of the Public Law Center at Tulane University, will give presentations on the fundamentals

and ethics of drafting ordinances and other legislation. Mr. Marcello has provided similar training to officials from all over the United States as well as many foreign countries.

On the following Friday, Feb. 22, TMAA will hold its regular Winter Seminar at the same location. Topics for this seminar include open records issues, construction contract insurance, bond issuance, paperless office and electronic signatures, and keys to a purposeful practice, as well as a case law and attorney general opinion update.

The registration form and agendas for the seminars are available on TMAA's website, www.tmaa.us.

TMAA is a voluntary association of city attorneys and municipal practitioners whose aim is to promote effective and efficient legal services for the state's cities, improve communications among city attorneys and municipal practitioners, and cooperate with the Tennessee Municipal League in seeking solutions to cities' problems.

Emancipation Proclamation travels to TN State Museum

As part of a traveling exhibit from Washington, D.C.'s National Archives, the original Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln, will be on view at the Tennessee State Museum Feb. 12, in conjunction with the Discovering the Civil War exhibition. Due to unusually long lines, visitors have the option to pay a \$1 fee for a timed reservation in advance.

Nashville is the Emancipation Proclamation's only stop in the South. It will be on view for 72 hours spread over seven days.

Viewing hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 12-15 and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Feb. 16-18. After that date, a reproduction of the document will be in the exhibit.

The Washington exhibition will



also include two 13th amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Visitors may obtain a reservation by going online to www.tpac.org or by calling 615-782-4040. The Discovering the Civil War exhibition will continue through Sept. 1, 2013.

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



BY TML STAFF REPORTS

Lee University awarded Gov. **Bill Haslam** an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, when he delivered the school's winter commencement address on the Cleveland campus. The Doctor of Laws degree is the honorary degree most commonly given to recognize accomplishment in government. It is the first time Lee has given such a degree to an elected official, and only the 13th honorary degree the school has awarded in the past 25 years.



Haslam

Bartlett Mayor **Keith McDonald** was reappointed to another two-year term on the National League of Cities Board of Directors. Farragut Vice Mayor **Dot LaMarche** was also appointed as chair of the Human Development committee.



McDonald



LaMarche

After nearly five years as Elizabethton's City Manager, **Fred Edens** is retiring. However, he announced plans to run for city council in 2014. Hired as city manager in April 2008, Edens also served in the Army for 22 years and with the Tennessee Department of Children's Services before coming to work for the city.



Edens

Clarence "Pete" Phillips, 87, who represented Bedford County in the state House of Representatives for 30 years, chairing the powerful calendar committee, died recently. Phillips was elected to the House in 1972, choosing not to run for re-election in 2002. He was a key supporter of the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy, which is formally named for him, as is the Bedford County segment of U.S. 231 north of Shelbyville. A local attorney, Phillips also operated a mortgage company and was a World War II veteran.



Phillips

After nearly 40 years on the job, Nashville fire district Chief **Ricky Taylor** has officially retired. Taylor started with the Nashville Fire Department on April 16, 1974. Since 2002, he has been the fire department's nighttime public information officer. In four decades, Taylor has responded to countless calls, but the call that had the biggest impact, he said, was the flood of 2010.



Taylor

Hendersonville Vice Mayor **Jack Long** has died following complications from surgery. Alderman Long, 72, had represented Ward 1 since 1998. He was elected vice mayor Nov. 27, two years into his fourth four-year term. He also served as chairman of the city Public Works Committee.



Long

Jay Evans will become Brentwood's assistant city manager on Jan. 28. He will replace Assistant City Manager **Kirk Bednar** who will move into Mike Walker's city manager role when Walker retires Jan. 26 after 22 years with the city. Evans previously served as deputy city manager of Leesburg, and was the town manager for Oakland, Fla. He also held concurrent manager and planner positions at Osceola County, Fla. A credentialed manager with the International City Manager's Association, he has a graduate degree from the certified public manager program at Florida State University, and a master of public administration degree from the University of Central Florida.



Evans

Jennifer Amacher has been named Tullahoma's full-time planning director. Amacher had been serving in an interim capacity and has served in municipal government for more than 13 years. She is a Tullahoma native and has served as the city's planner since 2007.

Burns Fire Chief **Melvin Sullivan** will retire July 1, after 37 years. He also served as the town's maintenance supervisor. Capt. **Nathan Stringer** will serve as his successor.

State Rep. **Joe Armstrong** has been elected president of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, effective Feb. 1. He will serve a two-year term.



Armstrong

Two long-time Hendersonville employees have officially shed their 'interim' titles. **Ron Minnicks** was selected as finance director and **Kay Franklin** appointed as city recorder. Minnicks had been serving as the city's interim finance director since August of 2009. Hired in 1972 as a deputy city recorder, Minnicks has served as city accountant and assistant finance director, and has served under every city manager and mayor since the city's incorporation. A life-long resident, Franklin began working for the city in 1987 as a receptionist. She was promoted to administrative assistant in 1993. As the city recorder, Franklin is the city's official custodian of public records, assists the mayor with his schedule and special projects. She recently obtained her Certified Municipal Clerk designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and is also a member of the Tennessee Association of Municipal Clerks.

Mt Juliet officials have appointed **Andy Garrett** as the new public safety director, and **James Hambrick** as chief of police. The position of public safety director was recently created to oversee animal control, fire suppression and law enforcement. Garrett, who has been serving as Mt. Juliet chief of police since July 2008, will be involved in the implementation of the Mt. Juliet Fire Department, including the hiring of its new fire chief. The position will work in direct connection with the police and fire chiefs, to ensure and improve emergency services and life safety operations under the public safety division. Hambrick has been serving as deputy chief of police since October 2006. He will be the city's sixth chief of police. Hambrick is a 17-year veteran of the Mt. Juliet Police Department, and will lead 43 sworn and 16 non-sworn personnel.

Thomas Christie has been hired as Millington's first city manager. Christie has also served as city manager in Talladega, Ala., Wood River, Ill., Collinsville, Ill., and Shelbyville.

Celebrating 50 Years of Public Service



In recognition of 50 years of public service, Charles "Bones" Seivers, left, was recently honored at the National League of Cities (NLC) Congress of Cities Conference held in Boston. Seivers first embarked on his public service career in 1962 when he was elected to the Clinton Board of Mayor and Aldermen. A tireless advocate for large and small municipalities, Seivers worked with NLC to establish the Small Cities Advisory Council. Also pictured is Chris Coleman, NLC 1st vice president and mayor of St. Paul, Minn.

Strong December collections

Tennessee revenue collections for December came in stronger than the same month a year before. Finance and Administration Commissioner **Mark Emkes** reported that state revenue collections for December were \$982.2 million, 1.71 percent above last year. The December sales tax collections represent consumer spending that occurred in November.

"We believe the December sales tax growth rate, which includes 'Black Friday' and after-Thanksgiving sales, may reflect renewed consumer confidence, but January's report will give us a fuller picture with Christmas retail activity," said Emkes.

On an accrual basis, December is the fifth month in the 2012-2013 fiscal year. December collections were \$22 million more than the budgeted estimate. The general fund was over collected by \$24.8 million and the four other funds were under collected by \$2.8 million.

Sales tax collections were \$11.7 million more than the estimate. The growth rate was 5.01 percent. For five months revenues were under collected by \$18.3 million, and the year-to-date growth rate is 2.51 per-

cent. Franchise and excise taxes combined were \$12.6 million above the budgeted estimate of \$230.4 million. For five months revenues are over collected by \$91.4 million. Gasoline and motor fuel collections for December decreased by 7.52 percent and they were \$3.4 million below the budgeted estimate of \$66.1 million. For five months, revenues are under collected by \$11.8 million. Tobacco tax collections were \$2.2 million below the budgeted estimate of \$24.9 million, and for five months they are \$6.7 million below the budgeted estimate. Privilege tax collections were \$3.8 million more than the budgeted estimate of \$14.5 million. Year-to-date collections for five months are \$10.8 million above the budgeted estimate. Inheritance and estate taxes were under collected by \$1.6 million for the month. For five months collections are \$4.4 million above the budgeted estimate. All other taxes were over collected by a net of \$1.1 million.

Year-to-date collections for five months were \$73.6 million more than the budgeted estimate. The general fund was over collected by \$84.1 million and the four other funds were under collected by \$10.5 million.

The budgeted revenue estimates for 2012-2013 are based on the State Funding Board's consensus recommendation of Dec. 19, 2011, and adopted by the second session of the 107th General Assembly in April 2012.

The State Funding Board met on Dec. 14, 2012, to hear updated revenue projections from the state's various economists. The board met again on Dec. 19 and adopted revised revenue ranges for 2012-2013. The revised ranges assume an over collection from the July 2012 budgeted estimate in the amount of \$203.0 million to \$287.3 million in total taxes and in the amount of \$224.2 million to \$305.9 million in general fund taxes for the current fiscal year.

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Fiscal cliff bill passes; cities still at risk

FISCAL CLIFF from Page 1

cant cuts in the name of deficit reduction. If the automatic spending cuts are implemented, they will set back the economic recovery we are only now beginning to see in our communities and will lead to more cuts in services to the families who need them the most."

Importantly for cities and towns, the bill does not call for any changes to the tax exemption for municipal bonds. NLC, city leaders and the state municipal leagues have been vigorously opposing any talk of limiting the exemption, which is essential to the ability of local governments to finance projects in their communities. However, that victory may only be temporary. Congress-

ional and Administration representatives continue to signal that the exemption will be the subject of a tax code reform process that may get underway later this year.

The bill falls far short of being a grand bargain to reduce the federal deficit that many sought and reinforces the notion of an incremental approach to deficit reduction. In 2011, the agreement to raise the debt ceiling resulted in approximately \$1 trillion in spending cuts and the sequestration mechanism to force additional cuts in discretionary federal spending. The Biden/McConnell fiscal cliff measure produces roughly \$600 billion in "savings" in the second installment. The next could take shape in the next round of fiscal cliff negotiations that will get

underway soon, which include the need to raise the nation's debt ceiling to avoid the risk of default on loan obligations; a stop gap spending measure to avoid a government shutdown after the current one expires on March 31; and the new March 1 deadline for averting the automatic spending cuts.

"As the debates over spending continue in the new year," said President Rogers, "we will continue to call upon federal lawmakers to use a balanced approach to deficit reduction and to preserve these essential federal investments that drive growth and job creation in our communities. We cannot and must not solve our country's fiscal problems on the backs of our communities and our families."

NATIONAL BRIEFS

BY TML STAFF REPORTS

The warm glow of the 75-watt incandescent light bulb will soon fade away as producers stopped manufacturing them Jan. 1. The industry is phasing out incandescent bulbs to meet federal energy standards by 2014. The 75-watt bulb is the second casualty of 2007's Energy Independence and Security Act, which requires household lighting to be 27 percent more efficient by next year. Light bulb producers stopped making 100-watt bulbs a year ago, and 60- and 40-watt bulbs will be discontinued in 2014. Dousing incandescents will save energy, according to the energy services department at the Electric Power Board (EPB). Consumers still have plenty of lighting options, with halogen, compact fluorescent and light-emitting diode, or LED, bulbs. Each has benefits and drawbacks. Halogen bulbs are the most similar to the old bulbs, producing the same

amount of heat, though at a lower wattage. Compact fluorescents take time to warm up and turn on, and they dim noticeably as they grow older. Manufacturers, including General Electric, are producing "instant-on" fluorescent bulbs that have shorter warm-up times. EPB notes some consumers may be leery of compact fluorescents because they contain a small amount of mercury, about the size of a pinpoint. Consumers are encouraged to recycle them to prevent the release of mercury into the environment. LED bulbs are gaining in popularity. They cost more initially — \$20 to \$30 — but can last for 20 years when used about three hours per day. While EPB says newer bulbs could save consumers money, their biggest effect will not be on individual households. The 75-watt bulb will be available in stores until the current stock runs out.

The demand for four-year college

degrees is softening, the result of a perfect storm of economic and demographic forces that is zapping pricing power at a growing number of U.S. colleges and universities. According to a new survey by Moody's Investors Service, facing stagnant family income, shaky job prospects for graduates and a smaller pool of high-school graduates, more schools are reining in tuition increases and giving out larger scholarships to attract students. But the strategy is eating into net tuition revenue, which is the revenue that colleges collect from tuition minus scholarships and other aid. Many schools are starting to complain that college has become unaffordable to many American families. For colleges, the declines in net revenue could portend cuts to academic programs and a search for alternative sources of revenue such as more online courses and recruiting wealthy students from overseas who can pay full tuition.

MTAS February EOA Class Schedule

Elected Officials Academy Level 1

This event is an excellent way to meet other newly elected officials and learn valuable information about working for your city. There are five sessions:

Foundations and Structure of Municipal Government: the differences and similarities between private business and government; the four forms of government from a historical formation perspective; the differences between policy (deciding) and administration (doing) in relation to being a member of the board;

Introduction to Charter, Code and Open Records Law: the differences between a city charter and code; the three charter types; the basic principles of Dillon's Rule in relation to what gives municipalities their governing powers; the Open Records law;

Municipal Finance Overview: the purposes and components of the municipal budget process, what needs to be accomplished and when.

(Tennessee cities are required to have their books audited annually by an independent auditor.) The importance and purpose of this audit in relation to using it as a tool in monitoring internal controls and other management practices.

Ethics and Open Meetings: ethical issues confronting elected officials in local government; the requirements as stated in the Comprehensive Ethics Reform Act of 2006; the Tennessee Ethics Commission, financial disclosure form requirements, local codes of ethics and the MTAS Model Code of Ethics; what the Tennessee law says about open/public meetings.

Council at Work: techniques designed to increase effectiveness as a member of a governing body. Participants will discuss and identify internal effectiveness tools that will help them evaluate their board effectiveness and improve board discussion as well as tools to link the governing body with both the community and the municipal staff.

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE

Time: Fri., Feb. 1- Ethics: 5-7 pm, Foundations: 7-9 pm; and Sat. Feb. 2- Finance: 8-10 am; Charters & Codes, 10 am-Noon and Council at Work, Noon-2 pm.

Location: Franklin, The Franklin Police Department, 900 Columbia Ave.

A one-time fee of \$200 covers instruction for Level I courses of the Elected Officials Academy. To obtain a registration form, visit <http://mtas.tennessee.edu/Training/EOA/EOAFranklin1.pdf>. Return your completed form to: The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service, Attention: Elected Officials Academy, 120 Conference Center Building, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-4105.

For more information, contact MTAS consultants Gary Jaeckel or Dana Deem at 615-532-6827 or e-mail gary.jaeckel@tennessee.edu or dana.deem@tennessee.edu

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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.

See us for your special projects needs. (615) 255-1561

CLASSIFIED ADS

Advertising: \$9.25 per column inch. No charge to TML members. Send advertising to: TT&C Classified Ads, Mona Lawrence, 226 Capitol Blvd. Suite 710, Nashville TN 37219; e-mail: mlawrence@TML1.org; or fax: 615-255 4752.

CITY MANAGER

Elizabethton. Salary DOQ plus excellent benefits. Manager responsible for 248 full-time employees and \$15 million general fund budget. Retiring manager served almost 5 years. Position answers to 7-member council. Mayor chosen by council. Full service community in beautiful northeast Tennessee. Must be proven manager with excellent communication and team-building skills. Demonstrated success in public administration, budgeting and finance, inter-governmental relations, and leadership. At least five years' experience in public administration, preferably as a city manager/assistant city manager or equivalent. Bachelor's degree in related field required, Master's preferred and will count toward experience. Application is a public record. Send resume by Feb. 18, 2013 to HR Director, 136 South Sycamore St, Elizabethton, TN 37643. Fax: 423-547-6249. Phone: 423-547-6282. Email: resumes@cityofelizabethton.org EOE/AA.

TRAINING PROGRAM MANAGER

The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) has an opening for a Training Program Manager in the Knoxville office. MTAS is an agency of the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service that provides technical assistance, training and research for Tennessee towns and cities, state government and municipal government related associations. The Training Program Manager oversees and manages all aspects of MTAS training and continuing education activities. This position supervises a five person training staff and designs, develops, and delivers training programs and courses primarily for city officials. In addition to providing direct client assistance, this position researches, develops and maintains timely technical reports and publications on critical issues, develops and teaches training courses, and assists other consultants in the agency in the performance of individual and team projects. The Training Program Manager serves as both a supervisor and as a team leader, leading and participating in project teams, and performs other special project work as assigned by the assistant director or the executive director. This position requires a combination of education and experience. A master's degree in adult education, human resource development, organizational development, public administration or related field and five years of experience in developing curricula, evaluating training programs, performing logistical development, delivering training programs with increasing supervisory responsibility is required. Work experience in a governmental environment preferred. Excellent managerial, conceptual and interpersonal skills are essential. Applicants are encouraged to review the full job description requirements prior to applying at <http://www.ips.tennessee.edu/?id=4>. Salary is based on a combination of professional experience and qualifications. Cover letter, resume and references should be submitted by e-mail to Tess Davis, MTAS, at tess.davis@tennessee.edu. Position is open until filled. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

TWO MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

The Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) is seeking two municipal management consultants. MTAS is an agency of the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service that provides technical assistance, training and research for Tennessee towns and cities, state government and municipal government related associations. These positions will be located as follows: one in the east or southeast Tennessee area (reference position ID #1200001N9) and the other in either the middle or west Tennessee area (reference position ID#1200001NA). Most municipal management consultants are former city managers or assistant city managers. This is exciting work primarily providing professional advice and technical assistance to municipal officials, both elected and appointed, within an assigned geographic territory. The consultants usually split their time between office and field work, and frequently coordinate the work of a professional team addressing city issues. The consultant also helps develop and deliver training courses for city officials and researches, drafts, and maintains publications on critical issues. This position requires a master's degree in public administration or equivalent and at least five year's experience in local government including either three years as a city manager or six years as an assistant city manager or a bachelor's degree in public administration or equivalent and at least eight year's experience as a city manager. Preference may be given to experience in a city with a minimum population of 10,000. Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. Generous employee benefits are associated with the position. The positions are open until filled. Applicant should state which location they are interested in the cover letter. Applicants should apply electronically to <http://humanresources.tennessee.edu/recruitment> and submit a cover letter and resume. Application is a public record. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

TCAPWA presents Annual Public Works Awards, TN Chapter Administrator John Calvert retires

Bartlett and Memphis were the sites of the 2012 Tennessee Chapter of the American Public Works Association (TCAPWA) Annual Conference hosted by the TCAPWA West Branch Chapter. In addition to a wide range of social events, networking opportunities and technical sessions, TCAPWA conferred its annual Public Works Awards honoring the outstanding accomplishments of public works professionals from across the state. The session also marked the retirement of outgoing TCAPWA Chapter Administrator John Calvert.

TCAPWA presented three awards to Calvert, with the agency's executive board choosing to honor him through a yearly scholarship in his name. The scholarship will be offered to one person from each of the three grand divisions of Tennessee to attend a Tennessee Public Works Institute (TPWI) class, and awarded on a first priority basis to public works agencies that have not attended the TPWI institute.

According to *Tennessee Public Works (TPW) Magazine*, Calvert has been variously described as the founder and mastermind of TPWI. Since its first class in November 2003, TPWI has conducted 27 four-day schools attended by nearly 700 employees from 70 local agencies across the state. All instructors are volunteers, who travel to the Doubletree Hotel in Murfreesboro once or twice a year to teach the classes.

Calvert was also recently awarded the Public Works Leadership Fellow designation through the APWA's Donald C. Stone Center (DSC). The DSC is a non-profit organization within APWA that offers a progressive system of career paths for professional credentialing.

Calvert, who became chapter administrator in 2007, began his experience with TCAPWA more than 20 years ago as the Tennessee Chapter's Secretary and has been active in various roles ever since.

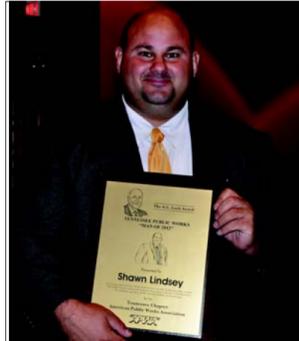
"One of my main motivations in life is the desire to help others and to pass on useful experiences I've had that might help shorten learning curves," Calvert said upon accepting his award. According to *TPW* writer Sue Piper, Calvert's comments echo TCAPWA's mission, since shortening the learning curve is what the Tennessee Chapter is all about, achieved through annual conferences, branch meetings and TPWI.

"It's also about growing," Piper writes, noting that with 429 members representing 77 local governments as well as employees of engineering firms, utility districts, public works equipment and service provider companies, Calvert is leaving at a time when chapter membership and participation is "at an all-time high."

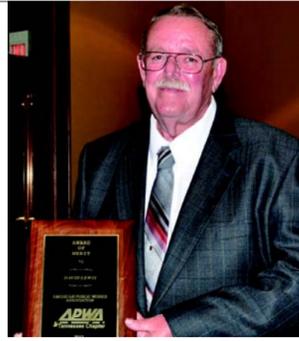
In addition to his chapter activities, Calvert, who is retired, served as Oak Ridge Public Works Division manager for 28 years, and as Tennessee Region consultant for Pavement Technology Inc. He said he looks forward now to spending more time with his wife Tammy and their two grown children and grandchildren.

"Members can greatly enhance their experience and knowledge by getting involved on the local chapter level," Calvert said. "TCPWA needs new volunteers each year who are willing to participate on various committees and eventually move up to branch directors, committee chairs, and the Executive Committee."

Other TCAPWA award recipients include: Athens Public Works Director and 2012 TCPWA president Shawn Lindsey, who received the A.C. Lock Public Works Leader of the Year Award; David Lewis, Signal Mountain assistant Public Works director, who received the Award of Merit; John Fox, Collierville Public Works operations assistant, who received the Ed Archer Young Public Works Leader of the Year Award; Mike Crenshaw, Bartlett Water/Wastewater, and General Maintenance Division manager, who received the Charles Walter Nichols Award; and the city of Alcoa, who received the Public Works Project of the Year Award for the Culton Creek Greenway. The project team includes: Chipper Wyatt, leadworker; Andy Davis, serviceworker II; Paul Monroe, serviceworker II; Brandon Ion, utility equipment operator; Andrew Sonner, assistant Public Works director and chief engineer; and James Trusty, Street Services supervisor.



Shawn Lindsey, 2012 TCPWA president and Athens Public Works director received the A.C. Lock Public Works Leader of the Year Award.



David Lewis, Signal Mountain assistant Public Works director, received the Award of Merit



John Fox, Collierville Public Works operations assistant, received the Ed Archer Young Public Works Leader of the Year Award



Mike Crenshaw, Bartlett Water/Wastewater, and General Maintenance Division manager, received the Charles Walter Nichols Award



The city of Alcoa received the Public Works Project of the Year Award for the Culton Creek Greenway. Pictured left to right are: Chipper Wyatt, leadworker; Andy Davis, serviceworker II; Paul Monroe, serviceworker II; Brandon Ion, utility equipment operator; Andrew Sonner, assistant Public Works director and chief engineer; and James Trusty, Street Services supervisor.



John Calvert

Pictured left: TCAPWA honored retiring Chapter Administrator John Calvert by offering a yearly scholarship in his name to one person from each of the three grand divisions of the state to attend a Tennessee Public Works Institute class. Calvert was also recently awarded the Public Works Leadership Fellow through APWA's Donald C. Stone Center. The DSC is a non-profit organization within APWA that offers a progressive system of career paths for professional credentialing.

Photos courtesy of TPW Magazine

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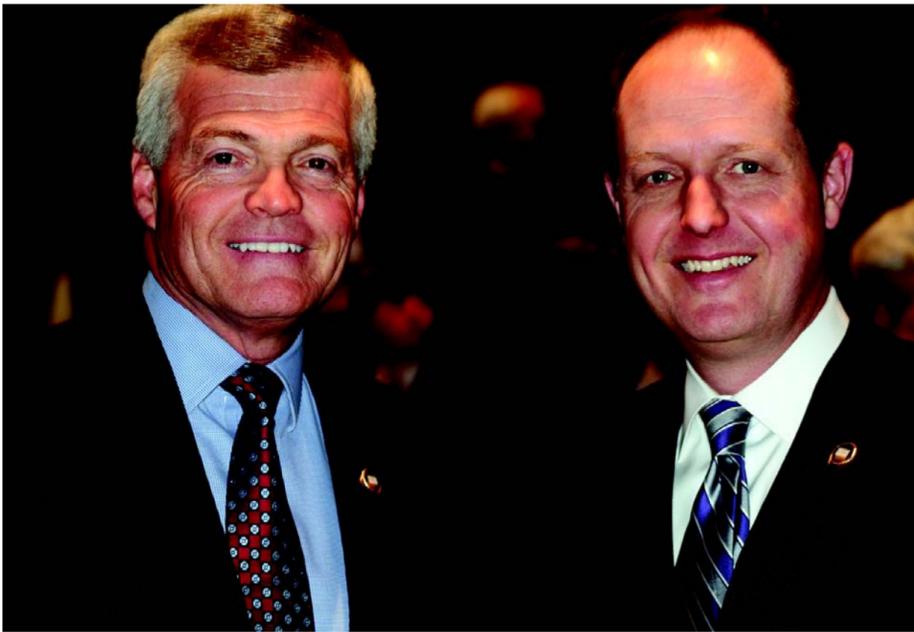
Senate kicks off opening day session of 108th General Assembly



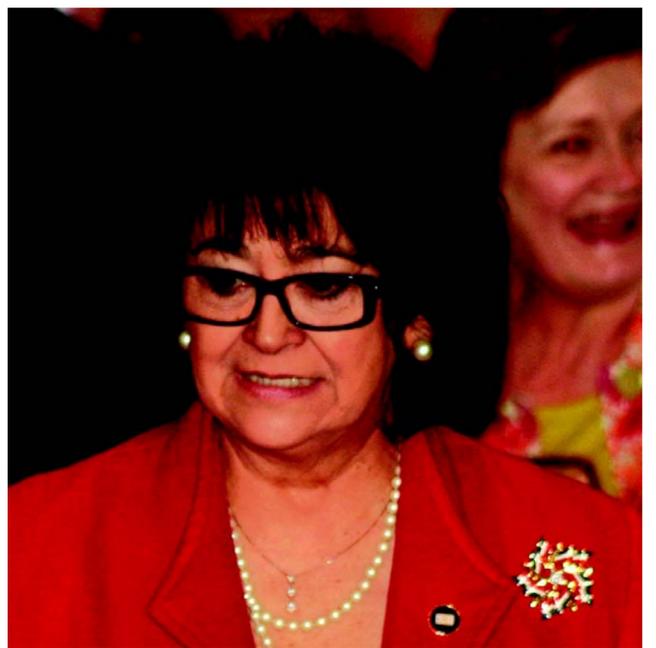
Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey and Sen. Randy McNally



Sen. Bo Watson



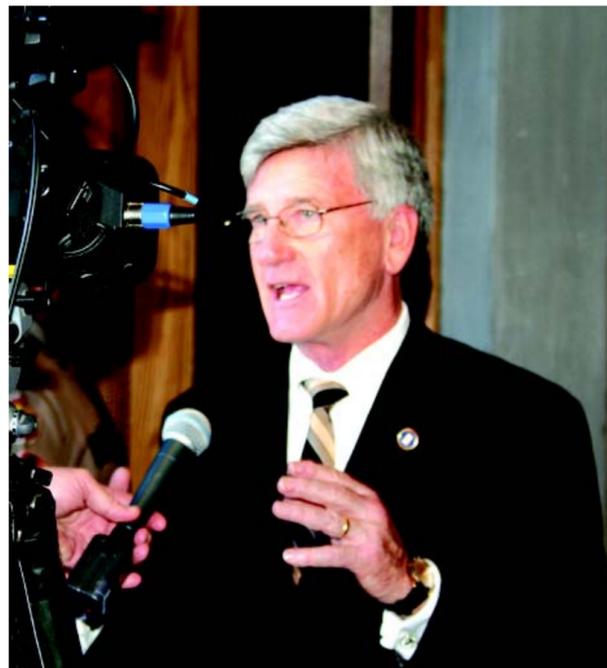
Sen. Jim Tracy and Sen. Jack Johnson



Sen. Dolores Gresham



Sen. Mark Green



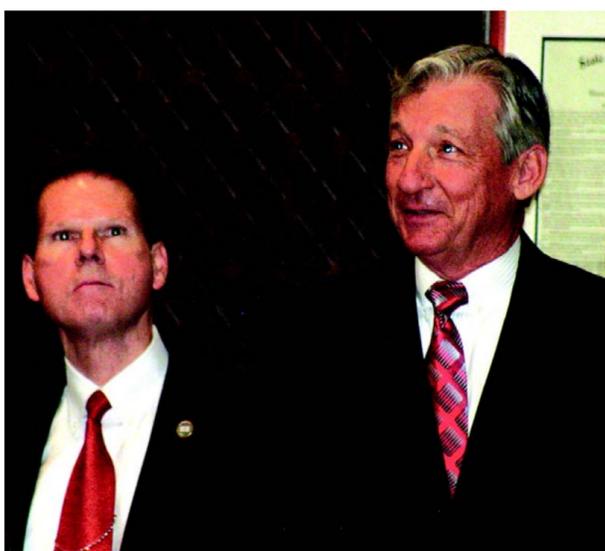
Sen. Todd Gardenhire



Sen. Janice Bowling



Sen. Becky Massey



Sen. Joey Hensley and Sen. Frank Nicely



Sen. Thelma Harper

Photos by Victoria South

House addresses order of business for 108th General Assembly



House Speaker Beth Harwell



Rep. Mike Turner and House Clerk Joe McCord greet Gov. Bill Haslam.



Rep. Jon Lundberg and Rep. Cameron Sexton



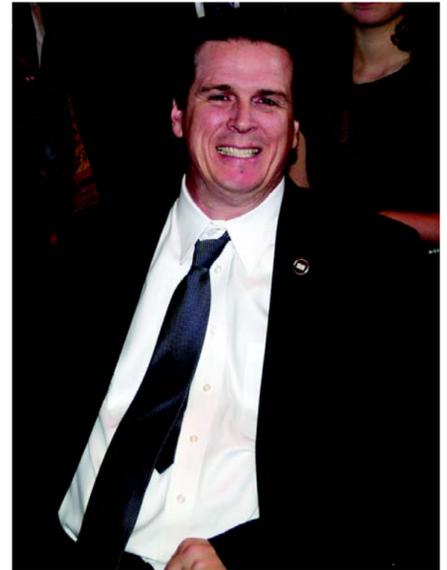
Rep. Kevin Brooks, Rep. Curtis Johnson, former Rep. Phillip Johnson, and Rep. Ryan Haynes



Rep. Craig Fitzhugh



Rep. Gerald McCormick



Rep. Darren Jernigan



Rep. John Mark Windle



Rep. Steve McDaniel



Rep. Lois Deberry

At right: Rep. Debra Moody and Rep. Steve McManus



Rep. Matthew Hill

Photos by Victoria South and Carole Graves

Legislative Leadership – 2013 - 2014

TENNESSEE SENATE



Speaker/Lt. Gov.
Ron Ramsey



Speaker Pro Tem
Bo Watson



Republican Leader
Mark Norris



Democratic Leader
Jim Kyle

Senate Committee Officers and Members

COMMERCE, LABOR, AND AGRICULTURE: Chairman Johnson, 1st Vice Chair Green, 2nd Vice Chair Burks, Gres-ham, Southerland, Tate, Tracy, Watson, and Yager

EDUCATION: Chairman Gresham, 1st Vice Chair Tate, 2nd Vice Chair Dickerson, Burks, Campfield, Crowe, Gardenshire, Hensley, and Kelsey

ENERGY, AGRICULTURE, AND NATU-RAL RESOURCES: Chairman Southerland, 1st Vice Chair Beavers, 2nd Vice Chair Summerville, Bell, Burks, Ford, Gardenshire, Gresham, and Niceley

FINANCE, WAYS, AND MEANS: Chair McNally, Chairman Emeritus Henry, 1st Vice Chair Watson, 2nd Vice Chair Overbey, Dickerson, Finney, Haile, Hensley, Ketron, Kyle, and Norris

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS: Chair-man Bell, 1st Vice Chair Haile, 2nd Vice Chair Stevens, Crowe, Harper, Kyle, Massey, and Summerville

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Chairman Crowe, 1st Vice Chair Watson, 2nd Vice Chair Hensley, Dickerson, Finney, Henry, Massey, McNally, and Overbey

JUDICIARY: Chairman Kelsey, 1st Vice Chair Overbey, 2nd Vice Chair Campfield,



Republican Caucus
Chair Bill Ketron



Democratic Caucus Chair
Lowe Finney

Bell, Finney, Ford, Gardenshire, Green, and Stevens

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Chairman Yager, 1st Vice Chair Johnson, 2nd Vice Chair Bowling, Green, Harper, Ketron, Norris, Stevens, and Tate

TRANSPORTATION: Chairman Tracy, 1st Vice Chair Beavers, 2nd Vice Chair Niceley, Bowling, Campfield, Ford, Harper, Massey, and Southerland

RULES: Chairman Norris, McNally, Henry, Kyle and Watson

CALENDAR: Chairman Massey, Norris, and Kyle

ETHICS: Chair Overbey, Vice Chair Burks, Ketron, Henry and Norris

DELAYED BILLS: Chairman Ramsey, Kyle and Norris

TENNESSEE HOUSE



Speaker
Beth Harwell



Speaker Pro Tem
Curtis Johnson



Majority Leader
Gerald McCormick



Democratic Leader
Craig Fitzhugh

Officers and Members of the Tennessee House of Representatives Committees

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RE-SOURCES: Chairman Halford, Vice Chair Holt, Butt, Curtiss Floyd, Forgety, Gilmore, Hawk, Johnson, (Knox), Lollar, Marsh, Matheny, McDaniel, Powers, Spivey, Swann, Tidwell, Travis, and Windle

BUSINESS AND UTILITIES: Chairman Marsh, Vice Chair Wirgau, Calfee, Curtiss, Doss, Goins, Hill (Sullivan), Lamberth, McCormick, Pody, Powell, Sexton, Swann, Tidwell, Todd, Towns, White (Rutherford) and Williams (Carter)

CIVIL JUSTICE: Chairman Lundberg, Vice Chair Womick, Brooks (Knox), Carter, Coley, J. DeBerry, Dennis, Farmer, Haynes, Jones, and Stewart

CONSUMER AND HUMAN RE-SOURCES: Chairman Eldridge, Vice Chair Pody, Casada, Lynn, McManus, Towns, Turner (Shelby), Turner (Davidson), White (Shelby), Womick

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: Chairman Watson, Vice Chair Faison, Camper, Farmer, Gilmore, Hardaway, Lamberth Parkinson, Rich, Rogers, Shipley, Van Huss and Weaver

EDUCATION: Chairman Brooks (Knox), Vice Chair Forgety, Brooks (Bradley), Coley, J. DeBerry, L. DeBerry, Dunn, Kane, Lollar, Love, Moody, Pitts, White (Rutherford), White (Shelby), and Williams (Putnam)

FINANCE: Chairman Sargent, Vice Chair Alexander, Armstrong, Brooks (Bradley), Calfee Carter, Cooper, L. DeBerry, Fitzhugh, Hall Harrison, Hawk, Hill (Washington), Johnson (Montgomery), McCormick, McDaniel, Miller, Odom, Roach, and Shaw

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS: Chair-man Matheny, Vice Chair Ragan, Carr (Rutherford), Casada, Evans, Fitzhugh, Halford, Hardaway, Johnson (Montgomery), McCormick, Turner (Shelby), Turner (Davidson)

HEALTH: Chairman Ramsey, Vice Chair Williams (Putnam), Dennis, Doss, Favors, Harrison, Hill (Sullivan), Jernigan, Johnson (Knox), Littleton, Odom, Rich, Sexton, Shepard, Shipley, Turner (Davidson), Van Huss, and Wirgau

INSURANCE AND BANKING: Chairman McManus, Vice Chair Keisling, Casada, Durham, Favors, Fitzhugh, Johnson (Montgomery), Kane, Love, Lundberg, Lynn, Matlock, Pitts, Powers, Ragan, Sargent, Shepard, and Travis

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Chairman Hill (Washington), Vice Chair Floyd, Carr (Sevier), Carr (Rutherford), Dean, Durham, Eldridge, Faison, Hall, Holt, Jones, Miller, Mitchell, Parkinson, Sparks, and Stewart

STATE GOVERNMENT: Chairman Haynes, Vice Chair Butt, Evans, Jernigan, Moody, Powell, Ramsey, Sanderson, Shaw, Spivey, Todd, Watson, Williams (Carter)

TRANSPORTATION: Chairman Dean, Vice Chair Sparks, Alexander, Armstong, Camper, Carr (Sevier), Cooper, Dunn, Goins, Keisling, Littleton, Matlock, Mitchell, Roach, Rogers, Sanderson, Weaver and Windle



Republican Caucus
Chair Glen Cassada



Democratic Caucus
Chair Mike Turner

CALENDAR AND RULES: Chairman Dunn, Vice Chair Roach, Brooks (Knox), Casada, Dean, Eldridge, Fitzhugh, Haynes, Hill (Washington), Hill (Sullivan), Halford, Johnson (Montgomery), Lundberg, Marsh, Matheny, McCormick, McManus, Mitchell, Parkinson, Ramsey, Sargent, Sexton, Turner (Davidson) and Watson

ETHICS: Chairman McDaniel, Vice Chair Brooks (Bradley), Camper, Carter (Hamilton), Parkinson, Pitts, Forgety, Rich, Shepard and Stewart

SUBCOMMITTEES

AG AND NATURAL RES. SUBCOM-MITTEE: Chairman Lollar, Gilmore, Halford, Holt, Matheny, Spivey, Tidwell and Travis

BUSINESS AND UTILITIES SUBCOM-MITTEE: Chairman Swann, Calfee, Curtiss, Doss, Marsh, Powell, Todd and Wirgau

CIVIL JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE: Chairman Coley, Carter, Dennis, Farmer, Jones, Lundberg, Stewart, Womick

CONSUMER & HUMAN RES. SUBCOM-MITTEE: Chariman Lynn, Casada, Eldridge, Pody, Towns, and Turner (Shelby)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUB: Chairman Shipley, Camper, Faison, Hardaway, Lamberth, Van Huss and Watson

EDUCATION SUB: Chairman White (Shelby), Brooks (Knox), J DeBerry, Forgety, Kane, Love, Moody, Pitts, White (Rutherford)

FINANCE SUB: Chairman Harrison, Alexander, Armstrong, Brooks (Bradley), L. DeBerry, Fitzhugh, Hawk, McCormick, McDaniel, Odom, Roach, and Sargent

HEALTH SUB: Chairman Rich, Hill (Sullivan), Jernigan, Johnson (Knox), Littleton, Ramsey, Sexton, Turner (Davidson), Williams (Putnam)

INSURANCE AND BANKING SUB: Chairman Matlock, Favors, Johnson (Montgomery), Keisling, McManus, Powers Ragan, Shepard

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB: Chairman Carr (Rutherford), Carr (Sevier), Durham, Floyd, Hall, Hill (Washington), Miller and Parkinson

STATE GOVERNMENT SUB Chairman Sanderson, Butt, Evans, Haynes, Shaw and Williams (Carter)

TRANSPORTATION SUB: Chairman Weaver, Cooper, Dean, Dunn, Goins, Mitchell, Rogers, Sparks, Windle

Tennessee Congressional Delegation

113th United States Congress convened in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 3. Listed below are the committee assignments for Tennessee members of the new Congress. Some committee assignments were yet to be determined at press time.

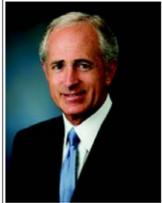


Sen. Lamar Alexander



- Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (ranking member)
- Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
- Senate Committee on Rules and Administration (ranking member)

Sen. Bob Corker



- Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
- Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs
- Senate Special Committee on Aging (ranking member)

Rep. Phil Roe (1st District)



- House Committee on Education and the Workforce
- House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Rep. John J. Duncan Jr. (2nd)



- House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
- House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (3rd)



- House Committee on Appropriations

Rep. Scott DesJarlais (4th)



- House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
- House Committee on Agriculture
- House Committee on Education and the Workforce

Rep. Jim Cooper (5th)



- House Committee on Armed Services
- House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (*yet to be determined whether he will serve again.*)

Rep. Diane Black (6th)



- House Committee on Ways and Means
- House Committee on Budget (*Yet to be determined whether she will serve again.*)

Rep. Marsha Blackburn (7th)



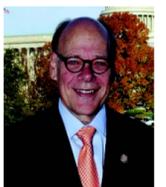
- House Committee on Energy and Commerce
- House Committee on the Budget

Rep. Stephen Fincher (8th)



- House Committee on Financial Services

Rep. Steve Cohen (9th)



- House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
- House Committee on the Judiciary

Tennessee General Assembly adopts new committee structure

The House approved a new committee structure, splitting the Commerce, Judiciary, and State and Local Government committees in two and eliminating the Children and Family Affairs Committee. Most House standing committees now have a subcommittee. There are nine new chairmen of the full standing committees.

In the Senate, Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey added second vice presidents to each committee assignment. He also named himself chairman of a new select committee for Delayed Bills.